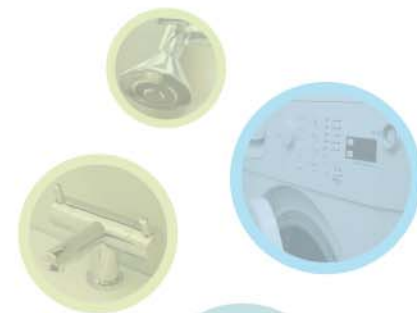


Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) Scheme

WELS expansion and ASFlow

Tiffany Dickinson
Senior Program Officer
WELS Scheme expansion

www.waterrating.gov.au

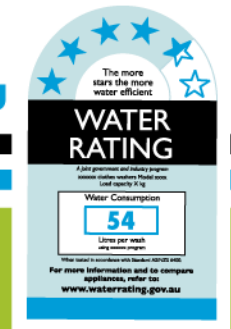


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What is water efficiency?

- **AS/NZS 6400** ensures:
 - Technical expertise and input
 - Measurable performance standards
 - Measurable water efficiency through star ratings, consumptive values and minimum water efficiency standards
 - A colligate approach with informed input

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Broader sustainability benefits

- WELS offers broader sustainability benefits beyond improving water efficiency
From 2005-06 to 2020-21:

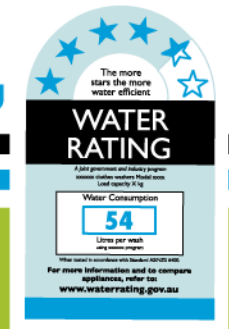
- Money saved: PV \$400 million @ 7% discount rate

- Energy saved: 9 million MWh

- Greenhouse gas emissions saved: 6 million tonnes*

- *Chong, J., Kazaglis, A., and Giurco.D. 2008, Cost effectiveness of WELS. Prepared for the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts by the Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology, Sydney.

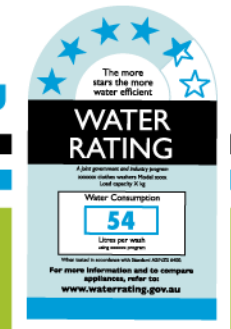
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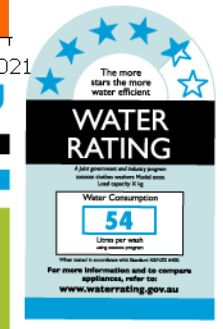
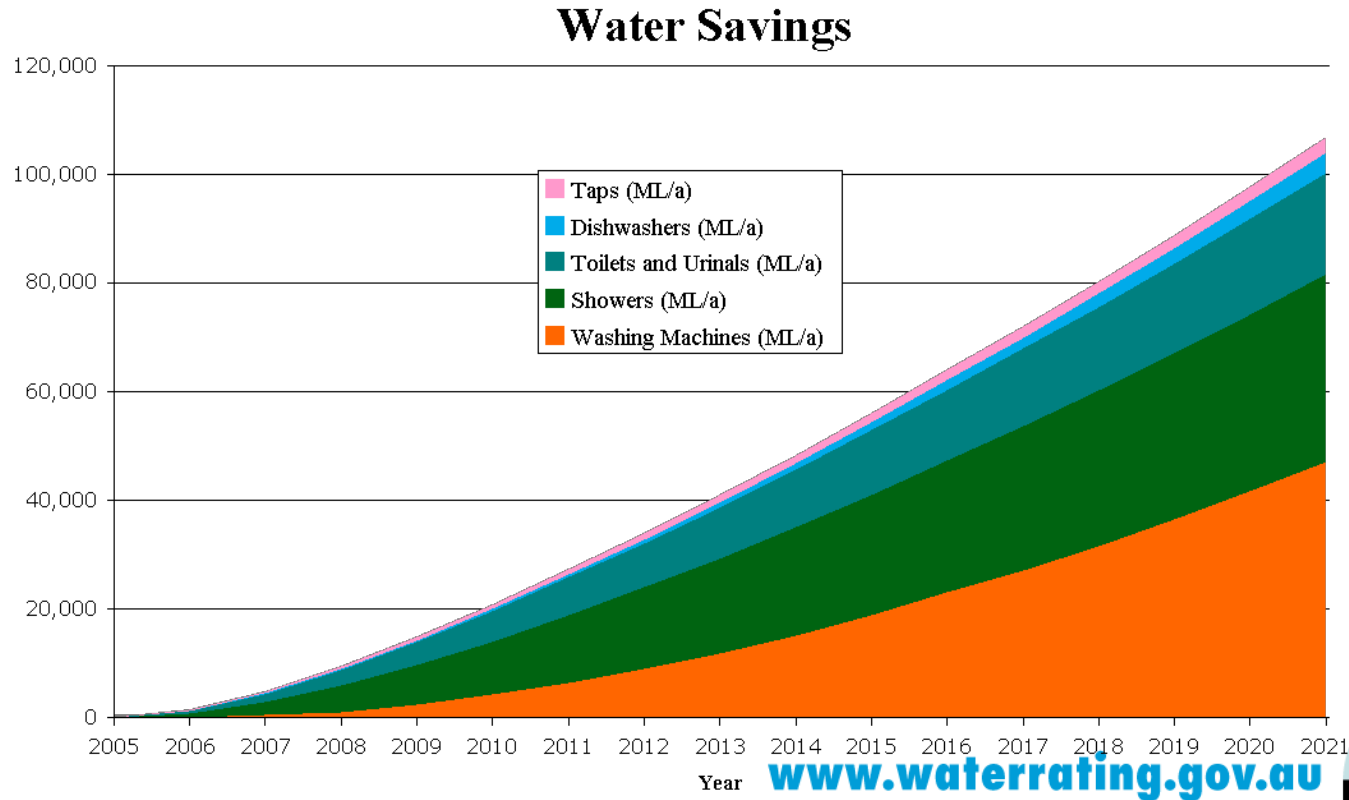
WELS is cost-effective

