

Fire formal interpretations



5 February 2014

FI-110

NZS 4512:2010 *Fire detection and alarm systems in buildings* – Clause 603.14

Question:

Clause 603.14 requires that:

'Testing and inspection shall be carried out to ensure correct operation of all alerting devices and that the building is adequately covered as defined in 406.3. All necessary measurements, adjustments and repairs shall be included to ensure the correct functioning of all alerting devices. All tests and results shall be recorded.'

Does the final sentence ('all tests and results shall be recorded') mean that when multiple sound level readings are taken within each zone, such as, for example, every bedhead, multiple offices, storerooms, toilets, and so on, that every reading must be documented, or is it acceptable to document only the lowest and highest measured sound level reading in each zone in the manner shown on the reverse of the Appendix J Commissioning Record?

Interpretation issued by the Alarms and detection group:

It is not necessary to record every single measurement, however there needs to be enough detail recorded to identify:

- (a) what was tested and
- (b) what the result was.

For an open office area (or the like) that meets all the required sound pressure level (SPL) requirements, it is sufficient to record the name of the area and the maximum and minimum reading observed in the area (the same level of detail as on the Appendix J Commissioning Record).

If somewhere in a zone is measured above or below the permitted SPL, or an alerting device or loudspeaker is found to be faulty, then this must be recorded in sufficient detail for someone to locate the problem again and take remedial action.

For zones split into multiple firecells, such as apartments, the results need to be recorded separately for each apartment. Additionally, because a minimum SPL is required at each bedhead, as well as recording the maximum and minimum reading observed for the overall area, there needs to be sufficient detail recorded to show that all bedheads were tested, and what the result was for each.