



Australia's new water meter standards

The National Measurement Institute (NMI) certifies the design of water meters used in Australia. NMI ensures that meters sold in Australia are of an approved design, comply with legislation, and are fit for purpose. NMI does not sell or install water meters. NMI recently adopted a revised international standard which will allow a number of new water meter suppliers to enter the Australian market. Some suppliers may market water meters for individual apartments and units (sub-meters). This leaflet is aimed at helping interested parties find further information.

Who is responsible for water metering?

- Depending on where you live in Australia, water metering (including sub-metering) may be managed by organisations including: local councils, retail suppliers, and state government agencies.

How do I get a meter installed? Can I do it myself?

- Contact your local water service provider for information on their policies and processes regarding the installation and use of meters and sub-meters.

How much does a meter cost?

- Water meters used in residential applications may range in price from \$30 to around \$200. However, quotes for a single meter may differ from quotes for larger quantities.
- Additional costs would also include installation costs and/or ongoing meter service costs that may be charged by the water service provider.

Do I pay or does the body corporate?

- This will depend on the individual metering scenario.
- In some cases, the end-consumer will pay the water service provider directly for the meter and associated charges.
- In other cases, the end-consumer may pay the body corporate, which in turn may be charged by the water service provider.

Gold Coast case study

The Gold Coast has high density housing that may be a market for some new types of NMI certified water meters.

Who is responsible for water metering on the Gold Coast?

- Gold Coast City Council is responsible for water metering on the Gold Coast.
See: <http://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au>
- Gold Coast City Council issues a document 'Technical Specifications and Guidelines for Sub-metering of Community Title Schemes', which outlines the requirements for the installation and use of sub-meters.
- Gold Coast City Council publishes a document titled 'Water Sub-Metering and Billing Arrangements For Community Titles Schemes Policy', to ensure customer equity and parity regarding billing and metering services within such schemes.

How do I get a meter installed? Can I do it myself?

- Contact Gold Coast City Council to arrange for the installation of sub-meters in accordance with their requirements.

How much does a meter cost?

- Gold Coast City Council meter charges are published on its website.

This information is intended as a guide only, NMI recommends that you contact your local water service provider for definitive information regarding metering and sub-metering