**BRANZ Appraised**
Appraisal No. 1225 [2022]

# STRIA™ CLADDING VERTICAL

**Appraisal No. 1225 (2022)**

Amended 1 April 2026

**BRANZ Appraisals**

Technical Assessments of products for building and construction.


**James Hardie New Zealand Limited**
PO Box 12 070
Penrose
Auckland
Tel: 0800 808 868
Email: info@jameshardie.co.nz
Web: www.jameshardie.co.nz

**BRANZ**
1222 Moonshine Rd,
RD1, Porirua 5381
Private Bag 50 908
Porirua 5240,
New Zealand
Tel: 04 237 1170
branz.co.nz


## Product

1.1 Stria™ Cladding Vertical is a cavity-based fibre cement wall cladding. It is designed to be used as an external wall cladding for residential and light commercial type buildings where domestic construction techniques are used. Stria™ Cladding Vertical is available in two panel finish options: 'Smooth' and 'Fine Texture'.

## Scope

### Timber Framing

2.1 Stria™ Cladding Smooth and Stria™ Cladding Fine Texture have been appraised for use as an external wall cladding for timber-framed buildings within the following scope:

- the scope limitations of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1; and,
- with a risk score of 0-20, calculated in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1; and,
- situated in NZS 3604 Wind Zones up to, and including, Extra High.

### Specific Design

2.2 Stria™ Cladding Smooth has also been appraised for weathertightness and structural wind loading when used as an external wall cladding for buildings within the following scope:

- with a building height not exceeding 25 m; and,
- constructed with timber framing subject to specific engineering design; and,
- situated in specific design wind pressures up to a maximum design differential ultimate limit state (ULS) of 3.2 kPa where studs are at maximum 600 mm centres; and,
- with inter-storey deflections designed for and up to height/180 of horizontal in-plane movement during seismic serviceable limit state (SLS) events (based on a 3 m inter-storey height); and,
- when fixed over James Hardie RAB™ Board rigid air barrier for buildings over 10 m in height.

### General

2.3 Stria™ Cladding Vertical must only be installed vertically on vertical, flat surfaces.

2.4 Stria™ Cladding Vertical must only be used with window and doors that comply with NZBE Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 or that are covered by a valid BRANZ Appraisal or NZ CodeMark certification.

# Building Regulations

**New Zealand Building Code (NZBC)**

3.1 **In the opinion of BRANZ, Stria™ Cladding Vertical, 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. Stria™ Cladding Vertical meets the requirements for loads arising from self-weight, wind, impact and creep [i.e. B1.3.3 (a), (h), (j) and (q)]. See Paragraphs 9.1-9.5.

**Clause B2 DURABILITY:** Performance B2.3.1 (b) 15 years and B2.3.2. Stria™ Cladding Vertical meets these requirements. See Paragraphs 10.1-10.4.

**Clause E2 EXTERNAL MOISTURE:** Performance E2.3.2. Stria™ Cladding Vertical meets this requirement. See Paragraphs 14.1-14.5.

**Clause F2 HAZARDOUS BUILDING MATERIALS:** Performance F2.3.1. Stria™ Cladding Vertical meets this requirement.

# Technical Specification

4.1 System components and accessories for Stria™ Cladding Vertical which are supplied by James Hardie New Zealand Limited, are:

**Stria™ Cladding panels**

- Stria™ Cladding panels are manufactured from a reduced density cellulose fibre cement formulation. The panels are formed, cut to length and then cured by high-pressure autoclaving. Stria™ Cladding panels are manufactured to meet the requirements of AS/NZS 2908.2 and are identified by the name 'Stria™ Cladding' printed on the back of the panels. The panels are 14 mm thick and are factory sealed on the front face and all edges with a manila white colour primer.
- Panels are available in the following options:
  - Stria™ Cladding Smooth: 325 or 405 mm wide x 4,200 mm long.
  - Stria™ Cladding Fine Texture: 325 mm wide x 3,000 or 4,200 mm long.

