

New Concrete Pipe Standards

Two new and updated NZ Standards for the manufacture and design of concrete pipes have recently been released for publication.

The industry was well represented on the committees for both standards, with a good cross section from local concrete pipe manufacturers, local authorities, water authorities and engineering associations.

For AS/NZS 3725, the standard was updated to reflect today's design principles and after five years of input and development NZS 3107:1978 is about to be replaced with a joint Australia and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 4058:2007

The normal time frame for full reference to the new standards in specifications and infrastructure manuals is 12 months.

Both standards will be available from the Standards New Zealand website: www.standards.org.nz.

An overview of the new standards

AS/NZS 4058:2007 **replaces NZS 3107:1978**

This standard covers the manufacturing and testing of concrete drainage and pressure pipes. A snapshot of the changes you will find in the standard:

- Standards document has been proposed for 100 year design life. Detailed specifics on:
 - > Improved clarity on design for durability
 - defining what a “normal environment” is
 - > What requirements are there for pipes for use in marine environments
- 4058 reflects the latest sampling inspection regimes that manufacturers adhere to
- Greater clarity around testing requirements, defects, cover to reinforcing
- The concept of “type testing” is now introduced (a greater onus on the manufacturer to demonstrate suitability of design).

AS/NZS 3725:2007 **replaces AS/NZS 3725:1989**

This standard is critical when determining what class of pipe is required for a given field situation.

A snapshot of the changes you will find in the standard – for designing concrete pipelines:

- Trench width design can be narrower
- Minimum fill cover in traffic situations (for local distribution to apply)
- Standard now allows for the use of CLSM's (Controlled Low Strength Materials)

