



**BRANZ Appraised**  
Appraisal No. 447 [2010]

**LINEA®  
WEATHERBOARD  
CAVITY CLADDING**



**Appraisal No. 447 [2010]**

Amended 01 March 2016

### BRANZ Appraisals

Technical Assessments of products  
for building and construction.



**James Hardie New Zealand**

PO Box 12 070

Penrose

Auckland

Tel: 0800 808 868

Fax: 0800 808 988

Web: [www.jameshardie.co.nz](http://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](http://branz.co.nz)



## Product

- 1.1 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding is a cavity-based bevelbacked fibre cement weatherboard wall cladding. It is designed to be used as part of an external cladding system for residential and light commercial type buildings where domestic construction techniques are used.
- 1.2 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding consists of Linea® Weatherboard, which is a bevelbacked fibre cement weatherboard, fixed over timber battens to form the cavity. The cladding is finished with a latex paint system.
- 1.3 The cladding incorporates a primary and secondary means of weather resistance (first and second line of defence) against water penetration by separating the cladding from the external wall framing with a nominal 20 mm cavity. The cavity allows for any occasional ingress of water that may get past the external skin to drain to the exterior of the building, and any remaining moisture to dry by evaporation.

## Scope

- 2.1 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding has been appraised as an external wall cladding for buildings within the following scope:
  - the scope limitations of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 1.1; 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.
- 2.2 Linea Weatherboard Cavity Cladding has also been appraised for weathertightness and structural wind loading when used as an external horizontally fixed wall cladding solution for buildings within the following scope:
  - the scope limitations of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 1.1 with regards to building height and floor plan area; and,
  - constructed with timber framing complying with the NZBC; and,
  - situated in specific design wind pressures up to a maximum design differential ultimate limit state (ULS) of 2.5 kPa.
- 2.3 Linea® Weatherboard must only be installed horizontally on vertical surfaces.
- 2.4 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding is appraised for use with aluminium window and door joinery that is installed with vertical jambs and horizontal heads and sills. *[The Appraisal of Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding relies on the joinery meeting the requirements of NZS 4211 for the relevant Wind Zone.]*

*[Note: Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding can be used to provide fire resistance rated construction, but these aspects have not been assessed by this Appraisal and are outside its scope.]*

## Building Regulations

### New Zealand Building Code (NZBC)

3.1 In the opinion of BRANZ, Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding 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. Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding meets the requirements for loads arising from self-weight, earthquake, wind, impact and creep [i.e. B1.3.3 (a), (f), (h), (j) and (q)]. See Paragraphs 9.1 - 9.3.

**Clause B2 DURABILITY:** Performance B2.3.1 (b), 15 years and B2.3.2. Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding meets these requirements. See Paragraphs 10.1 and 10.2.

**Clause C3 FIRE AFFECTING AREAS BEYOND THE FIRE SOURCE:** Performance C3.7. Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding meets this requirement. See Paragraph 12.1.

**Clause E2 EXTERNAL MOISTURE:** Performance E2.3.2. Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding meets this requirement. See Paragraphs 14.1 - 14.5.

**Clause F2 HAZARDOUS BUILDING MATERIALS:** Performance F2.3.1. Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding meets this requirement and will not present a health hazard to people.

3.2 This is an Appraisal of an **Alternative Solution** in terms of New Zealand Building Code compliance.

## Technical Specification

4.1 Linea® Weatherboards are bevelback weatherboards with a tongue and groove at each end for jointing. The weatherboards are pre-primed with an acrylic primer on the front face and both edges. Linea® Weatherboards are 16 mm thick and are available 135 mm, 150 mm and 180 mm wide. All boards are supplied 4200 mm long.

4.2 Linea® Weatherboards are manufactured from a reduced density cellulose fibre cement formulation. The boards are formed, cut to length and then cured by high-pressure autoclaving. After autoclaving, a bevel is cut on the back face of the weatherboards, the front edge at the bottom of the board is chamfered and the ends are tongue and grooved for jointing. Linea® Weatherboards are manufactured to meet the requirements of AS/NZS 2908.2.

