



BRANZ Appraised

Appraisal No. 550 [2025]

NU-WALL CLADDING SYSTEM - HORIZONTAL ON CAVITY (HOC)

Appraisal No. 550 [2025]

This Appraisal replaces BRANZ
Appraisal No. 550 [2019]



BRANZ Appraisals

Technical Assessments of
products for building and
construction.



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Product

- 1.1 The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity is a cavity-based, inter-locking powder-coated aluminium weatherboard system. It is designed to be used as an external wall cladding system for residential and light commercial type buildings where domestic construction techniques are used.
- 1.2 The system includes horizontally fixed Nu-Wall weatherboards, cavity battens, internal and external corner mouldings, starter strip, board jointers, board locators, soffit caps, joinery flashings and accessories.

Scope

Timber Framing

- 2.1 The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity has been appraised as an external wall cladding for timber-framed buildings within the following scope:
 - the scope limitations of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 1.1 for timber-framed buildings; and
 - constructed with timber framing complying with the NZBC; and,
 - with a risk score of 0-20, calculated in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Table 2; and,
 - situated in NZS 3604 Wind Zones up to, and including, Extra High.

Specific Design

- 2.2 The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity is also appraised for weathertightness and structural wind loading when used as an external wall cladding system for buildings within the following scope:
 - the scope limitations of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 1.1; and,
 - constructed with framing subject to specific design; and,
 - situated in specific design wind pressures up to a maximum design differential ultimate limit state [ULS] of 2.5 kPa.

General

- 2.3 The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity must only be installed horizontally on vertical, flat surfaces. The tops of parapets and balustrades must have a minimum 5° slope and be waterproofed with metal cap flashings in accordance with the Technical Literature.

- 2.4 The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity has been appraised for use with aluminium window and door joinery that is installed with vertical jambs and horizontal heads and sills. *[Note: The Appraisal of the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity relies on the joinery meeting the requirements of NZS 4211 for the relevant Wind Zone and wind pressure].*
- 2.5 The system may also be used with uPVC window and door joinery systems that hold a current BRANZ Appraisal for use with residential-type construction.

Building Regulations

New Zealand Building Code (NZBC)

- 3.1 In the opinion of BRANZ, the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity, if designed, used, installed and maintained in accordance with the statements and conditions of this Appraisal, will meet the following provisions of the NZBC:

Clause B1 STRUCTURE: Performance B1.3.1, B1.3.2 and B1.3.4. The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity meets the requirements for loads arising from self-weight, wind and impact [i.e. B1.3.3 (a), (h) and (j)]. See Paragraphs 9.1-9.3.

Clause B2 DURABILITY: Performance B2.3.1 (b) 15 years. The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity meets this requirement. See Paragraphs 10.1-10.3.

Clause E2 EXTERNAL MOISTURE: Performance E2.3.2. The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity meets this requirement. See Paragraphs 14.1-14.5.

Clause F2 HAZARDOUS BUILDING MATERIALS: Performance F2.3.1. The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity meets this requirement.

Technical Specification

- 4.1 System components and accessories for the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity, which are supplied by Nu-Wall Cladding are:

Nu-Wall Weatherboards

- Nu-Wall weatherboards are produced in a variety of profiles with covers ranging from 100-200 mm and are powder-coated or anodised on the exposed surfaces. When installed, the cladding is effectively 14.5 mm thick. Nu-Wall weatherboards can be supplied up to 9 m in length [powder-coated] or 7.2 m [anodised].
- Nu-Wall weatherboards are manufactured from 6063 T5 or 6060 T5 aluminium alloy. The boards and accessories are extruded, cut to length then either powder-coated or anodised.
- Nu-Wall weatherboard profiles covered by this Appraisal are:
 - Aero - 70, Aero - 115, Aero - 200, Aero - 200S
 - Barcode
 - Classique
 - E70/130, E100, E200
 - Mono - 100, Mono - 200, Mono - 250, Mono - 400
 - N200
 - Ripple - 150, Ripple - 200
 - Shiplap
 - SS200
 - V130
 - ZZ200

Accessories

- **AliBat battens** - extruded aluminium structural cavity battens. The battens are pre-drilled for fixing and are available mill-finished or powder-coated in 5.8 m lengths.
- **Starter strip** - an extruded aluminium profile used to locate and secure the bottom of the first course of weatherboards. The starter strip is available in 6 m lengths.

