



CLIENT INFORMATION SHEET No 5

USING PRODUCER STATEMENTS

What are Producer Statements? ACENZ, IPENZ and NZIA along with builders and Building Officials drew up PRODUCER STATEMENTS in 1994, to address the need for specified documents in the Building Act 1992. The more recent Building Act 2004 does not specifically name Producer Statements, but does require a suitably qualified person to verify that the design or construction complies with the Building Code. The original Producer Statement forms have been modified (January 2007) to more closely reflect the wording and practice under the new Act. These have been drawn up by the three professional associations, with input from the Building Officials Institute of NZ, and of the Department of Building and Housing. The newest version was released in November 2013.

Key points of the Producer Statements are:

- They are a statement from a reputable firm and professional within that firm, who will be either an engineer or architect of standing
- They are a statement as to compliance with the building code; or that construction has proceeded in compliance with the approved design
- They are a statement to only that part of the project design or construction that is stated in the form
- They are in a standard form, which makes them easy to use and understand rather than minor variations causing confusion from one district to another
- They must be a statement of what the professional has designed, reviewed or observed only
- They are not a guarantee that nothing will go wrong

The NZ Building Code is also undergoing review, and elements of that code may change over time. It is important to date the forms.

Professionalism - These forms are recommended for use by members of ACENZ, IPENZ and NZIA only. These people are likely to also be a Chartered Professional Engineer or a Registered Architect. By merit of those registrations and memberships, reinforced by membership of the business association, ACENZ, the owner and the Building Consent Authority, can be assured that the design professional is familiar with the current codes, current practices and that the firm has robustness in their processes. Registration as a CPEng or Registered Architects are relatively new and not all practitioners may yet have completed the process to achieve this status. However MIPENZ or MNZIA also infers a similar level of competency and professionalism.

The firm (even if sole practices) undertakes to hold a minimum level of Professional Indemnity Insurance (refer Client Information Sheets 1 and 2).

Professional Services During Construction Phase
There are several levels of service which a design firm may provide during the construction phase of a project. The Building Consent Authority is encouraged to require that the service to be provided by the design professional is appropriate for the project concerned. No design professional can provide a producer statement unless they have undertaken such services and observation.

These forms do not include other licensed building practitioner categories. Building Consent Authorities should satisfy themselves of the qualifications and experience of persons other than qualified in these forms.