



# codewords

## what's inside

## Getting your building licence



Building and Construction Minister Maurice Williamson at the launch of the streamlined LBP Scheme

If you're a building practitioner, it's time to apply for a licence in the class that's right for you (design, site, carpentry, roofing, external plastering, bricklaying and blocklaying or foundations).

The Licensed Building Practitioner (LBP) Scheme recognises the qualifications, skills and knowledge of building professionals. Mark Scully the LBP registrar says, 'Getting licensed means you can use the LBP brand.'

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Mike Fox of Registered Master Builders Federation and Mark Scully, LBP Registrar

'It's a mark of quality that consumers can trust. Many consumers don't know what they are getting when they employ a designer or tradesperson. But when they choose an LBP, they are getting someone who has been through the assessment process, and who is accountable to the Building Practitioners Board.'

From March 2012, it is expected that only LBPs will be able to design, carry out or supervise restricted building work (work critical to a home or small-medium sized apartment). An exemption for owner-builders is expected.

The Government streamlined the LBP application system earlier this year. 'If you hold a recognised qualification, it's easier to apply,' says Mr Scully. Nearly 30 qualifications for the LBP Scheme have been evaluated and listed in the LBP rules.

'We received feedback that the application forms were unnecessarily long and complex. We've now streamlined the process to make all the forms simpler and shorter,' says Mr Scully.

Jodie Youmans, senior advisor LBP promotions at the Department, has been running clinics around the country for qualified applicants to come in and apply on the spot. 'We ask people to bring along their original qualifications, some ID, like a passport, and their chequebook or credit card. You'll also need contact details of two referees who can confirm the quality of your work. We help you fill in the form right there and then, take the photos, certify the documents, and you're on your way in 15 minutes,' says Ms Youmans.

You don't need a trade qualification to apply and you don't need to go to a clinic. Just call 0800 60 60 50 or visit [www.dbh.govt.nz/lbp](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/lbp) for an application form and more information.

Keep up-to-date with licensing news, including details of upcoming clinics, with our free newsletter. Subscribe at [www.dbh.govt.nz/lbp-licensing-update](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/lbp-licensing-update)

## Financial assistance package for owners of leaky homes

In May the Government announced its financial assistance package to help people get their leaky homes fixed faster.

The package, which the Government is aiming to have available to homeowners from early 2011, will see the Government meet 25 percent of eligible homeowners' agreed repair costs, with local authorities contributing 25 percent and homeowners funding the remaining 50 percent, with a loan guarantee underwritten by the Crown, provided applicants can meet bank lending criteria.



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The local authorities' contribution is dependent on their agreement. Local authorities have been invited to participate and asked to respond to the Government's offer by Monday 31 May 2010.

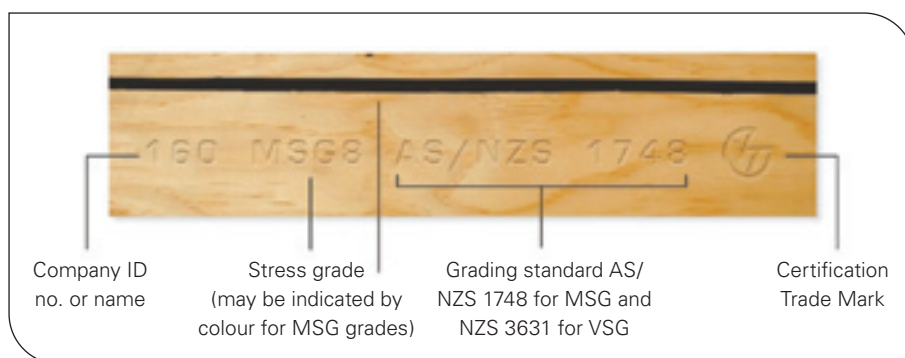
The proposed financial assistance package is another option for owners of leaky homes to get their homes fixed. It will be in addition to the current disputes and litigation process. In exchange for a combined Government and local authority direct payment of 50 percent of agreed repair costs, those homeowners who participate in the package would forgo the right to sue local authorities or the Crown.

Homeowners would still have the option to pursue other liable parties such as builders, developers and manufacturers of defective products.

The intention is that homeowners who currently have claims in the weathertight system yet to be resolved, will be able to apply for the financial assistance package.

Once local authorities have responded, the Government will begin working through the details of how the financial assistance will work with the parties involved. The Government is aiming to have the new package up and running early next year.