### Accessories

4.3 Accessories used with Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding which are supplied by James Hardie New Zealand are:

- **Axent™ Trim** - a 16 mm thick fibre cement trim manufactured from a reduced density cellulose fibre cement formulation. Axent™ Trim is pre-primed with an acrylic primer on the front face and both edges, and is available in sizes of 84 mm and 100 mm wide by 2600 mm long.
- **External and internal corner mouldings** - chromate treated aluminium external box corner, 90° internal corner 'W' mould and 135° internal corner 'W' mould. The mouldings are available in 2700 mm and 4000 mm lengths.
- **Corner soakers** - 90° soakers are available for 135 mm, 150 mm and 180 mm Linea® Weatherboards. The soakers are available in chromate treated aluminium, copper and stainless steel.
- **Cavity vent strip** - uPVC, available in 3000 mm lengths.

4.4 Accessories used with Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding 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.
- **Flexible building underlay support** - polypropylene strap, 75 mm galvanised mesh, galvanised wire, or additional vertical battens for securing the flexible building 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.
- **Flexible sill, head 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 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.
- **Joinery head flashings** - folded from aluminium or galvanised steel to suit the window or door trim opening. Refer to NZS 3604, Section 4 and NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Table 20 for durability requirements.
- **Planted sill and scribes** - timber treated to Hazard Class H3.1, pre-primed before installation.
- **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 suitable for use around window, door and other wall penetration openings.
- **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.
- **Cavity batten fixings** - 40 x 2.8 mm flat head hot-dip galvanised nails.
- **Linea® Weatherboard fixings** - 60 x 3.15 mm flat head hot-dip galvanised HardieFlex nails or stainless steel ring shank HardieFlex nails (for concealed nailing in NZS 3604 wind zones up to and including Very High), 75 x 3.15 mm jolt head hot-dip galvanised nails or stainless steel ring shank nails (for face nailing in NZS 3604 wind zones up to and including Very High), and 90 x 4.0 mm jolt head hot-dip galvanised nails or stainless steel ring shank nails (for face nailing in the NZS 3604 Extra High Wind Zone and specific design wind pressures up to a maximum design differential ULS of 2.5 kPa).
- **Axent™ Trim fixings** - 60 x 3.15 mm or 75 x 3.15 mm hot-dip galvanised jolt head nails and stainless steel ring shank jolt head nails.

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

#### **Paint System Specification**

- 4.5 Paint systems are not supplied by James Hardie New Zealand and have not been assessed, therefore they are outside the scope of this Appraisal.
- 4.6 All exposed faces, including top edges at sills and all bottom edges of Linea® Weatherboard, Axent™ Trim and accessories must be finished with a latex exterior paint system complying with any of Parts 7, 8, 9, or 10 of AS 3730.

#### **Handling and Storage**

- 5.1 Handling and storage of all materials supplied by James Hardie New Zealand or the building contractor, whether on site or off site, is under the control of the building contractor. Linea® Weatherboards must be stacked flat, off the ground and supported on a level platform. They must be kept dry at all times either by storing under cover or providing waterproof covers to the stack. Care must be taken to avoid damage to edges, ends and surfaces. Weatherboards must always be carried on edge.
- 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 Refer to the Appraisals listing on the BRANZ website for details of the current Technical Literature for Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding. The Technical Literature must be read in conjunction with this Appraisal. 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 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding 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 in Low, Medium, High and Very High Wind Zones and maximum 400 mm centres for the NZS 3604 Extra High Wind Zone and specifically designed buildings. Nogs must be fitted flush between the studs at maximum 800 mm centres [for studs at 600 mm centres] or maximum 1200 mm centres [for studs at 400 mm centres].
- 7.3 Timber framing must have a maximum moisture content of 24% at the time of the cladding application. *[If weatherboards are fixed to framing with a moisture content of greater than 24% problems may occur at a later date due to excessive timber shrinkage.]*
- 7.4 Timber wall framing must have a maximum moisture content of 18% before the weatherboards are painted.

