

SNZ PAS 4509:2008



Publicly Available Specification

# New Zealand Fire Service Firefighting Water Supplies Code of Practice

Superseding SNZ PAS 4509:2003

SNZ PAS 4509:2008



**COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION**

This Code of Practice was prepared under the supervision of the P 4509 Committee the Standards Council established under the Standards Act 1988.

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Standards New Zealand gratefully acknowledges the contribution of time and expertise from all those involved in developing this document.

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**FIRE SERVICE INTERPRETATION**

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Date of issue</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Location</i>
1	July 2009	Hardstand access (figures B4, L2(a), L2(b), and L2(c).	On page 2 of this edition

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**New Zealand Fire Service  
Firefighting Water  
Supplies Code of  
Practice**



## **New Zealand Fire Service interpretation on SNZ PAS 4509:2008 *New Zealand Fire Service firefighting water supplies code of practice***

Where the hardstand as illustrated in this code of practice (figures B4, L2(a), L2(b), and L2(c)) does not provide for fire appliance access within 18 m of an entry point to any building, the hardstand may be used by the NZFS for relay pumping or other operations supporting the fire appliance situated at a hardstand closer to the building.

The hardstand as illustrated in this code does not negate the requirement to provide fire appliance access requirements in accordance with the New Zealand Building Code and other relevant Standards. Early consultation with the NZFS is recommended during the design phase to gain prior approval and acceptance in principle of any proposals affecting firefighting operations.

**Issued: July 2009**

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## REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

Reference is made in this document to the following:

### NEW ZEALAND STANDARDS

NZS 4404:2004	Land development and subdivision engineering
NZS 4512:2003	Fire detection and alarm systems in buildings
NZS 4515:2003	Fire sprinkler systems for residential occupancies
NZS 4517:2002	Fire sprinkler systems for houses
NZS 4521:1974	Specification for boxes for fire brigade connections
NZS 4541:2007	Automatic fire sprinkler systems
NZS 9201.7:2007	Model general bylaws – Water supply
NZS/BS 750:1984	Specification for underground fire hydrants and surface box frames and covers
SNZ PAS 4505:2007	Specification for firefighting waterway equipment

### AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

AS 1668.3:2001	The use of ventilation and airconditioning in buildings – Smoke control systems for large single compartments or smoke reservoirs
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### BRITISH STANDARD

BS 3251:1976	Indicator plates for fire hydrants and emergency water supplies
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### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Buchanan A.H.	Structural design for fire safety. Chichester: John Wiley & Sons, 2001
Department of Building and Housing	New Zealand Building Code Handbook and Approved Documents
Land Transport Safety Authority	Traffic note 25, Retroreflective raised pavement markers, 2004
New Zealand Fire Service training note	Flow testing of water mains and hydrant inspections
Transit New Zealand	Manual of traffic signs and markings – Part II: Markings
TNZ M/07:2006	Road marking paints

### NEW ZEALAND LEGISLATION

Building Act 2004
Fire Service Act 1975
Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992
Local Government Act 2002 and 1974
Resource Management Act 1991

## **RELATED DOCUMENTS**

A list of related documents is set out in Appendix A.

## **Latest Revisions**

The users of this Publicly Available Specification should ensure that their copies of the above-mentioned Standards are the latest revisions. Amendments to referenced New Zealand and Joint Australian/New Zealand Standards can be found on <http://www.standards.co.nz>.





## Preface

As National Commander of the New Zealand Fire Service, I am pleased to release this revised code of practice for firefighting water supplies.

Those users familiar with the 2003 code of practice will see a number of changes that have resulted from comments and feedback from users of the document. The user will still be able to find tables that deal with fire hazard and specify the water flow requirements to match that hazard. There are now a number of worked examples included that help to understand the intent and application of the code and more detail relating to alternative firefighting water sources.

The code recognises the value of fixed fire protection systems, and particularly sprinkler installations, both in commercial structures and in homes. The Fire Service accepts that its firefighting water requirements can be tailored to a much lower demand in these structures. This edition of the code provides clearer guidance on what constitutes an alternative water supply where there is no reticulated supply, or where the available supply is insufficient for firefighting. The code has quantified firefighting water requirements based on sound engineering principles.

Taken together, these features provide the opportunity for all users to match firefighting water supplies to hazard, and to consider a range of alternatives in changing the water supply or changing the hazard in that process.

As an organisation we are committed to a process of continuous improvement, and this code is no exception. I welcome feedback and have already put a team in place that will work towards the next generation of this code of practice in coming years.



**Mike Hall**  
**National Commander New Zealand Fire Service**  
**31 July 2008**

## **Foreword**

This code of practice was developed to provide direction on what constitutes a sufficient supply of water for firefighting in urban fire districts. This includes areas covered by any agreements under sections 38 or 39 of the Fire Service Act 1975. This code of practice is not intended to provide specifications for the water supply required for the effective operation of fire protection systems.

It is intended that the code of practice will form the basis of a partnership between the New Zealand Fire Service, territorial authorities, water supply authorities and developers so that the code may be used as a basis for territorial authority and water supply authority (WSA) conditions of supply or be called up, for example, by territorial authorities in rules regulating subdivisions in the district plan.

This code of practice is published under section 30(3) of the Fire Service Act.

## **Review**

Suggestions for improvement of this code of practice will be welcomed. They should be sent to the National Commander, New Zealand Fire Service, PO Box 2133, Wellington.



## **SNZ PAS 4509:2008 New Zealand Fire Service firefighting water supplies code of practice**

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