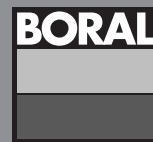


NeighbourZone™

Noise Reduction Solutions



System NZ2

Masonry Wall Upgrade $R_w=63\text{dB}$

NeighbourZone™ is a suite of plasterboard systems specifically developed to reduce neighbour noise that can be heard through existing dividing walls between dwellings.

All NeighbourZone™ systems are applied to one side of the wall and designed to reduce the level of noise in critical frequencies by approx 10dB, effectively halving the level of neighbour noise.

Application

Substrate: System NZ2 is suitable only for upgrading of existing masonry walls with plasterboard adhered directly to the masonry.

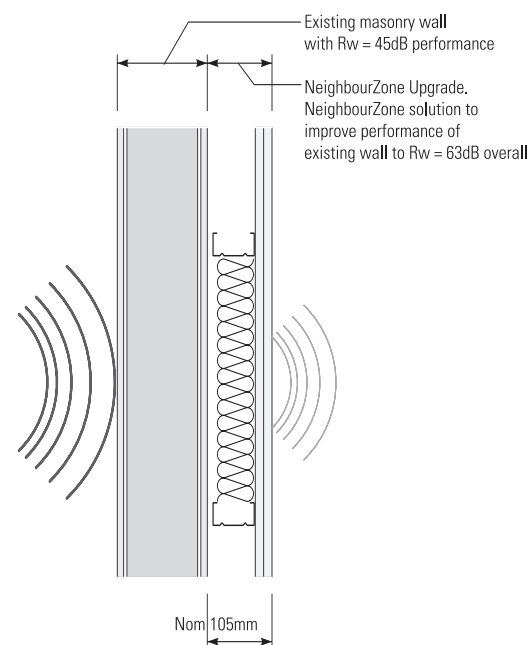
Neighbour noise problem: Home Theatre/Hi-Fi
Voices
TV
Phone ringing/answering machine
Plumbing

System Description

Upgrade of existing masonry wall consisting of:

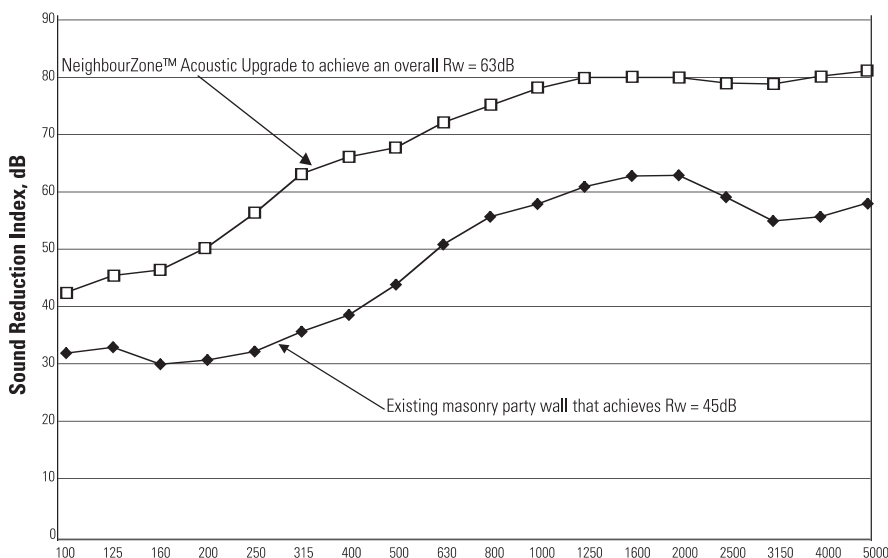
- 2 layers of 13mm Boral SoundStop® Plasterboard
- Free-standing 64mm steel studs
- 75mm Sonobatt Type 1 glasswool insulation

Upgrade width: 105mm nom.



Acoustic Performance

Target Acoustic Rating: $R_w=63\text{dB}^1$



The graph on the left shows the improvement that will be achieved over various frequency bands². The noise problems identified typically occur between the 100 Hz and 1000 Hz frequency bands. The critical frequencies in this case are in the low frequency bands (100Hz & 125Hz) due to sub woofer bass speakers associated with home theatre/Hi Fi systems. NeighbourZone™ system NZ2 clearly meets the target 10dB improvement (or subjectively halving the noise) in these frequency bands.