### General

- 8.1 When the Linea™ Weatherboard Cavity Cladding is used for specifically designed buildings up to 2.5 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.
- 8.2 Punchings in the cavity vent strip provide a minimum ventilation opening area of 1000 mm<sup>2</sup> per lineal metre of wall.
- 8.3 At ground level the bottom edge of Linea® Weatherboards must be kept clear of paved surfaces, such as footpaths, by a minimum of 100 mm and unpaved surfaces by 175 mm in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Table 18. The ground clearances to finished floor levels as set out in NZS 3604 must be adhered to.
- 8.4 At balcony, deck or low pitch roof/wall junctions, the bottom edge of Linea® Weatherboards must be kept clear of any adjacent surface, or above the top surface of any adjacent roof flashing by a minimum of 50 mm.
- 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 cladding penetrations are wider than the cavity batten spacing, allowance must be made for airflow between adjacent cavities by leaving a minimum gap of 10 mm between the bottom of the vertical cavity batten and the flashing to the opening.
- 8.7 Where Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding abuts other cladding systems, designers must detail the junction to meet their own requirements and the performance requirements of the NZBC. Details not included within the Technical Literature have not been assessed and are outside the scope of this Appraisal.

### **Interstorey Junctions**

- 8.8 Inter-storey drained joints must be constructed in accordance with the Technical Literature. Inter-storey drained joints must be provided to limit continuous cavities to the lesser of 2-storeys or 7 metres in height, in accordance with the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Paragraph 9.1.9.4 [b].

### **Structure**

#### **Mass**

- 9.1 The mass of the 135 mm wide Linea® Weatherboard when installed on the wall is 25.7 kg/m<sup>2</sup> at equilibrium moisture content (EMC). The mass of the 150 mm wide board is 24.9 kg/m<sup>2</sup> at EMC and the mass of the 180 mm wide board is 23.9 kg/m<sup>2</sup> at EMC. Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding is therefore considered a light wall cladding in terms of NZS 3604.

#### **Impact Resistance**

- 9.2 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding will resist impacts likely to be encountered in normal residential use. The likelihood of impact damage to the cladding when used in light commercial situations should be considered at the design stage, and appropriate protection such as the installation of bollards and barriers provided for vulnerable areas.

#### **Wind Zones**

- 9.3 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding 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 2.5 kPa ULS wind pressure where buildings are specifically designed.

### **Durability**

#### **Serviceable Life**

- 10.1 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding 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 Linea® Weatherboards and fixings remain dry in service. Linea® Weatherboards must be painted within 3 months of fixing.
- 10.2 Coastal locations can be very corrosive to fasteners, especially locations within distances of up to 500 m from the sea including harbours, or 100 metres 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, Linea® Weatherboards must be fixed with stainless steel fasteners. Fasteners outside Zone D may be hot-dip galvanised steel.
- 10.2 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 fixing of Linea® Weatherboards 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 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding installations to continue to meet the NZBC durability performance provision and to maximise their 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. *[Failure to adhere to the minimum ground clearances given in this Appraisal and the Technical Literature will adversely affect the long term durability of Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding.]*

### Control of External Fire Spread

- 12.1 Linea® Weatherboard has a peak heat release rate of less than 100 kw/m<sup>2</sup> and a total heat released of less than 25 MJ/m<sup>2</sup> in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS1, Table 5.1. The system is suitable for use on buildings with a SH Risk Group classification, at any distance to the relevant boundary. Linea® Weatherboard is also suitable for use where a non combustible material is specified. When Linea® Weatherboard is finished with a paint coating of not more than 1.0 mm in thickness, the exterior surface finishes requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solutions C/AS2 – C/AS6, Paragraph 5.8.1 do not apply in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solutions C/AS2 – C/AS6, Paragraph 5.8.2 a).

### Prevention of Fire Occurring

- 13.1 When Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding is finished with a paint coating of not more than 1.0 mm in thickness, clearance separations from chimneys and flues are not required. However, when used in conjunction with, or attached to heat sensitive materials, the heat sensitive material must be separated from chimneys and flues in accordance with the requirements of NZBC Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 - C/AS6, Paragraph 7.5.9 for the protection of combustible materials.

### External Moisture

- 14.1 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding, when installed 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 cavity must be sealed off from the roof and sub-floor space to meet code compliance with Clause E2.3.5.
- 14.3 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding allows excess moisture present at the completion of construction to be dissipated without permanent damage to building elements to meet code compliance with 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 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding where there is a designed cavity drainage path for moisture that penetrates the cladding, does not reduce the requirement for junctions, penetrations, etc to remain weather resistant.

### Internal Moisture

- 15.1 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.

### Water Vapour

- 15.2 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding is not a barrier to the passage of water vapour, and when installed in accordance with the Technical Literature and this Appraisal will not create or increase the risk of moisture damage resulting from condensation.

