



# Webinar

## H1 Calculation method

# Outline for the webinar



Updated H1/AS1 calculation method – requirements and format

Christian Hoerning  
MBIE

Using the BRANZ H1 calculation method tool

Andrew Pollard  
BRANZ

BRANZ *House insulation guide* (6th edition)

Ian Cox-Smith  
BRANZ

A more complex H1 calculation method example

Andrew Pollard  
BRANZ

Questions and answers

All

# Updated H1/AS1 Calculation Method for housing and small buildings



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(MBIE)

# Five new H1 Energy Efficiency AS and VMs



**H1/AS1**  
5<sup>th</sup> edition  
Amd 1

**All housing**  
**Small buildings up to 300m<sup>2</sup>** (Communal residential, communal non-residential and commercial buildings)



**H1/VM1**  
5<sup>th</sup> edition  
Amd 1

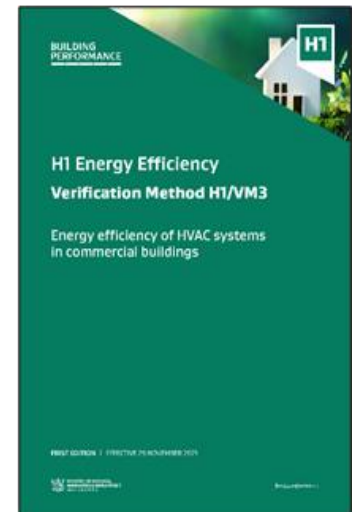


**H1/AS2**

**Large buildings over 300m<sup>2</sup>**  
(Communal residential, communal non-residential and commercial buildings)



**H1/VM2**



**H1/VM3**

**HVAC systems**  
in commercial buildings

# Transition period for housing

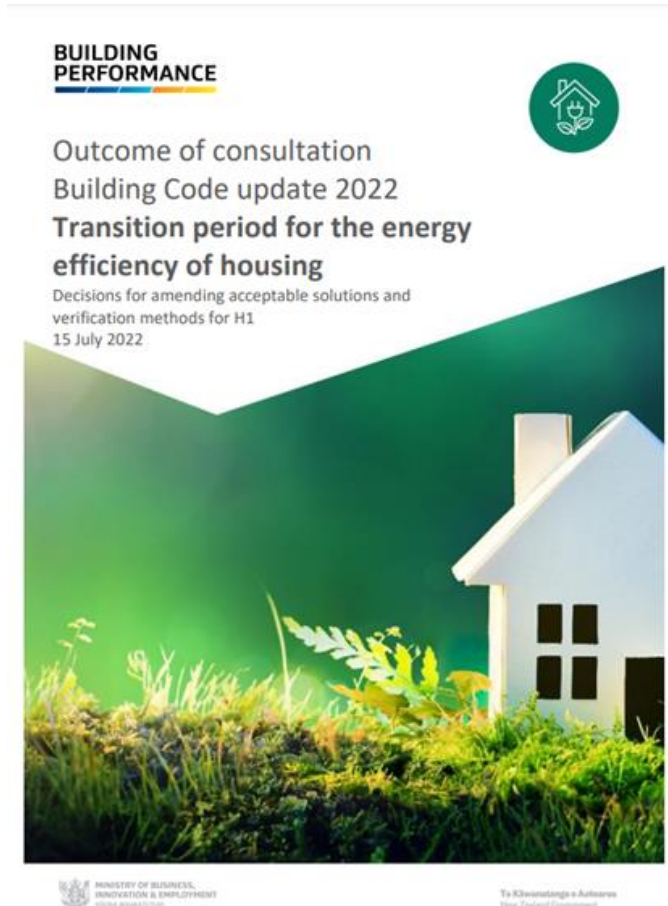
Extended transition for housing:

- Window, door and skylight R-values start staged implementation from 3 November 2022
- Transition to new wall, floor and roof R-values extended to 1 May 2023
- Only new 5<sup>th</sup> edition H1/AS1 and H1/VM1 documents to be used from 3 November 2022 (4<sup>th</sup> editions archived)



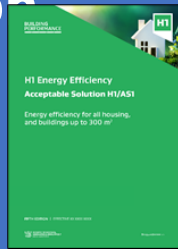
# Transition period for other buildings

- For commercial, communal residential and communal non-residential buildings transition remains unchanged
- Higher R-values from 3 November 2022
- Irrespective of building size



