

A NZ APPROCH

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He aha te mea nui o te ao What is the most important thing in the world? He tangata, he tangata, he tangata It is the people, it is the people, it is the people

- Maori proverb



The definition of insanity is repeating the same behaviors and expecting a different outcome. Albert Einstein

> Engineering is the art of modelling materials we do not wholly understand, into shapes we cannot precisely analyse so as to withstand forces we cannot properly assess, in such a way that the **public** has no reason to suspect the extent of our ignorance." — Dr AR Dykes

Low Damage Design Guidance - Why?

(What's wrong with code based minimum performance?)

Some personal observations (people, people, people)

- Buildings getting bigger, more expensive, more people on poorer land = consequence of failure is bigger
- Public expectations of performance is greater
- Communication of performance between stakeholders is not good enough
- Fear based decision making and/or sound bite decision making becoming more common
- Design profession becoming increasingly reliant on 'cook book' codes over 1st principle design
- Repeating mistakes by treating client and the public as ignorant



Owner demands answers on why her building failed Ben Heather 12:40, Jun 16 2011

WSP Opus

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LDD – Who is it for?

Stakeholders (people, people, people)

- Public
- Owners and Developers (clients)
- BCA's
- Other design disciplines
- Contractors
- Researchers



Leadership, Vison & Objectives

Vison:

The industry standard approach to LDD

Objectives:

- 1. Provide high level guidance on what LDD should achieve
- 2. Provide design criteria to be satisfied
- 3. Provide assistance to BCA's & reviewers for compliance of LDD buildings.



Philosophy

- LDD is not 'bolt on' component. It's a philosophy that must be holistically followed through all aspects.
- It requires the design team to agree performance with stakeholders, not blind reliance on Codes and Standards.
- LDD performance **may not be possible** on some sites
- It does not require 'Low Damage Technologies' to be used.



Document Hierarchy

Practical considerations

- Freely available
- Written in plain English briefing guidance
- Overarching for more detailed guidance to follow



Performance & Acceptance

Limit State	Serviceability	Damage Control	Ultimate	Grade Required		
General outcome						
By Category						
Primary structure:				Bronze	Silver	Gold
Secondary structure:						
Non-structural elements:						
Contents:						



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Concluding Comments

It is People, It is People, It is people. Recent experience has highlighted four lessons:

- 1. Life Safety code based minimum design performance is not understood.
- 2. Engineers have not done a good job at communicating performance.
- 3. Out of service time is an important factor in decision making.
- 4. That clarity and ownership of terminology is important.
- It is People, It is People, It is people. It is the author's opinion that:
- 1. Owners and users will judge success of building performance; **not** engineers.
- 2. These issues are universal and international collaboration is important.
- 3. We must lead the conversation on resilience and LDD but not set the risk level.



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Thank you