



## Fencing on a level playing field

Builders who use chain link fencing that doesn't comply with new standards that came into effect in September 2010 may face higher costs down the track.

Standards Australia has released revised standards for chain link fencing to give consumers an informed choice and encourage fencing companies to quote and install on a level playing field using the new minimum standards advised.

The Australian Standard AS1725 -2010 for Chain-Link Fabric Security Fences and Gates ensures that chain link fencing is fit for purpose.

Changes to the standards include the addition of guidelines for purchasers to assist with selecting components, heavier design specifications for some commercial fences, lighter design specifications for some private fencing, and internal facing chain link fences at public sporting fields for safety purposes.

Brian Mullarvey, Secretary, Australian Chain Link Association says adhering to the new standards enhance the confidence of builders and installers when providing service life guarantees.

"By providing minimum requirements, the new standards aims to ensure purchasers will not be disadvantaged by unscrupulous fencing operators taking advantage of the end users lack of fencing knowledge and expertise," says Mr Mullarvey.

"The new standards clearly set out minimum quality requirements including wire thickness and apertures, coatings, post diameters and spacing as well as other installation details. Using non-conforming materials and shortcut installation procedures may look like savings but could have cost consequences down the track."

Tom Bishop, National Fencing Manager, A.R.C. Fences, says meeting the new standards indicate the quality of product being used.

"The standards are put together by experienced installers, suppliers, manufacturers, end users and representatives of the industry over a period of years. Not meeting these new standards may result in a higher maintenance costs over of the life of the product or a potentially much lower service life," says Mr Bishop.

"Following the new standards gives your product a tick of approval, ensuring it will do the job it was designed to do."

The new fencing standards cover security fencing and gates, sports ground fencing, cricket net fencing enclosures, commercial, private and residential tennis court fencing as well as general fencing.

For a copy of the new standards, visit [www.standards.org.au](http://www.standards.org.au)

### **About the Australian Chain Link Fencing Association**

Formed in May 2003, the Australian Chain Link Fencing Association provides a national forum for companies involved in manufacturing, supplying or installing chain link and tubular fencing.

The Association, formed under the umbrella of the Australasian Wire Industry Association, promotes the interest of chain link manufacturers, suppliers and installers as well as encouraging the supply and installation of quality products to recognised Australian Standards wherever possible.

The Association organises national conferences, trade fairs, regional meetings and overseas tours where appropriate and develops educational programs to increase the knowledge and skills of industry employees. It also makes representations and submissions to governments, statutory authorities and other organisations on any matter which may affect the industry while creating a public awareness of the industry through advertising, trade publications, conventions and exhibitions.

Association members comprise suppliers, distributors, installers and manufacturers of chain link fabric, pipe, tube and fence fittings from across Australia.

The Australian Chain Link Fencing Association encourages its members to provide quotes according that meet the minimum AS 1725-2010 guidelines for chain-link fabric security fences and gates.