BOOK REVIEW
Australian standard method of measuring building works, edition 5 - question and answer book

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When the Australian Standard Method of Measuring Building Works Edition 5 replaced Edition 4 in 1990, there were quite a few queries raised by both QS and builders regarding interpretation of sections of the new publication. In response to those queries the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (AIQS) formed a panel to investigate and provide members with non binding advice to answer those queries. The co-publishers of the ASMM5, the Master Builders Association (MBA), decided to leave the interpretation of the publication to the QS, consequently the AIQS panel responded to both QS, builders and academics.

Requests for interpretations, while subsiding in number since the mid 1990s, still continued to arrive in small numbers from new users of the ASMM5. An attempt to conduct a revision of the publication in the late 1990s was delayed as the impact of new technologies and holistic approaches to project documentation were investigated by the AIQS.

However, as the ASMM5 continued to be in wide use, the AIQS decided that there was good reason to publish a compilation of the users' questions and the panel's answers. It was hoped that this Q and A book covering the majority of the queries since 1990 would ease the pressure to undertake a complete revision of the ASMM5 and also assist current and future users of the publication.

This publication is therefore a simple, cost effective publication designed for easy use by those with a knowledge of the ASMM 5. It covers some 24 interpretations, from "backing to masonry" to "glazing non standard windows" to "stonework columns measurement".

It is a strongly recommended for all users of the ASMM5 and should be considered as an essential addition to all purchases of that publication.