

2026 CONFERENCE

29-30 JULY 2026

TOWN HALL • CHRISTCHURCH

Building **CONFIDENCE**
Through **COMPETENCY**

Real **COMPETENCY**

Confidence through **EXPERTISE**

Compliance for **SAFETY**

TRUST you can **BUILD ON**



ONE DIRECTION, ONE TEAM
- HE WAKA EKE NOA

REGISTRATION BROCHURE





FUTURE SKILLS –
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ABC CONFERENCE 2026



Join us for an industry-leading event!

In a time when public safety, liability, and trust are under greater scrutiny than ever, genuine competency has become essential.

This conference unites industry leaders, regulators, educators, and practitioners to explore how technical excellence, regulatory compliance, and professional accountability come together to strengthen confidence — in our systems, our buildings, and the people who support them.



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WHY ATTEND?

- ▶ **COLLABORATE:** Network with industry peers and share knowledge, best practices, and innovative solutions.
- ▶ **LEARN:** Gain insights from expert speakers on the latest technology, trends and regulations in BWOF compliance.
- ▶ **STANDARDISE:** Join the movement towards unified compliance standards, legislation, and a single registration system that streamlines processes and promotes consistency across the industry.
- ▶ **IMPROVE:** Participate in workshops sessions designed to elevate your skills and knowledge.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:** Hear from leading figures in the industry who will share their expertise and vision for a unified compliance framework.
- ▶ **PANEL DISCUSSIONS:** Engage in dynamic conversations about the challenges and opportunities in standardising compliance laws.
- ▶ **WORKSHOPS:** Take part in hands-on sessions that offer practical tools and strategies for achieving compliance excellence.
- ▶ **NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES:** Connect with IQPs, councils, and other stakeholders to build lasting professional relationships.

ASSOCIATION OF BUILDING COMPLIANCE




Established in 1998, the Association of Building Compliance (ABC) is the only IQP representative body in New Zealand. ABC's membership includes Independently Qualified Persons (IQPs), Council Staff and Compliance Managers etc.

ABC provides members with support, information and training by industry experts in Building Compliance matters.



The Association of Building Compliance would like to thank the following partners for their support



Lift and Electrical Services Limited

PLATINUM PARTNER



Building & Compliance | Fire
Whakanoa ngā whare | Te Ahi

DIAMOND PARTNER





Assuring fire protection



GOLD PARTNERS



SILVER PARTNER



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HYBRID CONFERENCE HUB

In 2026 we are delighted to offer this multi layer Hybrid Conference Hub which includes a Conference and Exhibition Portal and a Conference App

Hybrid Conference Hub 2026 – YOUR HOME FOR EVERYTHING

- 1. Hybrid Hub:** a one stop shop for advertising your company. It has a revolving banner for all the sponsors and exhibitors, links to company website and the ability to chat with attendees.
- 2. Online Conference:** this enables people that cannot travel to the conference to get the same experience as those that attend, by having the conference live streamed and recorded for all those that registered, to view at a later time.
- 3. Virtual Exhibition Stand:** this allows the exhibitors to show products online with links directly to their company website and/or brochures. It also allows for a chat option if the attendee wishes to engage with a person on the stand.
- 4. Enhanced attendee experience:** our Hub provides a user-friendly interface that allows attendees (both physically and virtually) to easily navigate through our Event Schedule, Access Sessions, and create a personalised diary. It enhances your overall experience by providing a centralised platform for ALL conference-related information both prior, during and post the event.
- 5. Real time updates:** with this Hub, attendees (both physically and virtually) can receive real-time updates about any changes in the schedule, speaker lineup or specific venue information. This ensures that attendees are always up-to-date, and can plan their conference experience with confidence.
- 6. Networking opportunities:** this Hub facilitates networking among attendees by providing features like attendee profiles, direct messaging, and virtual meeting schedules. It enables like-minded professionals to connect, exchange ideas and build compliance space relationships.
- 7. Interactive features:** our Hub offers interactive features like Live Polling, Q&A Sessions, and audience feedback. These features encourage and promote participation from all involved – making for an engaging, inclusive interaction, promoting growth of knowledge bases.
- 8. Personalised content:** this Hybrid Conference Hub offers attendees to personalise their conference experience by individually selecting sessions of interest, setting reminders, and accessing relevant resources relating to each speaker or topic. This enables participants to focus on topics that are most relevant to them.
- 9. Sustainability and cost-effectiveness:** by utilising this conference app, we can all reduce the need for printed material such as brochures, schedules, handouts and carry bags. This not only contributes to environmental sustainability, but also helps in reducing costs associated with delivering a conference of this nature.

In Summary:

This Conference App offers a multi-layered, comprehensive solution to enhance the attendee experience, streamline event management and foster good healthy networking opportunities within the Building Compliance Framework.

It brings numerous benefits to both organisers and attendees, making this Conference an essential booking in your calendar.



MODERNISATIONS



MAINTENANCE



REPAIRS



COMPLIANCE

Our Commitment

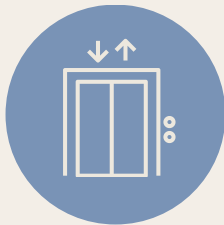
We are committed to offering reliable, high quality services to meet the needs of our commercial and residential customers.

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OUR SERVICES



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10 Abbey Street, Auckland

General Information

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ Following the conference, all registered attendees will be able to download a CPD attendance certificate from their ABC Profile page on our website.

