

MASONRY OVERLAY SYSTEM

Appraisal No. 706 (2024)

This Appraisal replaces BRANZ Appraisal No. 706 (2018)

BRANZ Appraisals

Technical Assessments of products for building and construction.



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Systems

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Product

- 1.1 The Masonry Overlay System is an exterior insulating and finishing system for concrete masonry, in-situ or pre-cast concrete walls.
- 1.2 The system consists of Graphex (Neopor®), expanded polystyrene (EPS), extruded polystyrene (XPS) or polyisocyanurate (PIR) sheets fixed to the concrete masonry or concrete walls with adhesive mortar and mechanical anchors. The plaster coating system consists of a 5 mm thickness of fibreglass mesh reinforced, polymer-modified, cement-based plaster, which is finished with a cement-based finishing plaster that is then painted with a 100% acrylic-based paint system. The chosen finishing plaster is applied to give a range of different appearances, such as a sponge, patterned, adobe or spray textured finish.

Scope

- 2.1 The Masonry Overlay System has been appraised as an exterior insulating and finishing system for buildings within the following scope:
 - with substrates of concrete masonry, in-situ or pre-cast concrete, up to 3 storeys, with a maximum height from ground to eaves of 10 m; and,
 - with floor plan area limited only by seismic and structural control joints; and,
 - · with supporting structures designed and constructed in accordance with the NZBC; and,
 - situated in NZS 3604 Wind Zones up to, and including, Extra High.
- 2.2 The Masonry Overlay System has also been appraised for bond/fixing, durability and weathertightness of the exterior insulating and finishing system for concrete masonry, in-situ or pre-cast concrete buildings subject to specific design up to a differential design ultimate limit state [ULS] wind pressure of 2.5 kPa.
- 2.3 The Masonry Overlay System must only be applied on vertical surfaces except for sills, concrete reinforced parapets and concrete reinforced balustrades which must have a minimum 10° slope and be waterproofed in accordance with the requirements of the Technical Literature and building designer.
- 2.4 Installation of components and accessories supplied by Resene Construction Systems and its approved installers must be carried out only by Resene Construction Systems approved installers.





Building Regulations

New Zealand Building Code (NZBC)

3.1 In the opinion of BRANZ, the Masonry Overlay System, if designed, used, installed and maintained in accordance with the statements and conditions of this Appraisal, will meet or contribute to meeting the following provisions of the NZBC:

Clause B1 STRUCTURE: Performance B1.3.1, B1.3.2 and B1.3.4. The Masonry Overlay System 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 10.1–10.3.

Clause B2 DURABILITY: Performance B2.3.1 [b] 15 years and B2.3.1 [c] 5 years. The Masonry Overlay System meets these requirements. See Paragraphs 11.1 and 11.2.

Clause E2 EXTERNAL MOISTURE: Performance E2.3.2. The Masonry Overlay System contributes to meeting this requirement. See Paragraphs 16.1 and 16.2.

Clause F2 HAZARDOUS BUILDING MATERIALS: Performance F2.3.1. The Masonry Overlay System meets this requirement.

Technical Specification

4.1 System components and accessories supplied by Resene Construction Systems are as follows are:

Graphex

• Graphex sheets are 50-100 mm thick with an approximate density of 18 kg/m³. The sheets are supplied in lengths ranging from 2.4 to 3.6 m x 1.2 m wide and are manufactured to meet the requirements of AS 1366 Part 3.

EPS Sheets

• EPS sheets are 40-100 mm thick Class H with an approximate density of 24 kg/m³, or 50 mm minimum thickness if using Class S with an approximate density of 16 kg/m³. The sheets are supplied in lengths ranging from 2.4 to 3.6 m x 1.2 m wide and are manufactured to meet the requirements of AS 1366 Part 3.

XPS Sheets (XTherm Blue)

• XPS sheets are 50 mm thick with an approximate density of 34 kg/m³. The sheets are supplied in lengths ranging from 1.2-2.2 m by 0.6 m wide and are manufactured to meet the requirements of AS 1366 Part 3.

PIR Sheets (XTherm Gold)

• PIR sheets are 50-100 mm thick with an approximate density of 35 kg/m³. The sheets are supplied in 2.4 m lengths by 1.2 m wide and are manufactured to meet the requirements of AS 1366 Part 3.