## Court decision reinforces need for manufacturers to represent products fairly



**A recent case brought to court by the Commerce Commission is a timely warning to manufacturers to ensure claims made about products are accurate and not misleading.**

Larry Roger Binns, former managing director of Total Frame and Truss Limited, a west Auckland-based company now in liquidation, pleaded guilty to 36 charges of breaching the Fair Trading Act. He was fined a total of \$15,000 and ordered to pay costs of \$130 in the Auckland District Court on 28 April 2010.

The charges relate to a period between April 2007 and October 2008 when Total Frame and Truss represented to its customers that the frames and trusses it was using had been manufactured using MSG8 timber. MSG8 is a premium grade of timber that has been machine stress graded and is suitable for building frames.

However, the majority of the timber used by Total Frame and Truss was a lower grade, known as non load-bearing or 'reman' timber, which does not have the required characteristics of MSG8 timber.

The Commerce Commission prosecution was triggered by a complaint the Department made following investigations into feedback from the sector, and by a building inspector who noticed that timber used in a frame was different to that stated on the specifications. A significant number of houses built, particularly in the greater Auckland area, were affected by the actions of Total Frame and Truss.

In response to the allegations, the Department issued guidance to building consent authorities in December 2008 to help them identify building projects that may have been affected.

*Continued on page 4*

*Government decision reinforces need for manufacturer to represent products fairly continued*

It provided advice on remedial options, and means to confirm Code compliance of buildings where suspected non load-bearing timber may have been used.

The Department has also issued a final determination on one of the affected houses. The commentary in the determination provides further guidance to assist those making assessments on buildings containing non load-bearing timber.

To reduce further misrepresentation of products and to generally improve current requirements and practices for timber framing, the Department has been working closely with timber and building sector leaders and technical experts.

There is strong agreement for clearer, simpler and more effective requirements for treating, grading, identifying and auditing structural timber.

The Department is working on changes to simplify and clarify timber framing standards and practices.

# Building Consent Authority

## WHAT IS BUILDING CONSENT AUTHORITY ACCREDITATION?

Accreditation of building consent authorities (BCAs) is a requirement of the Building Act 2004 (the Act). It is a process of formal assessment and recognition that a BCA (your local city or district council building control department) meets certain business and performance standards regarding their building control functions.

Accreditation is about helping ensure BCAs have well-documented and effective business systems and processes and quality assurance practices in place, and that BCA staff (building officials), and/or their external contractors, have the competency to undertake building control functions. Accreditation sets performance standards for BCAs that are currently being introduced in three separate phases over a six-year period as summarised below.

- **Phase 1:** Standards for internal BCA business systems and processes, capacity, technical competencies and record-keeping, which had to be met by March 2009.
- **Phase 2:** Standards relating to externally (customer) focused quality assurance, to be in place by November 2010.
- **Phase 3:** Technical qualifications for BCA building officials, to be in place or actively working towards by November 2013.

## WHY IS ACCREDITATION IMPORTANT?

Accreditation helps ensure that BCAs continue to improve the delivery of their building control services, become more consistent, and achieve better quality outcomes more efficiently. It is an ongoing programme that involves BCAs first achieving standards, and then reviewing and altering their approach over time to ensure continuous improvement. Accreditation is a pre-requisite to registration of a BCA under the Act by the Department.

## WHO DOES THE ACCREDITATION?

Accreditation assessments are carried out by International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ). IANZ, appointed under the Act by the Department, is an internationally recognised, independent accreditation body. IANZ has the ability to revoke accreditation should a BCA not maintain accreditation standards. To maintain accreditation, BCAs must currently be reassessed by IANZ at least once every 24 months.

## WHERE IS ACCREDITATION AT NOW?

The first phase of BCA accreditation was successfully implemented last year. All territorial and regional authorities have been accredited and registered as BCAs, or have transferred their building control functions to another accredited and registered BCA.

There are currently 72 accredited territorial authority BCAs and three accredited regional authority BCAs.

# y Accreditation

Five private organisations providing contract services to Councils have also been accredited to the BCA standards but are not registered private BCAs under the Act. They work under the jurisdiction and authority of the councils they are working for.

## WHAT HAVE BEEN THE BENEFITS TO DATE?

Feedback from IANZ is that all BCAs are performing considerably better than prior to accreditation commencing. In addition, feedback from BCAs themselves is that they:

- now operate better business practices, and these continue to improve
- have a greater knowledge and understanding of their technical capabilities and limitations
- are beginning to make a change in culture away from just compliance 'tick the box stuff' to quality
- are streamlining phase 1 systems and processes as part of implementing the phase 2 quality assurance requirements
- are making more robust decisions
- are receiving increased support from their organisations for improvements and have a more positive staff response to change proposals
- are making a shift in thinking – complaints are now beginning to be viewed as opportunities for improvement rather than needing to defend the status quo, and
- have seen an increase in BCAs working together regionally in clusters and sharing systems, processes, expertise and resources.

## WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

Work is well underway on implementing phase 2 standards, which are about ensuring BCA consenting and inspection systems and processes are 'fit for purpose', not unduly complicated, and have the necessary quality assurance checks and balances in place.

Phase 2 also provides a basis for monitoring ongoing performance against phase 1 standards to ensure that accreditation is maintained along with a focus on continuous improvement of business and customer services. Phase 2 accreditation requirements take a more customer-centric and quality-control focus.

As at early May 2010, IANZ had undertaken phase 2 assessments for 64 BCAs. Feedback from BCAs is that phase 2 standards reflect good business practice and are helping them to improve their performance and quality outcomes. For more information visit our website:

- [www.dbh.govt.nz/bofficials-bca](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/bofficials-bca) – for more information about BCA accreditation, including what the standards are
- [www.dbh.govt.nz/pub-bca-accreditation](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/pub-bca-accreditation) – for a copy of the *Summary of Findings* report from the 2007 and 2008 accreditation assessments
- [www.dbh.govt.nz/bca-accreditation-reports](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/bca-accreditation-reports) – for a copy of the independent review of the implementation of phase 1.

# Building Act Review discussion document gets high interest

More than 380 written submissions were received on proposals to change the way building is regulated. Submissions to the discussion document closed on 23 April after an eight-week consultation period.

The aims of the Building Act review are to:

- ensure quality homes and buildings are produced through an efficient and cost-effective regulatory framework
- increase confidence in the building and housing market, and
- ensure homes and buildings are built using the right skills and knowledge.

Submissions were received from a wide range of individuals and groups including home and building owners, local councils, businesses, major sector organisations and specialist interest groups.

A wide range of views was expressed, and the Department of Building and Housing is now working through the points raised.

Because of the volume of submissions and the significance of the issues raised, the timetable for the review is being extended by a few weeks.

For more information visit [www.dbh.govt.nz/consulting-on-building-act](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/consulting-on-building-act)

# New product assurance guide for building products



The Department has published a guide to help manufacturers and suppliers of building products in the New Zealand market understand the benefits and responsibilities of providing products that are Building Code compliant and fit for purpose in the New Zealand building environment.

Called *Using the Product Assurance Framework to support Building Code compliance – a guide for manufacturers and suppliers of building products*, the guide introduces a product assurance framework that outlines options for achieving product assurance and demonstrating Building Code compliance.

Products that have a level of assurance should inevitably gain greater market acceptance and recognition as building owners, designers, builders and building consent authorities will have greater confidence in the product and the technical information provided. Using this guide can help you achieve this assurance.

The guide includes a risk assessment tool to help determine the level of risk associated with a product. Case studies and other resources, including a decision tree, illustrate how product assurance and Building Code compliance relate to different situations. The guide also explains New Zealand’s building regulatory environment and compliance requirements.

To download your free copy, visit [www.dbh.govt.nz/guidance-information#pa-framework](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/guidance-information#pa-framework)

## Making sure

The Department of Building and Housing wishes to remind building officials of the importance of verifying that safety glass is used in areas where it is required.

Safety glass reduces the likelihood of cutting or piercing injuries resulting from human impact with the glass. For this reason safety glass is commonly used to meet the requirements of Building Code Clause F2 Hazardous Building Materials. Building consent applicants who use Acceptable Solution F2/AS1 to show compliance with Building Code Clause F2 are required to use safety glass in certain building locations, such as doors, balustrades and bathrooms. Therefore, when inspecting building work building officials should satisfy themselves that safety glass has been used.



# you have safety glass

## HOW TO CHECK THAT GLASS IS SAFETY GLASS

NZS 4223: Part 3: 1999 Glazing in Buildings – Human Impact Safety Requirements (which is incorporated by reference into Acceptable Solution F2/AS1) requires all safety glass to be permanently marked. This is to ensure installers, owners and building officials can check that the glass being installed is safety glass.

Each panel must be marked with:

- the name, registered trademark or code of the manufacturer or supplier
- the type of safety glazing material (eg, T for toughened glass)
- the Standard to which the material has been tested, such as AS/NZS 2208, and
- the classification for impact test behaviour (eg, A for Grade A).

