



/ PROSCENIUM WALLS (FIRE CURTAINS) ARE ESSENTIAL SAFETY MEASURES

AUST Hendry advises a proscenium wall is installed in theatres, stages and public halls. The Building Code of Australia (BCA) requires the installation of a proscenium wall, which is lowered in the event of a fire to provide protection for the audience from fire.

BCA Part H1 Theatres, Stages and Public Halls requires the installation of a proscenium walls (fire curtain) in every theatre and public hall (without a sprinkler system) between the stage, backstage area, accessible under-stage area and the audience. The building surveyor/ building certifier will always nominate a proscenium wall (fire curtain) as an essential safety measure.

/ BUILDING CODE OF AUSTRALIA

BCA Part H1 nominates when proscenium walls are to be installed, Specification H1.3 Construction of Theatres with Proscenium Walls, provides the details for construction of the theatre including the construction and installation of proscenium walls.

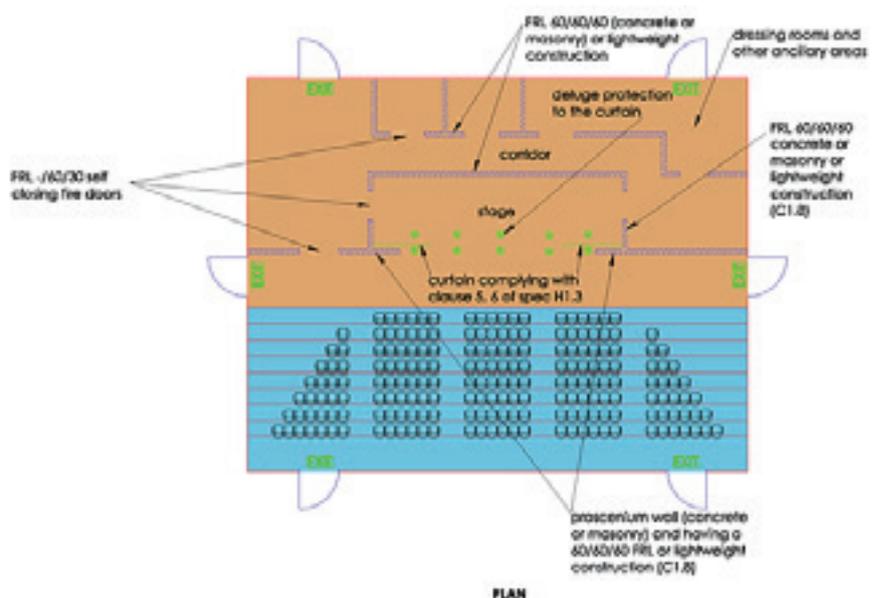
The main criteria for proscenium walls must be either non-combustible and fitted so as to inhibit smoke penetration around its perimeter when fully lowered or the proscenium walls have specified early fire hazard indices protected by a deluge sprinkler system.

The illustration depicts stages and back stages construction of proscenium walls.

/ ESSENTIAL SAFETY MEASURES AUDITOR

An essential safety measures auditor to ensure fire safety compliance must have a fundamental knowledge of Specification H1.3 of the BCA, and appreciate the differences between the alternative type of construction nominated for proscenium walls. With an understanding of the type of construction involved, the essential safety measures auditor can inspect the proscenium walls relative to the combination of essential safety measures features present.

The auditor must source the building surveyors/ building certifier's essential safety measures schedule/ determination or occupancy permit and check on the required frequency when inspections for proscenium walls are nominated. All inspections, testing and maintenance for proscenium walls should be recorded in an essential safety measure logbook and checked by the auditor to allow the signing of the Annual Statement, Annual Certificate Compliance, Annual Fire Safety Statement, Annual Maintenance Statement or Annual Occupiers Statement.



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STAGES AND BACKSTAGES CONSTRUCTION OF PROSCENIUM WALLS

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