Group Rating Required for External Signs

Under NCC clause C2D14, the Group rating depends on the building's Class and its rise in storeys.

Rise in storeys	Class 2, 3, 9 Apartments, hotels, hospitals, schools, aged care	Class 5, 6, 7, 8 Offices, shops, factories, warehouses, car parks
1	None	None
2	Group 1 or 2 *	None
3	Group 1 or 2	Group 1 or 2
4 or more	Group 1 or 2	Group 1 or 2
Freestanding pylon or monolith Not fixed to a building	None	

Where Group 1 or 2 applies, NCC clause C2D14(h) permits the sign only if it:

> **(i) “achieves a group number of 1 or 2”**
> The sign must have a Group 1 or Group 2 result, as shown in the table above.

> **(ii) “does not extend beyond one storey”**
> The sign must fit within the height of a single storey of the building. It can't cross from one storey into another.

> **(iii) “does not extend beyond one fire compartment”**
> A fire compartment is a part of the building separated by fire-resisting walls or floors. The sign can't cross from one compartment into another.

> **(iv) “is separated vertically from other signs permitted under (h) by at least 2 storeys”**
> Any other sign that relies on this same rule must be at least 2 storeys above or below this sign.

***** A 2-storey Class 2, 3 or 9c building may be Type C under C2D6, in which case no rating applies. For mixed-use buildings, C2D4 uses the Class of the top storey.

Source: NCC 2022 Volume One (Amdt 2), Table C2D2 and clauses C2D3, C2D4, C2D6, C2D10 and C2D14. Same wording in NCC 2025, adopted in SA from 1 May 2027.