

CPD **LIVE**

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The below answer sheet is for your own self-assessment.

Please keep your completed questionnaires and answers on file for your record.

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FAÇADE RECTIFICATION - FIXING THE PROBLEM OF COMBUSTIBLE CLADDING

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1. What types of external cladding were implicated in the fires at Grenfell Tower in London, at Lacrosse Tower in Melbourne, and elsewhere?

Aluminium composite panels (ACPs) with a combustible polyethylene core.

2. How large a problem is this? How many buildings across Australia carry non-compliant, combustible cladding?

The figure is difficult to calculate, and each state uses a different methodology to do so, but some experts claim thousands of buildings in each of Australia's larger cities are affected.

3. What caused this problem? What factors made it possible for imported combustible products to come into Australia?

Several factors including deregulation; globalization and a subsequent increase in imports; as well as urbanization and an increase in the number of high-rise residential towers.

4. How can specifiers be sure the cladding products they choose are safe and non-combustible?

Specifiers should only use products that come from a reputable supplier and that meet the regulations as set out in Section C of the NCC Vol. 1.

5. When replacing non-compliant cladding, is fire safety the only consideration?

No, the cladding issue should be viewed in the context of a larger building defects problem. Non-compliant cladding is often also associated with problems like water leakage and mould.

6. How do the various types of external cladding perform in terms of sustainability? Are there recycled products available on the market?

Whilst many products – including metal cladding products and some made from composite materials are recyclable – there are few options that are actually made of recycled materials themselves.