



Roofing: What's new on the scene?

building today

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE REGISTERED MASTER BUILDERS FEDERATION

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- RMBF Conference Overview
- RMBF performance
- Liability of individuals behind development companies

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building today

Building Practitioner Licensing will soon be introduced, and an indication of just how close it is is reflected in the fact that the company charged with finding assessors is actively looking to appoint them now.

RMBF chief executive Pieter Burghout delves into some stats behind the organisation's recent performance and comes up with some heartening conclusions.

New Zealand's biggest bi-annual construction show is also taking place this month, with the BuildNZ 07 event on again in Auckland. It's a great chance for those in the industry to source new products and network with others.

This month we also take a look at roofing and associated products, and reflect on the industry's accident rates — especially those occurring at height.

Andrew Darlington
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cover story 28, 29

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chief's chat

by ceo pieter burghout

Looking back on RMBF performance

One of the things we did at the recent RMBF conference in Taranaki is present our Annual Review for the work we did last year as the RMBF.

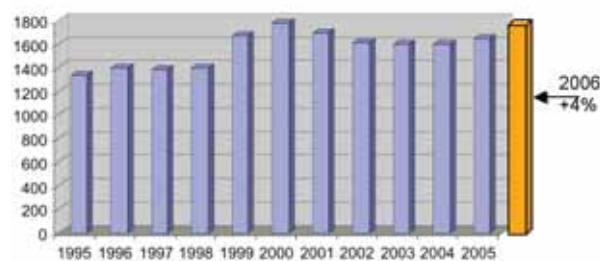
It was a heck of a busy year last year (as it was for the construction industry as a whole) and it doesn't feel as if things have slowed down either!



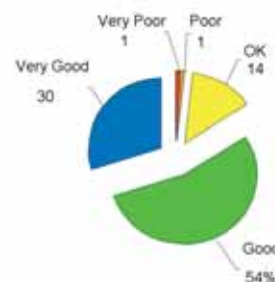
The Annual Review has a couple of key highlights for the Federation:

- We grew our members by 4% last year, the largest increase we've had for some seven years.

RMBF membership numbers



RMBF Membership



- We received some really useful feedback from our members through a survey we took of around half of them. We achieved what I thought was a very healthy 98% general satisfaction level although, of course, it would be much better to have had a much higher percentage ranking us as very good!



From left: Minister of Building and Construction Clayton Cosgrove, RMBF president Ashley Hartley, Kath and Neale Stevens (NT Stevens Ltd, Supreme Award winner, 2006 House of the Year) and PlaceMakers chief executive David Edwards.

- 2006 saw a record number of entries in the House of the Year and Commercial Project of the Year Awards in association with PlaceMakers, and in the Apprentice of the Year Competition in association with Carters.
- We generated more than \$3 million in unpaid media profile, 75% higher than in 2005.
- And we continued to score very highly on the builders preference list — 80% of consumers said they would prefer to use a Registered Master Builder when it came to building their home or doing their renovation work.

Of course, there are many other highlights from 2006, but you will have to read the Year in Review document to get the full story!

We will be sending out electronic copies of the document to all members very shortly so, if you're interested, make a point of downloading the file to see what your organisation has been doing for you.

RMBF Conference 2007 — an overview

Taranaki turned on some stunning weather for the record number of 420-plus attendees who gathered in New Plymouth in April for the annual Registered Master Builders Federation conference.

The sun wasn't the only thing to shine over the weekend either — members of the Taranaki Registered Master Builders Association were also outstanding in the part they played in the organisation of the conference.

President Dave Fabish and his team, along with Tony Laker and his crew from Invercargill House of Travel, plus the RMBF national office conference team, all worked extremely well together to produce a high energy, high impact conference packed with inspiring business sessions, educational and motivational speakers, and entertaining evening functions.

Although newly invested RMBF Board member Dave Fabish admits to being a "bit tired" after the conference, he praises his "dream team" of Association members and their wives for working so well together and putting on such a good show.

Delegates were on the go from the moment Minister of Building and Construction Clayton Cosgrove opened the conference. NBPR put on the first happy hour and after a quick spruce-up everyone was on the bus to Yarrow Stadium for the ITM Welcome Function where All Black legend Ian Jones entertained the crowd.