## Installation Information

### Installation Skill Level Requirements

- 16.1 Installation of Linea® Weatherboard and accessories supplied by James Hardie New Zealand and the building contractor must be completed by tradespersons with an understanding of cavity construction and bevelback weatherboard installation, in accordance with instructions given within the Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding Technical Literature and this Appraisal.

### 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 Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding system. Flexible building underlay must be installed horizontally and be continuous around corners. Underlay must be lapped 75mm minimum at horizontal joints and 150mm 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 Cavity battens must be installed over the building underlay to the wall framing at maximum 600 mm centres where the studs are at 600 mm centres or at 400 mm centres when studs are at 400 mm centres. The battens must be fixed in place with 40 x 2.8 mm hot-dip galvanised flat-head nails at maximum 800 mm centres.
- 17.3 Where studs are at greater than 400 mm centres, a building underlay support must be installed over the building underlay between the cavity battens at maximum 300 mm centres.

#### Linea® Weatherboard Installation

- 17.4 Linea® Weatherboards 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.
- 17.5 Weatherboards must be dry prior to installation. Before the weatherboards 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.
- 17.6 Linea® Weatherboards must be installed starting at the bottom of the wall. A cant strip (H3.1 treated timber or fibre cement) must be fixed behind the bottom course of weatherboards to ensure the weatherboards are set at the correct angle. The cant strip must be continuous around the perimeter of the building. The bottom course of weatherboards must overhang the bottom plate by a minimum of 50 mm.
- 17.7 Before the weatherboards are installed, the corner detail must be prepared to suit the selected option, e.g. external box corner, corner soaker. The necessary flashings, including window flashings, must be installed before commencing weatherboard fixing.
- 17.8 The first course of weatherboards must be full length, i.e. 4200 mm and commence from an external corner. Jointing of Linea® Weatherboards is made off the stud using the pre-cut tongue and groove joint. Tongue and groove joints may be located centrally between the studs, but must be no closer than 100 mm to the edge of a stud. A bead of sealant must be applied to the front side of the tongue before the corresponding board is inserted. Subsequent courses of weatherboards must be installed so that the tongue and groove joints are staggered by 600 mm minimum from joints in the previous course.

- 17.9 Linea® Weatherboards must have a minimum lap of 30 mm, and should be set out so as near to a full board as possible will finish under and over windows and doors and at the top of the wall. A storey rod can be used to accurately position weatherboard courses.
- 17.10 Linea® Weatherboards must be fixed to each stud using concealed fixings behind the lap of the boards or face nailing, except that face nailing must be provided at all corners and vertical edges of openings.
- 17.11 Concealed fixing must be carried out using 60 x 2.8 mm hot-dip galvanised or stainless steel Hardieflex nails depending on the location - see Paragraph 10.2. Nails must be fixed 25 mm from the top edge of the board and must be driven flush with the board surface.
- 17.12 Face nailing must be carried out using 75 x 3.15 mm hot-dip galvanised or stainless steel jolt-head nails in NZS 3604 wind zones up to and including Very High, or 90 x 4.0 mm hot-dip galvanised or stainless steel jolt-head nails in the NZS 3604 Extra High Wind Zone and specific design wind pressures up to a maximum design differential ULS of 2.5 kPa, depending on the location - see Paragraph 10.2. Nails must be fixed 15 mm up from the bottom of the board and punched a maximum of 2 mm below the surface of the board. When stainless steel nails are used, the top board at each lap must be pre-drilled.
- 17.13 Linea® Weatherboards can be hand or gun nailed. Nails must not be closer than 25 mm to the end of the board when hand nailing, or closer than 50 mm when gun nailing. *[Note: Gun nailing must only be used for concealed nailing.]*

#### **Aluminium Joinery Installation**

- 17.14 Aluminium joinery and associated head and sill flashings must be installed by the building contractor in accordance with the Technical Literature. A 7.5 mm nominal gap must be left between the joinery reveal and the wall framing so a PEF rod and air seal can be installed after the joinery has been secured in place.
- 17.15 After installing the window and door joinery, Axent™ Trim, planted sills and scribes may be installed in accordance with the Technical Literature to provide additional weatherproofing for the joinery/weatherboard junction.

#### **Inspections**

- 17.16 The Technical Literature must be referred to during the inspection of Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding installations.

