



WINDOW WIND ZONES

Recent changes to NZS 3604:2011 *Timber-framed buildings* and NZS 4211:2008 *Specification for performance of windows* has created an inconsistency between wind zones in these standards.

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NZS 3604:2011 introduced an extra high wind zone based on a maximum site wind speed of 55 m/s, while NZS 4211:2008 introduced an extreme wind zone based on a maximum wind speed of 60 m/s.

Interim solution

A set of test pressures has been calculated for NZS 4211:2008 based on the new extra high wind speed used in NZS 3604:2011 and in the revised E2/VM1. The pressures (see Table 1) can simply be added to NZS 4211:2008 Tables 1, 4 and 5.

Windows with an extra high rating will then be able to be used in locations with a site wind speed up to 55 m/s, which aligns with NZS 3604:2011.

Extreme wind zone

Windows can be rated to perform in the extreme wind zone in NZS 4211:2008 (which applies to locations where the site wind speed is between 55 and 60 m/s), but the claddings and installation details must be the subject of specific design.

A future amendment to NZS 4211:2008 is expected to include this solution. ◀

Table 1: Annotations needed to tables in NZS 4211:2008 to align wind zones with NZS 3604:2011.

Table 1	SLS test pressures	Extra high	±1,515 Pa
Table 4	Water test pressures	Extra high	455 Pa
Table 5	ULS test pressures	Extra high	±2,130 Pa