

Metrolinx Requirements for Writing Technical Standards and Procurement Specifications

Quick Reference Guide

MX-RFW QUICK REF GUIDE-PROC-2017-Rev 0

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Objective	Rule /method
Preface	 Include the following: standard title document number, if applicable edition or revision number any information related to the development of the standard date of publication
Introductory sections	Section 1 = Scope Section 2 = Reference publications Section 3 = Definitions Section 4 = Abbreviations
To say what the standard requires	Use "shall" Example: "Parking lot aisles shall be 7000 mm wide." No requirements in scope definitions notes to text non-mandatory appendices
To say what the standard recommends	Use "should" Example: "All temporary joints should be welded prior to the onset of winter."
To say what the standard allows	Use "may" Example: "Gabion walls may be used in non-public areas."
Notes to text	Supplementary information only – no mandatory language (no "shalls")
Notes to tables and figures	May be informative or mandatory
Measurements	Always leave a space between the number and the unit. Example: 5 kg, not 5kg
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