

DELIVERY OF PASSIVE FIRE PROTECTION IN A PERFORMANCE-BASED REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

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ABSTRACT

A number of countries have a performance-based building regulatory regime. One critical success factor in a performance-based regulatory environment is the support infrastructure. In New Zealand, there was a growing amount of anecdotal evidence from the fire protection industry that an appropriate standard of passive fire protection, as required by the New Zealand Building Code, was not being delivered in many buildings. In response to this widespread industry concern, the Fire Protection Association of New Zealand started a research project in late 2007, which had the overall objectives of both providing indicative quantification of the issue and also making recommendations on possible solutions. The research project provided a solid basis upon which to develop a range of recommendations covering the broad areas of industry awareness, industry skills, industry practice, occupational licensing and regulatory compliance. Since the completion of the research project and the release of the project report, a significant programme of work has been underway covering technology transfer, training initiatives and end-use uptake.