



# codewords

## Licensing a 'great idea', says first licensed external plasterer

The licensing scheme for building industry practitioners is a great idea, says the director of a Nelson plastering firm who has become the country's first licensed external plasterer.

Barry Galbraith, who has 32 years' industry experience, says the Licensed Building Practitioner (LBP) Scheme means that ultimately only people who are competent in their trade areas will be working in the industry.

'I decided to become licensed because I believe the consumer deserves to have only competent or trade-qualified people doing work on their homes. The cowboys in the industry have damaged consumer confidence and this is one way to reduce that.'

Barry started a solid plastering apprenticeship after leaving school at 15. He now owns the company he started working for and employs 32 staff, and runs three other building-related companies.



'I believe the consumer deserves to have only competent or trade-qualified people doing work on their homes'  
– Barry Galbraith

### what's inside

- 02** Apprentice of the Year
- 03** First licensed bricklayer and blocklayer
- 04** Determinations issued
- 06** Building consent needed for wet area showers
- 07** Possible correction needed to Compliance Document E1 Surface Water
- 07** Hastings' new Plansmart consenting system: 'thinking smarter not harder'
- 08** Recent building activity
- 12** Standards New Zealand update
- 16** Learning curve



He has trained 10 apprentices over the past nine years and, as Chair of the Building and Construction ITO's National Advisory Group for Solid Plaster and Tile, he is a strong supporter of industry standards.

Recently, Barry gained the 4098 unit standard, which teaches people how to assess workplace training. He has also been appointed as an LBP Scheme assessor for external plastering.

A former boxer, Barry has been New Zealand champion six times and these days he enjoys travelling to watch big fights, with David Tua a favourite.

He also enjoys following the fortunes of a talented trio of daughters, particularly as they compete in dancing competitions. In July he will travel to Los Angeles for the World Performing Arts Championships where his youngest daughter will dance and the eldest will sing.

By becoming the first licensed external plasterer, Barry joins the ranks of more than 600 practitioners in the scheme who are licensed in one of the design, site supervision, or trade classes.

# Apprentice of the Year – entries now open

## Entries are now open for the 2009 Registered Master Builders Apprentice of the Year in association with Carters.

The Department of Building and Housing is the 'supporting sponsor' of the competition which recognises excellence among young carpentry apprentices and raises awareness of career opportunities in the building and construction industry.

'The Department is committed to working with the sector to lift skills and raise the productivity of the building sector,' says Nigel Bickle, Deputy Chief Executive Sector Capability.

'Our support for this competition is part of that commitment.'

Entrants will compete for thousands of dollars in prizes and be graded by a panel of judges from the Registered Master Builders Federation, Carters and the Building and Construction Industry Training Organisation.

Judging will include written entries and interviews, following which 10 finalists will be selected. Finalists will be visited by the judges at their places of work to determine a winner and runners-up.

The competition attracts a large number of entries from around the country every year. The closing date for 2009 entries is 31 July, and entry forms are available at the Registered Master Builders website, [www.masterbuilder.org.nz](http://www.masterbuilder.org.nz)

# First licensed bricklayer and blocklayer

Hillary Haggerty is the first bricklayer and blocklayer to be licensed under the Licensed Building Practitioner (LBP) Scheme.

'It's not too difficult to go through the application process and become an LBP,' he says. In spite of the economic downturn, Hillary says 'people should just get on and do it – get it done'.

Hillary has always agreed with registration as a way of ensuring high standards in the industry, which is why he is also a registered master mason. He was also recently made a life member of the Southland Master Brick and Blocklayers Association.

Hillary is a strong believer in the value of training. He himself started his five-year apprenticeship in 1960, and says his boss gave him a good foundation in the trade, and the confidence to eventually run his own business.

He is still working, although he 'doesn't do too much block work these days'. As well as bricklaying, he also does stone laying, tiling and some plastering.

Born and bred in Southland, Hillary took up painting as a hobby six years ago, and takes art classes once a week. He likes to paint southern landscapes around Tuatapere and Fiordland, and says there's no need to go anywhere else.

'I'm a Southlander through and through,' Hillary says.



'It's not too difficult to go through the application process and become an LBP' – Hillary Haggerty

The Department of Building and Housing publishes a wide range of information on the Licensed Building Practitioner Scheme.

- Application packs for the first 10 licensing classes (three Design, three Site, Carpentry, Roofing, External Plastering, and Bricklaying and Blocklaying)
- Brochures and fact sheets which introduce the scheme and include information on the responsibilities of being licensed
- Standards and competencies for each class
- Forms for practitioners who are already licensed

These publications can be viewed at [www.dbh.govt.nz/pub-licensing-index](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/pub-licensing-index)

A regular e-newsletter called *Licensing Update* also provides information and news about occupational licensing in New Zealand. To subscribe to the newsletter (which is emailed free to anyone interested in the LBP Scheme), visit [www.dbh.govt.nz/subscribe](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/subscribe)

# Determinations issued

## DETERMINATION 2009/18:

*The number of sanitary fixtures for a warehouse building*

This determination arose from the building consent authority's (the BCA's) assessment of the number of sanitary fixtures that a proposed warehouse building required in order to comply with Clause G1 of the Building Code. The owner applied for the determination.