WEBSITE

- ▶ Information pertaining to the Conference and Exhibition, including hotels, exhibitor prospectus, delegate brochure and any updates to the conference programme, will be uploaded to the ABC Website – www.abciqp.org.nz

EXHIBITION

- ▶ The Conference also hosts exhibition space. This year the exhibition area will be hosted in the Main Foyer located on the ground floor of the Christchurch Town Hall.

Visitors are able to visit the exhibition for FREE from 8.30am to 5.00pm on Wednesday 29 July and from 8.30am to 3.30pm on Thursday 30th July.

If you can't get to the conference itself, you are more than welcome to pop in and visit the exhibition.

PROMOTION

- ▶ The conference and exhibition will be promoted throughout New Zealand by extensive distribution of the conference registration brochure, newsletters, website and direct mail to all IQPs in our IQP database, members and other organisations and territorial authorities with an interest in building compliance.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ There are a number of sponsorship opportunities available if you wish to promote your company throughout the conference. We would be happy to discuss these options with you. Please contact our Business Development and Administration Manager by phone on **021 273 2707** or email admin@abciqp.org.nz

ARGEST Building & Compliance | Fire Whakanoa ngā whare | Te Ahi



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- Remediation Management
- Contractor Management
- Compliance Schedule Updates

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- Assistance with Building Consent & COA Applications
- Comprehensive Compliance Gap Assessments
- Post Construction & Fit-Out Compliance Audits
- Fire Alarm Upgrade Programme Management

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- New Sprinkler & Fire Alarm Inspections

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Argest Fire holds IANZ accreditation for:

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- Installation and commissioning inspections of fire alarm systems in compliance with NZS 4512



Contact Argest for compliance designed for Facility Managers on **0800 ARGEST (0800 274 378)**

www.argest.com



General Information

Master of Ceremonies

Lyall Senior

He's back again! The one and only Lyall Senior returns as our Master of Ceremonies for another year.



After a standout performance last year, we didn't have to ask twice – Lyall was more than keen to come back. His natural humour, quick wit, and engaging style ensure the conference runs smoothly while keeping the audience entertained and involved throughout.

Now a seasoned MC, Lyall has hosted numerous conferences (with zero heckling and no flying fruit to report), bringing confidence, energy, and a great sense of timing to every event he leads.

Outside of the MC spotlight, Lyall is highly respected in the vertical transportation industry. With over 22 years providing independent advice and consultancy to building owners and property managers, alongside more than two decades with a multinational lift company, his depth of knowledge in lifts and escalators is second to none.

We're delighted to have Lyall back on board to guide us through another fantastic conference.

With an established reputation for service, quality and our pioneering spirit, we are committed to New Zealand businesses by providing industry-leading fire protection and risk management solutions to guarantee absolute peace of mind; today and into the future.

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Email: advantage@advantagedoors.co.nz

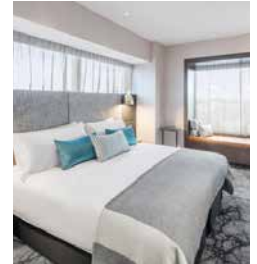


Accommodation

CROWNE PLAZA CHRISTCHURCH

▶ **764 Colombo Street, Christchurch City Central.**

Located in Central Christchurch just minutes from CBD dining, shopping and entertainment, Crowne Plaza Christchurch offers modern accommodation and dining options for the business or leisure traveller. Overlooking historic Victoria Square and the iconic Avon River, Crowne Plaza offers the best views the Garden City has to offer. Our state of the art technology will have you fully connected, with Bluetooth and Wi-Fi streaming, bathroom speakers and controls and plenty of USB ports for your devices. [Click here to book](#)

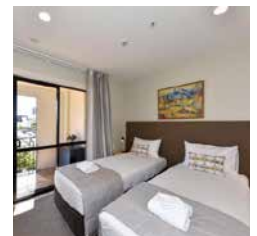


WEST FITZROY APARTMENTS

▶ **66 Armagh Street, Christchurch Central City. Ph: 03 974 3612.**

Experience the best of Christchurch at West Fitzroy Apartments, where comfort meets convenience. 5 star Qualmark rated, fully self-contained apartments offer modern amenities, including free WiFi and private secure parking. Minutes away from Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre, Botanic Gardens, Art Galleries and Entertainment Precincts.

The West Fitzroy Apartments have a special discount rate for our conference delegates between 28 - 31 July 2026. [Click here to book](#) and use the promo code **WF-ABC2026** when booking. Promo code valid until 30 June 2026.



QUEST ON KILMORE

▶ **93 Kilmore Street, Christchurch City. Ph: 03 244 2600**

The Quest on Kilmore have some special rates for our conference delegates:

Static rate: \$185 per night (when booking direct) until 24 June

Flexible: 5% off our Best Flexible Rate up from 24 June to 24 July 2026

Promo Code for both: **ABC2026**. Applicable: 28-31 July 2026

Rate Type: Quest best flexible rate cancellable up to 48 hours from arrival.

[Bookings](#) via the Quest on Kilmore Website: www.questonkilmore.co.nz or [Quest APP](#) or Direct email to reservations@questonkilmore.co.nz



For all your compliance questions related to doors, contact **Commercial Door Services**. We are **IQP registered for SS3/1 Automatic Doors and SS3/2 Egress Controlled Doors**.

We also work on **fire doors, smoke doors, fire sliders, fire shutters, fire / smoke curtains, gates, roller doors, rapid action doors and pedestrian doors**.

Commercial Door Services is a NZ owned business with 12 branches Nationwide and pro-actively takes an interest in providing solutions that meet our client's needs and compliance requirements.

