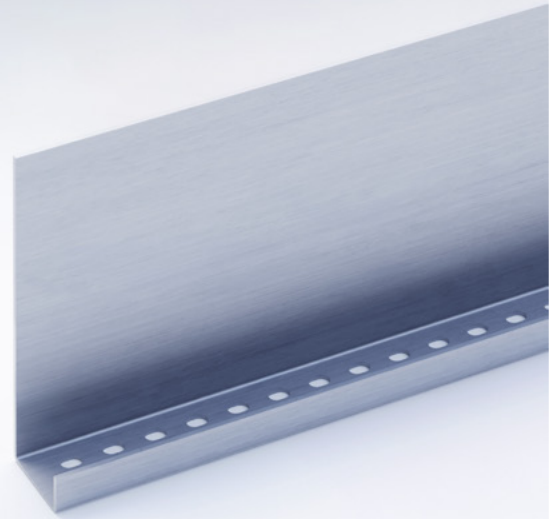


Aluminium Cavity Closer

Product Technical Statement



Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer is a purpose-designed component used at the base of drained and ventilated cavity-based wall cladding systems. The product is intended to cover the bottom of the cavity of wall cladding systems, while maintaining drainage, ventilation, and vermin resistance.

Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer is manufactured from roll-formed aluminium and is designed for use with external wall cladding systems where a drained cavity is required. This forms part of the overall cladding installation detail and must be installed together with compatible wall underlay, rigid air barrier where applicable, cavity battens, flashings, fixings, and cladding profiles.

1. Product description and features

Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer incorporates a horizontal base section to provide support and assist with positioning during installation. The profile includes ventilation and drainage openings that provide an opening area of approximately 1300 mm² per metre length, allowing moisture to drain from the cavity while maintaining airflow.

The profile shape is designed to suit installation at the bottom of drained and ventilated cavity-based wall cladding systems. The cavity closer assists in closing the lower edge of the cavity while helping to restrict the entry of vermin and debris. Vulcan Cavity Closer is manufactured in New Zealand from aluminium, which is recyclable and suitable for use in external building applications when correctly detailed, installed, and maintained.

2. Drawings and dimensions

The drawings included in this statement are intended to illustrate the general form, dimensions, and installation intent of Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer. Typical product dimensions include an 80mm vertical height and a 20 mm cavity depth. Ventilation and drainage openings are incorporated into the horizontal base section, with typical openings sized to provide the required drainage and ventilation area.

The drawings are indicative only and should be read together with the project-specific cladding details, fixing requirements, wall underlay or rigid air barrier details, cavity batten layout, and relevant installation instructions. Final installation detailing remains the responsibility of the designer, builder, and installer for the specific project conditions.

FIGURE 1: Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer profile and dimensions