Bedding Compound

 Rockcote MultiStop FRP Bedding Compound is a polymer-modified, Portland cement-based thin section jointing plaster supplied in 15 kg bags and mixed on-site with clean drinking water.
 It is applied with a broad knife to the joints of the sheets.

Adhesive Plaster

• Glue Bond Coat Mortar is a polymer-modified, cement-based adhesive plaster. The plaster is supplied in 20 kg bags and is mixed on-site with Resene Construction Systems resin. It is trowel-applied to the back face of the sheets prior to them being applied to the wall.

Base, Levelling and Waterproofing Plasters

A base (mesh) coat is applied using one of the following renders, followed by a subsequent coat of the same render to level the surface.

 Coarse Mesh Render is a polymer-modified, Portland cement-based plaster supplied in 20 kg bags and mixed on-site with clean drinking water. It is applied as the base coat in a minimum 2 mm layer followed by the embedment of fibreglass mesh reinforcement in the outer surface.



- Rockcote PM100 Quick Render is a dry mix, cement-based, polymer-modified plaster supplied in 20 kg bags and mixed on-site with clean water. It is used as a base coat for bonding and bedding the fibreglass mesh and is trowel-applied to an approximate thickness of 4-5 mm.
- Resene Construction Systems RMaxx is a high-yielding, cement-free dispersion based base
 coat plaster supplied in 20 kg pails. It is applied as the base coat in a minimum 1.5 mm layer
 followed by the embedment of fibreglass mesh reinforcement in the outer surface. An additional
 1-1.5 mm is applied to fully encase the mesh.
- HydroPlast is an acrylic dry powder with cement activator, that when mixed with water creates a
 flexible waterproofing render for use over plastered balustrade and fixing blocks. It is supplied in
 10 kg bags and is applied over the levelling render with a trowel in a 1 mm layer followed by the
 embedment of fibreglass mesh reinforcement in the outer surface.

Primer

- Rockcote Render Prime is a water-borne acrylic, polymer dispersion, tintable coating supplied in 15 L pails. It is brush or roller-applied as a primer between the selected base coat and acrylic texture.
- Resene Limelock is a water-borne acrylic, polymer dispersion, tintable coating supplied in 10 L
 pails. It is brush or roller-applied as a primer between the mineral textures and the finishing
 system.

Mineral Texture Coating

 Resene Construction Systems Mineral Texture Coatings are dry mix, cement-based, polymer-modified plasters, supplied in 20 kg bags and mixed on-site with clean water. They are trowel or spray-applied to an approximate thickness of 1-3 mm.

Acrylic Texture Coating

Resene Construction Systems Acrylic Texture Coatings are ready-mixed, tintable, mineral-filled, polymer-based, elastomeric high-build coating with in pail and dry film preservatives, supplied in 15 L pails. They are spray or trowel-applied to an approximate thickness of 0.5-2 mm. The selected Resene Construction Systems texture colour must have a minimum light reflectance value [LRV] of 25%.

uPVC Primer, Plaster Modifier, Waterproofing Plaster and Finishes

- Multistop bedding compound is used as a uPVC primer when mixed with diluted Acrylbond resin or water
- Acrylbond is a water-based co-polymer resin supplied in 4 and 15 L pails, used as a plaster modifier
- Rockcote Lumbersider is a water-borne 100% acrylic-based protective finish for use over Rockcote Textures. It is supplied in 4 and 10 L pails and is brush or roller-applied. The protective finish coat must have a minimum LRV of 25%.
- Resene X200 is an acrylic waterproofing membrane for use as a protective finish over Rockcote
 Textures. It is supplied in 4 and 10 L pails and is brush, roller or spray-applied. The protective
 finish coat must have a minimum LRV of 25%.

Accessories

- Reinforcing mesh alkali-resistant fibreglass mesh with a nominal mesh size of approximately 5×4 mm and a weight of 160 g/m^2 for use in domestic and light commercial situations.
- · uPVC components base caps, corner beads, and horizontal and vertical control joint flashings.
- Hilti IDP Insulation Fastener IDP fasteners with a length to suit the substrate thickness. The IDP fasteners have an integrated 60 mm diameter polypropylene washer and sleeve.
- Sticky Mesh alkali-resistant fibreglass, 150 mm wide corner pieces.
- 4.2 Accessories used with the plaster systems which are supplied by the approved installer are:
 - 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.
 - Adhesive polystyrene compatible adhesive for adhering uPVC components to the sheets, as and where required.