Additional markings may be required by the particular testing Standard or certifier, such as a licence number.

The marking (see example on the left) is normally found in the bottom left corner viewed from the outside corner of the panel. Marking on thick glass can be on the edge of the glass, but should be legible after installation. Removable labels of any kind are not suitable for the purposes of permanent marking.

## EXAMPLE OF COMPLIANT SAFETY GLASS MARKING

If there is any reason to be concerned about the reliability of a safety glass marking, further enquiries may be appropriate. For example, it may be appropriate to contact the manufacturer, talk to the person who installed the glass or even check the glass register provided by the Window Association of New Zealand (WANZ). However, please note that the WANZ register is voluntary and therefore is not a complete list of all manufacturers of safety glass.

## WHAT IF GLASS DOES NOT HAVE PERMANENT MARKINGS?

The Department encourages those involved in the supply, installation and inspection of glazing products to verify that safety glazing material is used when required to meet the requirements of a building consent.

If glass is used in situations where safety glass is required, and it is not permanently marked with appropriate compliance information, then some other form of proof that it is safety glass is required. This could include statistical sampling and testing information, product certification, and evidence of appropriate quality assurance systems being in place to ensure that the glass being produced and supplied consistently meets the requirements of NZS 4223.3: 1999 for safety glazing materials.

## Keeping you informed

Did you know that you can receive email notification of updates to Compliance Documents and other publications that the Department produces?

Visit [www.dbh.govt.nz/Utilities/notifications/subscribe-notifications.aspx](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/Utilities/notifications/subscribe-notifications.aspx) and subscribe to email notifications today.



# Emergency access to people in toilets

A recent death at Oamaru Hospital has highlighted the need for special consideration when designing toilet facilities that are likely to be used by people with medical conditions.

A patient suffered a seizure while using an able-bodied toilet at the hospital emergency department. The position of his body within the toilet made it impossible for hospital staff to open the inward-opening door and to provide assistance. By the time the door was cut open (with the help of a builder), the patient was asphyxiated.

The Building Code (Clause G1 Personal Hygiene) requires toilet facilities to be appropriate to the people who are likely to use them. The corresponding Compliance Document requires sliding or outward opening doors on accessible toilets, but does not prescribe door design for toilets likely to be used by people with medical conditions, such as in a hospital. In response to this death, the Department intends to propose amendments to the Building Code and the Compliance Document to clarify what design features are needed in situations where toilet users are likely to require assistance because of their medical condition.

In the interim, the Department encourages all designers of toilet facilities to consider the need for emergency access to toilet users in medical and other settings. Mechanisms for achieving this include outward opening doors, quick-release door hinges, key access from the outside, sliding doors and separately opening inset doors.

# Concrete masonry there's no substitute for expert advice



Want to learn more about weathertightness when working with concrete? There's no better place to go to than the experts who live and breathe it.

The concrete masonry industry builds its reputation through, among other things, research, education and training. The cement and concrete industry has made a huge impact on the building sector's reputation, and in recent years their leadership has been evident in their commitment to funding research and development here and overseas to find the best ways to use cement and concrete in New Zealand.

One of the outputs of this work is *Concrete Masonry – a guide to weathertight construction*. It was prepared by Building Research for the New Zealand Concrete Masonry Association.

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It's a comprehensive guide for those seeking solutions that comply with Clause E2 External Moisture of the New Zealand Building Code for concrete masonry building.

The guide outlines the four weathertightness principles of deflection, drainage, drying and durability, covers New Zealand Standards, design and construction methods, and includes detailed illustrations for performance requirements. Many of the details are also applicable to precast concrete wall systems. You can download a copy at [www.nzcma.org.nz](http://www.nzcma.org.nz)

Another resource for designers is Weathertight Solutions – Volume 4, available for purchase through BRANZ at [www.branz.co.nz](http://www.branz.co.nz)

The Department encourages industry organisations to produce robust technical information about how to use their products effectively and efficiently.

For more information about weathertightness and concrete masonry visit [www.cca.org.nz](http://www.cca.org.nz), [www.nzcma.org.nz](http://www.nzcma.org.nz) or [www.branz.co.nz](http://www.branz.co.nz)

## Determinations

### DETERMINATION 2009/105:

*Compliance of the means of escape and fire safety precautions for a proposed childcare learning centre ('the centre')*

The matter to be determined was whether the internal wall finishes, together with the escape path distances to a proposed childcare learning centre (the centre), complied with the fire safety provisions of the Building Code. The owner of the centre applied for the determination after the fire design for the centre had been questioned by the New Zealand Fire Service (NZFS) during the processing of the application for a building consent.