# Compliance methods

## Acceptable Solution H1/AS1 5<sup>th</sup> edition



### **Schedule Method**

tabulated minimum R-values for roof, walls, floor, windows, doors and skylights

### **Calculation Method**

Simplified comparison methodology that permits different insulation combinations for roof, walls, floor, windows, doors and skylights

## Verification Method H1/VM1 5<sup>th</sup> edition



### **Modelling Method**

complex comparison methodology that permits different insulation combinations for roof, walls, floor, windows, doors and skylights

Based on computer building energy modelling

## Alternative Solution

Also able to demonstrate compliance using an alternative solution



# When to consider the H1/AS1 Calculation Method

## 1. For designs that:

- exceed the Schedule Method limits for the glazing area, skylight area or opaque door area  
AND
- are within the 40% glazing area limit of the Calculation Method.

### 2.1.2 Schedule method

2.1.2.1 The schedule method shall only be used where:

2.1.3.2 The calculation method shall only be used where the *glazing area* is 40% or less of the *total wall area*.

b) The combined glazing area on the east, south, and west facing walls (refer to [Appendix C](#)) is 30% or less of the combined total area of these walls; and

c) The *skylight area* is no more than 1.5 m<sup>2</sup> or 1.5% of the *total roof area* (whichever is greater);

d) The *opaque door area* is no more than 6 m<sup>2</sup> or 6% of the *total wall area* (whichever is greater).



# When to consider the H1/AS1 Calculation Method

- For designs where achieving the Schedule Method minimum R-values is difficult or uneconomical (e.g. skillion roofs); or where the R-value of some elements is unknown.

Building element	Construction R-values (m <sup>2</sup> ·K/W) <sup>(1)</sup>					
	Climate zone 1	Climate zone 2	Climate zone 3	Climate zone 4	Climate zone 5	Climate zone 6
Roof <sup>(2)</sup>	R6.6	R6.6	R6.6	R6.6	R6.6	R6.6
Wall	R2.0	R2.0	R2.0	R2.0	R2.0	R2.0
Floor						
Slab-on-ground floors	R1.5	R1.5	R1.5	R1.5	R1.6	R1.7
Floors other than slab-on-ground	R2.5	R2.5	R2.5	R2.8	R3.0	R3.0
Windows and doors <sup>(3)</sup>	R0.46 <sup>(3)</sup>	R0.46 <sup>(3)</sup>	R0.46	R0.46	R0.50	R0.50
Skylights	R0.46	R0.46	R0.54	R0.54	R0.62	R0.62

# How does the calculation method work?



## **Proposed building:**

- Proposed R-values
- Proposed glazing area  
(up to 40% of total wall area)



