Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Suspended ceilings—
Design and installation

Standards Australia

STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee BD-035, Ceiling Systems. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 23 June 2000 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 21 November 2000. It was published on 11 December 2000.

The following interests are represented on Committee BD-035:

Australian Aluminium Council
Australian Industry Group
Ceiling Systems Contractors Association New Zealand
Federation of Wall and Ceiling Industries Australia and New Zealand
Fibreglass and Rockwool Insulation Manufacturers Association of Australia
Fire Protection Association Australia
Institution of Engineers Australia
Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand
Interior Systems Association New Zealand
Master Builders Australia

Keeping Standards up-to-date

Standards are living documents which reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued. Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments which may have been published since the Standard was purchased.

Detailed information about joint Australian/New Zealand Standards can be found by visiting the Standards Australia web site at www.standards.com.au or Standards New Zealand web site at www.standards.co.nz and looking up the relevant Standard in the on-line catalogue.

Alternatively, both organizations publish an annual printed Catalogue with full details of all current Standards. For more frequent listings or notification of revisions, amendments and withdrawals, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand offer a number of update options. For information about these services, users should contact their respective national Standards organization.

We also welcome suggestions for improvement in our Standards, and especially encourage readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Please address your comments to the Chief Executive of either Standards Australia International or Standards New Zealand at the address shown on the back cover.

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 99272.

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Suspended ceilings—Design and installation

Originated as AS 2785—1985.
Jointly revised and designated as AS/NZS 2785:2000.

Jointly published by Standards Australia International Ltd, GPO Box 5420, Sydney, NSW 2001 and Standards New Zealand, Private Bag 2439, Wellington 6020

ISBN 0 7337 3570 X

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee BD/35, Suspended Ceilings, to supersede AS 2785—1985.

The objective of this Standard is to provide the minimum specifications covering the manufacture and performance of suspended ceilings systems for use in residential, commercial and industrial applications.

This Standard is based on limit states philosophy and covers aspects of the design, performance requirements, installation, workmanship, maintenance and testing of suspended ceiling systems.

This edition incorporates the following major changes:

(a) Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard.

(b) Design is based on limit states format.

(c) Requirements are performance based.

(d) Earthquake requirements have been added.

(e) Other than trafficable ceiling systems, all ceiling systems, including external ceiling systems, have been included.

(f) Testing and verification methods have been added.

In its deliberations the committee has taken cognizance of the following documents:

ASTM C 635	Standard Specification for the Manufacture, Performance and Testing of Metal Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-in Panel Ceilings
ASTM C 636	Standard Practice for Installation of Metal Ceiling Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-in Panels
ASTM E 580	Standard Practice for Application of Ceiling Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-in Panels in Areas Requiring Seismic Restraint
ASTM E 1264	Standard Classification for Acoustical Ceiling Products
BS 8290	Suspended ceilings
Part 1	Part 1: Code of practice for design
Part 2	Part 2: Specification for performance of components and assemblies
Part 3	Part 3: Code of practice for installation and maintenance

The terms ‘normative’ and ‘informative’ have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A ‘normative’ appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an ‘informative’ appendix is only for information and guidance.

CONTENTS

Page

Page

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

Australian/New Zealand Standard
Suspended ceilings—Design and installation

S E C T I O N 1 S C O P E A N D G E N E R A L

1.1 SCOPE

This Standard sets out the minimum requirements for the design, construction, installation, maintenance and testing of internal and external non-trafficable suspended ceiling systems of dry construction with suspension systems attached to a supporting structure. It is intended for use in commercial, industrial and residential applications.

NOTE: Alternative methods for demonstrating compliance with this Standard, such as installation of external ceilings, are described in Appendix A.

1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The documents referred to in this Standard are listed in Appendix B.

1.3 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions below apply.

NOTE: In this Standard, terms in square brackets [ ] refer to New Zealand use.

1.3.1 Access hatch

A hinged or removable cover to allow access, from below the ceiling soffit, to services within the ceiling plenum. It is not intended for human access on to the grid.

NOTE: Access hatch should be taken into consideration in the design requirement.

1.3.2 Approved

Approved by the building authority or approved by the designer and the building authority.

1.3.3 Backing board

A flat sheet of building board to which acoustical tile is attached using adhesive, screws, staples or other suitable means (see Figure 1(a)).

1.3.4 Bow

The component of deviation in the horizontal plane of an element (see Figure 2).

1.3.5 Building authority/Territorial authority

A body having statutory control over the design and erection of buildings or structures in the area in which the building or structure is to be erected.

1.3.6 Building board

A dry wall lining product supplied in rigid or semi-rigid sheet or panel form in a variety of materials for the lining of ceiling grid systems.

1.3.7 Camber

The component of deviation in the vertical plane of an element (see Figure 2).