



# ADVISORY NOTICE BUILDING

05/09

Advisory Notices are issued to assist in the interpretation of the Development Act 1993

July 2009

## ADMINISTRATION:

### Digital TV Antenna Systems

This notice provides information about the future direction of analog and digital TV transmission.

The Australian Government has announced that all Free-to-Air (FTA) TV broadcast signals will be digital by the end of 2013. This means that analog transmission will cease operation and the switchover to digital transmission by broadcasters will require the conversion or replacement of analog TV sets in all households. The Government has released a timetable for transition which can be viewed at [www.digitalready.gov.au](http://www.digitalready.gov.au). Analog signals will cease operation as early as 2010 in some areas.

While homes may require relatively modest upgrades to their antenna systems, buildings which have a master or communal antenna (shared) TV systems are likely to need more complex modifications.

## DISCUSSION

It is important that people involved in building design, construction and maintenance and the general community are aware of these changes and the impact that it will have on buildings and begin to take steps to ensure that their antenna systems are capable of receiving Free-to-Air digital TV signals.

The Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) has released two Handbooks titled *Digital TV - Antenna Systems for Homes* and *Digital TV - Antenna Systems for Multi Dwelling Units*. The publications are designed to assist those who live in or are associated with multi-dwelling units (unit or apartment blocks, townhouses etc.) or other buildings with shared antenna systems such as public buildings and hotels and provide information to residential dwelling owners.

These Handbooks have been developed to provide guidance on the conversion of Free-To-Air (FTA) analog TV systems in single dwellings so that they can receive FTA digital TV transmissions and the issues surrounding the conversion of master or communal (shared) TV antenna systems for multi-dwelling units (MDUs).

Single dwellings include houses and other properties with stand alone antenna systems. MDUs include unit or apartment blocks, townhouses etc or other buildings with shared antenna systems, such as public buildings or hotels.

The content of both Handbooks has been developed by industry and coordinated by the Digital Switchover Taskforce in the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE), with support from the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA). Both Handbooks are available from the ABCB website at [www.abcb.gov.au](http://www.abcb.gov.au)

Further information can be found at [www.digitalswitchover.gov.au](http://www.digitalswitchover.gov.au)

**Further information**

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**Government  
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