Common questions are:

- "My door has been signed off for years, why is it non-compliant now?"
- "What is a compliant automatic door?"
- "Should an automatic door (SS3/1) also be noted as an egress control door (SS3/2)?"
- "What remedial work can be done on a fire door?"
- "Should my door have an EDR fitted?"
- "What locks am I allowed on my door?"

Please call by our stand and hit us up with any questions you may have or alternatively, contact us at ppm@cid.co.nz or www.cid.co.nz
Proud to be a Sponsor of the Association of Building Compliance.



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Confidence through **EXPERTISE**
Compliance for **SAFETY**
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Lift Solutions Ltd

LIMITED SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES STILL AVAILABLE – BE QUICK!

Sponsorship is an excellent way of promoting and increasing awareness of your company and/or brand. All sponsors will be advertised on the website, in the registration brochure (if booked prior to publication) and during the conference. For more details please contact Rachael on 021 273 2707 or Rachael@abcqip.org.nz or see our website [here](#).



Programme Day One

WEDNESDAY 29 TH JULY 2026	
7.30am	Registration Opens
8.25am – 9.20am	Conference Housekeeping Conference Welcome – <i>Trent Fearnley, ABC CEO</i> Opening Ceremony – <i>Phil Mauger, Mayor of Christchurch City</i>
9.20am – 10.00am	SESSION 1 – Limes Room Keynote Speaker: Elizabeth Sieverts, Sydney Airport Fire Risk Management During Construction in Occupied Public Buildings
10.00am – 10.30am	Speaker: Mathew Crow, MBIE MBIE, Compliance Schedules: Consistent Decisions in practice
10.30am – 11.00am	MORNING TEA – <i>Main Foyer</i>
11.00am – 11.30am	SESSION 2 Speaker: Shane Grant, Argest Fire Common Faults and Issues as Seen Through the Lens of Sprinkler Biannual Inspections
11.30am – 11.45am	Speaker: Hana Jones, Clarinspect From Invisible to Accountable: How Traceable Documentation is becoming the New Competency
11.45am – 12.30pm	AGM
12.30pm – 1.30pm	LUNCH – <i>Main Foyer</i>
1.30pm – 2.00pm	SESSION 3 Speaker: Stuart Bryant, Stellar Property Group Limited Managing Compliance while maintaining live built environments
2.00pm – 2.30pm	Speaker: Louis Deverell, LDEV Connect Lift Accessibility and Trapped Passengers
2.30pm – 3.00pm	Future Skills Panel Discussion
3.00pm – 3.30pm	AFTERNOON TEA – <i>Main Foyer</i>
3.30pm – 4.00pm	SESSION 4 Speaker: Michael Belsham, BelshamFire Ltd Fire Engineering and Fire Protection - What's the Difference?
4.00pm – 4.30pm	Speakers: Brian Wilson and Ryan Cooper, Christchurch City Council It's not dangerous... what now?
4.30pm – 4.45pm	COUCH Q&A
6.00pm – 7.00pm	PRE-DINNER NETWORKING DRINKS – <i>Main Foyer</i>
7.00pm – 11.30pm	CONFERENCE DINNER – <i>Venue: Limes Room</i>

Speakers and topics are correct at the time of publication but are subject to change if required



Programme Day Two

THURSDAY 30 TH JULY 2026			
7.15am	Site Visits - Meet at Town Hall (Busses leave from 7.15am)		
8.00am – 10.30am	SITE VISIT 1	SITE VISIT 2	SITE VISIT 3
	Southbrook Fire Research Ltd <i>LIMITED TO THE FIRST 40 PERSONS</i> Bus will be leaving the Town Hall at 7.30am.	Passive Remediation Project Te Whatu Ora Christchurch Hospital and PFITS Consultancy Training Facility <i>LIMITED TO THE FIRST 40 PERSONS</i> Bus will be leaving the Town Hall at 7.30am.	Behind the Scenes of One Stadium <i>LIMITED TO THE FIRST 20 PERSONS</i> Bus will be leaving the Town Hall at 7.15am.
7.30am	Registration Opens		
8.30am – 10.30am	WORKSHOP 1 – Limes Room		WORKSHOP 2
	Council Only Session: Practical Solutions for Real World Examples		Proportional Liability - What does it mean for Us? Hosted by Insurance Council NZ
10.30am – 11.00am	MORNING TEA – <i>Main Foyer</i>		
11.00am – 11.30am	SESSION 6	Speaker: Neil Farnworth, <i>National Hood and Duct Cleaning</i> Kitchen Extract System Compliance	
11.30am – 12.00pm		Speaker: James Larkins, <i>Christchurch City Council</i> You can't fix at the end what wasn't understood at the beginning	
12.00pm – 12.30pm		Speaker: Andrew Eames, <i>Principal Advisor Determinations, MBIE</i> Demystifying Determinations	
12.30pm – 1.30pm	LUNCH – <i>Main Foyer</i>		
1.30pm – 2.00pm	SESSION 7	Speaker: Adam Grice, <i>Southland District Council</i> Alternate path to become an IQP	
2.00pm – 2.30pm		Speaker: Matt Ireland, <i>Operations Manager, Ampco Lift & Electrical Services Ltd</i> Elevators - Retained and Current Compliance	
2.30pm – 3.00pm		Speaker: Darrell Nichol, <i>Department of Corrections</i> Fire Safety... But Make it Complicated	
3.00pm – 3.30pm	AFTERNOON TEA – <i>Main Foyer</i>		
3.30pm – 4.00pm	SESSION 8	Speaker: Lesley Chen, <i>IANZ</i> Competence = Confidence = Consistent	
4.00pm – 4.30pm		Speaker: Prashant Patel, <i>Building Engineering</i> A Rundown of Mechanical, Seismic, and Fire Aspects of a Kitchen Hood	
4.15pm – 4.30pm		COUCH Q&A	
4.30pm – 4.35pm	Conference addressed by Chair		
	Conference Closes		