### Background

The proposed building was a warehouse with a single open space and an area of 3,600 m<sup>2</sup> used for the storage of milk powder. The building was to have three employees. The proposed building was to form part of a bigger complex that included other warehouse-type buildings and a building containing staff facilities.

The BCA considered that the number of sanitary facilities was to be based upon the occupancy used in the fire design report for the building, which the BCA based on the outcome of Determination 2006/73. However, the assessment in Determination 2006/73 was made with respect to the change of use provisions of the Building Act 2004 (the Act) and to establish the building's maximum occupancy for the access

requirements of Clause D1, not to establish the number of sanitary facilities. The intended occupancy for the building in Determination 2006/73 was estimated.

The determination also noted it was not always appropriate to use the occupancy numbers from a fire design to calculate the number of sanitary facilities in a building. For example, the fire design occupancy of a retail store will include the retail staff and the likely number of visitors to a store, but the sanitary facilities need only be provided for the retail staff.

### Discussion

The Acceptable Solution for Clause G1 is G1/AS1. The determination considered Figure 1 of G1/AS1 which uses two methods to calculate the number of sanitary fixtures required for the proposed building. The BCA said the second method must be used.

The building was to be used for the bulk storage of milk powder and populated by a limited number of employees and the determination found that the calculated occupancy would be grossly unrealistic. As the actual occupancy numbers for the building were known, the determination considered it was appropriate to use Method 1 to calculate the number of sanitary facilities.

### The decision

In accordance with section 188 of the Act, it was determined that the provision of only one unisex accessible toilet would be necessary for the building to comply with Clause G1 of the Building Code.

## DETERMINATION 2009/23:

*Balcony drainage for a multi-level apartment building*

This determination arose from the applicant wanting to know whether the proposed reinstated barriers to balconies on a multi-storey apartment building needed to incorporate a means of collection and disposal of surface water in order to meet the requirements of the Building Code to the extent required by the Building Act 2004 (the Act). The applicant was a group of apartment owners acting through a building surveyor. Other apartment owners were also parties to the determination, as was the building consent authority.

### Background

The building work concerned the reinstatement of barriers to the balconies of an existing six-storey apartment building. The balconies were generally stacked one directly above the other. There are 45 balconies ranging in area from 3 to 56 m<sup>2</sup>. The proposed metal barrier details included box gutters discharging into downpipes through rainwater heads.

The existing balconies were not provided with any means of collecting surface water, and any surface water falling on a balcony was discharged over the balcony edges.

METHOD 1: ACTUAL OCCUPANCY NUMBER IS KNOWN	METHOD 2: ACTUAL OCCUPANCY NUMBER IS UNKNOWN
The owner submitted that only three people would be employed in the single use building, which was accepted as being the actual number of occupants. Table 1 of G1/AS1 said that one accessible unisex sanitary facility was required for between one and five staff.	The occupation density of 0.03 from Table 4 for warehouse storage, multiplied by the proposed floor area of 3,600 m <sup>2</sup> , gave a maximum occupant density of 108 people. Table 1 of G1/AS1 said that four unisex sanitary facilities were required, with one facility being accessible.



A building consent had been issued for the remedial work to reinstate the balcony barriers. Some apartment owners have disputed that gutters and downpipes were required.

### Discussion

Building Code Clause E.1.3.1 requires that in an event having a 10 percent probability of occurring annually, any surface water 'collected or concentrated' by building work is required to be disposed of in a way that avoids the likelihood of damage or nuisance to other property. In this instance the nuisance arises from surface water discharging from one balcony and into other property.

### The building work as an alteration to an existing building

The determination took the view that the proposed building work was an alteration to an existing building, and therefore section 112 of the Act applied. Section 112 says that in respect of alterations to existing buildings, and in respect of the collection and disposal of surface water, the building is to 'continue to comply with the . . . provisions of the Building Code to at least the same extent as before the alteration'.

The determination considered the situation if the proposed building work did not include the gutters and downpipes, but was limited to the construction of the balcony barriers only. The existing barriers allowed surface water to free fall over the balcony edge.

The determination considered the construction of the proposed barriers and concluded that the altered building, without any gutters and downpipes to collect and dispose of the surface water, would be no worse a situation than before the alteration, and therefore the requirements of section 112 were met. The determination considered that the installation of gutters and downpipes would represent an improved situation, but that the requirements of the Act would be met irrespective of whether they were installed.

### The requirements for Code compliance if this was a new building

The determination also considered the situation if the balconies were associated with a new building. In such situations the requirements of section 112 would not apply, and the balconies would need to comply fully with the requirements of Clause E1.3.1.

The determination considered:

- the findings of previous determinations
- the area of the balconies
- the amount of water falling from a balcony that would not be considered a nuisance

- whether water would fall uniformly off a balcony edge, and whether any imperfections in a balcony's construction would lead to the water being concentrated.