- **Vented base channel** – an extruded aluminium profile used to locate and secure the bottom of the weatherboards. The vented base channel is powder-coated or anodised and is available in 6 m lengths.
- **External and internal corner mouldings** – an aluminium 90° one-piece internal corner moulding and 90° one-piece external corner moulding. The mouldings are powder-coated or anodised.
- **Universal fixing bracket** – an extruded aluminium locator clip used to secure individual weatherboards. The board locators are 45 mm long and are pre-drilled for fixing.
- **J-Mould** – an extruded aluminium profile, powder-coated or anodised and available in 6 m lengths.
- **Board jointer** – an extruded aluminium two-piece vertical jointer for joining lengths of Nu-Wall weatherboard. The jointer is powder-coated or anodised and is available in 6 m lengths.
- **Nu-Wall sill flashing** – an extruded aluminium flashing to provide drainage for the sill area and conceal the ends of the weatherboards at the sill of window and door trim openings. The sill flashing is powder-coated or anodised and is available in 6 m lengths.
- **Nu-Wall jamb flashing** – an extruded aluminium two-piece flashing to conceal the ends of the weatherboards at the jambs and sill of window and door trim openings. The jamb flashing is powder-coated or anodised and is available in 6 m lengths.
- **Nu-Wall weatherboard fixings (timber frame)** – 53 mm minimum length to achieve a minimum embedment of 30 mm, 10 g, Grade 304 stainless steel wood screws
- **AliBat fixings (timber frame)** – 50 mm long, 10 g, Grade 304 stainless steel screws with countersunk heads.
- **Nu-Wall weatherboard, cavity batten, base channel, and thermal break fixings (steel frame)** – self drilling 8 or 10 g TEK screws to Class 3 of AS 3566.2. The screw length must allow a minimum 10 mm penetration through the steel frame.
- **Starter and locator bracket fixings to AliBat battens** – 16 mm long, 10 g galvanised self-drilling TEK screws to Class 3 of AS 3566.2.
- **Foam seals and tape** – closed-cell PVC foam tape is used with internal and external corner mouldings and jamb flashings to create a weather-resistant seal.
- **Plastic soaker** – extruded polythene 110 mm wide with 2 mm upstands on each edge.
- **Cavity batten barrier strip** – 50 mm wide medium density polyethylene (MDPE) tape supplied in rolls.

4.2 Accessories used with the Nu-Wall Cladding System – Horizontal on Cavity, which are supplied by the building contractor, are:

- **Flexible wall underlay** – building paper complying with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Table 23, or breather-type membranes covered by a valid BRANZ Appraisal for use as wall underlays behind non-absorbent, metal-based claddings.
- **Flexible wall underlay support** – polypropylene strap, 75 mm galvanised mesh, galvanised wire, or additional vertical battens for securing the flexible wall underlay in place and preventing bulging of the bulk insulation into the drainage cavity. *[Note: Mesh and wire galvanising must comply with AS/NZS 4534.]*
- **Rigid wall underlay** – plywood or fibre cement sheet complying with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Table 23, or rigid sheathing covered by a valid BRANZ Appraisal for use as rigid air barrier systems behind non-absorbent, metal-based claddings.
- **Flexible sill and jamb flashing tape** – flexible flashing tapes complying with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 4.3.11, or flexible flashing tapes covered by a valid BRANZ Appraisal for use around window and door joinery openings.
- **Cavity vent strip** – PVC or aluminium, punched with 3-5 mm holes or slots complying with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 9.1.8.3.
- **Thermal break (steel frame)** – expanded polystyrene (EPS) in accordance with the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution E3/AS1, Paragraph 1.1.4 d).

