

C1-C6 Protection from Fire



Interconnected Smoke Detectors

From 1 November 2024, New Zealand's Acceptable Solution for Protection from Fire - C/AS1 will be updated to require interconnected smoke alarms as the minimum fire safety system for building work done under a building consent.

This applies to new homes and renovations, including solid fuel heaters and separation of services, for which building consent applications are submitted on or after 2 November 2024.

The amended Acceptable Solution now refers to NZS 4514:2021 which specifies standards for interconnected smoke alarms in residential buildings. The standard allows for either wireless or hard-wired connections between detectors and includes options for 10-year battery-powered or 240v mains-powered alarms.



IMAGE CREDIT: Cavius NZ

NZS 4514:2021 stipulates that smoke alarms must be installed in all bedrooms, living spaces, hallways, and landings to ensure comprehensive coverage throughout the home. It also includes kitchens that can be separated from the living spaces and hallways by doors that can be closed. Heat detectors can be used in the kitchen to avoid nuisance activations.

These changes aim to enhance fire safety by ensuring all smoke alarms within a home are interconnected. This means when one activates, all smoke alarm devices in the household unit will sound, providing more effective and timely warnings in the event of a fire.

For further details, refer to Acceptable Solutions [C/AS1](#) and the standard for interconnected smoke alarms for houses [NZS 4514:2021](#).