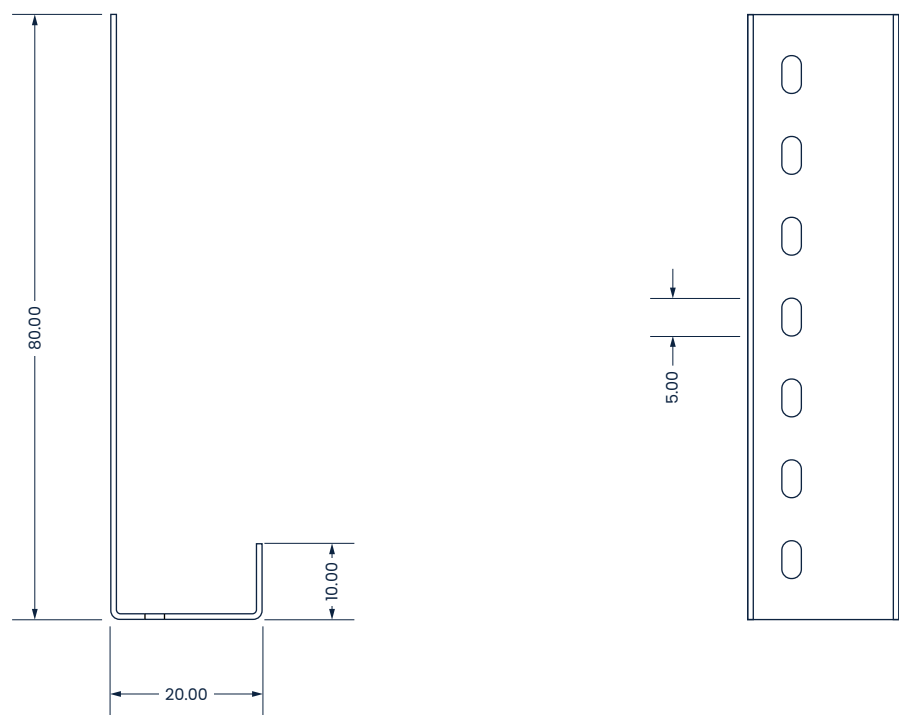


FIGURE 2: Vertical weatherboard cavity system – window head on cavity

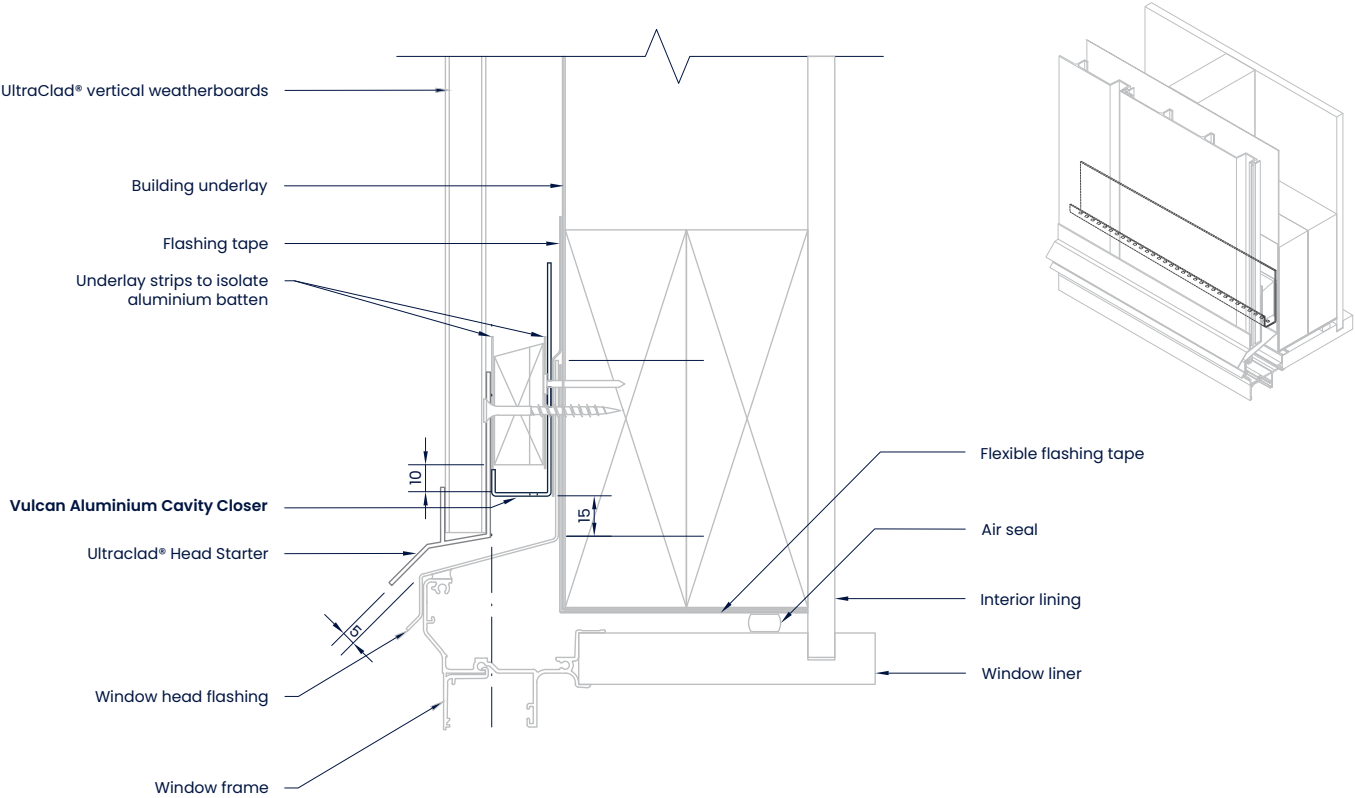
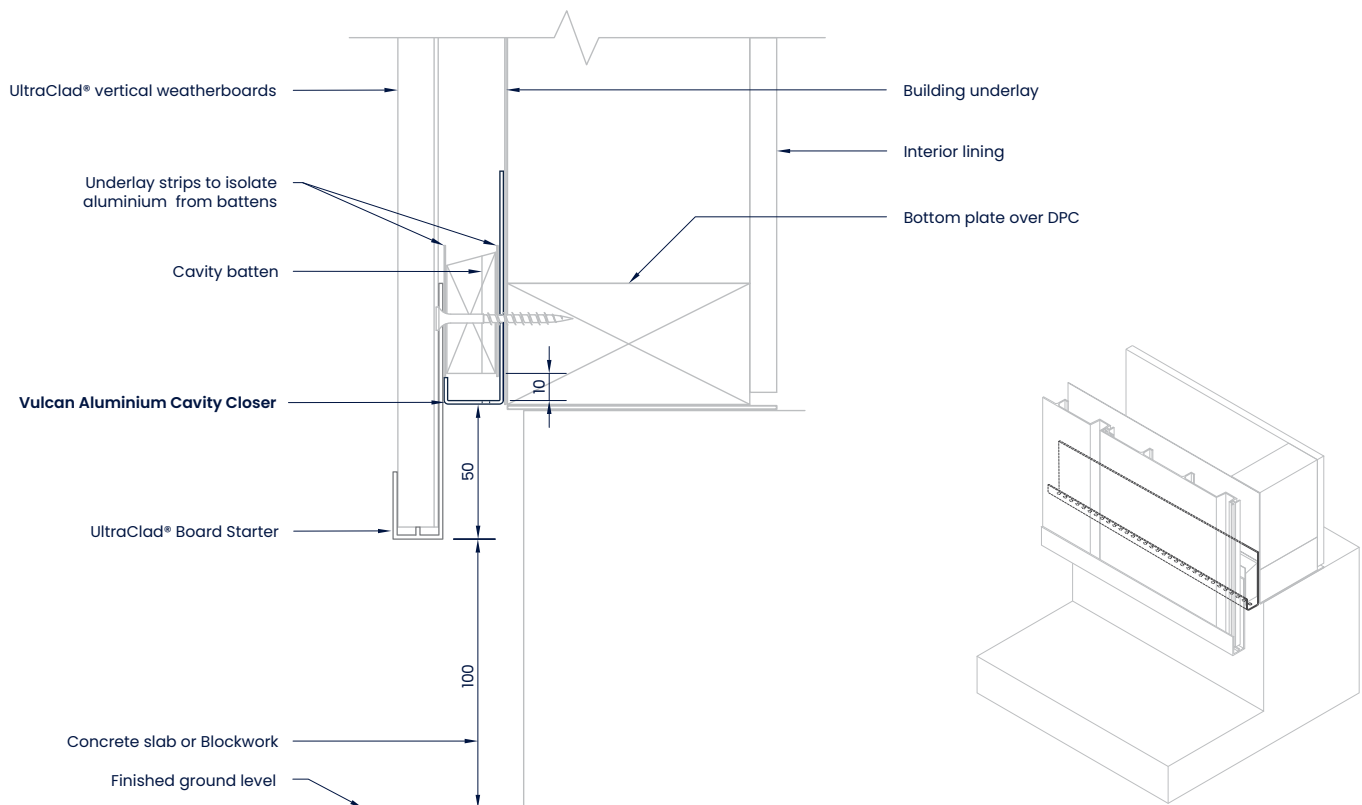