- **Timber cavity battens** - nominal 50 mm wide by 25 mm thick (minimum finished size of 45 mm wide by 18 mm thick) timber treated to Hazard Class H3.1, or cavity battens covered by a valid BRANZ Appraisal for use as a cavity batten system behind wall claddings.
- **Parapet and inter-storey flashings** - folded from aluminium.
- **Window and door joinery head flashing** - extruded or folded from aluminium to suit the window or door joinery opening.
- **Timber cavity batten fixings (timber frame)** - 40 x 2.5 mm flat head hot-dip galvanised nails.
- **Parapet and inter-storey flashings** - folded from aluminium.
- **Window and door joinery head flashing** - extruded or folded from aluminium to suit the window or door joinery opening.
- **Window and door trim cavity air seal** - air seals complying with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 9.1.6, or self-expanding, moisture cure polyurethane foam air seals covered by a valid BRANZ Appraisal for use around window, door and other wall penetrations.
- **Flexible sealant** - sealant complying with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, or sealant covered by a valid BRANZ Appraisal for use as a weather sealing sealant for exterior use.

Handling and Storage

- 5.1 Handling and storage of all materials supplied by Nu-Wall Cladding or the building contractor, whether on-site or off-site, is under the control of the building contractor. Nu-Wall weatherboards must be stacked flat, off the ground and supported on a level platform. They must be kept dry either by storing under cover or providing waterproof covers to the stack. Care must be taken to avoid damage to powder-coated surfaces. Weatherboards must always be carried on edge.
- 5.2 Other accessories must be stored so they are kept clean, dry and undamaged. All accessories must be used within the maximum storage period recommended by the manufacturer.

Technical Literature

- 6.1 This Appraisal must be read in conjunction with:
- Nu-Wall Extruded Aluminium Cladding Installation CAD Details - Horizontal over cavity (HOC) - 13/03/2025.
 - Horizontal over Cavity (HOC) Product Technical Statement (PTS) - April 2025.
 - Nu-Wall® Cladding General Product Statement (GPS) - September 2023.
 - Nu-Wall® Cladding BPIR Product Statement - Class 1 - July 2023.
- 6.2 All aspects of design, use, installation and maintenance contained in the Technical Literature and within the scope of this Appraisal must be followed.

Design Information

Framing

Timber Treatment

- 7.1 Timber wall framing behind the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity must be treated as required by NZBC Acceptable Solution B2/AS1.

Timber Framing

- 7.2 Timber framing must comply with NZS 3604 for buildings or parts of buildings within the scope limitations of NZS 3604. Buildings or parts of buildings outside the scope of NZS 3604 must be to a specific design in accordance with NZS 3603 and AS/NZS 1170. Where specific design is required, the framing must be of at least equivalent stiffness to the framing provisions of NZS 3604. In all cases, studs must be at maximum 600 mm centres. For vertical board installation requirements refer to BRANZ Appraisal 870 Nu-Wall Cladding System - Vertical on Cavity (VOC).
- 7.3 Nogs/dwangs must be fitted flush between the studs at maximum 800 mm centres.

- 7.4 Timber wall framing and cavity battens must have a maximum moisture content of 24% at the time of the cladding application.
- 7.5 Additional framing will be required at soffits, internal and external corners, vertical joints and window and door openings for the support and fixing of Nu-Wall weatherboards.

Steel Framing

- 7.6 Steel framing must be to a specific design meeting the requirements of the NZBC.
- 7.7 The minimum framing specification is 'C' section studs and nogs of overall section size of 75 mm web and 32 mm flange. Steel thickness must be minimum 0.55 mm.
- 7.8 In all cases, studs must be at maximum 600 mm centres. Dwangs must be fitted flush between the studs at maximum 800 mm centres.