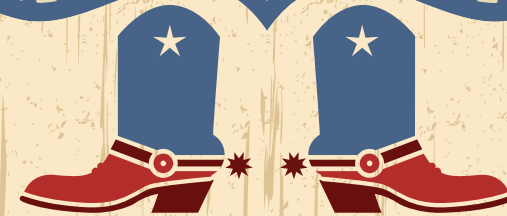
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ABC Conference Gala Dinner



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ABC Conference Gala Dinner

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Wednesday 29th July 2026

LIMES ROOM · TOWN HALL · CHRISTCHURCH

★ PRESENTATION OF FUTURE SKILLS AWARDS ★

★ LIVE MUSIC FROM MIRRORS BAND ★

★ BEST DRESSED PRIZES ★

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Exhibitors

We would like to thank all our exhibitors from our Conference 2025.

Exhibitors sharing their products, information and knowledge at our conference, gave our members that added professional development that can only come from specialist in their fields. These Exhibitors certainly raised the bar for our conference.

If you're interested in showcasing your products, services, or expertise in our exhibition space, please contact us at admin@abcipq.org.nz for more information.

We are pleased to welcome the following exhibitors to our 2026 Conference.



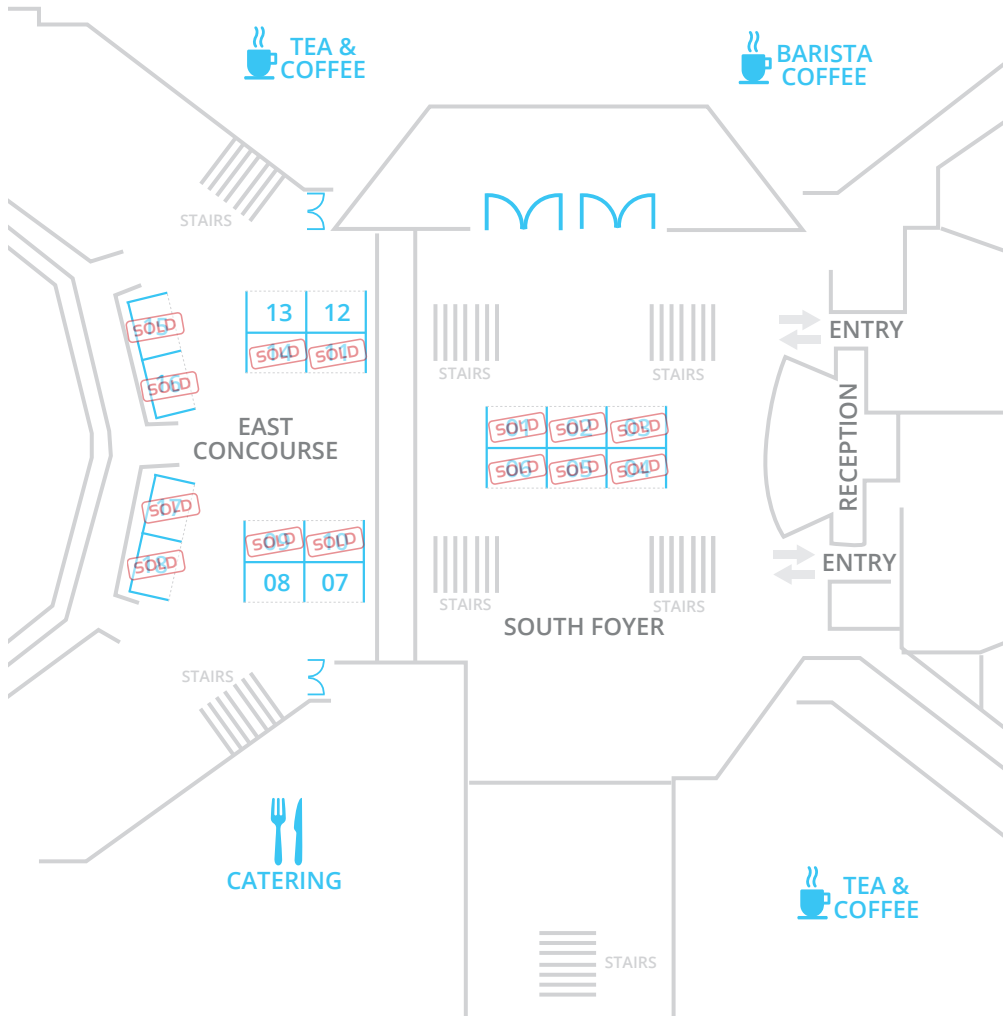
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Exhibition Floor Plan



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- Occupancy assessments
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Registration Prices

CONFERENCE PRICING


From 1st June 2026

	ABC MEMBER (EXCL. GST)	NON MEMBER (EXCL. GST)
2 day Conference plus conference gala dinner	\$1095	\$1,245
2 day Conference	\$995	\$1,145
1 day Conference	\$695	\$795
Online Conference - both days	\$845	\$995
Conference gala dinner only	\$155	\$175



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CERTIFICATE IN BUILDING COMPLIANCE (LEVEL 4)

10% discount applies for ABC members

Build your skills in the building compliance environment

The Certificate in Building Compliance (Level 4) is designed for professionals working in the building compliance and regulatory environment, including Independently Qualified Persons (IQPs) and council compliance staff, and focuses on strengthening practical capability in applying New Zealand's building regulatory framework. The programme covers the Building Act 2004, Building Code, compliance schedules, specified systems, and Fire and Emergency New Zealand requirements, and builds the skills needed to interpret regulatory obligations, support inspections and reporting, and operate confidently within territorial authority and industry compliance processes.

