



09 June 2008

FI 088

Question:

Std: NZS 4512

Interpretation:

Issued by the Alarms and Detection Group

405.1.3

A type 4 fire alarm system is specified for an office/warehouse building with gas fuel powered forklift traffic throughout and light manufacturing (cutting of plastic sheets) in one corner of the warehouse. There is a possibility of unwanted alarm activation from forklift fumes or plastic cutting.

Considering 405.1.3 (h), is it permitted to replace smoke detectors with heat detectors in the whole warehouse?

No.

Substitutions per 405.1.3 are applicable for specific limited areas only, not the whole building (or a substantial proportion thereof).

NOTE:

Extensive substitution would turn a Type 4 system into a Type 3, which would not comply with the Building Consent and would preclude the issue of a Code Compliance Certificate.

Possible approaches to the example given might include: engineering design, alteration of the Building Consent, switch to electric forklifts and choice of smoke detector.