



# GUIDELINE

MAY 2004



FREE MONTHLY UPDATE ON BUILDING ISSUES PREPARED BY BRANZ  
AND FUNDED BY THE BUILDING RESEARCH LEVY

## SPECIFICATIONS? WHAT SPECIFICATIONS?

Apparently there are still consent applications being submitted to territorial authorities that are substandard when it comes to providing the supporting information on which building inspectorates are required to make decisions for approval.

Some don't have any specifications to accompany drawings or details, or other supporting documents.

A specification is an explanation of how certain aspects of a construction job are to be executed, a description of how things are to be done, and to what standard or level of finish and quality.

Without the specification the territorial authority – or anybody for that matter – will be unable to understand what the plans will produce, even if they're accompanied by comprehensive product information.

## EDUCATION FOR BUILDING CONTROLS

In 2003, twelve years after the introduction of the Building Act, BRANZ CITE introduced the BOINZ developed course in Building Controls. This was a substantial commitment for CITE and after a slow start this course has now become widely accepted as the first step in certification training. With the addition of the Plumbing Inspection Skills course, the question now asked in many building control offices, is: Can this be counted on to contribute towards a full, nationally recognised course?

The answer to this is Yes! CITE is committed to developing a fully comprehensive course leading to a National Diploma in Building Certification.

The course will eventually consist of the following topics:

1. **Local Territorial Authorities:** This component will, where possible, use existing unit standards and provide students with an understanding of how LTAs fit into the regulatory framework.
2. **The Professional Certifier:** This will provide students with the communication, interpersonal, problem-solving, professional ethics and risk-management skills required of a building certifier.
3. **Building Controls:** The existing CITE Certificate in Building Controls course.
4. **Plumbing Inspection:** The existing CITE Plumbing Inspection course (first taught 1996).
5. **Building Inspection:** A new component that will provide expertise in the inspection of domestic and small industrial buildings.
6. **Approved Documents:** A comprehensive course covering all the clauses of the New Zealand Building Code, the Acceptable Solutions, Verification Methods and dealing with Alternative Solutions.

The rate of progress will depend on CITE's ability to invest in the preparation and development of modules, and the ability to progress their placement on the NZQA National Framework. This is a long-term commitment and each new module will be designed to fit with this overall plan.

## PRACTICAL PROBLEM SOLVING WITH TRIZ

Learn about this widely-applicable system of addressing and solving your technical problems: engineering, scientific, technology and manufacturing. The presenters – Karen Gadd and Henry Strickland from the UK – have, as their clients, firms such as Esso, British Aerospace and Rolls-Royce, and have a wealth of experience both in engineering and business management. Supported by FRST.

## The theory of creative problem solving

Association of Consulting Engineers NZ Workshop

Wellington – 12 August

Auckland – 17 August

For more information visit:

[www.acenz.org.nz/conference.htm](http://www.acenz.org.nz/conference.htm)

or phone Caroline Strachan on 04-472 1202.

## CITE TRAINING COURSES

**May 2004**

### BRANZ Certificate in Adjudication

Christchurch: 14-18 June

Cost: \$2,000.00 excl GST (\$2,250.00 incl. GST)

### BRANZ Certificate in Building Controls

Dunedin: Week 1: 21-25 June

Week 2: 19-23 July

Cost: \$3,500.00 excl GST (\$3,937.50 incl. GST)

Don't forget – early-bird offers may apply.

For more information on these courses, details of our early-bird specials, and registration forms, visit

[www.branz.co.nz](http://www.branz.co.nz) (CITE Industry Training)

or ☎ Fiona McColl, CITE Education Officer on 04-238 1291

or email: [fionamccoll@branz.co.nz](mailto:fionamccoll@branz.co.nz)



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## How are we doing?

*From time to time we review the way in which we deliver information to you. To ensure we continue to provide the best possible service, BRANZ must assess what information you need and how best to provide it. In this issue we ask that you help us by answering a few questions about Guideline. You can either e-mail, fax or post your reply to us. All information supplied in this questionnaire will be treated in the strictest confidence: no information will be passed on to any other party.*

## Why is Guideline useful to you?

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Please [✓] tick where appropriate

Do you keep your copies? Yes [ ] No [ ]

Did you know that back copies are able free from BRANZ website? Yes [ ] No [ ]

Now that you do know, would you refer to them? Yes [ ] No [ ]

How do you rate Guideline? Mildly [ ] interesting [ ] Useful [ ] Very useful [ ]

How many people read your copy? More than one [ ] One to five [ ] More than five [ ]

Is Guideline easy to read and understand? Yes [ ] No [ ]

## What would you like to see us write about?

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## Have you any other ideas for improving Guideline?

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To ensure we have your correct details, please fill in the following:

Name: ..... Occupation: .....

Name of Company: .....

Address: .....

Phone No: ..... Fax No. ....

Email Address: .....

You can fax your answers to Helen Anderson on 04-237 1171, email to: [helenanderson@branz.co.nz](mailto:helenanderson@branz.co.nz) or post (you don't need a stamp) to Helen Anderson, FREEPOST BRANZ, Private Bag 50908, Porirua.