Programme details:

- ✓ **Duration:** 20 weeks
- ✓ **Fees:** \$4,160 inc. GST, (10% discount applies for ABC members, \$3,744 with discount)
- ✓ **Delivery:** Blended delivery including four face-to-face workshop days (Courses 1 and 3), live online workshops and tutorials, and self-paced online learning. Delivery format varies by course and location
- ✓ **Entry:** Ages 18 & above, NZ Citizen/Resident visa holders, must be employed in a relevant building compliance or regulatory role

Christchurch - Next Intake: 13 April 2026

Face-to-face workshops: 13-14 April 2026 and 10-11 August 2026
Weekly online Tutorials: Wednesdays, evenings

Auckland - Next Intake: 8 June 2026*

Face-to-face workshops: 8-9 June 2026 and 5-6 October 2026
Weekly online tutorials: Mondays, evenings

Wellington - Next Intake: 13 July 2026*

Face-to-face workshops: 13-14 July 2026 and 9-10 November 2026
Weekly online tutorials: Tuesdays, evenings

Courses:

Regulatory Environment
for Building Compliance
15 credits

Specified Systems and
Compliance
30 credits

Building Compliance
Inspection and Reporting
15 credits



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Keynote Speakers

We are excited to announce our fantastic line-up of speakers for ABC Conference 2026

We hope that you will enjoy their presentations and come along to hear them, support them and, hopefully, they will answer any questions that you might have.

Elizabeth Sieverts

Fire Compliance Design Manager, Sydney Airport

Fire Risk Management During Construction in Occupied Public Buildings

When construction and refurbishment works are undertaken within buildings occupied by large numbers of the public, a wide range of fire safety considerations must be carefully managed. These environments present unique challenges, as temporary construction conditions can overtly or inadvertently alter fire safety performance if risks are not properly identified and controlled.

Drawing on practical experience, this session shares lessons learnt from managing fire risk during construction in occupied public buildings. It examines procedures and good practice, while also highlighting where these do not translate neatly to live environments, and the importance of clear roles, responsibilities and ongoing monitoring.

Key considerations that may trigger interim fire safety strategies include hoarding design and placement, material selection, impacts on egress routes, smoke management systems and access to fire fighting equipment. Consideration is also given to the isolation and reinstatement of fire safety systems such as detection, sprinklers and smoke exhaust systems, and construction zone management. There are also added complexities due to performance based design.

Equally important are robust reinstatement, recommissioning, verification and client sign off processes at project completion. These activities are critical to ensure existing fire safety requirements are correctly made good and that fire safety documentation is updated and not overlooked.

Elizabeth is a Chartered Fire Safety Engineer and holds a Master's in Fire Engineering from the University of Canterbury. She is Fire Compliance Design Manager at Sydney Airport and a member of the Building Appeals Board in Victoria, Australia.

Before moving client-side, Elizabeth gained over 18 years' consulting experience across Australia, New Zealand, and Singapore, delivering fire safety engineering for transport infrastructure, industrial and dangerous goods facilities, assembly buildings, healthcare, and commercial and residential developments.

She has also acted as a technical advisor and subject matter expert on Australian road and rail infrastructure projects. Her experience includes code compliance, fire protection design, risk assessment, and process safety. Her research interests include fire safety equity and the fire safety implications of emerging technologies.

She brings a practical, systems-focused perspective to improving safety outcomes in complex built environments.



Speakers

Michael Belsham

Chartered Professional Fire Engineer & Director, BelshamFire Ltd

Fire Engineering And Fire Protection - What's The Difference?

The term Fire Engineer remain largely misunderstood in the building industry despite being a formal discipline for over 30 years. The terms Fire Safety Engineering (FSE) and Fire Protection Engineering (FPE) are often used interchangeably within the building and construction industry, creating uncertainty for clients, regulators, and project teams. This presentation aims to clarify the distinction between the two disciplines, demonstrating how clearly defined roles and competencies build confidence in fire safety industry. Fire engineers are often asked for services outside their scope of expertise. Gaining an understanding of each role in the project will help in creating a smooth process of design and regulation compliance. This is important for Architects, Building Control, Engineers and IQP. When there is a fire safety problem – knowing who to call will save time and money and remove general frustrations. Which type of engineer is involved in each phase of the project? Is there a difference between fire safety and fire protection? By clearly defining responsibilities of the Fire Engineer and Fire Protection Engineer and establishing effective collaboration between them, builds confidence in regulatory processes, design outcomes, and fire safety performance.

Michael is an experienced Chartered Professional Fire Engineer with more than 25 years of expertise in Fire Safety Engineering. Michael has worked extensively throughout New Zealand, Australia and UK. In 2020, Michael founded BelshamFire Ltd, his own consultancy firm, providing specialised fire engineering design, peer review, and training services across the country.

In addition to his consultancy work, Michael teaches fire safety block courses for the Diploma of Building Survey (Level 6) and is the lead lecturer for the New Zealand Diploma of Engineering (Fire Engineering).



Stuart Bryant

CEO, Stellar Property Group Limited

Managing Compliance While Maintaining Live Built Environments

Stuart will talk to real life examples of what happens when tenants or building owners undertake works in properties where fitouts, alterations or upgrade works happen while the building is occupied.

- How do the works affect tenants and what can conflict with their lease terms.
- How insurance recommendations are requested and why they are not always actioned.
- Risks to the landlord and how can we collectively improve the experience and outcomes for all stakeholders.