The determination also had the benefit of submissions made by a significant number of apartment owners, some of whom had lived in the building for up to 10 years, about the effects of surface water runoff from balconies above their property.

The determination considered that the runoff from the smaller balconies in the building would not create a nuisance. This was due in part to the practicalities of installing a means of collection and disposal on such small balconies, and in part due to the likelihood that, when it rains, any adjoining exterior wall surfaces will also collect rain water so the collection of surface water from a small balcony will be of limited additional benefit.

### The decision

In accordance with section 188 of the Act and in terms of section 112 of the Act it was determined that a means of surface water collection and disposal was not required to be installed to the proposed reinstated balcony barriers.

**These are summaries only. The full determinations (along with all other determinations issued) can be viewed on our website:**  
[www.dbh.govt.nz/determinations](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/determinations)

# Building consent needed for wet area showers

Installing 'wet area' showers\* is work that requires a building consent. However, the Department of Building and Housing has become aware that a number of building consent authorities (BCAs) are inconsistent in their approach. This article provides background information for BCAs to consider when approving wet area showers.

The Department has also published guidance 'Building work that does not require a building consent: A guide to Schedule 1 of the Building Act 2004 November 2008'.

In this publication, exemptions (ad) Alterations to Sanitary Plumbing and (af) Improving Access for People with Disabilities clearly state that wet area showers are not exempt from requiring a consent. An example provided under exemption (ad) states 'Installing a wet area shower requires a building consent. This is because the construction of the wet area shower includes critical building work, such as waterproof membranes'.

\* The floor of 'wet area' or 'level-entry' showers is a continuation of the floor of the bathroom, rather than a separate raised shower tray or cubicle.

Level-entry or wet area showers are installed for a variety of reasons, such as:

- adapting a house for a person with a long-term disability
- after an accident when a person has a temporary disability
- for elderly parents who have come to live with their family
- because a homeowner chooses to.

Installing wet area showers is not exempt building work because it is not 'low risk'. This is because a number of critical design elements (such as the substructure for the tanking or the waterproofing) need to be carefully considered, and the consequences of not getting it right are significant.

A wet area shower must be constructed so that water cannot enter the building fabric, which could cause dampness and a health hazard and could eventually decay, affecting the structural integrity of the house.

In addition, the installation of a wet area shower is more complex than work which is exempt under Schedule 1 of the Building Act 2004, such as:

- replacing an existing shower with a stand alone or ready-made shower
- replacing sanitary fixtures in the same room
- moving a toilet.

Wet area showers require more building work than when a stand alone or ready-made shower is installed, for example:

- floor, subfloor and walls designed for protection from additional water exposure
- containment and fall to shower floor waste, which may require furring of joists
- tanking membrane under the floor covering and behind shower wall coverings
- waterproof finish to shower walls and floor, such as tiles over a tanking membrane or vinyl.

The building consent and inspection process provides an assurance to homeowners that the building complies with the Building Code.

## ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Providing facilities for people with disabilities is not a Building Code requirement for houses.

This means a wet area shower installed in a house is not required to meet all the provisions of G1/AS1 or NZS 4121. The shower can be designed to suit the disabilities of the person intending to use the shower, for example it may not need a fixed seat.

Level-entry showers can be, but are not always, accessible showers.

# Possible correction needed to Compliance Document E1 Surface Water

A printing error has been detected in some versions of Compliance Document E1, which relates to surface water.

Verification Method E1/VM1 in the document includes the following formula in Paragraph 2.1.1 for calculating surface water run-off:

$$C = \frac{\sum C_i A_i}{A_c}$$

In some versions of the document, including the version available on our website until 29 April 2009, the summation sign ( $\Sigma$ ) was inadvertently omitted in converting the file for publication.

If you have a hard copy of Compliance Document E1, please check the formula and if necessary add the summation sign as given above.

# Hastings' new Plansmart consenting system: 'thinking smarter not harder'

Hastings District Council recently introduced Plansmart, a new building consent pre-lodgement system that aims to improve the efficiency of the building consent process, by ensuring the Council receives only complete building consent applications.

Council Community Safety Manager Malcolm Hart says about half of all building consents have to be suspended because critical information has not been included, and incomplete applications clog the system for others.

'Over time we expect to see a reduction in the number of consents being suspended and an improvement of our process efficiency. That has to be good for applicants and the building industry in general,' says Malcolm.

Plansmart involves a new pre-lodgement checklist. Applications can still be received by mail or in person, and applicants can also choose to meet face-to-face with a senior building controls officer. In either case, only complete consents will be lodged.

The pre-lodgement checklist notes any applications without all the agreed information, and the application and a copy of the checklist go back to the applicant with an explanation of what is missing.

'In the past we would suspend the consent while we waited for the information, so in this way our system can be freed up and

building officers can be left to focus more on complete applications,' says Malcolm.

Professional consent applicants get an added incentive. If six consents are lodged without requiring additional information, the applicant gets priority status. Their applications are then fast tracked and processed as a priority over other building consents.