## **Reference building:**

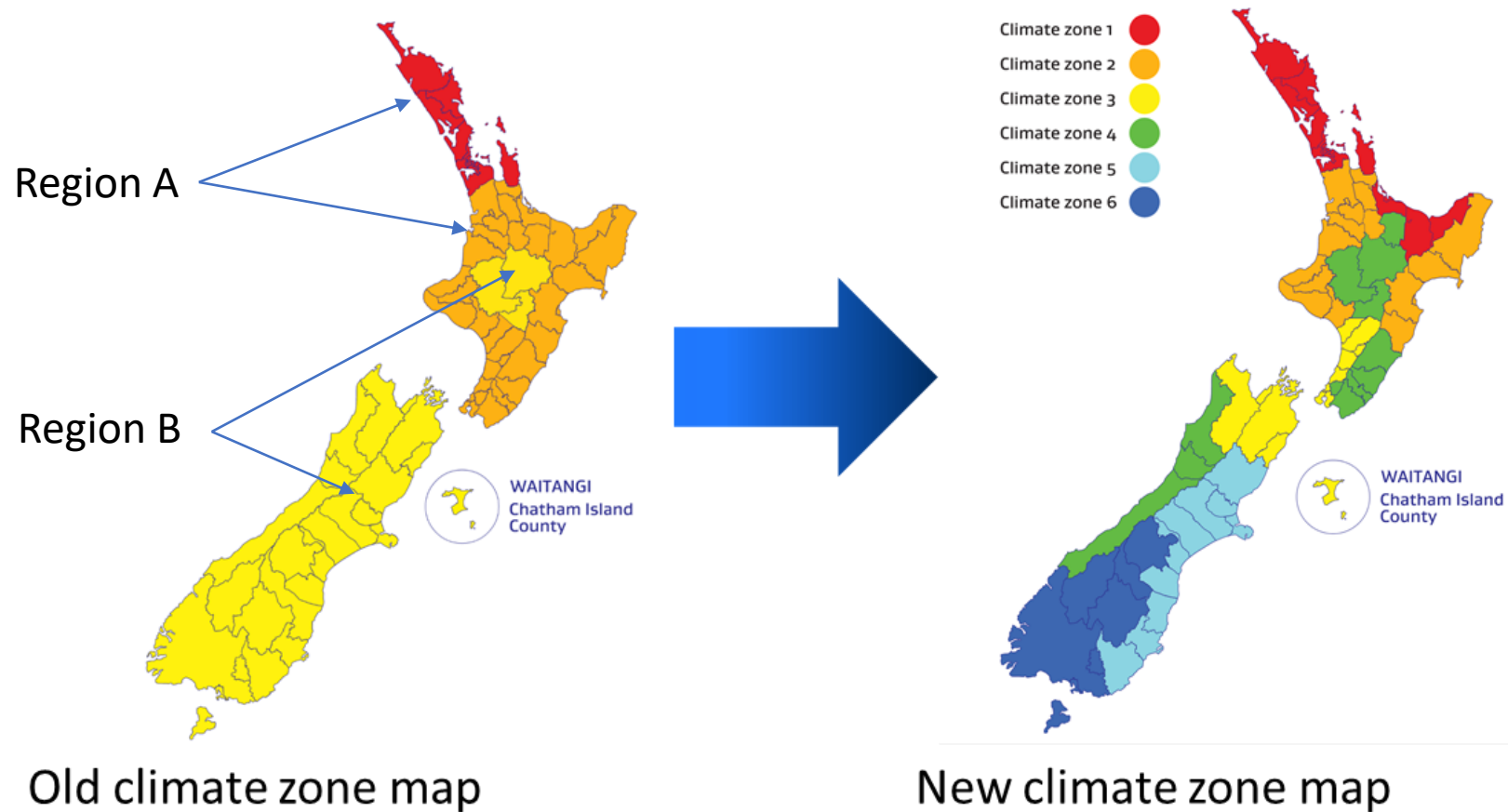
- Schedule method R-values
- Identical building element areas but combined window and door area adjusted to 30%
- No skylights

# Reference building heat loss equations

**For housing only where building consent applications are submitted before 1 May 2023**

Location	Reference building heat loss equation <sup>(1)</sup>
Region A <sup>(2)</sup>	$HL_{\text{Reference}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}} + A_{\text{skylight}}}{2.9} + \frac{A_{\text{70\% of the total wall area}}}{1.9} + \frac{A_{\text{slab-on-ground floor}}}{1.3} + \frac{A_{\text{other floor}}}{1.3} + \frac{A_{\text{30\% of total wall area}}}{0.37}$
Region B <sup>(3)</sup>	$HL_{\text{Reference}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}} + A_{\text{skylight}}}{3.3} + \frac{A_{\text{70\% of the total wall area}}}{2.0} + \frac{A_{\text{slab-on-ground floor}}}{1.3} + \frac{A_{\text{other floor}}}{1.3} + \frac{A_{\text{30\% of total wall area}}}{0.37}$