**Accessories**

- **Hardie™ 20 mm horizontal cavity battens** – 45 x 20 mm thick radiata pine battens treated to Hazard Class H3.1 and available in 2,700 mm lengths. The top edge is bevelled with an 18° slope. The back face is grooved with 22 mm wide x 5 mm deep rebates at 50 mm centres, and the front face is grooved with 6 mm wide x 6 mm deep rebates at 150 mm centres. The grooves are offset on each face.
- **Hardie™ 14 mm Trimline Joint Flashing** - an etch-primed aluminium extrusion used behind the cladding at vertical joints, available in 3,000 mm lengths.
- **Hardie™ 14 mm Internal Corner Flashing** – a 90° anodised aluminium extrusion available in 3,000 mm lengths.
- **Hardie™ 14 mm External Box Corner** - an anodised aluminium extrusion used to create external corners, available in 3,000 mm and 4,000 mm lengths.
- **uPVC vent strip** – a uPVC moulding used as vermin proofing, available in 3,000 mm lengths.
- **Trimline Horizontal Jointer** - an aluminium jointer used to cover the butt joint of Hardie™ 14 mm Trimline joint flashing, available in 100 mm lengths.
- **Trimline External Corner Jointer** - 55 x 55 mm aluminium extrusion which joins Trimline joint flashings at an external corner.
- **Trimline Internal Corner Jointer** - 60 x 60 mm aluminium extrusion which joins Trimline joint flashings at an internal corner.
- **HomeRAB™ Pre-Cladding** - 4.5 mm thick fibre cement rigid wall underlay, 1,200 mm wide and available in 2,450 or 2,750 mm lengths.
- **RAB™ Board** - 6 or 9 mm thick fibre cement rigid wall underlay, 1,200 mm wide and available in 2,450, 2,750 or 3,000 mm lengths.

4.2 Accessories specific to Stria™ Cladding Vertical, which are supplied by the building contractor are:

- **Fixings for cavity battens and flashings** - 40 x 2.8 mm or longer Hardie™ Flex nail.
- **Fixings for Stria™ Cladding Smooth panels** - 65 x 2.87 or 75 x 3.15 mm D-head or RounDrive hot-dip galvanised or stainless steel ring shank nails.
- **Fixings for Stria™ Cladding Fine Texture panels over flexible underlay** - 60 x 3.15 mm Hardie™ Flex nails or 65 x 2.87 mm round head ring shank Paslode or Ecko gun nails.
- **Fixings for Stria™ Cladding Fine Texture panels over rigid underlay** - 75 x 3.15 mm Hardie™ Flex nails, 75 x 3.05 mm round head ring shank Paslode or Ecko gun nails and 70 x 3.15 mm jolt head nails.

*[Note: Stainless steel fixings must be Grade 316 and hot-dip galvanising must comply with AS/NZS 4680].*

4.3 Accessories used with Stria™ Cladding Vertical to a generic specification in accordance NZBC E2/AS1 or covered by a relevant and valid BRANZ Appraisal or NZ CodeMark Certification, which are supplied by the building contractor, are:

- Flexible wall underlay
- Flexible wall underlay support
- Rigid wall underlay
- Flexible sill, head and jamb flashing tape
- Joinery head flashings
- Window and door trim cavity air seal
- Flexible sealant

**Paint System Specification**

4.4 Paint systems are not supplied by James Hardie New Zealand Limited and have not been assessed, therefore they are outside the scope of this Appraisal.

4.5 All exposed faces, including top edges at sills and all bottom edges of Stria™ Cladding panels and accessories must be finished with a latex exterior paint system complying with any of Parts 7, 8, 9, or 10 of AS 3730 within 90 days of installation.

## Handling and Storage

5.1 Handling and storage of all materials supplied by James Hardie New Zealand Limited, whether on-site or off-site, is under the control of building contractor and shall be handled according to the requirements in the Technical Literature.

5.2 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:

- Stria™ Cladding Smooth Vertical Installation Technical Specification, dated April 2026.
- Stria™ Cladding Fine Texture Vertical Installation Technical Specification, dated April 2026.