Another innovation is checking the application up front to see whether a resource consent is required. Where issues are identified relating to the District Plan or other licensing requirements such as health or trade waste, the applicant is notified. They are invited to consider delaying their application for building consent until the resource consent issues are resolved, although the Council will still accept the application.

This means applicants are better informed and they can decide on how best to proceed. Malcolm says there is nothing worse for an applicant than to lodge a building consent, only to find out 10 days later they also need to apply for resource consent.

The Department of Building and Housing is keen to support building consent authorities, who have spent the first phase of accreditation focusing on their own internal systems, in shifting their focus to customer service processes. The Government has made streamlining and improving the consenting process a priority.

# Mixed trends in recent building activity

During March and April 2009 the Department of Building and Housing asked all registered territorial authorities that are building consent authorities to provide information about building consents granted during the first eight months of the 2008/09 financial year.

The useful information received from the 72 authorities confirms the scale and value of ongoing building activity throughout New Zealand, as well as giving an indication of the economic recession's impact to date on the building sector nationally and in different districts.

## **BUILDING CONSENT NUMBERS, VALUE OF WORK AND FEE INCOME DOWN NATIONALLY, BUT UP IN SOME AREAS**

Territorial authorities granted around 56,000 building consents during the eight months from 1 July 2008 to 28 February 2009. The total combined value of the consented building work during the period was around \$7.4 billion.

Month-by-month figures indicate a national trend downwards in the total number of consents. However, allowing for the usual seasonal downturn in January, some districts appear to have maintained steady or increasing numbers of consents.

A comparison of the eight-month totals in the accompanying table with 60 percent of the total number of consents granted in the 2007/08 year<sup>1</sup> indicates the overall number of building consents has reduced by roughly 10 percent so far this year. The same comparison for individual authorities indicates that the number of consents may have decreased by close to 40 percent in some districts, while in other districts the number of consents has actually increased by up to 30 percent.

A similar comparison of the value of consented building work<sup>2</sup> and the total consent processing and inspection fee income<sup>3</sup> received by the authorities indicates that, without any CPI adjustment, there has been an overall national decrease in the reported value of building work and of consent processing and inspection fee income of around 4 to 5 percent.

## **BUILDING CONSENT PROCESSING TIMES IMPROVE**

Seventy of the 72 authorities<sup>4</sup> provided information on building consent processing times during the four months from November 2008 to February 2009. Of the 22,000 building consents issued during that period by those 70 authorities, 20,000 (91 percent) were granted within 20 working days of receipt of the consent application.

While this is still short of the 100 percent required by the Building Act (a target which many authorities did consistently meet each month), this represents a steady improvement in performance, partly due to the reducing number of consents in many districts.

## **TRENDS IN THE TYPE OF BUILDING WORK**

The Department also requested information about the type of building work being approved. In particular, authorities were asked for the number of consents issued each month for the following types of buildings.

- New residential (houses and apartments)
- Additions and alterations to existing residential
- New buildings other than residential
- Alterations to existing buildings other than residential

Unfortunately the wide variations between authorities' internal categorisations of consented building work meant that the data could not be reliably compared. This has highlighted a need for guidance on the categorisation of building work to enable meaningful data comparison.

## FUTURE REQUESTS FOR BUILDING CONSENT INFORMATION

The Department intends to make a similar data request in July 2009 covering the remaining four months of this financial year (March – June 2009). Thereafter, it is likely that similar requests will be made on a four-monthly basis (in November, March and July of each year).

A spreadsheet data template will be provided to ensure a consistent approach in collecting the information.

The information gathered will also feed into the Department's regular quarterly publication, *Building and Housing Trends Report*. To subscribe to this or other publications by the Department, visit [www.dbh.govt.nz/subscribe](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/subscribe)

- <sup>1</sup> Sixty percent of the 2007/08 total equates to a little under 7.5 months. This is to account for typically low consent numbers in January.
- <sup>2</sup> Based on responses from 71 of the 72 registered authorities (Grey District information on building work value for the current year was not available).
- <sup>3</sup> Based on responses from 67 of the 72 registered authorities (Christchurch City, Franklin District, Grey District, Hutt City and Southland District information on fee income was not available for one or other of the years being compared).
- <sup>4</sup> Christchurch City and Southland District information was not available.

TERRITORIAL AUTHORITY	NUMBER OF BUILDING CONSENTS ISSUED FROM 1 JUL 08 TO 28 FEB 09	JUL-08	AUG-08	SEP-08	OCT-08	NOV-08	DEC-08	JAN-09	FEB-09
Ashburton District	696	123	84	107	116	68	73	57	68
Auckland City	3834	567	502	521	549	476	234	481	504
Buller District	278	49	38	29	30	41	34	18	39
Carterton District	226	30	30	22	26	39	22	31	26
Central Hawke's Bay District	274	46	32	54	44	29	32	8	29
Central Otago District	544	77	89	85	64	67	60	40	55
Christchurch City	3889	545	712	579	519	486	417	320	530
Clutha District	417	89	62	45	68	55	35	26	37
Dunedin City	1866	302	300	248	183	173	295	189	176
Far North District	854	140	105	146	112	108	102	56	85
Franklin District	875	154	115	103	126	96	116	70	95
Gisborne District	785	149	97	117	125	71	99	65	62
Gore District	348	73	37	56	62	35	39	9	37
Grey District	Not provided	41	36	Not provided	29	34	78	13	36
Hamilton City	1058	180	139	161	122	121	154	80	101
Hastings District	984	161	122	171	134	102	102	99	93
Hauraki District	347	77	63	42	28	39	37	28	33
Horowhenua District	435	105	54	77	37	56	31	29	46