Stuart Bryant owns and operates a project management and facilities consulting company Stellar Property.

His background and experiences range around managing a variety of large scale sites such as Britomart Precinct, SkyCity properties, Sylvia Park as well as other smaller retail, commercial and industrial property across New Zealand.

Stuart is a FMANZ Board member and has presented at conferences in New Zealand and Australia for various Associations and Companies.





Speakers

Lesley Chen

Accreditation Assessor, IANZ

I am an Accreditation Assessor at IANZ for the Building Consent Authorities and Inspection Bodies Programme. Before joining IANZ 4 years ago, I worked at Auckland Council for 6 years across a range of roles in the Building Consents Department, started up from a Lodgement Officer, and was one of the Technical Assessors in the Capability Team .

While I am trained in architecture, I do not consider myself primarily a creative individual. Instead, I tend to identify more with the role of an enforcer, ensuring that processes and standards are upheld. Those who know me well would likely concur with this assessment.

My role is to ensure that the organisation assessed complies with the relevant Standards, Regulations and or other additional requirements. IANZ is appointed by MBIE as the accreditation body which undertakes accreditation assessments as per the Act. We take pride in our work to ensure that consistency is delivered, and this is evidenced by the improved quality of the Compliance Schedules across the board.



Mathew Crow

Senior Regulatory Specialist, MBIE

Compliance Schedules: Consistent Decisions in Practice

Many of the day-to-day challenges in managing compliance schedules come back to a handful of persistent misunderstandings about how the regime is intended to operate. This session takes a practical look at those misconceptions and what they mean in real-world decision making for territorial authorities, building owners, and IQPs.

Working through a series of common scenarios drawn from enquiries, complaints, and regulatory assessments, Mathew will step through typical problem areas such as defining specified systems, understanding the purpose and scope of compliance schedules, and aligning practice with legislative intent. Each example will focus on how these issues present in practice, why they can lead to inconsistency, and what a robust and defensible approach looks like.

The session will also highlight key areas of clarification emerging from the updated Compliance Schedule Handbook, with a focus on where guidance is expected to help drive more consistent and workable outcomes across the sector.

Mathew Crow is a Senior Regulatory Specialist – Compliance & Assurance at MBIE, where he works across Building Consent Authority and Territorial Authority functions. His work focuses on system performance, complaints under the Building Act, and improving sector guidance and practice



Speakers

Louis Deverell

Lift Specialist, LDEV Connect

Lift Accessibility and Trapped Passengers

Lifts form an important part of buildings and are often necessary for providing equitable access paths to people of all abilities.

NZS4121 requires dimensional space for wheelchairs, and support for visual impairments such as braille, tactile elements, and voice. However new technologies with touch-screens have provided solutions are not always equitable, and seeking help in an emergency has critical risks if you can't hear, speak, or operate the alarm.

This presentation will first give an overview of the code to accommodate mobility and visual impairment, before exploring how we can look to overseas code examples with strong improvements.

Becoming trapped in a lift can be a terrifying ordeal, or at the least a frustrating inconvenience. All passengers need to be able to call for and receive help.

The focus topic is on how visual 2-way systems incorporating text displays and safety cameras in North America, and visual indications of call status required by Europe and Australia address accessibility for Deaf and hard of hearing passengers. Lifts in New Zealand are compliant with only a loudspeaker emergency phone with no visual features to aid and reassure the passengers.

Louis is a specialist in the lift industry with a strong background of senior technical expertise, training and consultancy work over 22 years for major companies.

In a moment early in his career while rescuing passengers from a stalled lift, he realised they could have been deaf or not understand his verbal guidance. Exploring further, the need for more advocacy to the industry for the lack of provisions was quite apparent, especially with emergency phones. As an independent specialist Louis continues to advocate for all accessibility, and can now provide the industry with new technical solutions and products to achieve improvements.



Andrew Eames

Principal Advisor Determinations, MBIE

Demystifying Determinations

An overview of the determination function at MBIE.

Who: What persons can be involved and why.

What: How we turn disputes/doubt into matters to be determined.

How: Insight into the ways we consider applications and present our analysis.

Andrew is a Principal Advisor in the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) Determinations team and is one of the decision-makers delegated to make building determinations on behalf of the Chief Executive. Andrew has been with MBIE for over 5 years. Immediately prior to that he was in various building regulatory roles with Christchurch City Council. With nearly 20 years' experience in project management, construction and building control, Andrew has extensive experience in construction dispute resolution processes.



Speakers

Ryan Cooper and Brian Wilson

Christchurch City Council

It's Not Dangerous... What Now?

This presentation explores a critical gap in the building regulatory framework: situations where buildings meet compliance requirements but present real and unaddressed risks due to non-performing specified systems. Using an anonymised case study of a multi-occupancy building, the session examines how a building can fall below the legal threshold of a dangerous building while still exposing occupants to heightened risk. The case highlights failures in system performance, reliance on documentation over verification, and the limitations of current regulatory triggers.

The presentation will challenge the assumption that compliance equates to safety and the increasing complexity of making the right decision with the ongoing safety of a vulnerable occupancy. It will also consider how specified system performance impacts life safety outcomes. Attendees will gain insights into compliance-based assessments to performance assurance, recognising dynamic risk, and strengthening TA BWoF auditing. The session aims to provoke thought, encourage discussion, and support the industry in building greater confidence through true competency.