# Climate zones



# Reference building heat loss equations

Before  
2 November  
2023

Climate zone <sup>(1)</sup>	Reference building heat loss equation <sup>(3)</sup>
1 and 2 <sup>(2)</sup>	$HL_{\text{Reference}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}} + A_{\text{skylight}}}{6.6} + \frac{A_{\text{70\% of the total wall area}}}{2.0} + \frac{A_{\text{slab-on-ground floor}}}{1.5} + \frac{A_{\text{other floor}}}{2.5} + \frac{A_{\text{30\% of total wall area}}}{0.37}$
3	$HL_{\text{Reference}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}} + A_{\text{skylight}}}{6.6} + \frac{A_{\text{70\% of the total wall area}}}{2.0} + \frac{A_{\text{slab-on-ground floor}}}{1.5} + \frac{A_{\text{other floor}}}{2.5} + \frac{A_{\text{30\% of total wall area}}}{0.46}$
4	$HL_{\text{Reference}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}} + A_{\text{skylight}}}{6.6} + \frac{A_{\text{70\% of the total wall area}}}{2.0} + \frac{A_{\text{slab-on-ground floor}}}{1.5} + \frac{A_{\text{other floor}}}{2.8} + \frac{A_{\text{30\% of total wall area}}}{0.46}$
5	$HL_{\text{Reference}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}} + A_{\text{skylight}}}{6.6} + \frac{A_{\text{70\% of the total wall area}}}{2.0} + \frac{A_{\text{slab-on-ground floor}}}{1.6} + \frac{A_{\text{other floor}}}{3.0} + \frac{A_{\text{30\% of total wall area}}}{0.50}$
6	$HL_{\text{Reference}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}} + A_{\text{skylight}}}{6.6} + \frac{A_{\text{70\% of the total wall area}}}{2.0} + \frac{A_{\text{slab-on-ground floor}}}{1.7} + \frac{A_{\text{other floor}}}{3.0} + \frac{A_{\text{30\% of total wall area}}}{0.50}$

# Reference building heat loss equations

From  
2 November  
2023

Climate zone <sup>(1)</sup>	Reference building heat loss equation <sup>(3)</sup>
1 and 2 <sup>(2)</sup>	$HL_{\text{Reference}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}} + A_{\text{skylight}}}{6.6} + \frac{A_{\text{70\% of the total wall area}}}{2.0} + \frac{A_{\text{slab-on-ground floor}}}{1.5} + \frac{A_{\text{other floor}}}{2.5} + \frac{A_{\text{30\% of total wall area}}}{0.46}$
3	$HL_{\text{Reference}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}} + A_{\text{skylight}}}{6.6} + \frac{A_{\text{70\% of the total wall area}}}{2.0} + \frac{A_{\text{slab-on-ground floor}}}{1.5} + \frac{A_{\text{other floor}}}{2.5} + \frac{A_{\text{30\% of total wall area}}}{0.46}$
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5	$HL_{\text{Reference}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}} + A_{\text{skylight}}}{6.6} + \frac{A_{\text{70\% of the total wall area}}}{2.0} + \frac{A_{\text{slab-on-ground floor}}}{1.6} + \frac{A_{\text{other floor}}}{3.0} + \frac{A_{\text{30\% of total wall area}}}{0.50}$
6	$HL_{\text{Reference}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}} + A_{\text{skylight}}}{6.6} + \frac{A_{\text{70\% of the total wall area}}}{2.0} + \frac{A_{\text{slab-on-ground floor}}}{1.7} + \frac{A_{\text{other floor}}}{3.0} + \frac{A_{\text{30\% of total wall area}}}{0.50}$



# Proposed building heat loss equation



**Proposed building:**

$$HL_{\text{Proposed}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}}}{R_{\text{roof}}} + \frac{A_{\text{wall}}}{R_{\text{wall}}} + \frac{A_{\text{floor}}}{R_{\text{floor}}} + \frac{A_{\text{glazing}}}{R_{\text{window}}} + \frac{A_{\text{door, opaque}}}{R_{\text{door, opaque}}} + \frac{A_{\text{skylight}}}{R_{\text{skylight}}}$$

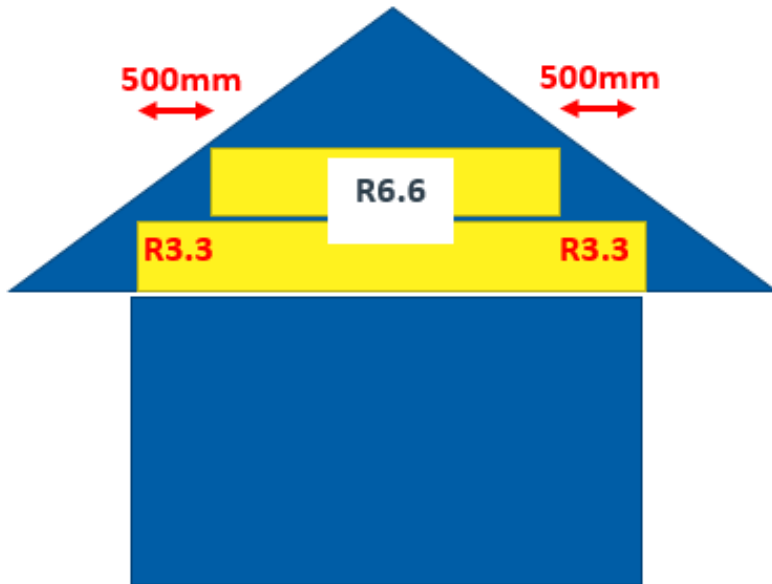
$$\frac{A_{\text{wall}}}{R_{\text{wall}}} \text{ becomes } \frac{A_{\text{wall}(1)}}{R_{\text{wall}(1)}} + \frac{A_{\text{wall}(2)}}{R_{\text{wall}(2)}}$$