Continued on page 10

Recent building activity continued

<b>TERRITORIAL AUTHORITY</b>	<b>NUMBER OF BUILDING CONSENTS ISSUED FROM 1 JUL 08 TO 28 FEB 09</b>	<b>JUL-08</b>	<b>AUG-08</b>	<b>SEP-08</b>	<b>OCT-08</b>	<b>NOV-08</b>	<b>DEC-08</b>	<b>JAN-09</b>	<b>FEB-09</b>
Hurunui District	291	50	57	43	19	26	47	16	33
Hutt City	708	109	93	98	58	95	137	58	60
Invercargill City	1426	188	208	234	230	146	153	118	149
Kaikoura District	118	16	12	25	15	8	16	9	17
Kaipara District	448	73	63	63	74	51	52	32	40
Kapiti Coast District	669	132	103	86	78	71	80	63	56
Kawerau District	59	12	12	8	5	8	8	3	3
Mackenzie District	159	27	18	7	23	31	26	17	21
Manawatu District	490	107	52	88	63	53	54	32	43
Manukau City	1819	276	213	289	260	224	181	151	225
Marlborough District	1185	160	184	201	135	119	139	119	128
Masterton District	522	61	64	86	77	64	66	42	62
Matamata-Piako District	609	102	79	106	78	87	36	57	64
Napier City	727	99	104	118	84	83	82	86	71
Nelson City	831	115	102	112	125	83	115	72	107
New Plymouth District	1191	172	134	151	119	178	160	141	136
North Shore City	1814	251	207	162	235	263	287	183	226
Opotiki District	158	22	26	22	18	23	14	13	20
Otorohanga District	251	48	51	28	38	31	20	30	5
Palmerston North City	790	141	121	96	112	101	80	46	93
Papakura District	411	65	56	53	51	56	52	41	37
Porirua City	474	66	71	72	70	61	45	44	45
Queenstown-Lakes District	847	125	133	109	125	108	71	88	89
Rangitikei District	235	45	24	35	30	27	31	26	17
Rodney District	1343	181	239	165	188	187	146	120	117
Rotorua District	950	163	138	129	120	92	101	77	130
Ruapehu District	229	35	32	23	37	28	28	24	22
Selwyn District	1178	183	176	188	148	154	150	71	108

<b>TERRITORIAL AUTHORITY</b>	<b>NUMBER OF BUILDING CONSENTS ISSUED FROM 1 JUL 08 TO 28 FEB 09</b>	<b>JUL-08</b>	<b>AUG-08</b>	<b>SEP-08</b>	<b>OCT-08</b>	<b>NOV-08</b>	<b>DEC-08</b>	<b>JAN-09</b>	<b>FEB-09</b>
South Taranaki District	535	70	66	72	64	45	51	35	32
South Waikato District	441	80	60	55	63	77	52	14	40
South Wairarapa District	328	52	47	45	33	42	43	32	34
Southland District	1220	208	158	187	177	164	124	99	103
Stratford District	215	30	33	25	25	27	23	19	33
Tararua District	389	66	60	52	44	50	39	33	44
Tasman District	889	134	94	136	135	117	102	82	89
Taupo District	759	119	115	104	88	89	73	76	95
Tauranga City	1249	217	171	181	178	149	108	113	132
Thames-Coromandel District	769	116	106	99	126	109	97	48	68
Timaru District	1055	181	137	136	141	147	129	73	111
Upper Hutt City	470	77	72	63	70	56	36	32	64
Waikato District	717	131	100	94	113	87	66	62	64
Waimakariri District	798	137	117	120	85	104	86	54	95
Waimate District	219	43	25	28	28	27	23	21	24
Waipa District	848	137	145	117	101	111	85	81	71
Wairoa District	130	23	18	15	16	22	17	9	10
Waitakere City	1163	137	137	121	126	171	162	159	150
Waitaki District	454	72	79	60	55	47	48	58	35
Waitomo District	199	25	34	19	20	19	18	32	32
Wanganui District	752	160	95	101	80	107	101	60	48
Wellington City	1967	287	354	273	220	269	211	162	191
Western Bay of Plenty District	802	136	125	96	110	105	84	75	71
Westland District	247	48	27	29	44	44	28	23	23
Whakatane District	524	78	51	85	80	52	54	55	69
Whangarei District	1009	184	106	86	141	186	118	78	110
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>55,790</b>	<b>8880</b>	<b>7921</b>	<b>7759</b>	<b>7352</b>	<b>6977</b>	<b>6315</b>	<b>4983</b>	<b>6014</b>

# Standards New Zealand

## update

(The information in this update is reproduced courtesy of Standards New Zealand – [www.standards.co.nz](http://www.standards.co.nz))

---

### NEW PUBLICATIONS

---

#### AS/NZS 3750

#### Paints for steel structures

---

#### AS/NZS 3750.6: 2009

#### Full gloss polyurethane (two-pack)

Specifies requirements for two-component, solvent-borne, full gloss polyurethane paints intended to be used primarily for the protection of iron and steel against exterior atmospheric corrosion. A full gloss polyurethane consists essentially of a polyester, polyacrylate or other polyol base cured with an aliphatic isocyanate hardener and appropriate pigments and solvents.