FIGURE 3: Vertical weatherboard cavity system – vertical wall starter

3. Scope

3.1 TIMBER FRAMING

Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer can be used on timber-framed buildings within the following scope:

- The scope limitations of New Zealand Building Code (NZBC) Acceptable Solution E2/AS1, paragraph 1.1 with regard to building height and floor plan area; and
- With cavity-based wall cladding systems complying with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 or with proprietary cavity-based wall cladding systems covered by a valid BRANZ Appraisal; and
- Situated in NZS 3604 Wind Zones up to, and including, Extra High, and specific design wind pressures up to and including 2.5 kPa ultimate limit state (ULS).

3.2 STEEL FRAMING

Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer may be used on steel-framed buildings within the following scope:

- Constructed with steel framing in accordance with the scope limitations of NASH Building Envelope Solutions, paragraph 1.1; and
- With cavity-based wall cladding systems complying with NZBC Acceptable Solution E2/AS1 or with proprietary cavity-based wall cladding systems covered by a valid BRANZ Appraisal; and
- Situated in NASH Standard Part Two Wind Zones up to, and including, Extra High, and specific design wind pressures up to and including 2.5 kPa ultimate limit state (ULS).

4. NZBC Compliance

Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer forms part of the external wall cladding system and contributes to compliance with the NZBC, particularly:

Clause B2 Durability: Performance B2.3.1(b) 15 years and B2.3.2. Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer is manufactured from aluminium and is intended to satisfy the durability requirements applicable to non-structural cladding-related components, subject to correct detailing, material compatibility, fixing selection, installation, exposure conditions, and maintenance.