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 framing 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 a building within the scope limitations of NZS 3604. Buildings or parts of a building 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. Studs must be at maximum 600 mm centres. Nogs/dwangs must be fitted flush between the studs at maximum 800 mm centres (for studs at 600 mm centres).

7.3 The maximum moisture content of timber framing must be in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1.

## General

8.1 When Stria™ Cladding Smooth is used for specifically designed buildings up to 3.2 kPa ULS wind pressure, only the weathertightness and structural aspects of the cladding 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. *(Note: Stria™ Cladding Fine Texture is only for use in NZS 3604 Wind Zones up to, and including, Extra High.)*

8.2 Ground clearance to finished floor levels as set out in NZS 3604 must always be adhered to.

8.3 The horizontal separation between the wall cladding and the adjacent ground must be maintained in accordance with NZS 3604.

8.4 The bottom of cladding must have separations, clearances and overlaps in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1.

8.5 All external walls shall have barriers to airflow in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 and for specifically designed buildings up to a 2.5 kPa design differential ULS wind pressure, a rigid underlay is required.

8.6 All external walls of buildings must have barriers to airflow in the form of 9 mm thick RAB™ Board when used on buildings between 10-25 m high or situated in specific design wind pressures over a maximum differential ULS of 1.5 kPa.

8.7 Penetrations through Stria™ Cladding Vertical shall be in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 and the Technical Literature.

8.8 Inter-storey junctions in claddings are required in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 and shall be detailed in accordance with the Technical Literature.

8.9 Where Stria™ Cladding Vertical abuts other cladding systems, designers must detail the junction to meet their own requirements and the performance requirements of the NZBC. The Technical Literature provides guidance for using the Stria™ Cladding Vertical at junctions. Details not included with the Technical Literature have not been assessed and are outside the scope of this Appraisal.

## Structure

**Mass**

9.1 The mass of Stria™ Cladding Vertical is approximately 16 kg/m$^2$ and is therefore considered a light wall cladding in terms of NZS 3604.

**Impact Resistance**

9.2 Stria™ Cladding Vertical 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 Stria™ Cladding Smooth and Stria™ Cladding Fine Texture are 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.

9.4 Stria™ Cladding Smooth is also suitable for use in buildings up to 25 m high, situated in specific design wind pressures up to maximum design differential ULS of 3.2 kPa where framing is specifically designed.

**Inter-storey Deflections**

9.5 Stria™ Cladding Vertical, installed in conjunction with RAB™ Board, is suitable to resist inter-storey deflections. When installed in accordance with the Technical Literature, Stria™ Cladding Vertical, in conjunction with RAB™ Board, is capable of withstanding SLS deflections up to height/180.

## Durability

10.1 Stria™ Cladding Vertical meets the performance requirements of NZBC Clause B2.3.1 (b) 15 years for the Stria™ Cladding panels, flashings and cavity system.

**Serviceable Life**

10.2 Stria™ Cladding Vertical installations are expected to have a serviceable life of at least 50 years provided the paint coating system is maintained in accordance with this Appraisal to ensure the Stria™ Cladding panels and fixings remain dry in service. Stria™ Cladding Vertical must be painted within 90 days of fixing.

10.3 Coastal locations can be very corrosive to fasteners, especially locations within distances of up to 500 m from the sea including harbours, or 100 m from tidal estuaries and sheltered inlets, and otherwise as shown in NZS 3604, Figure 4.2. These coastal locations are defined in NZS 3604 as Zone D. To achieve a 50 year serviceable life in Zone D, Stria™ Cladding Vertical must be fixed with stainless steel fasteners. Fasteners outside Zone D may be hot-dip galvanised steel.

10.4 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. The use of Stria™ Cladding Vertical in areas subject to microclimatic conditions requires specific design in accordance with NZS 3604 and is outside the scope of this Appraisal.

## Maintenance

11.1 Regular maintenance in accordance with the Technical Literature is essential for Stria™ Cladding Vertical installations to continue to meet the NZBC durability performance provision and to maximise its serviceable life.