Handling and Storage

- Handling and storage of all materials supplied by Resene Construction Systems or the approved installer, whether on-site or off-site, is under the control of the Resene Construction Systems approved installers. Dry storage must be provided for the fibreglass mesh and bags and pails of plaster mix. Sheets, uPVC flashings and profiles must be protected from direct sunlight and physical damage, and should be stored flat and under cover. Liquid components must be stored in frost-free conditions.
- 5.2 Handling and storage of all materials supplied by the building contractor, whether on-site or off-site, is under the control of the building contractor. Materials must be handled and stored in accordance with the relevant manufacturer's instructions.

Technical Literature

- 6.1 This Appraisal must be read in conjunction with:
 - EPS Masonry Overlay System 40 mm EPS over a Masonry Substrate RMaxx RenderSpec, dated August 2024.
 - EPS Masonry Overlay System 40 mm EPS over a Masonry Substrate Acrylic RenderSpec, dated August 2024.
 - EPS Masonry Overlay System 40 mm EPS over a Masonry Substrate Mineral RenderSpec, dated August 2024.
 - EPS Masonry Overlay System, EPS 40 mm Concrete Block Standard details:
 - Foundation, Sheet 60.02.00, dated 1 November 2017.
 - Foundation Insulated, Sheet 60.02.10, dated 1 November 2017.
 - External Corner, Sheet 60.03.00, dated 1 November 2017.
 - Internal Corner, Sheet 60.04.00, dated 1 November 2017.
 - Window Sill, Sheet 60.05.00, dated 1 November 2017.
 - Window Jamb Option 1, Sheet 60.06.00, dated 1 November 2017.
 - Window Head, Sheet 60.07.00, dated 1 November 2017.
 - Soffit, Sheet 60,08,00, dated 1 November 2017.
 - Roof Apron, Sheet 60.09.00, dated 19 May 2021.
 - Vertical Control Joint Option 1, Sheet 60.10.00, dated 1 November 2017.
- 6.2 BRANZ has assessed the set of core weathertightness and installation details and specifications listed above. Resene Construction Systems has an extensive library of CAD details and specifications for various combinations of foam types, thicknesses and plaster finishes. The designer must select the correct details for their building design and confirm their suitability. Contact Resene Construction Systems for assistance.
- 6.3 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

Solid Substrates

Concrete Masonry

7.1 Concrete masonry must be designed and constructed in accordance with NZS 4210 and either NZS 4229 or NZS 4230. The concrete masonry walls must be fully grouted.

In-situ and Pre-cast Reinforced Concrete

7.2 In-situ and pre-cast reinforced concrete walls must be specifically designed in accordance with NZS 3101 and AS/NZS 1170 using the design guidelines.



General

- 8.1 When the Masonry Overlay System is used for specifically designed buildings up to a differential design ULS wind pressure of 2.5 kPa, only the bond, durability and weathertightness aspects of the sheets, plaster and finishing system 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 A minimum of 28 days must be allowed following placement of the concrete or grout before the installation of the Masonry Overlay System begins. The approved installer must be satisfied that the substrate is sufficiently cured and dry before starting.
- 8.3 The ground clearance to finished floor levels as set out in NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, Table 18 must be adhered to at all times.
- 8.4 Where the system 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.

Electrical Cables

8.5 PVC sheathed electrical cables must be prevented from direct contact with the sheets. When cables must penetrate the sheets for exterior electrical connections, the cable must be directly supported by passing through an electrical conduit.

Control Joints

- 9.1 Control joints in the Masonry Overlay System must be constructed in accordance with the Technical Literature, and be provided as follows:
 - · aligned with any control joint in the solid substrate; and,
 - · where the system covers different solid substrates.

Structure

Impact Resistance

10.1 The system has adequate resistance to hard body impacts likely to be encountered in normal residential use. Where a greater level of impact protection is required, a heavier grade of reinforcing mesh may be used. The heavy-grade fibreglass reinforcing mesh [360 g/m²] embedded in 5 mm thick plaster provides approximately four times the hard body impact strength of the standard grade mesh in 3 mm thick plaster. 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

10.2 The system is suitable for use in all Wind Zones of NZS 3604 up to, and including, Extra High where buildings are within the scope as detailed in Paragraph 2.1, or up to a differential design ULS wind pressure of 2.5 kPa where buildings are specifically designed.