# Some limits on R-value flexibility

1. Roof, wall and floor R-values in the proposed building must not be less than 50% of the corresponding reference building R-values (= Schedule method R-values)

2.1.3.8 The *construction R-value* in the proposed *building* for *roofs*, walls, and floors, that form part of the *building thermal envelope* shall be at least 50% of the *construction R-value* of the corresponding *building element* in the reference *building equation*.

# Reducing roof R-value along perimeter



$$HL_{\text{Proposed}} = \frac{A_{\text{roof}}}{R_{\text{roof}}} + \frac{A_{\text{wall}}}{R_{\text{wall}}} + \frac{A_{\text{floor}}}{R_{\text{floor}}} + \frac{A_{\text{glazing}}}{R_{\text{window}}} + \frac{A_{\text{door, opaque}}}{R_{\text{door, opaque}}} + \frac{A_{\text{skylight}}}{R_{\text{skylight}}}$$

$$\frac{A_{\text{roof, centre}}}{R_{\text{roof, centre}}} + \frac{A_{\text{roof, perimeter}}}{R_{\text{roof, perimeter}}}$$

Roof R-value cannot be reduced below R3.3!  
(=50% of R6.6 reference building roof R-value)

This includes the ceiling perimeter!

# Some limits on R-value flexibility

2. For building elements with embedded heating, the following minimum construction R-values apply and cannot be reduced with the Calculation method.

- (5) For **housing** only, for *building consent* applications submitted before 1 May 2023, the minimum *construction R-value* for heated ceilings in all climate zones is permitted to be reduced to R3.5.
- (6) For **housing** only, for *building consent* applications submitted before 1 May 2023, the minimum *construction R-value* for heated walls in all climate zones is permitted to be reduced to R2.6.
- (7) For **housing** only, for *building consent* applications submitted before 1 May 2023, the minimum *construction R-value* for heated floors in all climate zones is permitted to be reduced to R1.9.

# Some limits on R-value flexibility

3. For housing and communal-residential buildings, wall and roof construction R-values in the proposed building cannot be less than the R-values required to comply with Building Code clause E3 Internal Moisture.

## 1.1 Thermal resistance

1.1.1 *R-values* for walls, roofs and ceilings shall be no less than:

- a) For light timber frame wall or other framed wall *constructions* with cavities, 1.5.
- b) For single skin normal weight masonry based wall *construction* without a cavity, 0.6.
- c) For solid timber wall systems no less than 60 mm thick, 0.6.
- d) For roof or ceilings of any *construction*, 1.5.

Acceptable Solution E3/AS1

# Helpful calculation method tools

Two free ones are:

1. The BRANZ H1 Calculation method tool -  
<https://www.branz.co.nz/energy-efficiency/h1-calculation-method-tool/>
2. The New Zealand Green Building Council's H1 Calculator -  
<https://nzgbc.h1calculator.org.nz/>

The BRANZ House Insulation Guide (6<sup>th</sup> edition) provides construction R-values for many common wall, floor and roof systems.



# Determining window and door R-values

## New generic window R-value table

in H1/AS1 Appendix E – for housing only!