The RMBF Charity Auction held at the function raised a remarkable sum of \$38,750 for New Plymouth's House for Karen.

Other highlights of the conference included Sika's tasty martinis at the Sika happy hour, inspirational talks from double amputee Mark Inglis and The Attitude Doctor Tom Mullholland, Carters' adventurous progressive dinner and, of course, the PlaceMakers Gala Dinner — James Bond style.

Wives and partners of RMBs enjoyed a full and fun GIB Partners Programme while the Mico Kids Club looked after the kids and ensured they burned heaps of energy with all the activities they had lined up.

On a more serious note, Anthony Leighs and Dave Fabish were invested on to the RMBF Board, while John Marshall stood down from the Board after seven years of dedicated service.

Speakers from Beacon Pathways and the Green Building Council talked about one of the trends set to impact the construction industry over the next few years — Green Building — highlighting that sustainability is here to stay.

There was some political football played between Labour's Clayton Cosgrove and National MP Nick Smith, with Builder Practitioner Licensing being a serious issue in the lead-up to the general election in 2008.

RMBF chief executive Pieter Burghout has heard back from many delegates who said they thoroughly enjoyed the 2007 conference and were already looking forward to 2008. "We work extremely hard to put on an informative, entertaining and high-energy conference event, and that was reflected in the 30% increase in attendees this year plus, of course, Taranaki being the great location that it is! We will have to get our thinking caps on again pretty soon for the 2008 conference — so watch this space!"

• The RMBF wishes to thank the Conference silver sponsors who provided funding for all these fantastic events: Accident Compensation Corporation, Air New Zealand, Bluesky Wireless, BCITO, Department of Building and Housing, Caltex, Firth Industries, Gib, Inland Revenue, James Hardie, Master Build Services Ltd, MasterSure, Mico Plumbing, NBPR, Nulook Windows and Doors, Site Safe, Telecom, Velux and Woodwork Treated Timber.

RMBF presents inaugural Meritorious Service Award

The RMBF's Meritorious Service Award sets out to recognise the significant contributions made by members to the RMBF and the construction industry as a whole.

Announced at the 2007 RMBF conference, the inaugural recipient is past national president Arthur Grant of Otago.

Unfortunately, Arthur wasn't able to attend the conference and was therefore presented the award at the Volume Builder and Major Contractor Forum in Christchurch in May.

Arthur has also recently, and very deservedly, been presented with a life membership of the Otago Master Builders Association.

He was president of the Otago Master Builders Association from August 1991 until March 1994, and was on the OMBA committee until November 1997.

He has been heavily involved in the success of the RMBF through a number of positions:

1994-1996: RMBF national councillor

1997: RMBF junior vice president

1998: RMBF vice president

1999: RMBF president

2000-2004: RMBF Board of Directors

2002: MBS Board of Directors

In August 2004, as a nominee of the RMBF, Arthur joined BRANZ and in September 2004 was elected to its board. BRANZ then appointed him as an independent director in September 2006.

"I was very surprised and humbled to receive such an Award, especially as it has been voted on by my peers," he says.

"Whilst this Award is truly appreciated I have always considered it a privilege and reward in itself to serve such an esteemed organisation as the RMBF that has for more than 100 years provided substantial benefits not only for its members but, just as important, for the building industry as a whole."

He also states that the opportunity to meet and mingle with countless wonderful people and develop many enduring friendships is the most rewarding aspect of his work with the RMBF.

"I have received far more from my association with the RMBF than I have contributed both personally and business wise."

The RMBF Board will continue to use the Meritorious Service Award to recognise valuable contributions to the organisation and to the industry as a whole.



Otago's Arthur Grant — the inaugural recipient of the RMBF's Meritorious Service Award.

Voluntary contributions add strength to RMBF and to the industry

By RMBF president

Ashley Hartley

Over the past 30 years the unselfish contribution RMBF members make to our elite organisation — and to the industry as a whole — has never ceased to amaze me.