Graphex/EPS/XPS/PIR sheets

10.3 Sheets must be installed in a stretcher bond (brick) pattern. Glue Bond Coat Mortar must be applied to the back face of the panel with a notched trowel. After adhering the sheets to the wall and leaving to set overnight, the panels must be mechanically fixed with the selected anchors at 600 mm horizontal and vertical centres along the panel edges and in the middle of the board.

Durability

11.1 The Masonry Overlay System meets the performance requirements of NZBC Clause B2.3.1 [b] 15 years for the plaster system, and the performance requirements of NZBC Clause B2.3.1 [c] 5 years for the exterior paint system.



Serviceable Life

11.2 The Masonry Overlay System is expected to have a serviceable life of at least 30 years provided it is maintained in accordance with this Appraisal, the sheets, fixings and plasters are continuously protected by a weathertight paint system and remain dry in service and the NZBC external moisture and internal moisture provisions are met.

Maintenance

- 12.1 Regular maintenance is essential for Masonry Overlay System installations to continue to meet the NZBC durability performance provision and to maximise their serviceable life.
- 12.2 Annual inspections must be made to ensure that all aspects of the cladding system, including the paint coating system, plaster, flashings and any sealed joints remain in a weatherproof condition. Any cracks, damaged areas or areas showing signs of deterioration which would allow water ingress, must be repaired immediately. Sealant, paint coatings and the like must be repaired in accordance with the sealant or Resene Construction Systems instructions.
- 12.3 Regular cleaning (at least annually) of the Masonry Overlay System is recommended to remove grime, dirt and organic growth, to maximise the life and appearance of the coating. Grime may be removed by brushing with a soft brush, warm water and detergent.
- 12.4 Recoating of the paint system will be necessary throughout the life of the plaster system. The interval between recoats depends on the paint colour, orientation and quality of the application, and will be at approximately 8-10 yearly intervals in accordance with the instructions of Resene Construction Systems.

Prevention of Fire Occurring

13.1 Separation or protection must be provided to the Masonry Overlay System from heat sources such as fire places, heating appliances, flues 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 Internal Fire and Smoke Spread

- 14.1 The Masonry Overlay System includes Graphex/EPS/XPS/PIR sheets, which are combustible insulants. When used on walls, the insulation, including any surface lining product enclosing the insulation from the adjacent occupied space, must achieve the Group Number for internal surface finish requirements as specified in NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS1, Paragraph 4.2.2.1 or NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS2, Paragraph 4.17.2 and Table 4.3.
- 14.2 The Graphex/EPS/XPS/PIR sheets used with the system must meet the flame propagation criteria of AS 1366 as specified in NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS1, Paragraph 4.2.2 or NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS2, Paragraph 4.17.2.

Control of External Fire Spread

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

Vertical Fire Spread

15.2 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 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

15.3 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

- 15.4 The Masonry Overlay System comprising Graphex or XTherm Gold [PIR] sheets, mineral base coat with mineral texture finish, Resene Limelock, and Resene Lumbersider or Resene X200 painted finish achieves a Type A classification suitable for use on external walls in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solutions C/AS1, Table 5.3.1.1 and NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS2, Section 5.8.
- 15.5 The Masonry Overlay System comprising EPS sheet, mineral base coat with mineral texture finish, Resene Limelock, and Resene Lumbersider or Resene X200 painted finish coat achieves a Type B classification suitable for use on external walls in accordance with NZBC Acceptable Solutions C/AS1, Table 5.3.1.1 and NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS2, Section 5.8.

External Moisture

- 16.1 Masonry Overlay System installations, when installed and maintained in accordance with this Appraisal and the Technical Literature, will contribute to the building meeting code compliance with NZBC Clause E2.3.2 by providing a weatherproof coating system to the substrate.
- The weathertightness detailing of junctions between the Masonry Overlay System and wall penetrations, e.g. window and door joinery, meter boxes, and other cladding and roofing junctions are the responsibility of the designer for compliance with the NZBC. Details not included within the Technical Literature have not been assessed and are outside the scope of this Appraisal.

Installation Information

Installation Skill Level Requirement

- 17.1 Installation and finishing of components and accessories supplied by Resene Construction Systems and its approved installers must be completed by trained installers, approved by Resene Construction Systems.
- 17.2 Installation of the accessories supplied by the building contractor must be carried out in accordance with the Masonry Overlay System Technical Literature and this Appraisal by, or under the supervision of, a Licensed Building Practitioner (LBP) with the relevant License Class.