The product is intended to contribute to compliance with NZBC Clause B2 Durability, including Performance B2.3.1(b) and B2.3.2, when used in accordance with this Product Technical Statement and the relevant project specifications.

Clause E2 External moisture: Performance E2.3.2. Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer assists with the performance of drained and ventilated cavity-based wall cladding systems by helping to close the base of the cavity while allowing drainage and airflow to be maintained.

When installed as part of a complete external wall cladding system, including compatible wall underlay, rigid air barrier where applicable, cavity battens, flashings, fixings, and cladding profiles, the product may contribute to compliance with NZBC Clause E2 External Moisture, including Performance E2.3.2.

The cavity closer is not a stand-alone weathertightness component and must be used together with correctly designed and installed cladding and flashing details.

Clause C3 Fire affecting areas beyond the fire source:

Performance C3.7(a). This cavity closure is manufactured from aluminium, which is a non-combustible metal material. When used as part of a complete external wall cladding system, the product may contribute to the fire performance of the overall wall assembly, subject to the design and compliance requirements applicable to the specific building and cladding system.

The overall fire performance of the external wall system remains dependent on the complete wall assembly, including cladding material, cavity construction, insulation, wall underlay or rigid air barrier, framing, fixings, and junction details.

Clause F2 Hazardous Building Materials: Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer is manufactured from aluminium and is not expected to present a hazard to building users when handled, installed, and maintained in accordance with normal construction practice.

Cut edges, drilled holes, and site-modified sections should be handled carefully to avoid sharp edges. Appropriate personal protective equipment should be used during cutting, drilling, handling, and installation.

5. Installation

Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer must be installed at the base of the drained and ventilated cavity in accordance with the project-specific cladding details and the requirements of the relevant wall cladding system.

The cavity closer shall be positioned to maintain a clear drainage and ventilation path at the base of the cavity. Ventilation and drainage openings must not be blocked by sealants, fixings, cladding components, flashings, debris, or other construction materials.

The cavity closer shall be fixed to the supporting substrate using suitable corrosion-resistant fixings at appropriate centres. Fixings must be selected to suit the substrate, exposure environment, and adjacent materials. Fixings should be positioned clear of the drainage and ventilation openings.

For timber substrates, stainless steel or other suitable corrosion-resistant screws should be used. For steel substrates, fixings must be compatible with the steel framing and the aluminium cavity closer. Where aluminium is in contact with dissimilar metals, the designer and installer must consider the risk of galvanic corrosion, particularly in wet, coastal, industrial, geothermal, or high-corrosion environments.

Where required, separation materials, compatible coatings, washers, tapes, or other isolation methods should be used to reduce the risk of dissimilar metal corrosion. All cut edges, drilled holes, and site modifications must be made carefully and should not compromise the drainage, ventilation, or vermin-resistance function of the product.

6. Maintenance

Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer is intended to require minimal maintenance when correctly installed as part of a complete external wall cladding system. However, the ongoing performance of the cavity closer depends on the wall cavity remaining clear and able to drain and ventilate.

The building owner or maintenance contractor should inspect the external wall cladding system at least annually, and after significant weather events, where appropriate. Inspections should include the base of the cladding, flashings, penetrations, junctions, and cavity drainage openings to confirm that drainage and ventilation paths remain clear and unobstructed.

Any accumulated debris, blockage, corrosion, damaged fixings, displaced components, or damage to adjacent cladding and flashing details should be addressed promptly. Maintenance of the overall cladding system shall be carried out in accordance with the cladding supplier's recommendations and relevant project maintenance requirements.

7. Health and safety

Normal construction safety procedures must be followed when handling, cutting, drilling, and installing Vulcan Aluminium Cavity Closer. Gloves and eye protection should be used where appropriate, particularly when handling cut aluminium sections or drilled components.

Care must be taken to avoid injury from sharp edges, swarf, burrs, and site-cut material. Any burrs or sharp edges created during cutting or drilling should be removed or made safe before installation.

References

- Vulcan Ultraclad® Vertical Cavity Cladding System Product Technical Statement
- NZBC B2/AS1 Durability
- NZBC E2/AS1 External Moisture
- NZBC C/VM2 Fire Safety
- AS/NZS 1170.2 Structural design actions – Wind Actions
- NZS 3603 Timber Structures Standard
- NZS 3604 Timber-Framed Buildings
- NASH Standard Part Two: 2019 Light Steel Framed Buildings
- NASH Building Envelope Solutions: 2019
- New Zealand Building Code (NZBC)
- Acceptable Solutions, Verification Methods and handbooks



For more information or to request a sample, contact Vulcan Building Systems.
buildingsystems.vulcan.co