Supersedes AS/NZS 3750.6: 1995

---

#### AS/NZS 3750.9: 2009

#### Organic zinc-rich primer

Specifies requirements for an organic zinc-rich primer intended to protect iron and steel against atmospheric corrosion. It is suitable for application by brush or spray. Type 2 paint specified in the Standard is referred to in AS 2312 as Paint Reference No. C02.

Supersedes AS/NZS 3750.9: 1994

---

#### AS/NZS 3750.11: 2009

#### Chlorinated rubber – High-build and gloss

Specifies requirements for a high-build, chlorinated rubber-based, intermediate or topcoat paint and a chlorinated rubber gloss finish paint for the protection of iron and steel against exterior atmospheric corrosion in an industrial or marine environment. The high-build paints are suitable for application only by conventional air or airless spraying, while the gloss paint is suitable for application by brush or spray. Paints specified in this Standard are referred to in AS/NZS 2312 as Paint References C14 and C25.

Supersedes AS/NZS 3750.11: 1996

---

#### NZS 4219: 2009

#### Seismic performance of engineering systems in buildings

Sets out the criteria for the seismic performance of engineering systems related to a building's function. It covers the design, construction and installation of seismic restraints for these engineering systems.

Buildings with importance level 5, large mass items, structures external to the building, lifts, building contents and fire sprinkler systems are excluded from this Standard.

Supersedes NZS 4219: 1983

---

#### AS/NZS 4793: 2009

#### Mechanical tapping bands for waterworks purpose

Specifies requirements for design, materials and performance in service of PN 16 mechanical tapping bands used for the connection of property service pipes to reticulation watermains. It applies to tapping bands, with and without electrical insulation, for mechanical connection to standard watermains, with the exception of tapping bands for polyethylene watermains that are covered in AS/NZS 4129. The nominal operating temperature range is 0°C to 40°C.

---

#### AS/NZS 4998: 2009

#### Bolted unrestrained mechanical couplings for waterworks purposes

Specifies requirements for unrestrained mechanical couplings for joining above or below groundwater mains and wastewater mains, other than polyethylene (PE) piping, with pressure classifications of PN 16 and PN 35 and nominal sizes DN 80 to DN 750 and for a maximum working temperature of 40°C.

---

---

**STANDARDS WITHDRAWN**

---

<b>AS/NZS 3750</b>	<b>Paints for steel structures</b>
<b>AS/NZS 3750.6: 1995</b>	Full gloss polyurethane (two-pack) Superseded by AS/NZS 3750.6: 2009
<b>AS/NZS 3750.9: 1994</b>	Organic zinc-rich primer Superseded by AS/NZS 3750.9: 2009
<b>AS/NZS 3750.11: 1996</b>	Chlorinated rubber – High-build and gloss Superseded by AS/NZS 3750.11: 2009

<b>NZS 4219: 1983</b>	<b>Specification for seismic resistance of engineering systems in buildings</b> Superseded by NZS 4219: 2009
-----------------------	---

---

**DRAFT STANDARDS FOR COMMENT** – Free to download from the Standards New Zealand website: [www.standards.co.nz](http://www.standards.co.nz)

---

<b>DR 09031</b>	<b>CP Amendment 4 to AS/NZS 6400 – Water efficient products – Rating and labelling</b> Amendment applies to the Foreword, Clauses 1.3.2, 1.3.4, 1.3.5, 1.3.9, 1.3.11, 1.3.12 (new), 1.3.13 (new) 2.1.3, 2.1.5, 2.1.6, 2.2.6, 2.3.1, 2.3.3, 2.3.4, 2.3.6, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4, 2.4.6, 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 2.5.3, 2.5.4, 2.5.6, 2.6.1, 2.6.3, 2.6.5, 2.6.6, 2.7.3, 2.7.6, 4.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.6, 4.7, Tables 3.1 and 3.2, and Annexes A and B. Public comment on this draft closes on 4 June 2009.
<b>DR 09033</b>	<b>Laboratory design and construction (Revision of AS/NZS 2982.1: 1997)</b> Specifies requirements for the design and construction of laboratories. Sections 1 to 7 apply to all laboratories. Sections 8, 9 and 10 contain additional requirements that apply to biological, radiological, secondary school and tertiary laboratories. Public comment on this draft closes on 26 June 2009.
<b>DZ 4514</b>	<b>Interconnected smoke alarms for single household units</b> A partial technical revision of NZS 4514: 2002. Maintenance requirements have been specified in more detail, and made mandatory. Additional guidance has been provided for the selection of smoke alarms and their location to avoid nuisance activations. Public comment on this draft closes on 25 May 2009.
<b>DZ 4830</b>	<b>Determination of the extinction propensity of cigarettes</b> AS 4830: 2007 Determination of the extinction propensity of cigarettes is a test method published by Standards Australia in 2007. The Standard was developed by an expert technical committee and is based on ASTM E2187- 04 Standard test method for measuring the ignition strength of machine-made cigarettes. It enables comparison of the extinction propensity of different cigarette designs under standard laboratory conditions. The test method prescribes a repeatable, laboratory-based way of testing the capability of a machine-made cigarette, positioned on a standard substrate, to generate sufficient heat to continue burning. The Standard is intended for the testing of all machine-made cigarettes. A New Zealand Standards development committee comprising a range of key New Zealand stakeholders has been formed to assess the appropriateness of AS 4830-2007 for use by New Zealand. At this time, the intention is to adopt the Australian Standard with no alterations to the text. Public comment on this draft closes on 22 June 2009.