System Installation

Masonry Overlay System

- 18.1 Components and accessories supplied by Resene Construction Systems and the approved installer must be installed in accordance with the Technical Literature by Resene Construction Systems approved installers.
- 18.2 The Masonry Overlay System must only be applied when the air and substrate temperature is within the range of 5° C to 30° C.

Inspections

18.3 The Technical Literature must be referred to during the inspection of Masonry Overlay System installations.

Finishing

18.4 The paint manufacturer's instructions must be followed at all times for application of the paint finish. The plaster must be cured for a minimum of 2-3 days and must be dry before commencing painting.

Health and Safety

19.1 Safe use and handling procedures for the components that make up the Masonry Overlay 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

- 20.1 The following testing has been completed by BRANZ:
 - Tensile bond strength of the Masonry Overlay System to concrete masonry.
 - The Masonry Overlay System comprising Graphex or XTherm Gold [PIR] sheet, mineral base coat, mineral texture, Resene Limelock and Resene Lumbersider or Resene X200 painted finish has been tested in accordance with ISO 5660 and achieved a Type A classification. Testing was carried out as per NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS1, Appendix E, Section E.5.1 and NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS2, Appendix C, Section C7.1.
 - The Masonry Overlay System comprising EPS sheet, mineral base coat with mineral texture finish, Resene Limelock, and Resene Lumbersider or Resene X200 painted finish coat has been tested in accordance with ISO 5660 and achieved a Type B classification. Testing was carried out as per NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS1, Appendix E, Section E.5.1 and NZBC Acceptable Solution C/AS2, Appendix C, Section C7.1.

Other Investigations

- 21.1 BRANZ expert opinion on NZBC Clause B1 code compliance for the Masonry Overlay System was based on the tensile adhesion strength of the Glue Bond Coat Mortar. Using the data from this testing, the characteristic strength of the glue bond was calculated using the BRANZ EM1 method. By factoring in a strength reduction factor, the maximum resistance of the glue bond was determined. By comparing the resistance of the glue bond with the demand wind pressures using the NZS 3604 stipulated wind speeds and AS/NZS 1170 pressure coefficients, an opinion was given by BRANZ technical experts that determined the suitability of the cladding system for use in the relevant NZS 3604 Wind Zones and specific design wind pressures.
- 21.2 A durability opinion has been given by BRANZ technical experts.
- 21.3 Site inspections have been carried out by BRANZ to assess the practicability of installation, and to examine completed installations.
- 21.4 The Technical Literature for the Masonry Overlay System has been examined by BRANZ and found to be satisfactory.

Ouality

- 22.1 The manufacture of the plasters and finishes 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.
- 22.2 The quality of materials, components and accessories supplied by Resene Construction Systems is the responsibility of Resene Construction Systems.
- 22.3 Quality on-site is the responsibility of the Resene Construction Systems approved installers.
- 22.4 Designers are responsible for the building design, and building contractors are responsible for the quality of installation of solid substrates, joinery, flashing tapes, air seals and joinery flashings in accordance with the instructions of the building designer.
- 22.5 Building owners are responsible for the maintenance of the Masonry Overlay System in accordance with the instructions of Resene Construction Systems.



Sources of Information

- AS 1366:1992 Rigid cellular plastics sheets for thermal insulation.
- AS/NZS 1170:2002 Structural design action General principles.
- NZS 3101:1995 Concrete structures standard.
- NZS 4210:2001 Masonry construction: Materials and workmanship.
- NZS 4214:2006 Methods of determining the total thermal resistance of parts of buildings.
- NZS 4229:1999 Concrete masonry buildings not requiring specific engineering design.
- NZS 4230:2004 Design of reinforced concrete masonry structures.
- Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment Record of amendments Acceptable Solutions, Verification Methods and handbooks.
- The Building Regulations 1992.





In the opinion of BRANZ, Masonry Overlay System 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 Rockcote Resene Ltd T/A Resene Construction Systems, 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. Rockcote Resene Ltd T/A Resene Construction Systems:
 - 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 Rockcote Resene Ltd T/A Resene Construction Systems.
- 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 Rockcote Resene Ltd T/A Resene Construction Systems or any third party.

For BRANZ

Claire Falck

Chief Executive

Date of Issue:

01 October 2024