

# Making sense of compliance pathways

---

Dr Chris Litten  
Chief Operating Officer &  
General Manager Testing and Assurance  
**BRANZ**



## **MBIE**

Sets Building Code.  
Sets Acceptable Solutions +  
Verification Methods



## **Designer, specifier or builder**

Chooses products & systems,  
prepares consent application



**Consent  
application**



## **BCA**

Checks consent compliance,  
verifies evidence, inspects work

## **Product Supplier / Manufacturer**

Provides technical info on product



## **Independent assurance organisation**

Provides evidence to back up  
product & performance claims

# Practical evidence, innovation & real impact for the sector

 building  
**BRANZ** with science



# Two compliance pathways

## **Acceptable Solution / Verification methods**

### **Deemed to comply**

Supplier/manufacturer lists relevant clauses in technical info

## **Alternative Solution**

### **New way to comply**

Supplier/manufacturer must prove the product will comply

# How new products can enter the market





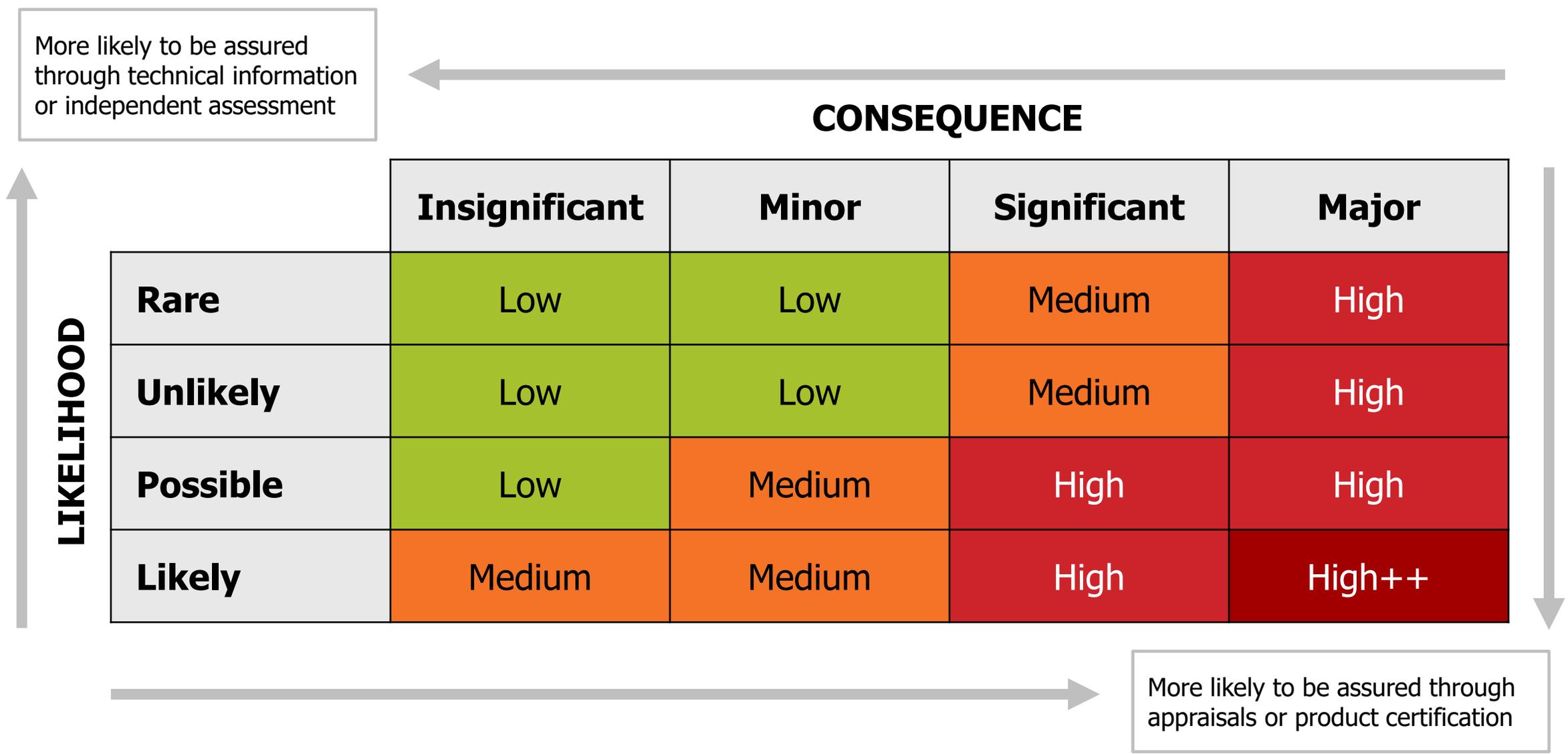
**Buildings that are  
fit for NZ conditions**



# Product assurance:

---

1. Technical information
2. Independent assessments
3. Industry-based schemes
4. Appraisals
5. Product certification (CodeMark)



**\*Source:** MBIE Building Performance, 2025, *Deciding your product assurance pathway*

# CodeMark



## Does it meet the Code?

---

- ✓ **Government-backed product certification**
- ✓ **Must be accepted by BCAs**
- ✓ **Best for high-risk or innovative products, where failure could have serious consequences.**
- ✓ **Verifies manufacturer claims and compliance scope.**

# Appraisals



## How does it perform?

---

- ✓ **Independent technical opinion**
- ✓ **Supports consent**
- ✓ **Best for complex, high-risk or NZ-specific performance**
- ✓ **Real-world testing**
- ✓ **Builds confidence**, supports innovation, promotes consistent product performance.



**“BRANZ Appraisals are essential to our business.**

They provide assurance to specifiers, builders, and councils that our systems have undergone rigorous independent verification”

*- Stoanz*

# Making it easier to use overseas building products





**Helping you build  
it right the first time**

# Thank you

---



[branz.co.nz](http://branz.co.nz) | [@branz.science](https://www.instagram.com/branz.science)

