

# Fire formal interpretations

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FI-126

NZS 4512:2010 *Fire detection and alarm systems in buildings* – Clauses 405.1.3 and 405.2.1(d)

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## Question:

## Interpretation issued by the Alarms and detection group

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| (1) Does clause 405.1.3(a) allow smoke detectors to be replaced by heat detectors (or sprinklers) throughout an entire stairwell and not just at the top of stairways?                                     | (1) No. Furthermore, substitution of the detector at the top of the stairway is only permitted if unwanted alarm activations from that detector are considered likely. |
| (2) Where smoke detection is not provided on all floor landings of all stairways per clause 405.2.1(d) does such a system comply fully with the requirements of the Standard?                              | (2) If smoke detection is required in the stairway, no. Type 4, 5, and 7 systems, for example, require smoke detectors on all floor landings of all stairways.         |
| (3) Can the activity occurring within a stairway be considered likely to cause spurious smoke detector alarms per 405.1.3(h)?  | (3) This is irrelevant because substitution of smoke detectors is not permitted in stairways per 405.1.3(h)(iv).   |
| (4) Is it the intention of clause 405.1.3(h)(iv) for Type 4, 5, or 7 systems to ensure that all internal exitways, including stairs within the building, are required to be provided with smoke detection? | (4) Yes.   |