General

- 8.1 When the Nu-Wall Cladding System – Horizontal on Cavity is used for specifically designed buildings up to design differential 2.5 kPa ULS wind pressure, only the weathertightness aspects of the cladding and maximum framing centres are within the scope of this Appraisal. All other aspects of the building need to be specifically designed and are outside the scope of this Appraisal.
- 8.2 Punchings in the cavity vent strip must provide a minimum ventilation opening area of 1,000 mm² per lineal metre of wall, in accordance with the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 9.1.8.3 b].
- 8.3 The ground clearance to finished floor levels as set out in NZS 3604 must be adhered to at all times. At ground level, paved surfaces such as footpaths must be kept clear of the bottom edge of the cladding system by a minimum of 100 mm, and unpaved surfaces by 175 mm, in accordance with the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Table 18.
- 8.4 At deck or low pitch roof/wall junctions, the bottom edge of the Nu-Wall weatherboards must be kept clear of any adjacent surface, or above the top surface of any adjacent roof flashing by a minimum of 35 mm in accordance with the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 9.1.3.
- 8.5 All external walls of buildings must have barriers to airflow in the form of interior linings with all joints stopped for Wind Zones up to, and including, Very High, and rigid underlays for buildings in the Extra High Wind Zone and specifically designed buildings up to 2.5 kPa design differential ULS wind pressure. Unlined gables and walls must incorporate a rigid sheathing or an air barrier which meets the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Table 23. For attached garages, wall underlays must be selected in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 9.1.3.4. Where rigid underlays are used, the cavity batten fixing lengths must be increased by a minimum of the thickness of the underlay.
- 8.6 Where penetrations through the Nu-Wall Cladding System – Horizontal on Cavity are wider than the cavity batten spacing, allowance must be made for airflow between adjacent cavities. A minimum 10 mm gap must be left between the bottom of the vertical cavity batten and the flashing to the opening.
- 8.7 Inter-storey junctions must be constructed in accordance with the Technical Literature. Inter-storey joints must be provided to limit continuous cavities to the lesser of 2-storeys or 7 m in height, in accordance with the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 9.1.9.4 b].
- 8.8 Where the Nu-Wall Cladding System – Horizontal on Cavity abuts other cladding systems, designers must detail the junction to meet their own requirements and the performance requirements of the NZBC. Details not included with the Technical Literature have not been assessed and are outside the scope of this Appraisal.

Structure

- 9.1 The mass of the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity, when installed on the wall, is approximately 6 kg/m². The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity is therefore considered a light wall cladding in terms of NZS 3604.

Impact Resistance

- 9.2 The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity has good resistance to hard and soft body impacts likely to be encountered in normal residential use. The likelihood of impact damage to the system when used in light commercial situations should be considered at the design stage, and appropriate protection such as the installation of bollards and barriers should be considered for vulnerable areas.

Wind Zones

- 9.3 The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity is suitable for use in all Wind Zones of NZS 3604 up to, and including, Extra High where buildings are designed to meet the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 1.1, or up to design differential 2.5 kPa ULS wind pressure where buildings are specifically designed.

Durability

Serviceable Life

- 10.1 The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity is expected to have a serviceable life of at least 25 years, provided the system is maintained in accordance with this Appraisal.
- 10.2 On exposure to the environment, the powder-coating will gradually lose gloss and coloured coatings will slowly fade.
- 10.3 Microclimatic conditions, including geothermal hot spots, industrial contamination and corrosive atmospheres, and contamination from agricultural chemicals or fertilisers can convert mildly corrosive atmosphere into aggressive environments for fasteners. The galvanised TEK screws for fixing to steel framing and AliBat battens must only be used in hidden areas within NZS 3604 corrosion zones B and C. The fixing of Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity in areas subject to microclimatic conditions requires specific design in accordance with NZS 3604, Paragraph 4.2.4, and is outside the scope of this Appraisal.

Maintenance

- 11.1 Regular maintenance is essential for Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity installations to continue to meet the NZBC durability performance provision and to maximise their serviceable life. Refer to the manufacturer's maintenance and cleaning documentation at all times.
- 11.2 Annual inspections must be made to ensure that all aspects of the cladding system, including flashings and any sealed joints, remain in a weathertight condition. Any damaged areas or areas showing signs of deterioration which could allow water ingress must be repaired immediately. Sealant and the like must be repaired in accordance with the sealant manufacturer's instructions. Regular cleaning [at least every 6 months] of the powder-coating with water and a mild detergent is required to remove grime, dirt and organic growth, and to maximise the life and appearance of the cladding. More frequent washing may be required in harsh environments [e.g. coastal marine, industrial or geothermal]. Repainting of the powder-coating may be considered at some stage during the life of the cladding in order to restore the appearance of the cladding. Repainting must be carried out in accordance with the paint manufacturer's instructions for treatment of aged powder-coated aluminium.
- 11.3 Minimum ground clearances as set out in this Appraisal must be maintained at all times during the life of the cladding. *[Note: Failure to adhere to the minimum ground clearances given in this Appraisal and the Technical Literature will adversely affect the long term durability of the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity.]*

Prevention of Fire Occurring

- 12.1 Nu-Wall weatherboards are considered a non-combustible material and need not be separated from heat sources such as fireplaces, heating appliances and chimneys. However, when used in conjunction with, or attached to heat sensitive materials, the heat sensitive material must be separated from fireplaces, heating appliances and chimneys. Part 7 of NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS1 and NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS2 provide methods for separation and protection of combustible materials from heat sources.