11.2 Annual inspections must be made to ensure that all aspects of the cladding system, including the paint coating system, flashings and any sealed joints remain in a weatherproof condition. Any damaged areas or areas showing signs of deterioration which would allow water ingress must be repaired immediately. Sealant and paint coatings must be repaired in accordance with the sealant or paint coating manufacturer's instructions.

11.3 Regular cleaning (at least annually) of the paint coating surface is recommended to remove grime, dirt and organic growth and to maximise the life and appearance of the coating. Paint systems must be recoated at approximately 7-15 yearly intervals in accordance with the paint manufacturer's instructions.

11.4 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 Stria™ Cladding Vertical.)*

## Prevention of Fire Occurring

12.1 Stria™ Cladding panels 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 heat sources such as fireplaces, heating appliances and chimneys. NZBC Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 and C/AS2 provide methods for separation and protection of combustible materials from heat sources.

## Fire Affecting Areas Beyond the Fire Source

13.1 Refer to NZBC Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 and C/AS2 and NZBC Verification Method C/VM2 for fire resistance rating, control of external fire spread and vertical fire spread requirements for external walls.

**Horizontal Fire Spread**

13.2 Where 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.

**Vertical Fire Spread - Buildings 10 m in height or less**

13.3 When Stria™ Cladding Vertical is used in buildings 10 m or less in height, NZBC Functional Requirement C3.2 identifies that external vertical fire spread to upper floors only needs be considered for buildings with a building height greater than 10 m.

**Vertical Fire Spread - Buildings greater than 10 m in height**

13.4 Stria™ Cladding Vertical can form part of an external wall cladding system designed to meet Vertical Fire Spread requirements. This has not been assessed by this Appraisal and is outside its scope.

13.5 Specific Fire Engineering Design is required for each building over 10 m in height to ensure the External Cladding System will meet the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS2 or NZBC Verification Method C/VM2.

13.6 The specific engineering design for the building must include the specific detailing at each floor level as provided in the Stria™ Cladding Vertical Technical Specification and meet the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS2.

13.7 The following information is provided to support the Specific Engineering Design. The components listed in Table 1 form a part of the James Hardie External Cladding System and have been tested and achieved the listed classifications.

**Table 1: Components of the Stria™ Cladding Vertical system**

| Component | Test Method | Result |
|---|---|---|
| Stria™ Cladding panels | AS/NZS 3837:1998 | Pass - Type A |
| Joinery and joint flashings and mouldings | Aluminium as defined in C/AS2 definitions | Non-combustible |
| James Hardie Rigid Air Barrier (RAB™ Board) | AS/NZS 3837:1998 | Pass - Type A |
| Flexible sill, head and jamb flashing tape | - | - |
| Timber cavity battens | Component of NFPA 285 test | Pass |
| Fixings | Steel as defined in C/AS2 definitions | Non-combustible |
| Air seals and sealants | - | - |

## External Moisture

14.1 Stria™ Cladding Vertical, when installed and maintained in accordance with this Appraisal and the Technical Literature, will prevent the penetration of moisture that could cause undue dampness or damage to building elements.

14.2 The drained cavity must be sealed off to restrict air movement between the drained cavity; and: floor, wall and roof framing, and attic roof space, and subfloor space as required by NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1.

14.3 Construction moisture must be managed in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 to ensure construction moisture is not permitted to damage building elements.

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.

## Internal Moisture

**Water Vapour**

15.1 Stria™ Cladding Vertical 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.

15.2 Buildings must be constructed with an adequate combination of thermal resistance and ventilation, and space temperature must be provided to all habitable spaces, bathrooms, laundries and other spaces where moisture may be generated or may accumulate.

# Installation Information

## Installation Skill Level Requirement

16.1 All design and building work must be carried out in accordance with the Stria™ Cladding Vertical Technical Literature and this Appraisal by competent and experienced tradespeople, conversant with Stria™ Cladding Vertical. Where the work involves Restricted Building Work (RBW), this must be completed by, or under the supervision of, a Licensed Building Practitioner (LBP) with the relevant Licence Class.

