

## Potential issue regarding imported aluminium windows and doors

Tēnā koe,

We are writing to raise awareness of a potential issue reported with some imported aluminium window and door products being specified for use in building consent applications.

Recently, concerns have been raised with MBIE that the supporting documentation provided for these products may not provide sufficient assurance of compliance with the New Zealand Building Code.

In particular:

- Test reports may be incomplete, not clearly attributable to the product being specified, or missing key information such as the applicable standard, scope of testing, or issuing laboratory credentials.
- Some reports may not meet expectations for recognised overseas testing (for example, lack of accreditation markings or full report documentation), which can affect their validity in a New Zealand context.
- There are concerns that, in some instances, certification documentation may have been altered or misrepresented without the knowledge of the issuing body.

As front-line regulators, Building Consent Authorities have responsibilities under the Building Act 2004 to assess whether products used in building work demonstrate compliance with the Building Code.

In light of the above, we encourage BCAs to:

- Carefully review test reports and certificates accompanying consent applications to ensure they are complete, relevant to the product specified, and demonstrate compliance with applicable standards to substantiate any claimed ratings or classifications. Products relying on international testing must be fit for purpose within the New Zealand context, particularly wind zone classification – relevant to both structural performance and resistance to penetration by external moisture – and thermal performance.
- Exercise appropriate professional judgement where documentation is limited, unclear, or appears to rely on partial, inconsistent, or potentially altered information.

This information is provided to raise awareness of the issue. MBIE will continue to actively monitor and assess this matter and may provide further guidance as appropriate.

If you have encountered similar issues or hold information relevant to this matter, please email the Product Assurance and Investigation team at [products@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:products@mbie.govt.nz)

Ngā mihi nui,

**The Building Performance team**