Ryan's affinity for the construction industry began early, leading to a career in carpentry and joinery in the UK. After relocating to Christchurch in 2013, he contributed to the post-earthquake rebuild, gaining valuable experience in complex construction environments. He later transitioned into the regulatory sector as a Building Control Officer, where he processed consents, undertook inspections, and certified building work. Developing a strong foundation in compliance and building standards.

Ryan is now a Principal Building Official at Christchurch City Council, leading and supporting a team to ensure consistent, effective compliance processes and continuous improvement. He also serves as South Island Chair of the IQP Register, promoting competency and collaboration across the industry. With extensive experience, Ryan is a strong advocate for building safety and regulatory excellence across New Zealand.





Speakers

Neil Farnworth

Owner & IQP Officer, National Hood & Duct Cleaning

Kitchen Extract System Compliance

Neil will explore where real risk sits within building compliance, why expert advice is critical, and what can happen when systems are neglected. His session will focus on how to reduce risk, strengthen compliance practices, and better protect both buildings and the professionals responsible for them.

With growing reliance on industry expertise, the responsibility increasingly falls on those signing off systems. When systems are not properly identified, maintained, and reported on, the risk sits squarely with those professionals.

This presentation will unpack key risk areas, examine the underlying causes, and provide practical solutions to help you mitigate risk and improve compliance outcomes.

National Hood & Duct Cleaning are New Zealand's specialists in kitchen extract compliance, working alongside facilities managers, large food chains, compliance teams, and commercial kitchens. Their focus is on reducing fire risk, improving compliance outcomes, and simplifying the management of extraction system maintenance - addressing one of the most commonly overlooked fire hazards in commercial buildings.

Neil Farnworth represents National Hood & Duct Cleaning. He has many years of experience in working with business owners in the food sector, and aligning their compliance responsibilities. He is the IQP for National Hood, and is keen to find improvements, that lift our industry standards and make our buildings safe.



Shane Grant

Manager, Argest Fire

Common faults and issues as seen through the lens of Sprinkler Biannual Inspections

Identifying common faults and other challenges as part of Sprinkler biannual inspections and how additional training for staff and customers can reduce potential issues and increase public safety.

"I have been in the Fire Industry for 23 years with over 12 of those as a IANZ accredited inspector for Sprinklers and Fire Alarms.

I have a passion for helping customers find the best solution and helping them understand their fire systems. I have been in the Fire Industry for 23 years with over 12 of those as a IANZ accredited inspector for Sprinklers and Fire Alarms.

I have a passion for helping customers find the best solution and helping them understand their fire systems."





Speakers

Adam Grice

Building Compliance Officer, Southland District Council

Alternate Path To Become An IQP

Looking at if the current process of becoming an IQP is still fit for purpose and if we need to have other paths available to progress to become an IQP, and change people thinking to think of being IQP as a career goal and not just an addition to a current skill set.

A building compliance professional with local government experience since 2019 at Southland District Council. Having worked within the Building Compliance Team since 2020, they currently serve as Acting Building Compliance Team Leader, providing leadership and training in building regulatory compliance. In addition to their council role, they contribute to industry governance as the Deputy Chairperson of the South Island IQP Panel, supporting quality and standards within the sector.



Hana Jones

Solution Consultant, Clarinspect

From Invisible to Accountable: How Traceable Documentation is becoming the New Competency

Competency without evidence is invisible. And invisible competency can't be trusted, regulated, or built upon. This session makes the case that in modern fire safety, documentation is the competency - and that the industry is at a turning point.

Drawing on real-world case studies across passive fire, intumescent coatings, and Building Warrant of Fitness inspections, Hana will show what best practice looks like when technology and expertise work together. From Christchurch Hospital - where over 18,000 fire penetrations are now fully documented and installer work is monitored by fire engineers in real time - to large IQP teams automating year-on-year reporting and building rich defect records, the examples are practical and proven.

The session will also explore the FireQA register and why requesting and contributing to verified data is becoming an essential professional responsibility - not just a nice to have. As a senior Consultant for a software provider working across multiple disciplines, Hana brings a cross-industry perspective on where the gaps are, where the quick wins are, and what the best operators are doing differently. She'll close with practical tool and software tips any IQP can use tomorrow.

Competency builds confidence. Documentation builds trust - This session covers both.



Speakers

Matt Ireland

Operations Manager, Ampco Lift & Electrical Services Ltd

Elevators - Retained And Current Compliance

New Zealand's lift portfolio spans a wide range of ages, technologies, and installation standards, creating a layered compliance environment where legacy ("retained") systems must coexist with current regulatory expectations. From older equipment installed under now-superseded standards to modern upgrades requiring full integration with specified systems, navigating compliance is rarely straight forward.

This presentation examines how retained elements influence current compliance obligations, particularly in existing buildings where documentation is limited and system interfaces—such as fire, access control, and emergency power—are not always clearly defined. It will explore the distinction between maintenance and alteration, and how this impacts requirements under the Building Code, SS8, and building consent processes.

A practical, site-driven approach is essential. Each lift must be assessed within the context of its building, its history, and its interaction with other systems. Clear communication between contractors, consultants, and building owners is critical to identifying risks early and ensuring appropriate outcomes.

Drawing on real project experience, this session focuses on improving understanding of compliance pathways and reducing uncertainty in decision-making. The goal is to support more consistent, transparent approaches across the industry and contribute to raising the overall standard of lift compliance in New Zealand.

Matt Ireland is an experienced lift industry professional with over 10 years in the field, specialising in lift modernisation, servicing, and repairs. He began his career in Australia, where he completed his electrical apprenticeship while working on a wide range of lift systems, developing a strong technical foundation across both mechanical and electrical disciplines.