---

Continued on page 14

---

**DRAFT STANDARDS FOR COMMENT (CONTINUED)** – Free to download from the Standards New Zealand website: [www.standards.co.nz](http://www.standards.co.nz)

---

**DR 09032** CP Paints for steel structures – Part 7: Aluminium paint (Revision of AS/NZS 3750.7: 1994)  
Specifies requirements for a single pack bright aluminium finish paint intended to protect iron and steel against corrosion. It may be suitable for application by brush, roller or spray. This paint will provide heat reflectance and medium-term protection from corrosion to suitably primed steelwork located in an industrial atmospheric environment.  
Public comment on this draft closes on 2 June 2009.

---

**STANDARDS IN DEVELOPMENT**

---

**Timber framed buildings** Committee: P3604  
Project Manager: Mani Taare  
Estimated Publication Date: 2010  
Comments: Formation of the leadership group is complete. The P3604 Technical Committee has been constituted and the second meeting was held on 19 March 2009. Working groups have been established to review specific sections of the Standard. They are: Loadings (1170), Bracing, Durability, Roof framing, Design appearance and clarity.

---

**Revision of NZS 3122: 1995 and NZS 3123: 1974** Committee: P3122-3123  
Project Manager: Mani Taare  
Estimated Publication Date: August 2009  
Comments: A project for the amendment of NZS 3122: 1995 Specification for Portland and blended cements (General and special purpose) and revision of NZS 3123: 1974 Specification for Portland Pozzolan cement (type PP cement). The committee met on 6 April and the draft is being edited prior to release for public comment.

---

**Code of Practice for concrete structures for the storage of liquid** Committee: P3106 Phase 2  
Project Manager: Sonia van Ree  
Estimated Publication Date: June 2009  
Comments: Public comment meeting was held March 17, and the Committee is now working through action points. The draft is awaiting final changes from the Committee before being submitted for prepublication editing.

---

**Installing insulation – Amendment 1** Committee: P4246 A1  
Project Manager: Vicki Allison  
Estimated Publication Date: October 2009  
Comments: The committee has been constituted and the first meeting is scheduled for early May.

---

**Thermal insulation – Housing and small buildings** Committee: P4218  
Project Manager: Sonia van Ree  
Estimated Publication Date: June 2009  
Comments: The remainder of the large number of public comments received are being worked through by the Committee. Postal ballot will then be carried out – this is expected to be early May.

---

**Revision of NZS 3404 Steel structures – Phases 1, 2 and 3** Committee: P3404  
Project Manager: Jono East  
Estimated Publication Date: June 2009 (NZS 3404 Part 1 only)  
Comments: A committee meeting was held in February, along with subsequent telephone meetings, to review public comments received on 3404 Part 1. Committee is commencing scoping work and revision of Parts 2 and 6.

---

**WS-013 Review of domestic wastewater systems** Committee: WS-013  
Project Manager: Jono East  
Estimated Publication Date: June 2009  
Comments: The committee is revising the AS/NZS 1547 draft in light of comments received during the ballot stage.

---

---

## STANDARDS IN DEVELOPMENT (CONTINUED)

---

**Fire sprinkler systems for residential occupancies**

Committee: P4515 Amendment  
Project Manager: Erin Alderton  
Estimated Publication Date: November 2009  
The Standard will be amended to clearly define a residential occupancy and any fire formal interpretations relating to NZS 4515 since its last edition in 2003 will be applied. The committee met in April to continue preparing the draft for public comment, which is due for release in mid June.

---

**Fire sprinkler systems for houses**

Committee: P4517 Amendment  
Project Manager: Erin Alderton  
Estimated Publication Date: January 2010  
Comments: The Standard will be amended to emphasise its application to domestic occupancies only and to address design and installation issues that have been identified since publication. Any fire formal interpretations relating to NZS 4517 since it was last amended in 2003 will be applied during this project. The committee meets again in May.