Control of External Fire Spread

- 13.1 Refer to NZBC Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 and C/AS2 for fire resistance rating and control of external fire spread requirements for external walls.

Vertical Fire Spread

- 13.2 This Appraisal only covers buildings 10 m or less in height. NZBC Functional Requirement C3.2 identifies that external vertical fire spread to upper floors only needs to be considered for buildings with a building height greater than 10 m. Control of external vertical fire spread is therefore outside the scope of this Appraisal.

Horizontal Fire Spread

- 13.3 Where the external wall is not protected by a sprinkler system or separated from the relevant boundary as required by NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS1 or C/AS2, the cladding system will need to be installed over a fire resistance rated [FRR] external wall with the required FRR.

External Cladding Systems

- 13.4 Nu-Wall weatherboards are composed entirely of aluminium and are therefore defined non-combustible as per NZBC Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 and C/AS2, Appendix B Definitions and are suitable for use on external walls in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS1, Paragraph 5.3.1.1 a) and NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS2, Section 5.8.

External Moisture

- 14.1 The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity, when installed in accordance with this Appraisal and the Technical Literature, prevents the penetration of moisture that could cause undue dampness or damage to building elements.
- 14.2 The cavity must be sealed off from the roof and sub-floor space to meet compliance with NZBC Clause E2.3.5.
- 14.3 The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity allows excess moisture present at the completion of construction to be dissipated without permanent damage to building elements to meet compliance with NZBC Clause E2.3.6.
- 14.4 The details given in the Technical Literature for weather sealing are based on the design principle of having a first and second line of defence against moisture entry for all joints, penetrations and junctions. The ingress of moisture must be excluded by detailing joinery and wall interfaces as shown in the Technical Literature. Weathertightness details that are developed by the designer are outside the scope of this Appraisal and are the responsibility of the designer for compliance with the NZBC.
- 14.5 The use of the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity where there is a designed cavity drainage path for moisture that penetrates the cladding, does not reduce the requirement for junctions and penetrations to remain weather-resistant.

Internal Moisture

Water Vapour

- 15.1 The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity is not a barrier to the passage of water vapour, and when installed in accordance with this Appraisal and the Technical Literature will not create or increase the risk of moisture damage resulting from condensation. Refer to Paragraphs 15.2 and 15.3 for specific requirements for steel-framed buildings.

- 15.2 Where the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity is installed over a steel frame, an expanded polystyrene thermal break must be installed over the building underlay over each steel member to provide a thermal break in accordance with the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution E3/AS1, Paragraph 1.1.4 d].
- 15.3 The cavity battens and the rest of the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity is then installed over the top of the thermal break in accordance with the Technical Literature and this Appraisal.

Installation Information

Installation Skill Level Requirement

- 16.1 All design and building work must be carried out in accordance with the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity Technical Literature and this Appraisal by competent and experienced tradespeople conversant with the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity. Where the work involves Restricted Building Work (RBW), this must be completed by, or under the supervision of, a Licenced Building Practitioner (LBP) with the relevant Licence class.

System Installation

Building Underlay and Flexible Sill and Jamb Tape Installation

- 17.1 The selected building underlay and flexible sill and jamb tape system must be installed by the building contractor in accordance with the underlay and tape manufacturer's instructions prior to the installation of the cavity battens and the rest of the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity. Flexible building underlay must be installed horizontally and be continuous around corners. Underlay must be lapped 75 mm minimum at horizontal joints and 150 mm minimum over studs at vertical joints. Generic rigid sheathing materials must be installed in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 and be overlaid with a flexible wall underlay. Proprietary systems shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Particular attention must be paid to the installation of the building underlay and sill and jamb tapes around window and door openings to ensure a continuous seal is achieved and all exposed wall framing in the opening is protected.

