



The Performance-Based Design Process

Performance-based design (PBD) leverages engineering tools to develop fire protection solutions in buildings. Since there is no one-size-fits-all approach to buildings, strictly adhering to prescriptive codes isn't always the best option. PBD proves you can design a solution to overcome any challenge without sacrificing fire protection or life safety for occupants. Below is a general overview of the PBD process.

PRE-ANALYSIS STAGE →

1

Hold an initial consultation to understand the situation.

2

Assess the prescriptive means of code compliance.

3

Determine the technical basis of a PBD approach.

4

Discuss potential implications with the design team.



ANALYSIS STAGE →

5

Prepare letter of intent for AHJ approval of PBD approach.

6

Prepare and review design brief with AHJ.

7

Prepare a fire and egress model and run simulations.

8

Evaluate the results and relay design requirements to the team.



POST-ANALYSIS STAGE →

9

Prepare the final PBD report.

10

Respond to any final comments from stakeholders and AHJ.

11

Obtain final approval, including a sign-off of the approach and basis.

12

Review design documents to ensure proper PBD implementation.