- WELS is a cost effective urban water management program when compared to other urban water management options
- WELS costs \$0.08/KL to \$0.21/KL
- Cost effectiveness of WELS lay summary and full report soon to be available on www.waterrating.gov.au

www.waterrating.gov.au

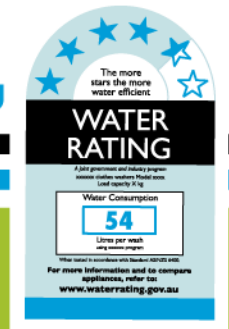


Water savings projected to 2021



The future of WELS

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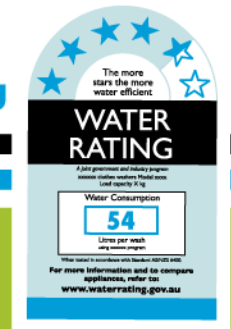


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WELS expansion

- The Environmental Protection and Heritage Council agreed in November 2006 to a program of work to investigate the prospective expansion of the Scheme
- Three Regulation Impact Statements (RIS) underway
 - Whitegoods
 - New products
 - Plumbing products

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Regulation Impact Statements

- All RIS have built-in stakeholder consultation rounds *before* public release
- Public release requires clearance by the Office of Best Practise Regulation
- Ministerial agreement for release, including state and territory ministers
- At *least* 6 weeks of public consultation
- All consultation considered before final RIS accepted

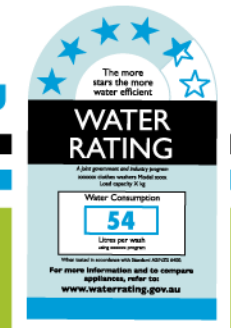
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To regulate or not to regulate? That is the question

- Regulatory burden on business
- Economic rationale for regulation - cost benefit analysis
- Regulation to what end?
- The role of the RIS - a thorough examination

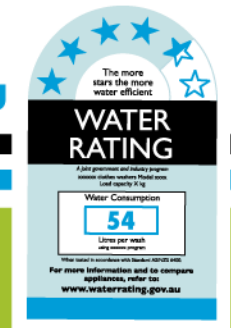
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Published expansion studies

- *Australian opportunities for more efficient toilets*
- *Water wastage of instantaneous gas water heaters*
- *Labelling of instantaneous gas water heaters*
- *Labelling of the dryer component of combination washer dryers*
- *Water consumption of combination washer dryers*
- *WELS requirements for urinals*