### Background

The centre is a two-storey building containing five classrooms and ancillary spaces. The internal walls were lined with solid timber painted with a clear acrylic polyurethane. A polyurethane finish has certain characteristics with respect to the spread of fire and the smoke generated.

Building Code Clause C3.3.1 says that interior surface finishes in a building shall resist the spread of fire and limit the spread of toxic smoke and heat to a degree appropriate to the length of the escape routes, the number of occupants, the fire hazard, and the fire safety features present. The owner compared the fire safety features of the centre to a wharenuī, which the owner submitted presented similar risks to that found in a childcare building.

Acceptable Solution C/AS1 has specific provisions for the fire safety features for wharenuī, which it defines as 'a communal meeting house having a large open floor area used for both assembly and sleeping in the traditional manner'.

The owner listed the extra measures taken to ensure the fire safety of the centre, which added benefits over and above a wharenuī, and which it submitted compensated for the polyurethane finish not meeting the requirements of C/AS1. The owner was also concerned that the intumescent coatings currently available may be toxic to children playing in the classrooms.

### Comparison with a wharenuī

It was noted that there were significant differences between the centre and a wharenuī as defined in C/AS1. The determination did not accept that the normal activities associated with an early childhood centre equated to the 'assembly and sleeping in the traditional manner' that is undertaken at a wharenuī. The determination also accepted the observation of the NZFS that the level of awareness and response in a childhood centre would be far less than in a wharenuī. Accordingly, the determination considered that the centre could not be assessed on the basis of a wharenuī and must be considered in terms of the fire safety requirements of a childhood centre as described in C/AS1. It was found that the polyurethane system was not Code-compliant.

*Continued on page 10*

### The length of the escape routes

The owner proposed that the length of escape routes could be varied from the requirements of C/AS1 if the centre was compared with a wharenuī. Having found that comparison with a wharenuī was not appropriate, the determination considered the escape path lengths against what was considered to be the appropriate purpose group described in C/AS1, being CS – ‘Crowd Small’ for the ground floor, and WL ‘Working Low’ for the first floor.

The determination found that the area designated for cots in the ground floor area should not be included when calculating the occupant load, and this reduced the total area and therefore the occupant load. It was noted that because smoke detectors were to be installed, the permitted path length could be doubled.

Accordingly, the actual path length complied, and the proposed escape route lengths were Code-compliant.

### The decision

It was determined that:

- the wall finish to the internal walls of the centre does not comply with the Fire Safety Clauses of the Building Code
- the length of the escape routes does comply with the Fire Safety Clauses of the Building Code.

### DETERMINATION 2009/110:

#### *Access for people with disabilities in a café that had been altered*

The determination arose from alterations to an existing café that the applicant did not believe complied with the accessible provisions of the Building Code. The alterations had been the subject of a building consent for which a code compliance certificate (CCC) had also been issued. The applicant also questioned whether the building consent and the CCC had been correctly issued. The applicant was a community organisation with a direct interest in accessible matters. The other parties were the café owners and the building consent authority (BCA).

#### Background

The building work consisted of enclosing an existing outdoor seating area of the café to provide additional indoor seating. In doing so the original front entrance doors were relocated at the new main entrance.

The new entrance with the relocated doors was not considered accessible because it had an exterior ramp with a 1:18 slope, no level landing at the doors, two 610 mm wide door leafs with magnetic latches that were manually operated, and a 30 mm high threshold.

The existing sanitary facilities in the café, including an accessible toilet, were accessed via an external door which was adjacent to the main entrance.

#### Discussion

The determination considered the interpretation and application of section 112 of the Building Act.

The BCA’s position with respect to alterations to existing buildings was that the application of section 112 meant that the alteration itself only needed to comply ‘as nearly as is reasonably practicable’ with respect to the provision of access for people with disabilities. The determination did not accept this view as this would have allowed a lower standard of compliance with the Building Code to be accepted.

Section 112 states “...unless the [BCA] is satisfied that **after the alteration, the building will ...**” (emphasis added). The determination found that section 112 applies to the entire altered building, rather than just the alteration itself, and the application of section 112 does not diminish the requirements of section 17 of the Building Act that all building work must comply with the Building Code (unless the building work is subject to a waiver or modification).

