

		Doc Ref	TS-03-Customer Information Smoke Alarm Installation in Homes Customer Information-4
		Date	12/09/2007

SMOKE ALARM INSTALLATION IN HOMES

Alterations to buildings require an upgrade (to the latest standards) to the fire egress of the building.

All new houses and all existing houses undergoing alterations are now required to have smoke alarms installed.

The applicable Compliance Document (Acceptable Solution) to the Building Code is F7/AS1 – Warning Systems.

Summary of Requirements

- Smoke alarms may be battery powered and are not required to be interconnected in addition they shall be provided with a hush facility having a minimum duration of 60 seconds.
- Smoke alarms shall have a test facility located on the smoke alarm (readily accessible to building occupants).
- Smoke alarms shall be listed or approved by a recognized authority as complying with a least one of: UL 217, I:C S531, AS 3786, BS 5446 Part 1.

Smoke alarm location

On levels containing the sleeping spaces, the smoke alarms shall be located either:

- (a) In every sleeping space, *or*
- (b) Within 3.0 m of every sleeping space door.

Plus

- (a) Additional smoke alarm must be located in each space that must be passed through to get a safe space (outside)
- (b) There must be at least one smoke alarm on each level within the household unit.
- (c) Smoke alarms must be audible to sleeping occupants through closed doors.
- (d) Sleep outs are a part of the household unit, so must be included in any provision of smoke alarms.
- (e) Smoke alarms shall be installed on or near the ceiling in accordance with AS 1670.6 and the manufacturer's instructions.

Recommended maintenance procedures are:

- (a) In-situ annual cleaning with a vacuum cleaner (no disassembly of smoke alarm).
- (b) Monthly testing by use of the smoke alarm's test facility.