Since relocating to New Zealand in 2019, Matt has continued to build on this experience, working across a diverse portfolio of projects including complex modernisations and ongoing service delivery within existing buildings. His practical, solutions-focused approach is grounded in real-world site experience and a clear understanding of the challenges involved in maintaining and upgrading vertical transport systems.

Based in Wellington, Matt balances his professional commitments with family life as a father of three. Outside of work, he enjoys spending time on the golf course, making the most of any opportunity to get out and play.





Speakers

James Larkins

Christchurch City Council



You Can't Fix At The End What Wasn't Understood At The Beginning

Compliance schedules are critical to ensuring specified systems perform as intended throughout a building's lifecycle. Traditionally, however, their development has been treated as a downstream activity, often undertaken by Building Warrant of Fitness (BWoF) teams at the end of the consent process.

This presentation challenges that approach by exploring a shift from "back end" correction to "front end" ownership, embedding compliance schedule development within the commercial consent processing team. Drawing on practical experience within a large Building Consent Authority, the session demonstrates how earlier integration improves clarity, consistency, and system performance. Early identification of specified systems, alignment with design intent, and clear performance standards reduce downstream ambiguity, rework, and risk.

The presentation also examines the competency shift required to support this change. Consent processors move from administrative roles to system interpreters, while BWoF teams transition from reactive correction to proactive assurance.

Through real-world examples, attendees will see the consequences of poorly defined compliance schedules, including inconsistent interpretation, challenges for IQPs, and reduced confidence in building performance. The key message is simple '**compliance does not start at BWoF....it starts at consent**'.

James is a Senior Building Consent Officer within the Commercial Processing Team at Christchurch City Council. In this role, he works with teams of professionals to ensure building code compliance is met.

James seeks opportunities for improvements in the quality of building consent applications with the ultimate goal to achieve clearer, more comprehensive documentation that does not just facilitate a more efficient consent review process but demonstrates and records compliance for the lifetime of the building. With an industry background as an architectural designer, James has a strong understanding of building compliance issues from both the design and approval process perspectives.

Speakers

Darrell Nichol

Statutory Compliance Manager, Department of Corrections

Fire Safety... But Make It Complicated

In an environment of increasing scrutiny around public safety, liability, and trust, compliance alone does not guarantee confidence, particularly in complex custodial settings. Prisons present a unique challenge to traditional building and fire safety frameworks, where assumptions around occupant behaviour, free egress, and system use do not align with operational reality. This presentation draws on practical experience managing statutory compliance across 17 prison facilities in New Zealand. It explores how fire protection systems, designed to protect occupants, are frequently and deliberately misused, creating risks not fully anticipated by prescriptive compliance models. The presentation examines the tension between the intent of the Building Act and Building Code and the realities of operating locked environments, including the challenges created by inconsistent regulatory interpretation across councils. Through real-world examples and lessons learned, the presentation highlights the importance of genuine competency, contextual understanding, and performance-based approaches in achieving safe outcomes. Attendees will gain insight into how compliance, when grounded in expertise and collaboration, can build confidence and trust, even in environments the Code is no longer written for.

Darrell Nichol is a Statutory Compliance Manager with the Department of Corrections, where her role focuses on ensuring facilities comply with statutory obligations in a practical, risk-aware, and operationally realistic manner.

Prior to joining Corrections, Darrell was a Senior Compliance Officer at Wellington City Council, specialising in Building Act compliance and the Building Warrant of Fitness regime. This local authority background provides her with a strong understanding of regulatory intent, enforcement expectations, and the challenges faced by building owners and operators.

Having transitioned into a custodial environment in late 2025, Darrell brings a fresh but informed perspective to applying compliance frameworks in complex, high-risk settings. Her work centres on bridging the gap between prescriptive compliance requirements and real-world application, with a strong emphasis on safety outcomes, consistency, and professional accountability.





Speakers

Prashant Patel

Building & Engineering Services Ltd

A Rundown of Mechanical, Seismic and Fire Aspects of a Kitchen Hood

A Kitchen Hood, particularly in commercial setup, is essential for maintaining healthy and safe cooking environment. They are specifically designed to extract harmful smoke, steam, grease and gases. In this presentation, Prashant will discuss the key mechanical design considerations and ongoing maintenance requirements for commercial kitchen hood systems.

Prashant has been serving New Zealand for more than 23 years, bringing extensive expertise and qualifications in mechanical, seismic, and fire engineering. Based in Auckland, he has worked with some of New Zealand's largest councils and DHBs in building control and compliance roles. His experience also includes positions with engineering consultancies, accredited certification bodies, and facilities management companies, where he has held technical and compliance leadership roles.

Prashant is a member of several professional organisations, including Engineering New Zealand, ASHRAE, Institution of Structural Engineers, New Zealand Institute of Architects, Society of Fire Protection Engineers, IRHACE, and FMANZ.

He is currently the owner and director of several companies, including Building & Engineering Services, E=MC2 Consulting Engineers, BuildWise Compliance, and Chilltech Air Solutions, providing services across the Oceania region.





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Sponsorship is an excellent way of promoting and increasing awareness of your company and/or brand. ABC has developed a few sponsorship opportunities offering different ways in which you can increase awareness of your company to each delegate.

Sponsorship packages are based on first in first served. All sponsors will be advertised on the website, in the registration brochure (if booked prior to publication) and during the conference. See specific sponsorship packages for more detail.

The following sponsorship opportunities are available. [For more details please see our website here.](#)

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Please contact Rachael on 021 273 2707 or Rachael@abcicpp.org.nz if you wish to discuss any of the above sponsorship packages or any additional sponsorship options.



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