On the basis of this analysis the determination concluded that, with respect to the provision of access and facilities for people with disabilities:

- the new building work, that is an alteration, must comply fully with the requirements of the Building Code, and
- the building as a whole, after the alteration, must comply with the Building Code to the extent required by section 112, which means:
  - the building must comply as nearly as is reasonably practicable with respect to means of escape from fire, and
  - the building must comply as nearly as is reasonably practicable with respect to the provision of access and facilities for people with disabilities, and
  - for all other Building Code clauses, the building must continue to comply to at least the same extent as before the alteration.

The determination found that the ramp, the threshold and the doors to the main entry did not comply with the Building Code. The owners had noted that the doors at the main entry were almost always open. As in previous determinations, the determination found that the Building Act does not consider the management practices of buildings, and assurances about future management practices are rarely enforceable.

The Building Act can only ensure that the doors will always be accessible by ensuring they have accessible features, rather than by relying on the management practices adopted by building owners and occupiers.

The determination recognised that achieving compliance now that all the building work was complete may be more difficult, but this did not change the assessment of how the Building Act and the Building Code should have been applied to the situation. The determination found that the new entranceway and the doors, whether new or reused and modified, needed to have been designed and built to fully comply with the requirements of Clause D1 Access Routes.

### The Decision

The determination concluded that:

- the building work does not comply with Clause D1 Access Routes
- the building consent was issued incorrectly because the BCA had incorrectly exercised its powers under section 112, and
- the CCC was issued incorrectly, since it was issued on the basis of an incorrectly issued building consent.

The determination did not reverse the decision to issue the building consent. However, the BCA's decision to issue the CCC was reversed.

**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)

# Learning curve

## BARRIER FREE NZ TRUST

- Two-day seminar – for those who are new to BFNZT seminars, or have not attended one recently
  - Hamilton 16/17 June
  - Christchurch 15/16 July
  - Auckland 19/20 August
- Half-day seminar – for architects and designers
  - Hamilton 18 June
- One-day Module 5 seminar – Becoming a Barrier Free Advisor (BFA)
  - Auckland 9 July
- In-house presentations – a specialist one-day in-house refresher presentation to update or enhance your knowledge. This workshop can be tailored to meet the needs of the audience.

For more information visit [www.barrierfreenz.org.nz](http://www.barrierfreenz.org.nz)

## THE BUILDING OFFICIALS INSTITUTE OF NEW ZEALAND

Date	Seminar and Location
21-23 June	Getting Started as a Building Control Official: Building Controls AUCKLAND
1 July	Timber Truss and Wall Frame Structure and Fixing Seminar CHRISTCHURCH
14-15 July	Getting Started in Residential Weathertightness AUCKLAND
15 July	Timber Truss and Wall Frame Structure and Fixing Seminar AUCKLAND
26-28 July	Getting Started as a Building Control Official: Understanding Building Controls CHRISTCHURCH
29-30 July	Getting Started as a Building Control Official: Plan Processing CHRISTCHURCH
2-6 August	Getting Started as a Building Control Official: Plumbing Inspection WELLINGTON

Date	Seminar and Location
5 August	Timber Truss and Wall Frame Structure and Fixing Seminar DUNEDIN
17-18 August	Complex Fire Documents HAMILTON

Visit [www.boinz.org.nz/calendar.htm](http://www.boinz.org.nz/calendar.htm), email [training@boinz.org.nz](mailto:training@boinz.org.nz) or call **(04) 473 6003** for more information.

## ARE WE THERE YET?

This seminar will be presented by industry experts who will look in detail at how the latest research and the recent changes in building practices, including weathertightness, are being applied at the design and construction stages of buildings.

Date	Location
19-Jul	Dunedin
20-Jul	Invercargill
21-Jul	Queenstown
22-Jul	Timaru
26-Jul	Hamilton
27-Jul	Tauranga
28-Jul	Rotorua
29-Jul	Gisborne
30-Jul	Napier
2-Aug	Whangarei
3-Aug	Albany
4-Aug	Ellerslie
5-Aug	Manukau
16-Aug	Christchurch
17-Aug	Greymouth
18-Aug	Nelson
19-Aug	Blenheim
20-Aug	Wellington
23-Aug	New Plymouth
24-Aug	Wanganui
25-Aug	Palmerston North
26-Aug	Masterton
27-Aug	Trentham

Visit [www.branz.co.nz](http://www.branz.co.nz) for more information and to register online.

## 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.

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- 🌐 [www.dbh.govt.nz](http://www.dbh.govt.nz)
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