#### **Finishing**

- 17.17 The paint coating manufacturer's instructions must be followed at all times for application of the paint finish. Linea® Weatherboards and trim must be clean and dry before commencing painting.

#### **Health and Safety**

- 18.1 Cutting of Linea® Weatherboard must be carried out in well ventilated areas, and a dust mask and eye protection must be worn.
- 18.2 When power tools are used for cutting, grinding or forming holes, health and safety measures as set out in the Technical Literature must be observed because of the amount of dust generated.
- 18.3 Safe use and handling procedures for Linea® Weatherboard and the components that make up the cladding system are provided in the relevant manufacturer's Technical Literature.



## Basis of Appraisal

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

### Tests

- 19.1 The following testing has been completed by BRANZ:
- BRANZ expert opinion on NZBC E2 code compliance for Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding was based on testing and evaluation of all details within the scope and as stated within this Appraisal. Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding was tested to E2/VM1 (as contained within NZBC Clause E2, Third Edition, Amendment 5). The testing assessed the performance of the foundation detail, window head, jamb and sill details, meterbox head, jamb and sill details, balustrade to wall junction, parapet cap and internal and external corners. 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.
  - Uniform wind face load tests to simulate wind pressures on 12 mm thick Linea® Weatherboards were carried out by BRANZ, and the results were used in assessing 16 mm thick Linea® Weatherboard used in Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding.
  - Cone Calorimeter testing to determine the peak rate of heat release and total heat release of Linea® Weatherboard was completed by BRANZ. The testing was carried out in accordance with AS/NZS 3837.
- 19.2 Linea® Weatherboards have been tested by a James Hardie NATA accredited laboratory in accordance with AS/NZS 2908.2. 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 Testing has been carried out by James Hardie New Zealand to determine the modulus of rupture and inter-laminar bond strength of carbonated and non-carbonated Linea® Weatherboard. The test methods and results have been reviewed by BRANZ and found to be satisfactory.

### Other Investigations

- 20.1 Weathertightness, structural, fire and durability opinions have been provided by BRANZ technical experts.
- 20.2 Site visits have been carried out by BRANZ to assess the practicability of installation, and to examine completed installations.
- 20.3 The manufacturer's Technical Literature has been examined by BRANZ and found to be satisfactory.

### Quality

- 21.1 The manufacture of Linea® Weatherboard 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 James Hardie New Zealand is the responsibility of James Hardie New Zealand. The quality control system of James Hardie New Zealand has been assessed and registered as meeting the requirements of ISO 9001: 2008.
- 21.3 Quality on site 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 the building underlay, cavity battens, Linea® Weatherboard and accessories in accordance with the instructions of James Hardie New Zealand.
- 21.5 Building owners are responsible for the maintenance of Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding in accordance with the instructions of James Hardie New Zealand.

### 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.
- NZS 3602: 2003 Timber and wood-based products for use in building.
- NZS 3603: 1993 Timber Structures Standard.
- NZS 3604: 1999 Timber framed buildings.
- NZS 4211: 2008 Specification for performance of windows.
- Compliance Document for New Zealand Building Code External Moisture Clause E2, Department of Building and Housing, Third Edition July 2005.
- Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment Record of Amendments for Compliance Documents and Handbooks.
- The Building Regulations 1992.

### Amendments

#### Amendment No. 1, dated 31 January 2012.

This Appraisal has been amended to update clause changes as required by the introduction of NZS 3604: 2011 and NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 Third Edition, Amendment 5.

#### Amendment No. 2, dated 30 October 2013.

This Appraisal has been amended to change the Appraisal Holder, change the Product Name and to update clause changes as required by the introduction of NZBC Fire Clauses C1 – C6 Protection from Fire and A3 Building Importance Levels.

#### Amendment No. 3, dated 5 March 2014.

This Appraisal has been amended to alter the scope to include NZS 3604 Wind Zone Extra High, and specific design wind pressures up to and including 2.5 kPa.

#### Amendment No. 4, dated 01 March 2016.

This Appraisal has been amended to remove the term Scyon®.



In the opinion of BRANZ, **Linea® Weatherboard Cavity Cladding** 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**, 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:**
  - 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**.
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** or any third party.

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**For BRANZ**



**Pieter Burghout**

Chief Executive

Date of Issue:

14 September 2010