

H1 Energy efficiency

Provides for the efficient use of energy and sets physical conditions for energy performance.

This clause requires housing to meet a building performance index (BPI) not exceeding 1.55 (this is defined in the Verification Method and Acceptable Solution).

It requires enclosed spaces where temperature or humidity are modified to provide adequate thermal resistance and to limit uncontrollable airflow in certain buildings. It also sets out physical conditions likely to affect energy performance, and requirements for hot water systems, artificial lighting and HVAC systems.

[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 [\(https://www.building.govt.nz/search/?bcc%5B%5D=h1-energy-efficiency&area=news-and-updates&show=all&action_doSearch=Search&sort=recent#results\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/search/?bcc%5B%5D=h1-energy-efficiency&area=news-and-updates&show=all&action_doSearch=Search&sort=recent#results)

Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods

Current version

<http://mbie5.cwp.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/h-energy-efficiency/h1-energy-efficiency/>

Previous versions

These are issued by MBIE to provide one way of complying with the Building Code and must be accepted by BCAs as demonstrating compliance with the related clauses of the Building Code. Using them is not mandatory.

4th edition, amendment 4

[PDF 568 KB]

Effective from 28 November 2019

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/h1-energy-efficiency/asvm/h1-energy-efficiency-4th-edition-amendment-4.pdf>)

4th edition, amendment 4 replacement pages

[PDF 614 KB]

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/h1-energy-efficiency/asvm/h1-energy-efficiency-4th-edition-amendment-4-rp.pdf>)

4th edition, amendment 3

[PDF 494 KB]

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/h1-energy-efficiency/asvm/h1-energy-efficiency-4th-edition-amendment3.pdf>)

3rd edition, amendment 2

[PDF 223 KB]

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/building-code-compliance/h1-energy-efficiency/asvm/H1-energy-efficiency-3rd-edition-amendment-2.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.

Version history (<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/h-energy-efficiency/h1-energy-efficiency/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 H1 (<https://www.standards.govt.nz/sponsored-standards/building-standards/?buildingcode=H1>).

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

NZS 4218:2009 Thermal insulation – housing and small buildings

This Standard helps establish the levels of thermal insulation for houses and small buildings. When read in conjunction with Acceptable Solution H1/AS1, it provides a way of complying with the New Zealand Building Code in relation to the thermal insulation of houses for energy efficiency.

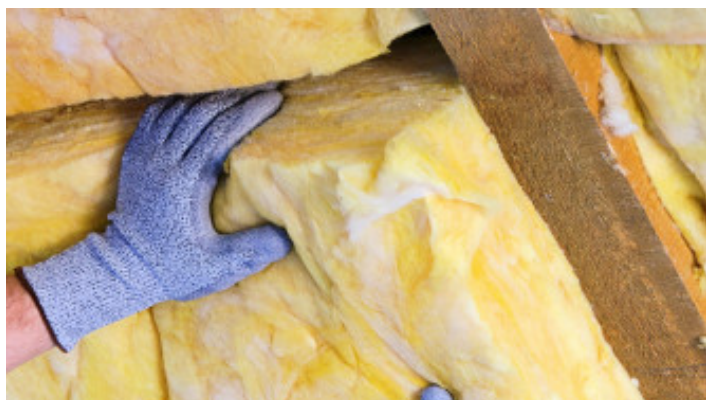


**New Zealand Standard
NZS 4218:2009
Thermal insulation –
housing and small
buildings**

Download a free copy
(<https://www.standards.govt.nz/sponsored-standards/building-standards/nzs4218/>)

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.



Insulating for an energy efficient building

21 MARCH 2016

Understand why insulation is important in New Zealand buildings.

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/h-energy-efficiency/h1-energy-efficiency/insulating-for-an-energy-efficient-building/>)



Risks when installing home insulation

Insulation needs to be installed correctly and without risk in New Zealand homes.

(<https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/h-energy-efficiency/h1-energy-efficiency/risks-when-installing-home-insulation/>)

View all related guidance (https://www.building.govt.nz/search/?bcc%5B%5D=h1-energy-efficiency&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.

2018/060: Refusal to grant building consent for

2018/014: Refusal of a code compliance certificate

retrofitting polyisocyanurate insulation in a house

<p>This determination considers the code-compliance of retrofitted rigid foam insulation board to insulate the walls of an existing house. The determination considers whether the proposed insulation board will satisfy certain clauses of the Building Code to the extent required by the Building Act.</p>

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/determination-2018-060/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/determination-2018-060/)

for alterations to a house

<p>This determination considers the compliance of consented alterations to an existing house where some inspections during the construction had not been completed by the authority. The determination considers the compliance of the as-built work and whether the authority was correct in declining to issue a code compliance certificate for the work.</p>

[\(https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/determination-2018-014/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/determination-2018-014/)

View 65 Determinations related to Energy efficiency (https://www.building.govt.nz/resolving-problems/resolution-options/determinations/determinations-issued/?bcc%5B%5D=h1-energy-efficiency&action_doSearch=Search#results)

Related building products

All products, systems and construction methods that have achieved CodeMark status will be listed here with their most up to date certificate.

View 38 certified building products associated with Energy efficiency (https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/product-assurance-and-multiproof/codemark/product-certificate-register/?&bcc%5B%5D=h1-energy-efficiency&action_doSearch=Search#results)