



15 November 2011

FI-102

Question:

NZS 4541:2007 *Automatic fire sprinkler systems* – clause 902.7, Appendix B

Interpretation:

Issued by the Fixed Fire Protection Group

Is it the committee's intention that the above clause should be interpreted that milk powder (casein, skim milk, whole milk) in multiwall bags, solid stacked on timber pallets be classified as a Category 2 commodity. As per the entry to Tables B1 and B2 'Powders (ordinary combustibles – free flowing); e.g. flour, sugar; in paper bags'.

In the absence of any additional information, milk powders in multiwall paper bags can be treated as a category 2 commodity, given that Tables B1 and B2 treat 'Powders (ordinary combustibles – free flowing)', such as sugar and flour in paper bags as a category 2 commodity.

Note: While not explicit, the category of goods is related to the expected heat release rate of burning commodities. Tables B1 and B2 are informative tables. While there currently appears to be little data to allow the expected heat release rates of various milk powders to be compared to that of sugar and flour, it is possible that future testing results could alter this interpretation, and increase or decrease the commodity classification, depending on the fat content of various milk powders.