Replaces outdated tables from NZS 4218

**TABLE E.1.1.1:** Construction R-values ( $R_{\text{Window}}$ ) of selected generic vertical windows and doors

[Paragraph E.1.1.1 a\)](#)

Type of glazing	$U_g^{(1)}$	Spacer type <sup>(2)</sup>	Example IGU <sup>(3), (4)</sup> (informative)	$R_{\text{Window}}$ ( $\text{m}^2\cdot\text{K}/\text{W}$ ) for different frames			
				Aluminium frame	Thermally broken aluminium frame	uPVC frame	Timber frame
Double pane	2.63	Aluminium	Glass: Clear/Clear Gas: Air	R0.26	R0.32	R0.40	R0.44
	1.90	Aluminium	Glass: Low $E_g$ /Clear Gas: Argon	R0.30	R0.39	R0.50	R0.56
	1.60	Thermally improved	Glass: Low $E_g$ /Clear Gas: Argon	R0.33	R0.42	R0.56	R0.63
	1.30	Thermally improved	Glass: Low $E_g$ /Clear Gas: Argon	R0.35	R0.46	R0.63	R0.71
	1.10	Thermally improved	Glass: Low $E_g$ /Clear Gas: Argon	R0.37	R0.50	R0.69	R0.77
	0.90	Thermally improved	Glass: Low $E_g$ /Clear Gas: Krypton	R0.40	R0.54	R0.76	R0.85
Triple pane	1.80	Thermally improved	Glass: Clear/Clear/Clear		R0.38	R0.50	R0.56

# Determining slab-on-ground floor R-values



"Concrete slab-on-ground floors are deemed to achieve a minimum construction *R-value* of 1.3, unless a higher *R-value* is justified by calculation or physical testing".

**\* For housing this continues to be permitted until 30 April 2023**

# Determining slab-on-ground floor R-values

- New generic tables in H1/AS1 Appendix F
- Finite-element modelling as per H1/VM1 Appendix F

**Table F.1.2.2D:** Construction R-values for concrete raft foundation floors with R1.0 vertical edge insulation, where the external walls do not have masonry veneer cladding

[Paragraph F.1.2.2 d\)](#)

Insulation type	Slab area-to-perimeter ratio <sup>(1)</sup>	R <sub>floor</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> ·K/W) for different effective thicknesses of external walls on slab <sup>(2)</sup>				
		≥ 90 mm to < 140 mm	≥ 140 mm to < 180 mm	≥ 180 mm to < 250 mm	≥ 250 mm to < 300 mm	≥ 300 mm
R1.0 vertical edge insulation <sup>(3)</sup>	1.6	R1.3	R1.3	R1.3	R1.3	R1.3
	1.8	R1.4	R1.4	R1.4	R1.4	R1.4
	2.0	R1.5	R1.5	R1.5	R1.6	R1.6
	2.2	R1.5	R1.5	R1.6	R1.6	R1.6
	2.4	R1.6	R1.6	R1.7	R1.7	R1.7
	2.6	R1.7	R1.8	R1.8	R1.8	R1.8
	2.8	R1.8	R1.8	R1.8	R1.8	R1.9
	3.0	R1.9	R1.9	R1.9	R1.9	R2.0
	3.2	R2.0	R2.0	R2.0	R2.0	R2.1
	3.4	R2.0	R2.0	R2.1	R2.1	R2.1
	3.6	R2.1	R2.1	R2.1	R2.2	R2.2
	3.8	R2.2	R2.2	R2.2	R2.3	R2.3
	4.0	R2.3	R2.3	R2.3	R2.3	R2.4
	5.0	R2.6	R2.7	R2.7	R2.7	R2.8
	6.0	R3.0	R3.1	R3.1	R3.1	R3.2
	7.0	R3.4	R3.4	R3.5	R3.5	R3.6
	8.0	R3.8	R3.8	R3.9	R3.9	R4.0
	9.0	R4.2	R4.2	R4.3	R4.3	R4.4
	≥ 10.0	R4.6	R4.6	R4.7	R4.8	R4.8

**Notes:**

(1) The slab area-to-perimeter ratio shall be determined in accordance with Paragraphs F.1.2.3 and F.1.2.4. Where the slab area-to-perimeter

# Summary

- From 3 November, the 4<sup>th</sup> edition H1/AS1 and VM1 can no longer be used
- For housing only, 5<sup>th</sup> edition H1/AS1 and VM1 include extended transition to higher wall, floor and roof R-values. Windows, doors, skylights increase immediately
- Calculation method provides greater flexibility than Schedule method
- 40% glazing area limit
- 50% R-value reduction limit for walls, floors, roofs
- Heated floors/walls/ceilings have minimum R-values that cannot be reduced
- Methods for determining window, door, skylight and concrete floor R-values change



# Webinar

## H1 Calculation method

Q&A