Cavity Battens

- 17.2 Timber or aluminium cavity battens must be installed vertically over the flexible or rigid wall underlay and fixed to the wall framing at maximum 600 mm centres.
- 17.3 Batten fixings and fixing spacings are:
- **Alibat Battens** - must be fixed vertically to studs with one 10 g x 50 mm stainless steel screw at 300 mm centres down the centre of the batten.
 - **Timber Battens** - must be fixed in place with 40 x 2.5 mm hot-dip galvanised flat head nails or 50 x 2.87 mm hot-dip galvanised gun nails at maximum 800 mm centres down the centre of the batten. Timber cavity battens over steel framing (and thermal break) must be fixed in place with self-drilling 6 g Grade 304 stainless steel screws at maximum 800 mm centres along the batten.
- 17.4 Where studs are at greater than 450 mm centres and a flexible wall underlay is being used, a building underlay support must be installed over the underlay at maximum 300 mm centres horizontally to prevent the underlay bulging into the cavity space when bulk insulation is installed in the wall frame cavity.

Joinery Installation

- 17.5 Joinery and associated head flashings must be installed by the building contractor in accordance with the Technical Literature. The joinery must be installed plumb and level and a 7.5-10 mm nominal gap must be left between the joinery reveal and the wall framing so an air seal, in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 9.1.6, can be installed after the joinery has been secured in place.

Nu-Wall Weatherboard Installation

- 17.6 Nu-Wall weatherboards may be cut on-site by a power saw fitted with an aluminium cutting blade. Holes and cut-outs may be formed by drilling a number of holes around the perimeter of the opening required, or by using a holesaw suitable for cutting aluminium.
- 17.7 Before the weatherboards and starter strip are installed, the cavity batten barrier strip must be stapled to the face of timber cavity battens to isolate the treated batten and the aluminium weatherboard and accessories.
- 17.8 Nu-Wall weatherboards must be installed starting at the bottom of the wall. The first course of weatherboards must overhang the bottom plate by a minimum of 50 mm. If there is more than one starting level, work from the lowest point up to the next level and try to ensure a joint in the boards coincides with the higher starting level.
- 17.9 Fix the base section of the corner mouldings in place. The corner mouldings must be continuous in length from the underside of the first weatherboard course to the soffit, top of the wall or inter-storey joint.
- 17.10 When the wall being clad is longer than the length of the weatherboard, the base section of the board jointer must be fixed in place over a double width cavity batten directly over a double stud. The jointer must be fixed plumb and must be continuous from the underside of the first weatherboard course to the soffit, top of the wall or inter-storey joint. Refer to NZBC E2/AS1 Paragraph 9.1.9.4 for further details.
- 17.11 The starter strip must be fixed through the cavity battens to the wall framing behind the first course of weatherboards. The starter strip must be fixed level and a gap must be maintained between each end of the starter strip and the corner moulds or board jointer.
- 17.12 Nu-Wall weatherboards are cut to length allowing a 1 mm gap per metre of board for expansion. The first course of weatherboards must be locked into the starter strip and must then be secured at the top of the board with universal fixing brackets fixed through the cavity battens to the stud at maximum 600 mm centres. Ensure that the fixing bracket engages correctly with the fixing fin of the board and that the board is held firmly with no downward pressure on it. This should eliminate distortion or cupping of the weatherboard.
- 17.13 Subsequent courses of weatherboards must be locked into the channel of the board below, and must be secured at the top of the board with universal fixing brackets fixed through the cavity batten to the stud at maximum 600 mm centres.
- 17.14 Board fixing into timber framing is carried out using 50 mm long, 10 g stainless steel screws. Fixing into steel framing is carried out with self-drilling 8 or 10 g galvanised TEK screws.
- 17.15 Window and door joinery flashings must be installed in accordance with the Technical Literature.

Finishing

- 17.16 The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity is pre-finished and does not require painting at the completion of installation. Touch up of scratches and the like must be completed in accordance with the instructions of Nu-Wall Cladding.

Inspections

- 17.17 The Technical Literature must be referred to during the inspection of the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity installations.

Health and Safety

- 18.1 Hearing and eye protection must be worn while cutting Nu-Wall weatherboards and accessories.

