

# MBIE issues loop bar warning and publishes B1/VM1 Amendment 16

Posted: 3 April 2018

## Building Controls Update 230

MBIE has issued a warning about the use of loop bar details in flange-hung double-tee precast concrete floor units, and published an amendment to Verification Method B1/VM1.

The warning and amendment are part of MBIE's response to the investigation into the performance of Statistics House and the Canterbury earthquakes.

### Loop bar warning

MBIE has issued a warning about the use of loop bar details in flange-hung double-tee precast concrete floor units that do not comply with the Concrete Structures Standard NZS 3101.1:2006 Amendment 3.

The warning came into force on 3 April 2018. From this date building consent authorities (BCAs) and territorial authorities must take the warning into consideration when deciding whether a building consent application complies with the Building Code.

The warning only applies to building consent applications for building work. It does not mean that existing buildings with loop bar details are unsafe. The expected performance of loop bar details depends on a number of other building design and construction characteristics. If building owners are concerned that their building may potentially contain the loop bar design detail they should seek advice from a structural engineer or discuss their concerns with their BCA.

[Loop bar warning \(2018-001\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/warnings-and-bans-on-building-products/loop-bar-warning/) (<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/warnings-and-bans-on-building-products/loop-bar-warning/>)

[MBIE to issue loop bar warning and publish B1/VM1 Amendment 16](https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/codewords/codewords-issue-83/loop-bar-warning-b1vm1-amendment-16/) (<https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/codewords/codewords-issue-83/loop-bar-warning-b1vm1-amendment-16/>) in Codewords 83 has further details about the warning.

### Verification Method B1/VM1 Amendment 16

B1/VM1 Amendment 16 has been published and takes effect from 3 April 2018. The amendment includes:

- an updated reference to the latest version of the Concrete Structures Standard NZS 3101.1:2006 Amendment 3
- modifications to the Steel Structures Standard NZS 3404.1:1997, to update design and construction requirements.

The amendment ensures that current engineering practice is reflected in the Verification Method.

B1/VM1 Amendment 15 or Amendment 16 will be accepted as a means of compliance during the three-month transition period from 3 April to 30 June 2018. After 30 June 2018, only Amendment 16 will be accepted.

Please note an exception has been made regarding the use of cast iron anchors and couplers, which will continue to be compliant under B1/VM1 Amendment 16 until 1 November 2018. This will allow for continuity of anchor/coupler supply by giving suppliers extra time to stock up on alternative couplers and anchors.

[B1/VM1 Amendment 16](https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/b-stability/b1-structure/b1-acceptable-solutions-and-verification-methods/) (<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/b-stability/b1-structure/b1-acceptable-solutions-and-verification-methods/>) has further information.

[Subscribe to Building Controls Updates](https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/subscribe/) (<https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/subscribe/>)





**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,  
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**  
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

New Zealand Government