## System Installation

**Wall Underlay and Flexible Sill and Jamb Tape Installation**

17.1 The selected wall underlay and flexible flashing tape must be installed in accordance with the underlay and tape manufacturer's instructions, prior to the installation of the cavity battens and Stria™ Cladding Vertical. Flexible wall 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 wall underlay and flexible flashing tapes around window and door openings and penetrations to ensure a continuous seal is achieved and all exposed wall framing in the opening is protected.

17.2 Where studs are at greater than 450 mm centres and a flexible wall underlay is being used, a flexible wall underlay restraint in accordance with the Appraisal Technical specification must be installed over the underlay to prevent the insulation from bulging the building underlay into the cavity.

**RAB™ Board**

17.3 RAB™ Board must be installed in accordance with the Technical Literature and BRANZ Appraisal No. 611 James Hardie Rigid Air Barriers.

**Hardie™ Horizontal Cavity Battens**

17.4 Hardie™ horizontal cavity battens must be installed over the wall underlay to the wall framing (nogs/dwangs) at maximum 600 mm centres. The battens must be installed with the top edge sloping away from the wall underlay towards the back of the Stria™ Cladding. The cavity battens must be fixed by the cladding fixings through the timber battens to the timber framing.

**Joinery Installation**

17.5 Joinery must be installed in accordance with the appraised Technical Literature and any Technical Literature of the joinery manufacturer. The joinery must be installed plumb, level and fixed in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 or the joinery manufacturers Technical Literature.

**Stria™ Cladding Installation**

17.6 Stria™ Cladding panels may be cut on-site by power saw. Holes and cut-outs may be formed by drilling a number of holes around the perimeter of the opening required and tapping out the centre with a hammer, or by using a hole saw.

17.7 Stria™ Cladding panels must be dry prior to installation. Before the panels are installed, cut ends exposed to the exterior such as at aluminium box corners or internal corners must be sealed with an acrylic sealer to reduce the absorbency of the fibre cement.

17.8 Before Stria™ Cladding panels are installed, the corner detail must be prepared to suit the selected option, e.g. external box corner. The necessary flashings, including window flashings, must be installed before commencing panel fixing and the cavity vent strip must be installed continuously around the bottom of the cavity.

17.9 Stria™ Cladding panels must be installed starting at the corner of the wall being clad. The first panel must be installed plumb to assist with the installation of subsequent panels. The panels must overhang the bottom plate by a minimum of 50 mm. The panels should be installed with the lap facing away from the prevailing winds. Stria™ Cladding panel laps are pre-determined by the machined joint detail.

17.10 Fixings for Stria™ Cladding Vertical must be in accordance with the Technical Literature. The 'D' head nails must be punched a maximum of 2 mm below the surface of the panel and be no closer than 12 mm to the end of the panel.

**Stria™ Cladding Fine Texture**

17.11 Stria™ Cladding Fine Texture must be installed using the concealed fixing method in accordance with the Technical Literature.

**Finishing**

17.12 All punched fixings must be filled. The paint coating manufacturer's instructions must be followed at all times for application of the paint finish. Stria™ Cladding Vertical must be clean and dry before commencing painting.

**Inspections**

17.13 The Technical Literature must be referred to during the inspection of Stria™ Cladding Vertical installations.

## Health and Safety

18.1 Protective equipment must be worn and used as required by the Technical Literature and the manufacturer's instructions.

# Basis of Appraisal

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

## Tests

19.1 Uniform wind face load tests to simulate wind pressures on Stria™ Cladding Vertical were carried out by a James Hardie Australia Pty Ltd NATA accredited laboratory. The testing determined design wind suction pressures, and by comparing these pressures with the NZS 3604 and AS/NZS 1170 pressure coefficients, the fixing requirements were determined for timber-framed walls. The test methods and results have been reviewed by BRANZ and found to be satisfactory.

