Plumbing Practice Note RP-03: Eaves Gutters

This Practice Note specifies the requirements for the installation of eaves gutters.

The figures and context below provide guidance on:

- What is an eaves gutter?
- What material and products are fit for purpose?
- Gutter installation examples

For guidance on regulatory framework, please refer to Practice Note: Roof Plumbing- RP01: Regulatory Framework for Roof Plumbing

What is an eaves gutter?

An eaves gutter is defined as a gutter which is installed on a fascia board, external of the building and attached to an eaves overhang.

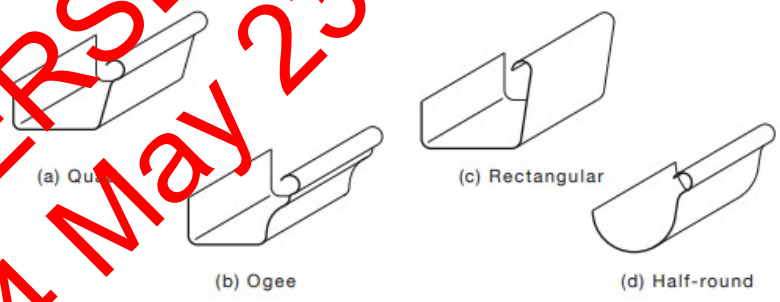

Figure 1: Typical external eaves gutters, *referenced from HB39, Figure 5.6(A).*

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A concealed eaves gutter is an eaves inside a fascia and has an eaves overhang.

Figure 2 shows a concealed eaves gutter is external of the building.

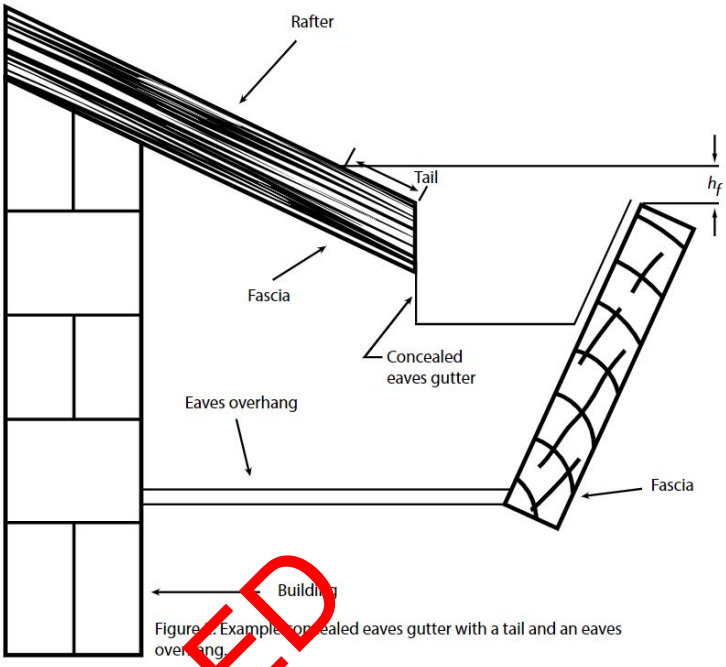

Figure 2: Example concealed eaves gutter with a tail and an eaves overhang

Figure 2: Example concealed eaves gutter with a tail and an eaves overhang *(referenced from AS/NZS 3500.3 Figure G1(d)).*

What materials and products are fit for purpose?

A roof system may consist of various types of materials that are interconnected to ensure protection to the building. When considering the type of roofing material used you must ensure the product and material selected is fit for purpose. Refer to Practice Note PN01

For guidance on the acceptability of the direct contact between different types of metals or the acceptability of drainage from an upper surface to a lower metal surface, please refer to Practice Note: Roof Plumbing-RP01: Clarification on the scope of roofing (stormwater)

Gutter installation examples

As per Figure 3 you must ensure that:

- the eaves gutter is adequately supported to guarantee that the support system can bear the total weight of the gutter when the gutter is full of water
- when securing the eaves gutter the brackets must securely attach the gutter to the building at stop ends and between stop ends, not exceeding 1200mm
- the eaves gutter does not exceed 20m without provision for expansion.

It is important when considering the design of the eaves gutter that incorporates overflow provisions for the entire length of. There are various types of design methodologies for overflow provisions, as demonstrated within Figure 3.

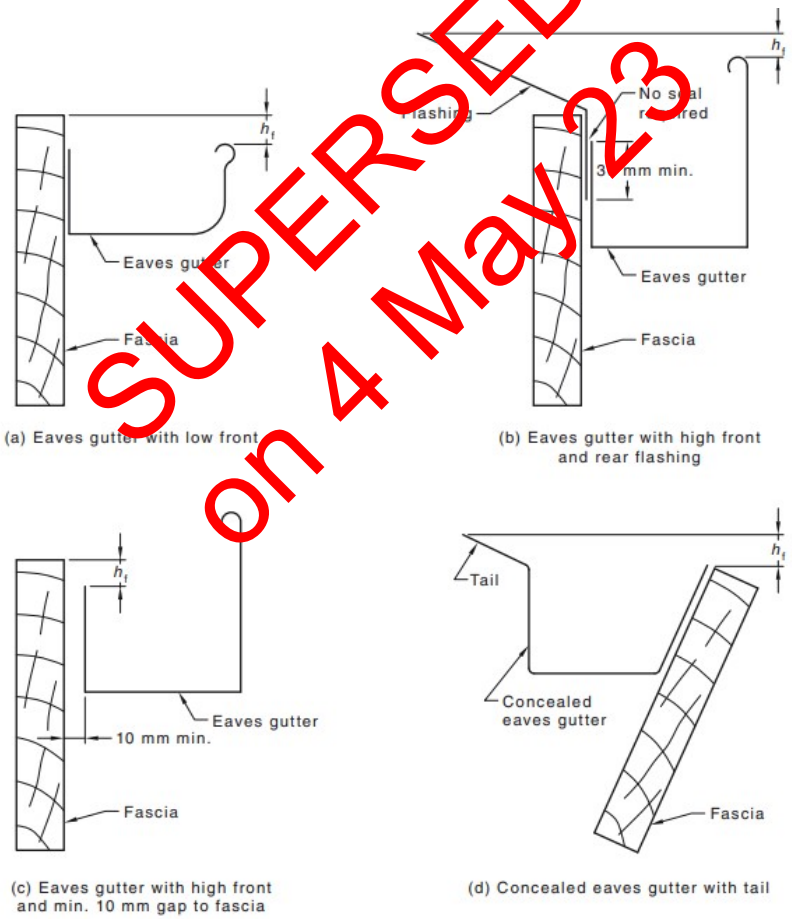

Figure 3: Eaves gutter overflow methods, *AS/NZS 3500.3 Figure G1 (a)-(d). These are examples of suggested overflow allowance methods.*

The performance requirements of the PCA can also be met by a performance solution. Refer to the PCA on the requirements to develop a performance solution.

Referenced Technical Documents

- AS/NZS 3500.3 Stormwater Drainage
- HB 39 Installation code for metal roofing and cladding
- HB 114 Guidelines for the design of eaves and box gutters

Related Documentation

- Practice Note RP-01: Regulatory Framework
- Practice Note RP-02: Box Gutters
- Practice Note RP-04: Downpipes
- Practice Note RP-05: Flashings
- Practice Note RP-06: Roof sizing and calculations

Contact Us

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