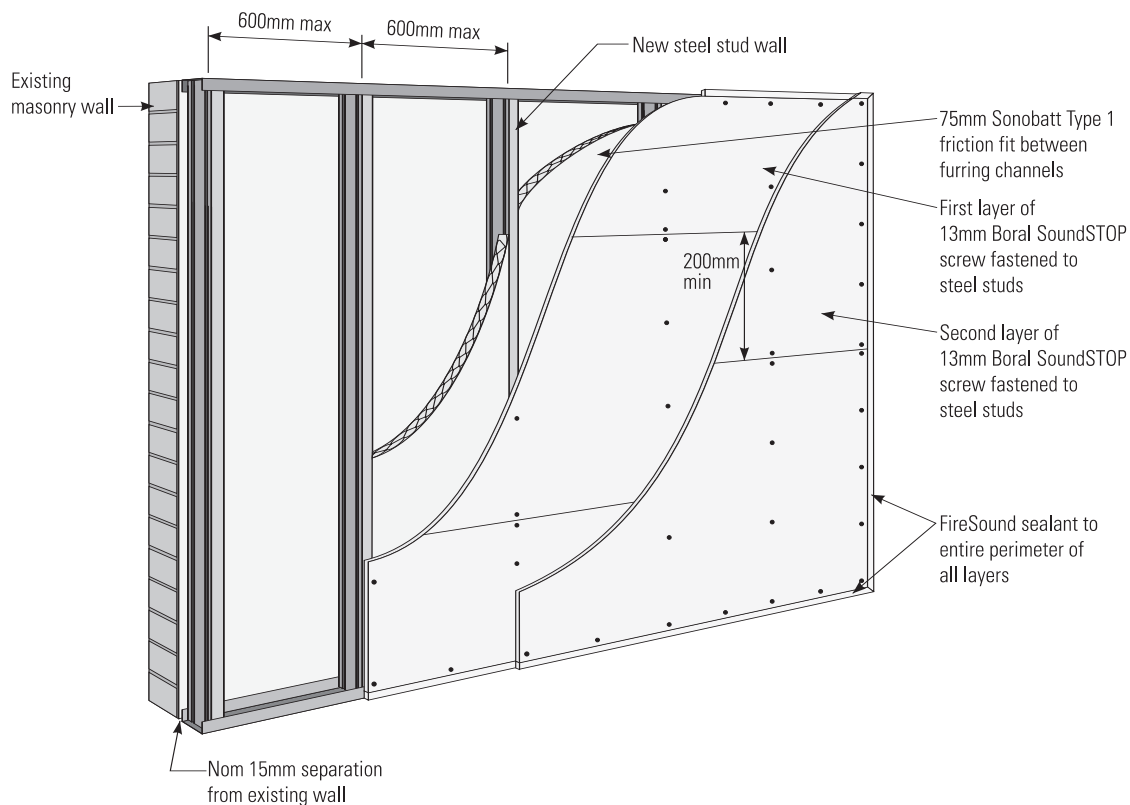
¹The R_w , or weighted Sound Reduction Index, is a single-number rating used to compare the sound insulation properties of walls, floors, ceilings, windows or doors. The higher the R_w rating - the better the sound isolation provided. Target acoustic rating applies to dividing walls with $R_w=45\text{dB}$ – the minimum requirement of the Australian Building Code for walls that separate sole-occupancy units, apartments and townhouses.

²The improvements shown are indicative only. Actual improvements achieved will be dependent on specific site conditions.

Construction Checklist

- Prior to commencement, check method of plasterboard fixing to existing masonry wall is via daubs of adhesive. Plasterboard fixed by battens/furring channel will need to be removed prior to applying NeighbourZone™ system. In this case, visually check the surface of exposed block walling for any cracks/unsealed penetrations and seal appropriately with Firesound® sealant. If the majority of the wall surface is in poor condition, bag or render the entire surface prior to applying the acoustic upgrade.
- Remove existing cornice and skirting.
- Cut back any carpet sufficient to allow base of plasterboard in NeighbourZone™ system to be sealed against concrete slab or timber floor.
- Cut-back nominally 300mm of ceiling if NeighbourZone™ system is required to extend through to underside of floor/roof above³. (Note: do not cut-back if ceiling is fire rated).
- If required, remove existing GPO's and extend electric wiring so that fire rating of existing wall is not downgraded.
- Fix 64mm top & bottom steel track nominally 15mm away from existing party wall.
- Friction fit 64mm steel studs into top & bottom track @ 600mm max. centres (use noggings as required).
- Install Insulation Solutions 75mm thick Sonobatt Type 1 glasswool batts (32 kg/m³ density) tight between furring channels.
- Fasten each layer of Boral SoundStop® plasterboard to steel studs with screws at 400mm max. centres in the field of the board and at 300mm max. centres on sheet edges. Leave a nom. 6mm gap around perimeter and fill with FireSound sealant (the first layer of SoundStop® plasterboard can sit on a nom. 6mm closed cell acoustic foam in lieu of sealant).
- If GPO's are required, box in or use proprietary acoustically rated GPO such as HPM acoustic/fire box.

Installation Details



³ This is required where a significant flanking path occurs via the party wall above the ceiling line and through the adjacent ceiling. Typically, this will be where the bare masonry wall extending above the ceiling line is causing sound leakage due to penetrations, cracks in mortar joints, or unsealed joints, and where the adjacent ceiling has a number of penetrations including down lights and a/c or heater vents. Treating only up to the ceiling line in this case will yield an unsatisfactory result.