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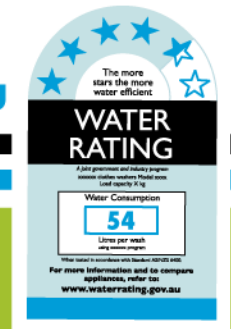
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Further expansion studies

- Technical research publications soon to come:
 - Evaporative air conditioners
 - Hot water circulators
 - Domestic irrigation controllers

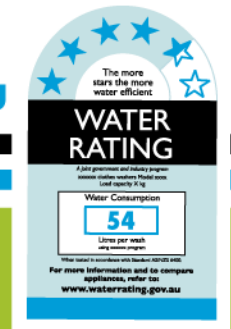
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Whitegoods RIS

- *Regulation Impact Statement: Minimum water efficiency standards (WES) for clothes washers and dishwashers and water efficiency labelling for combined washer dryers.*
 - Awaiting release for public consultation period of six weeks

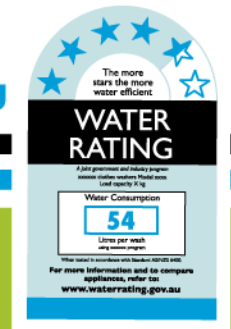
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New products RIS

- *Potential for the WELS Scheme to include new products; instantaneous gas hot water, hot water circulators, evaporative air conditioners and domestic irrigation controllers*
 - Commenced September 2008
 - Concludes September 2009

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Plumbing products RIS

- Introduction of WES for taps
- Introduction of WES for showers
- Introduction of WES for urinals
- Raising the existing WES for toilets
- The high flow/low flow label split for taps
- The high flow/low flow label split for showers
- 4.5lt minima for showers

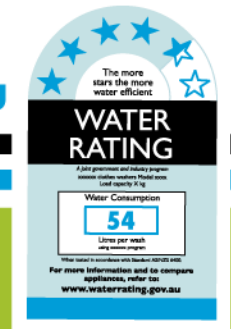
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Plumbing products RIS

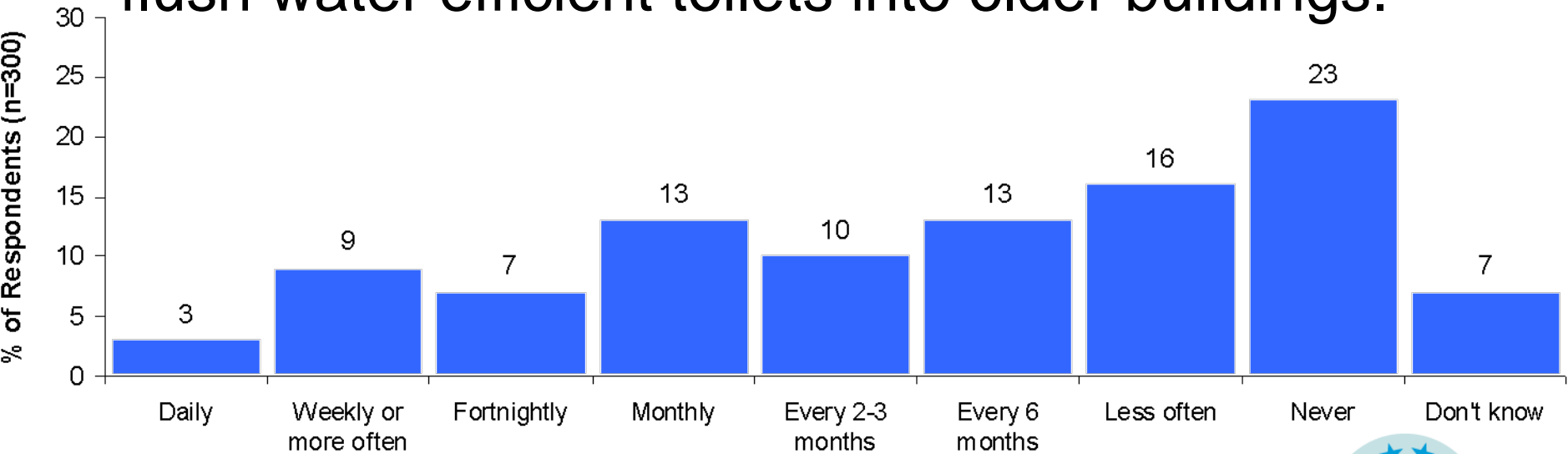
- Potential for household flows to be reduced due to greater water efficiency and minimum water efficiency standards
 - Washing machines
 - Dishwashers
 - Toilets
 - Taps
 - Showers

