

CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRY COUNCIL



Canterbury Earthquakes Royal Commission

***Building Regulatory
Framework – efficiency and
improvements***

11 September 2012

Introduction

- CIC is the ‘peak body for industry bodies’

Observer members

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY COUNCIL **CIC**

Introduction

- Re-formed into larger body in response to Leaky Building crisis
- Has given detailed input into Building Act reforms process since 2008
- Briefing to Incoming Minister usefully captures CIC's policy approach
 - Underpins CIC's contribution to the work of the Royal Commission

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY COUNCIL

This Ministerial Briefing Document sets out the views of the Construction Industry Council on a range of core policy matters facing the building and construction industry.

We look forward to discussing the recommendations set out in this Briefing with both the Minister of Building & Construction, Hon Maurice Williamson, and the Department of Building & Housing.

29 March 2012

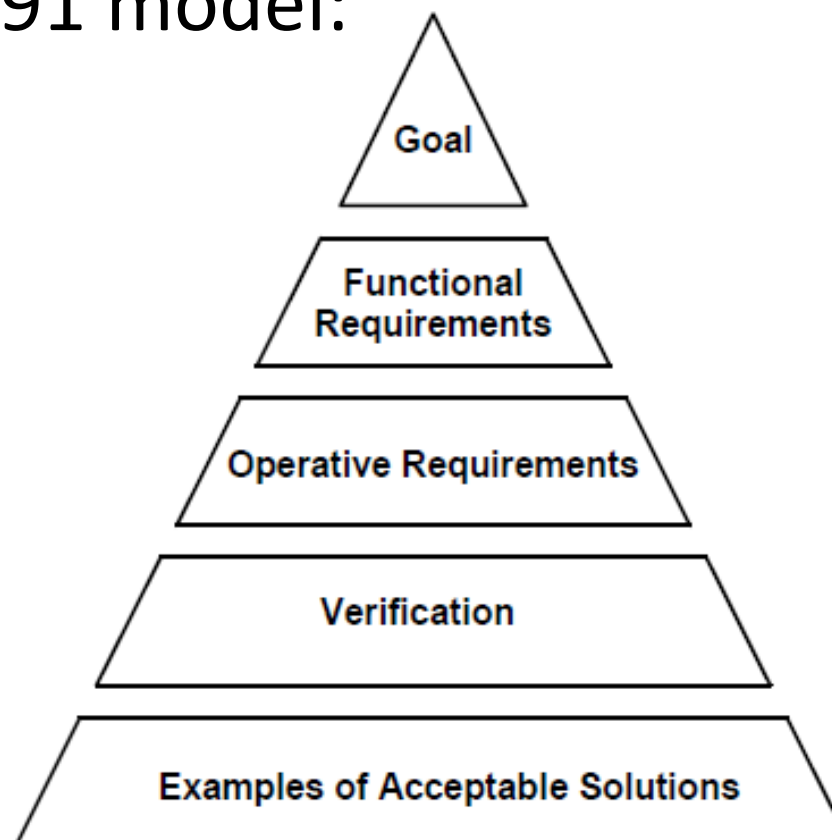
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Opening comments

- System **not** 'broken'
- **Can** be improved on:
 - Better/smarter oversight
 - Improved stewardship
 - Improved funding
- Industry seeking better access to the right up-to-date consistent and credible information sources

