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NETWORK PLANNING IN THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY—

GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF SPECIFICATION CLAUSES

STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
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The following interests were represented on the committee responsible for the preparation of this standard:

Association of Consulting Engineers, Australia

Australian Federation of Construction Contractors

Australian Society for Operations Research

Building Owners and Managers Association of Australia

Bureau of Steel Manufacturers of Australia

CSIRO, Division of Building Research

Department of Public Works, New South Wales

Master Builders Federation of Australia

Project Managers Forum

Public Works Department, Victoria

University of New South Wales

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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

NETWORK PLANNING IN THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY—

GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF SPECIFICATION CLAUSES

AS 2587—1983

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PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Project Network Planning to assist persons wishing to specify the use of network planning for building or construction projects.

Although this standard has been prepared in the context of the building and construction industry, this does not preclude its use in other fields, such as construction and maintenance of process plants.

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for

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FOREWORD

A survey of specification requirements in contract documents calling for network planning has indicated a wide variety in such requirements. Such diversity is considered to be unjustified. The building and construction industry could benefit from a more uniform approach.

Network planning may be of benefit—

(a) on projects where the sequences of work are not obvious, or are complex;

(b) as a means of predicting completion dates;

(c) as a means of highlighting areas of the project requiring special attention;

(d) as a means of evaluating each tenderer's proposed time for completion, to ascertain whether the scope and nature of the project and involvement of other parties have been correctly understood at the time of preparation of the tender;

(e) as a means of communicating progress and planning information between contractor and client;

(f) as a means of evaluating proposed changes;

(g) as a means of encouraging appropriate management action; and

(h) as a means of familiarizing new personnel with the proposed sequence of work.

However, other planning techniques may be more suitable for—

(i) projects with simple sequences of work;

(ii) highly repetitive portions of projects;

(iii) projects which are unlikely to diverge significantly from the planned sequence of work even if delay occurs; and

(iv) conditions where it is known that the necessary expertise in network planning is not available.

It should be noted that a network represents one possible way but not the only way of proceeding. Changing circumstances may warrant revision of the network.

The *guidelines* presented in this standard are intended *to assist drafters of specifications* relating to the use of network planning in the building and construction industry, by *identifying* the matters which should be considered in the drafting of such specifications, and by providing a uniform and acceptable approach to the drafting of such specifications.

The guidelines first pose the question: 'Is network planning appropriate for the project?' and then provide—

A. points to be considered in drawing up the specification clauses on the use of network planning; and

B. guidance on how these points should be approached to obtain suitable specification clauses.

These guidelines do not preclude the use of a combination of networks and other planning techniques for a particular project.