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Plumbers survey- preliminary results

- Preliminary results show that 32% of plumbers encounter blocked drains due to the retrofit of dual-flush water efficient toilets into older buildings.



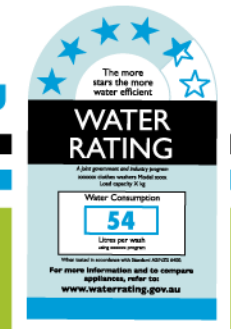
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Toilet opportunities study

- Positive stakeholder feedback to the prevention of 'hybrid' toilets (water efficient cisterns installed on old pans)
- Recommendation of a 'system' approach
- Removal of the 9/4.5lt class?

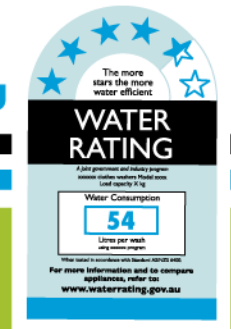
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Australasian scientific review of reduction of flows on plumbing and drainage systems



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WELS and ASFlow

- WELS is represented on the ASFlow steering committee to work towards the common goal of water efficiency

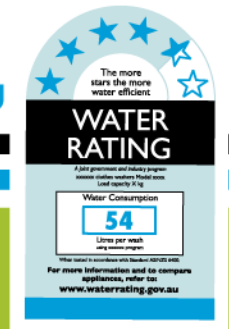
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ASFlow - Who is represented and why?

- Broad committee membership
- Committed to water efficiency and applied sustainability

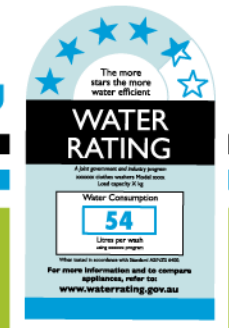
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Where? - Test sites

- Canberra Institute of Technology campus initial test site
- In-situ testing
 - Perth, W.A.
 - Forde, A.C.T.
 - Wellington, N.Z.

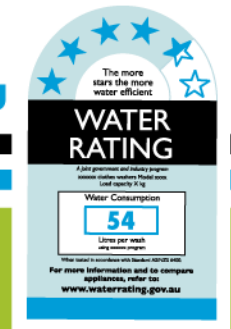
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ASFlow - When?

- Inception November 2007
- Testing commencing December 2008
- Completion 2010

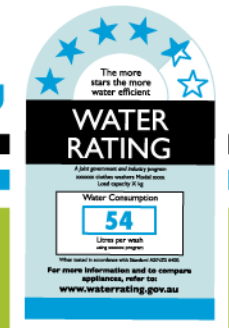
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ASFlow - Why?

- Lifting the lid on dry drains
- The future of water efficiency?
- How low can we go?
- What consequences?
- International peer review

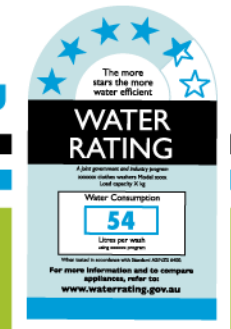
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Summary

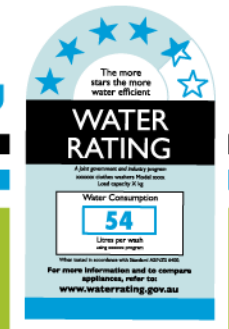
- A significant program of work to examine the possible expansion of the Scheme is up and running
- WELS and the NPRF are working together to common goals
- WELS makes a valuable contribution to the water conservation agenda
- WELS is a cost-effective urban water management option - costs \$0.08/KL to \$0.21/KL

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Thank you.

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