Performance-based Code

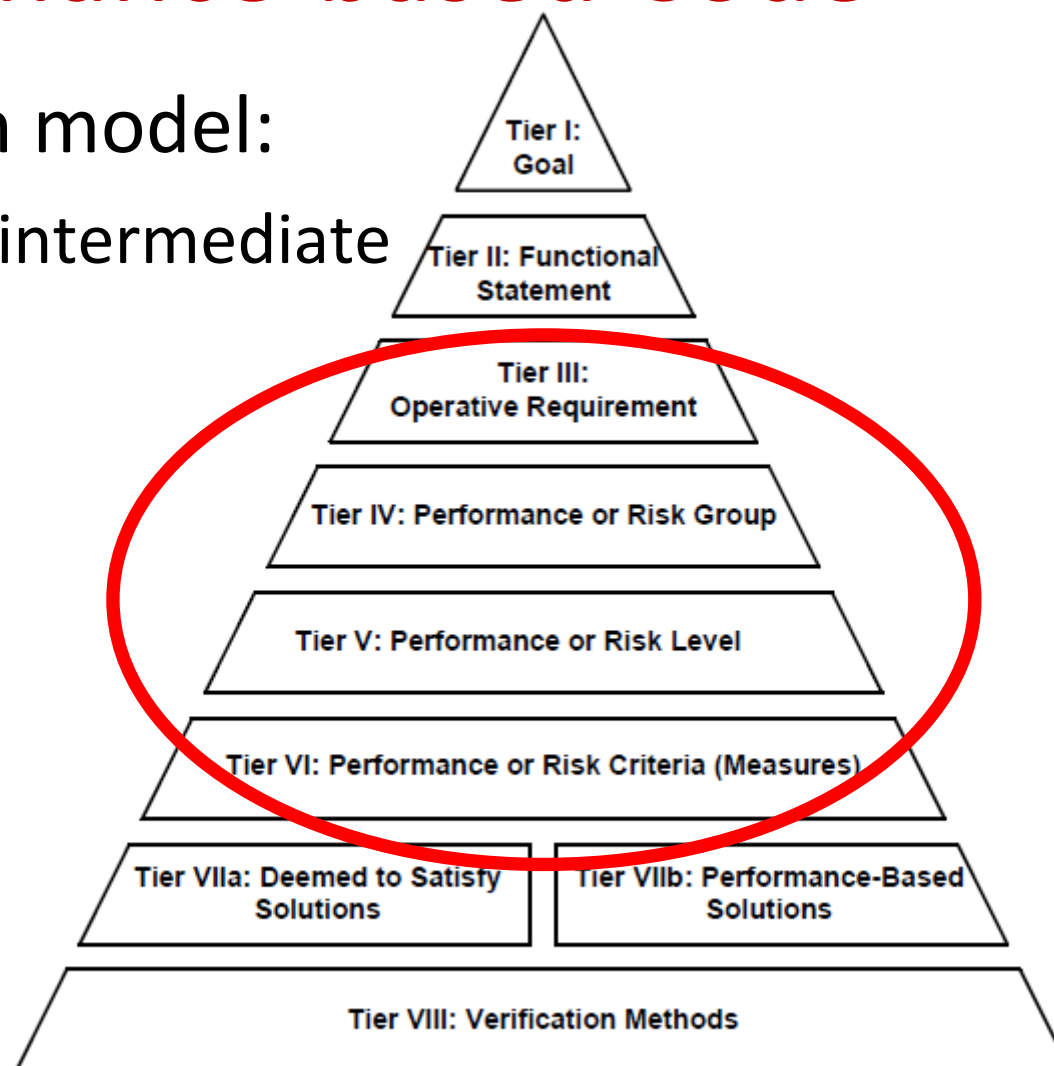
- Starting 1991 model:



NKB Model (NKB, 1976)

Performance-based Code

- Modern model:
 - more intermediate detail



Performance-based Code

Code/Standards interplay/overlap

CODE: building will be structurally safe

earthquake requirement is x

structural elements are a b c

STANDARDS: to achieve x a b and c:

do this

do that

do this

Government's regulator role

- Government does have the clear role in making the Code and policy expectations more explicit
 - That hasn't been done well in the past
 - Work has begun in providing that 'intermediate' clarification
- In CIC's view, that doesn't mean the Government should 'own' or undertake standards development work

Standard's development & access

- Need a comprehensive review and updating of core Standards underpinning the Building Code
 - Funded by MBIE from Building Levy
 - Need complete and dynamic 'standards' system
- Also need improved access to Code and referenced documentation
 - Electronically and free
 - Industry has developed access funding model via LBP scheme fees

Industry communication

- Finally, need ramped up communication programme, so that the revamped framework can be better understood and applied by industry practitioners

National Policy Statement

- The CIC's suggestion of an NPS is one way of clarifying all the above:
 - Who does what
 - Role of Government as regulator
 - Role of Standards NZ
 - Role of researchers
 - Who funds what
 - Relative development priorities over a 5 year period

Biggest risk

- Christchurch ‘survived’ relatively well from a monstrous series of earthquakes
- But that was off the back of Standards developed in the 70s-80s
 - When they were well funded and well supported
- CIC foresees a risk that if/when next disaster strikes in 10-20 year’s time
 - Will be worse impacts because Standards framework isn’t where it should be

Closing the loop

Finally

- Industry missing a 'closing the loop' function within the regulatory system
- Collation of BCA issues, practitioner issues, insurance/warranty issues into single database
- In a way that can then be fed back to industry to fix problems at the top of the cliff, not at the bottom

THANK YOU

- Thank you for the opportunity to present to the Commission
- The CIC is committed to working with its members to implement findings of the Commission so that we continue to lift and improve the quality of the built environment for the benefit of all New Zealanders