

## S1 Multi-storey Buildings (NCI 26)

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### **Purpose**

This document provides for:

- safe and efficient operations at incidents involving multi-storey buildings.

### **NZFS definition**

A multi-storey building is any building with more than three levels (including those below ground).

Note: other official definitions may define multi-storey differently, such as the *NZS 4541 Sprinkler systems*, which specifies 6 or more levels.

## **Requirements for Multi-storey Buildings**

### **Executive Officers' responsibilities**

Chief Fire Officers will issue a local procedure for managing incidents in multi-storey buildings, when relevant for their Fire District.

Fire Region Managers will ensure that, if relevant, every Fire District in the Fire Region has a procedure, in accordance with this instruction.

### **Local procedures**

Local procedures for multi-storey buildings will include:

- the response and availability of firefighting resources
- appliance parking
- greater alarms
- command and control
- breathing apparatus control
- riser procedure
- control points and/or staging
- the use of:
  - helicopters
  - fire control centres
  - lifts
  - staged evacuations
  - ventilation/air conditioning
- buildings under construction.

## Hazard Identification and Control: Fighting Fires in multi-storey Buildings

### Hazard control

All hazards must be controlled by eliminating, isolating where elimination is impracticable, or minimising, using one or more of the control methods given in the following table:

### Fighting fires in multi-storey buildings

Hazards	Control measures
<b>Firefighting</b>	
Refer to <i>RD1 Operational safety</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all personnel must be trained in the conditions that may be encountered, and the safe practices required, when working at fires in multi-storey buildings</li> <li>use local operating procedures for multi-storey buildings</li> </ul>
<b>Wearing BA</b>	
Refer to <i>E3-2 Breathing apparatus</i>	Refer to <i>E3-2 Breathing apparatus</i>
<b>Using lifts</b>	
<p><i>Significant hazards:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>lift stopping at fire floor or other malfunction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all personnel must be trained in the conditions that may be encountered, and the safe practices required, when working at fires in multi-storey buildings</li> </ul>
<b>Falling debris</b>	
<p><i>Significant hazards:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>being hit by debris</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all personnel must wear structural fire fighting uniform</li> <li>a safety cordon must be established around the building</li> <li>personnel from other services must wear suitable protective clothing when working within cordoned area</li> </ul>
<b>Buildings under construction, renovation, and demolition</b>	
<p><i>Significant hazards:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>holes in floors</li> <li>unexpected fire spread</li> <li>dry risers not having an air valve</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all personnel must be trained in the conditions that may be encountered, and the safe practices required, when working at fires in multi-storey buildings under construction</li> <li>maintain secure escape routes</li> <li>bleed air from riser before connection deliveries</li> </ul>