Basis of Appraisal

The following is a summary of the technical investigations carried out:

Tests

19.1 The following testing on the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity has been completed by BRANZ:

- BRANZ expert opinion on NZBC E2 code compliance for the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity was based on testing and evaluation of all details within the scope and as stated within this Appraisal. The Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity was tested to the NZBC Verification Method E2/VM1 [as contained within NZBC Clause E2, Amendment 4]. The testing assessed the performance of the foundation detail, window head, jamb and sill details, meter box head, jamb and sill details, vertical board joints, internal and external corners and parapet cap. In addition to the weathertightness test, the details contained within the Technical Literature have been reviewed, and an opinion has been given by BRANZ technical experts that the system will meet the performance levels of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 for drained cavity claddings.
- Wind face load and fastener pull through testing. BRANZ determined design wind suction pressures, and by comparing these pressures with AS/NZS 1170 pressure coefficients, the fixing requirements were determined for timber and steel-framed walls.

Other Investigations

- 20.1 Structural and durability opinions have been provided by BRANZ technical experts.
- 20.2 Site inspections have been carried out by BRANZ to assess the practicability of installation, and to examine completed installations.
- 20.3 The Technical Literature for the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity has been examined by BRANZ and found to be satisfactory.

Quality

- 21.1 The manufacture of Nu-Wall weatherboards and aluminium accessories has been examined by BRANZ, and details regarding the quality and composition of the materials used were obtained by BRANZ and found to be satisfactory.
- 21.2 The quality of materials, components and accessories supplied by Nu-Wall Cladding is the responsibility of Nu-Wall Cladding.
- 21.3 Quality of installation on-site of components and accessories supplied by Nu-Wall Cladding and the building contractor is the responsibility of the installer.
- 21.4 Designers are responsible for the building design, and building contractors are responsible for the quality of installation of framing systems and joinery, building wraps, flashing tapes, air seals, joinery head flashings and cavity battens in accordance with the instructions of Nu-Wall Cladding.
- 21.5 Sub-trades are responsible for installation of penetrations, flashings etc. that are relevant to their trade, in accordance with the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity Technical Literature.
- 21.6 Building owners are responsible for the maintenance of the Nu-Wall Cladding System - Horizontal on Cavity in accordance with the instructions of Nu-Wall Cladding.

Sources of Information

- AS/NZS 1170:2002 Structural design actions - General principles.
- NZS 3602:2003 Timber and wood-based products for use in building.
- NZS 3603:1993 Timber structures standard.
- NZS 3604:2011 Timber-framed buildings.
- NZS 4211:2008 Specification for performance of windows.
- Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment Record of amendments - Acceptable Solutions, Verification Methods and handbooks.
- The Building Regulations 1992.



In the opinion of BRANZ, **Nu-Wall Cladding System – Horizontal on Cavity (HOC)** is fit for purpose and will comply with the Building Code to the extent specified in this Appraisal provided it is used, designed, installed and maintained as set out in this Appraisal.

The Appraisal is issued only to **Aluminium Product Brands NZ Limited t/a Nu-Wall Cladding**, and is valid until further notice, subject to the Conditions of Appraisal.

Conditions of Appraisal

1. This Appraisal:
 - a) relates only to the product as described herein;
 - b) must be read, considered and used in full together with the Technical Literature;
 - c) does not address any Legislation, Regulations, Codes or Standards, not specifically named herein;
 - d) is copyright of BRANZ.
2. **Aluminium Product Brands NZ Limited t/a Nu-Wall Cladding:**
 - a) continues to have the product reviewed by BRANZ;
 - b) shall notify BRANZ of any changes in product specification or quality assurance measures prior to the product being marketed;
 - c) abides by the BRANZ Appraisals Services Terms and Conditions;
 - d) warrants that the product and the manufacturing process for the product are maintained at or above the standards, levels and quality assessed and found satisfactory by BRANZ pursuant to BRANZ's Appraisal of the product.
3. BRANZ makes no representation or warranty as to:
 - a) the nature of individual examples of, batches of, or individual installations of the product, including methods and quality of work;
 - b) the presence or absence of any patent or similar rights subsisting in the product or any other product;
 - c) any guarantee or warranty offered by **Aluminium Product Brands NZ Limited t/a Nu-Wall Cladding**.
4. Any reference in this Appraisal to any other publication shall be read as a reference to the version of the publication specified in this Appraisal.
5. BRANZ provides no certification, guarantee, indemnity or warranty, to **Aluminium Product Brands NZ Limited t/a Nu-Wall Cladding** or any third party.

For BRANZ



Claire Falck
Chief Executive
Date of Issue:
27 May 2025