Building Code of Australian (BCA)

The Building Code of Australia (BCA) provides essential technical regulations for the design and construction of buildings throughout Australia.

The BCA covers such topics as structure, fire resistance, health and amenity, building access and egress, & building services and equipment. It is presented in two separate publications covering commercial buildings (Volume One - Class 2 to 9 buildings) and residential construction also known as the Housing Provisions (Volume Two - Class 1 and 10 buildings).

All information that is available in the hard copy publication is available online.

Accessing the BCA

1. Use Internet Explorer
2. Go to VU Library catalogue - http://library.vu.edu.au
3. Click Databases & E-journals
4. Click ‘B’
5. Under Building Code of Aust. -
6. Click Access Details
7. Click Connect
8. Ask at the Service Desk for the User ID and Password
9. Click Login
10. Click View the BCA

Searching the BCA

The Online Building Code is organised in 2 volumes plus a guide:

- Select the volume you want to search by selecting from the drop down box on the left hand side of top panel.
- Archives – It is possible to Search from Amendment 0 – Amendment 13
- Select the archive that you want to search by selecting from the drop down box on the right side of the top panel
Database Guide

Full Text Search
- Enter a search term in the Full text box to generate a list containing all the instances of the search terms across the currently selected volume
- Use Boolean Operators AND, OR, WITHOUT
  - AND – requests that each term appears in the record
  - OR – requests that either one or both terms appear in the record
  - WITHOUT – requests that the first term but not the second appears in the record
- Eg: water and boards

Search by Keyword
- Select a keyword from the drop down list to return a list of clauses, which relate to the selected keyword for eg. Stadium; Ceilings; Compartment, Elements

Search by Class
- Select a class from the drop down list to return a list of clauses relating to the selected class
  - Classification 1 - 9
  - (Select 1 Classification or select the whole 9)
History Panel

The history list contains the last ten documents opened via the Contents panel or the Search panel.

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Viewing Records

- The retrieved document displays a contents section in the left navigation bar and the right hand side displays the full document.
- The contents section contains hyperlinks to all other relevant results.
- The right hand section highlights your search term/s.
Printing of Document

- To print the document, go to file menu and select print
- Please note you cannot save to disk

Exiting

- Click on the logout button in the top right hand corner of the screen to exit the database

Access Details

For detailed information on:

- Authorised users
- Software
- Access Details
- Appropriate use

See the Library website http://library.vu.edu.au