---

**Automatic fire sprinkler systems correction amendment**

Committee: P4541  
Project Manager: Vicki Allison  
Estimated Publication Date: June 2009  
Comments: The committee met in late March to discuss the small number of public comments received and to finalise the content of the correction amendment to NZS 4541. They are now voting on the draft. The project is on target for publication in June.

---

**Fire-resistant door sets and smoke doors adoption**

Committee: P4520  
Project Manager: Jono East  
Estimated Publication Date: December 2009  
Comments: A committee has been constituted with the purpose of adopting AS 1905.1: 2005 and AS 6905: 2007 as a New Zealand Standard. The adoption will enable the Department of Building and Housing to reference the new Standard in the Compliance Documents to the New Zealand Building Code. The format of the document will be agreed on during the first committee meeting.

---

**Interconnected smoke alarms for single household units**

Committee: P4514  
Project Manager: Vicki Allison  
Estimated Publication Date: September 2009  
Comments: P4514 is being edited in preparation for public consultation, expected to start in late March. As part of the review of this Standard the committee noted the recent debate regarding ionization vs photoelectric smoke alarms and noted that NZS 4514 does not recommend ionization alarms over photoelectric alarms.

---

**Land development and subdivision engineering amendment**

Committee: P4404  
Project Manager: Bruce Taylor  
Estimated Publication Date: April 2010  
Comments: Nominations for the committee have been received and approved. The first committee meeting has been held. The aim is to update and amend the Standard. In the process the committee will consider changes suggested by users.

---

# Learning curve

## FREE MEMORY JOGGER TRAINING RESOURCES

Here are some training resources you can download for free from the Training Academy Online website at [www.boinz.org.nz/training-academy/online.php](http://www.boinz.org.nz/training-academy/online.php)

- word puzzles and solutions
- poster of Building Code clauses
- Quick Reference Guide to Building Law
- booklet on building controls activities and games.

## GETTING STARTED WITH THE FIRE DOCUMENTS

The Training Academy Online's Getting Started with the Fire Documents course has been designed for people new to Acceptable Solution C/AS1. While it has been designed for building control officials, it is also appropriate for designers, architects and others in the building industry who wish to familiarise themselves with this solution.

The course has been designed to provide the underpinning knowledge and understanding for unit standard 24165 and unit standard 24168 for the Diploma in Building Control Surveying (Small buildings).

### Course description

The course will give participants an understanding of New Zealand Building Code Clauses C1, C2, C3, C4 and F7, and Acceptable Solution C/AS1 Fire Safety and Verification Method C/VM1 for Solid Fuel Appliances.

By the end of this course participants will be able to:

- recall the relevant Building Code clauses for fire safety
- scope buildings covered in this solution
- have confidence in dealing with these types of buildings
- navigate through C/AS1, recall how it works and what is in it
- follow a plan processing checking sequence
- apply the requirements of C/AS1 to plan processing scenarios
- know when to seek advice.

### Course modules

- Part 1: Scope and introduction to the document
- Part 2: Occupant numbers and purpose groups
- Part 3: Means of escape
- Part 4: Requirements for firecells
- Part 5: Fire resistance ratings
- Part 6: Control of internal fire
- Part 7: Control of external fire spread
- Part 8: Fire fighting
- Part 9: Outbreak of fire
- Appendices and tables within the document
- Separation from boundaries
- And much, much more....

### Who should attend?

- New building control officers in building consent authorities (BCAs)
- Staff in BCAs or private firms who wish to familiarise themselves with the Fire Documents
- Designers, architects, and others in the building industry who wish to familiarise themselves with this Acceptable Solution.

For more information and registration details, go to [www.boinz.org.nz/training-academy/calendar.php](http://www.boinz.org.nz/training-academy/calendar.php), or email [office@boinz.org.nz](mailto:office@boinz.org.nz)

### Legality of Department of Building and Housing interpretations

Only the courts can issue binding interpretations of the Building Act 1991 and Building Act 2004 and Regulations. Indications and guidelines issued by the Department of Building and Housing, either in *Codewords* or other communications, are provided with the intention of helping people to understand the legislation. They are, however, offered on a 'no-liability' basis and, in any particular case, those concerned should consult their own legal advisors.

### Please copy – copyright waived

Articles in this newsletter may be freely reproduced, in full or in part, in other publications as long as *Codewords* is acknowledged as the source, including issue number and date. Disclaimers relating to the article must be included.

### Subscriptions

*Codewords* is a free, monthly information service. To subscribe, contact the Department of Building and Housing by telephone, fax or email.

### Subscriptions and enquiries

☎ Freephone 0800 242 243  
Fax (04) 494 0290

@ info@dbh.govt.nz

🌐 www.dbh.govt.nz

✉ Level 6, 86 Customhouse Quay,  
PO Box 10 729, Wellington 6143  
New Zealand

### Do we have your correct delivery and contact details?

Please phone 0800 242 243 to change your details.

### Codewords May 2009 Issue 037

Published by the Department of Building and Housing  
Print run: 9,200

### New Zealand Government