Overcoming the barriers to uptake of low damage construction: perceptions from researchers, industry professionals, and end users

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Barriers to Low Damage Construction

**Insurance**
- no pricing incentive
- over reliance on insurance instead of resilient buildings

**Definition**
- lack of clear performance standards for LDC
- lack of understanding about performance building code provides

**Research and knowledge transfer**
- difficult to assess wide body of knowledge on particular technology
- research that meets the needs of practice
- demonstrability
- choice between researchers and engineers

**Consent process**
- lack of knowledge within consenting authorities about LDC
- lack of consistency between councils
- need for additional peer review for LDC
- lack of consistency in construction oversight

**Professions**
- lack of capacity in design and trades
- learning curve for new technologies
- "this is the way we've always done it"
- don't want to be first

**Community resilience/performance**
- policy on resilience
- recovery targets
- "island effect"
- LCA to justify

**Design guidance**
- need for independent verification of guidance
- lack of time to develop guidance
- lack of guidance on technologies
- New Zealand specific guidance

**Building code**
- standards don't meet public's expectations of building performance

**Market factors**
- cost premium and uncertainty
- lack of local govt leadership
- lack of strong marketplace
- lack of public awareness

**Non-structural components**
- design performance not adequate
- non-compliance with existing standards
- many trades with different codes
- lack of design guidance for components
Outcomes

- Public expectations
  - Low damage definition
  - Community and low damage performance objectives
  - Guidance documents
    - policy
    - technical
    - public