

F6 Visibility in escape routes

Safety features for escape routes during failure of the main lighting.

This clause ensures specified features in escape routes must be made reasonably visible during failure of main lighting. It applies to buildings in specific risk groups and particular locations in buildings (such as areas where dangerous machinery is installed, or any part of an escape route designed for use at any time by more than 250 people). It ensures systems for visibility operate within given percentages of their design levels and within given timeframes.

[Record of amendments \(https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/how-the-building-code-works/different-ways-to-comply/acceptable-solutions-and-verification-methods/record-of-amendments/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/how-the-building-code-works/different-ways-to-comply/acceptable-solutions-and-verification-methods/record-of-amendments/) is a record of changes to the Acceptable Solutions, Verification Methods and handbooks.

Updates

MBIE to consult twice yearly on changes to the Building Code System

10 AUGUST 2018

MBIE will now consult twice yearly to ensure Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods are up to date.

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/all-news-and-updates/bc-update-237/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/all-news-and-updates/bc-update-237/)

Consultation on amending Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods 2018

8 AUGUST 2018

We want your feedback by 21 September on proposals to amend Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods.

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/all-news-and-updates/bc-update-236/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/all-news-and-updates/bc-update-236/)

View all related news and updates [\(https://www.building.govt.nz/search/?bcc%5B%5D=f6-visibility-in-escape-routes&area=news-and-updates&show=all&action_doSearch=Search&sort=recent#results\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/search/?bcc%5B%5D=f6-visibility-in-escape-routes&area=news-and-updates&show=all&action_doSearch=Search&sort=recent#results)

Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods

Current version

These are issued by MBIE to provide one way of complying with the

<http://mbie5.cwp.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/f-safety-of-users/f6-visibility-in-escape-routes/>

Previous versions

[3rd edition, amendment 3](#)

Building Code and must be accepted by BCAs as demonstrating compliance with the related clauses of the Building Code. Using them is not mandatory.

3rd edition, amendment 4

[PDF 491 KB]

Effective from 1 January 2017

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/f-safety-of-users/f6-visibility-in-escape-routes/asvm/f6-visibility-escape-routes-3rd-edition-amendment4.pdf>)

3rd edition, amendment 4 replacement pages

[PDF 584 KB]

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/f6-visibility-escape-routes-3rd-edition-amendment4-rp.pdf>)

Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/how-the-building-code-works/different-ways-to-comply/acceptable-solutions-and-verification-methods/>) (AS and VMs) were called compliance documents. Some still have the “compliance document” title but the AS or VMs they contain are valid and unaffected by the name change.

[PDF 472 KB]

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/f-safety-of-users/f6-visibility-in-escape-routes/asvm/f6-visibility-in-escape-routes-3rd-edition-amendment-3.pdf>)

3rd edition, amendment 3 replacement pages

[PDF 584 KB]

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/f-safety-of-users/f6-visibility-in-escape-routes/asvm/F6-visibility-in-escape-routes-3rd-edition-amendment-3-rp.pdf>)

3rd edition, amendment 2

[PDF 1.1 MB]

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/f-safety-of-users/f6-visibility-in-escape-routes/asvm/f6-visibility-in-escape-routes-third-edition-amendment-2.pdf>)

3rd edition, amendment 2 replacement pages

[PDF 1001 KB]

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/f-safety-of-users/f6-visibility-in-escape-routes/asvm/f6-visibility-in-escape-routes-amendment-2-rp.pdf>)

Version history (<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/f-safety-of-users/f6-visibility-in-escape-routes/acceptable-solutions-and-verification-methods/>)

Standards

Standards are frequently referred to in Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods. They provide practical information and guidelines for building solutions.

Over 120 building standards used for Building Code compliance are now available for free download.

See the free standards relating to Code Clause F6 (<https://www.standards.govt.nz/sponsored-standards/building-standards/?buildingcode=F6>).

All standards, including the funded ones, can be accessed through the Standards New Zealand website (<https://www.standards.govt.nz/>).

Guidance

These documents are provided for assistance. They are not intended as a means of establishing compliance with the Building Act or Building Code, and they do not have the same status accorded to Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods under the Act.

Building Code Clause F6 and F6/AS1 exemption

Guidance about the exemption in Acceptable Solution F6/AS1 for visibility in escape routes.

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/f-safety-of-users/f6-visibility-in-escape-routes/building-code-clause-f6-and-f6as1-exemption/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/f-safety-of-users/f6-visibility-in-escape-routes/building-code-clause-f6-and-f6as1-exemption/)

View all related guidance (https://www.building.govt.nz/search/?bcc%5B%5D=f6-visibility-in-escape-routes&area=guidance&show=all&action_doSearch=Search&sort=recent#results)

Related Determinations

Determinations are made by MBIE on matters of doubt or dispute to do with building work. Rulings are legally binding in relation to each case. Circumstances in one case may differ to others.

2017/073: Compliance schedule requirements and the classified use of three proposed commercial poultry sheds

<p>The determination considers whether the correct classified use for the proposed poultry sheds is "industrial" or "outbuilding", and whether the operational systems are specified systems and whether a compliance schedule is required. It also considers whether the requirements for access and facilities for people with disabilities apply to the poultry sheds.</p>

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/determination-2017-073/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/determination-2017-073/)

2017/040: Refusal to grant a building consent for proposed supermarket alterations

<p>This determination concerns the refusal to issue a building consent for alterations to an existing supermarket building because it was believed the proposed work did not comply with the fire safety clauses of the Building Code. The determination considers the requirements of the legislation as it applies to the alteration. The fire engineer initially used a verification method to show compliance, and the determination discusses what this method requires.</p>

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/determination-2017-040/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/determination-2017-040/)

View 5 Determinations related to Visibility in escape routes (https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/?bcc%5B%5D=f6-visibility-in-escape-routes&action_doSearch=Search#results)