19.2 Stria™ Cladding Vertical has been tested by a James Hardie Australia Pty Ltd NATA accredited laboratory in accordance with AS/NZS 2908.2 and ISO 8336. The testing covered: soak-dry, bending strength, warm water soaking, heat/rain, freeze/thaw and apparent density. The test methods and results have been reviewed by BRANZ and found to be satisfactory.

19.3 Cone calorimeter testing to determine the peak rate of heat release and total heat release of Stria™ Cladding Vertical was completed by BRANZ. The testing was carried out in accordance with AS/NZS 3837.

19.4 BRANZ expert opinion on NZBC Clause C3 code compliance for Stria™ Cladding Vertical was based on NFPA 285 testing by Intertek Group plc on specimens assembled containing the James Hardie External Cladding System.

19.5 BRANZ expert opinion on NZBC Clause E2 code compliance for Stria™ Cladding Vertical was based on NZBC Verification Method E2/VM2 [BRANZ EM7] testing and evaluation of all details within the scope and as stated within this Appraisal.

## Other Investigations

20.1 Structural and durability opinions have been provided by BRANZ technical experts.

20.2 A BRANZ expert opinion on NZBC Clause E2 code compliance for Stria™ Cladding Vertical including evaluation of all details within the scope of this Appraisal has been completed.

20.3 Site inspections have been carried out by BRANZ to assess the practicability of installation, and to examine completed installations.

20.4 The Technical Literature for Stria™ Cladding Vertical has been examined by BRANZ and found to be satisfactory.

## Quality

21.1 The manufacture of Stria™ Cladding Vertical has been examined by BRANZ, including methods adopted for quality control. 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 James Hardie New Zealand Limited is the responsibility of James Hardie New Zealand Limited.

21.3 Quality of installation on-site of components and accessories supplied by James Hardie New Zealand Limited 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, wall underlays, flashing tapes, air seals and cavity battens in accordance with the instructions of James Hardie New Zealand Limited.

21.5 Sub-trades are responsible for installation of penetrations, flashings etc. that are relevant to their trade in accordance with the Stria™ Cladding Vertical Technical Literature.

21.6 Building owners are responsible for the maintenance of Stria™ Cladding Vertical in accordance with the instructions of James Hardie New Zealand Limited.

## Sources of Information

- AS 3730 Guide to the properties of paints for buildings.
- AS/NZS 1170:2002 Structural design actions.
- AS/NZS 2908.2:2000 Cellulose-cement products - Flat sheet.
- AS/NZS 3837:1998 Method of test for heat and smoke release rates for materials and products using an oxygen consumption calorimeter.
- AS/NZS 4534:1998 Zinc and zinc/aluminium-alloy coatings on steel wire.
- AS/NZS 4680:2006 Hot-dip galvanized (zinc) coatings on fabricated ferrous articles.
- BRANZ Appraisal No. 611 James Hardie Rigid Air Barriers.
- BRANZ EM7 Performance of mid-rise cladding systems.
- ISO 5660.1:2002 Heat release rate (cone calorimeter method).
- ISO 8336:2009 Fibre-cement flat sheets - Product specification and test methods.
- NFPA 285:2012 Standard method of test for the evaluation of flammability characteristics of exterior non-loadbearing wall assemblies containing components using the intermediate scale, multi-storey test apparatus.
- 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.

## Amendments

### Amendment No.1, dated 13 May 2025

This Appraisal has been amended to correct a editorial error in Paragraph 17.1.

### Amendment No. 2, dated 1 April 2026

This Appraisal has been amended to increase the stud spacing to 600 mm centres and the nog spacing to 800 mm centres and to incorporate the 'Fine Texture' panel.

BRANZ

In the opinion of BRANZ, Stria™ Cladding Vertical 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 James Hardie New Zealand Limited, 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. James Hardie New Zealand Limited:
   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 workmanship;
   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 James Hardie New Zealand Limited.
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 James Hardie New Zealand Limited or any third party.

**For BRANZ**

**Chelydra Percy**
Chief Executive

Date of Issue:
31 August 2022