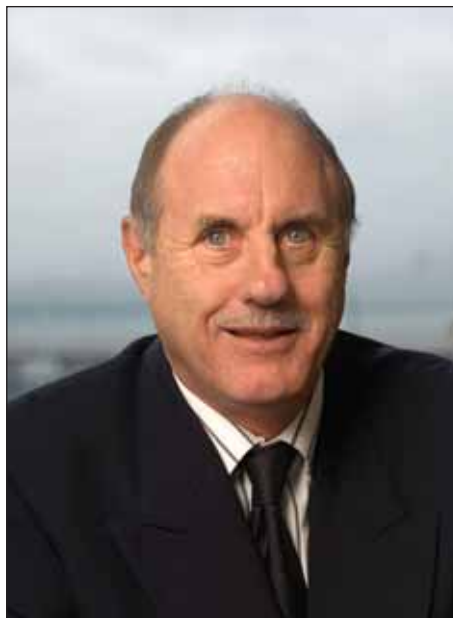
At our 107th Annual Conference in New Plymouth in April we announced the Meritorious Service Award, for members that have made significant contributions to the work of the RMBF and the industry at a national level.

You will see elsewhere in *Building Today* that the inaugural recipient of this award was Arthur Grant from the Otago Association. Arthur, like many others before and after him, has played a huge part in the RMBF being where it is today, and I would like to personally say “thanks Arthur”.

Arthur not only gave up (and still gives up) his own personal time, but his company, Mainzeal Construction Ltd, allows him the freedom (obviously at an expense to them) to involve himself in aspects of Master Builders.

Our organisation is made stronger by the participation of willing members and/or their staff. We must not forget that many of the volunteers are permitted to spend hours/days on RMBF business because their companies realise that the benefits and rewards to them far outweigh the time and cost away from their businesses.

The RMBF is the pre-eminent organisation of the construction industry in New Zealand, and our



members account for 65% of the total spend of around \$12 billion each year across the residential and commercial sectors.

While at the Westland RMBA AGM in May, I pointed out to members that their president Peter Blight, along with others around the country, are dedicating considerable time to RMBF business on a local and national level.

Peter and others have young families and businesses to run, but see the benefit in being actively involved in the RMBF. This involvement not only helps ensure a better industry for all of us, but has the added benefit of improving the confidence of each and every one of them as well as giving a huge added advantage to their businesses.

You may ask how? It's through the networking and sharing of information that in the past would have not been forthcoming due to the concern that a competitive advantage would be lost.

My view has always been that it's better to share knowledge with your fellow members to help upskill them than to have them price work cheaply due to ignorance.

This way your competitors are more likely to help “raise the bar” with price, quality and the like. This is a win-win for everyone.

I also look back on the longest, and still active, committee of the Federation, namely the Commercial and Contracts Committee. I have been involved since 1985 and during this time we have had many great people contribute.

In fact, many of our chairmen have been past presidents of the RMBF, including Frank Allen, Roger Bradford and Ivan Linnell. I have also been fortunate to chair this committee.

All the input into this committee is completely voluntary, and extends way beyond the four meetings a year to include, among other things, involvement with Conditions of Contracts.

Other work that goes on for which we are truly grateful includes House of the Year and Apprentice of the Year judging, along with the local Association representatives covering the day-to-day running of each Association.

Thank you to you all, for helping make the RMBF what it is, and also helping to improve the whole construction industry.

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Getting it right for builders

A key strategy for the RMBF is for us to take a lead role within the building industry around the critical issues it faces — including those that are legislative and/or regulatory.

We are heavily involved in working with a number of stakeholders, including Government departments, to help form and influence policy that is practicable and properly considered from a builder's point of view.

Unfortunately for many of our builder members, this policy stuff can be more than a bit boring. Nonetheless, it's still pretty important, so we thought we would give you a snapshot of some of the work we're doing in this area.

Before doing so, it's also useful to note that, for us to do this policy work successfully, we have to have good strong relationships with a broad range of organisations, stakeholders and Government departments.

This is so we can get our points across in a way that is comprehensive, collaborative (where possible) and which results in the best outcomes possible for the construction industry and for New Zealand as a whole.

So, as well doing this work itself, a lot of the background stuff we do is maintain solid relationships across a whole range of other organisations.

Building Practitioner Licensing

The whole area of Building Practitioner Licensing is obviously a big one for RMBF — and we have been working with the Government for some four years now on getting the licensing framework right, and also getting it ready for launching in November later this year.

Licensing competency standards

Each licence class will have its own set of competency standards — ie, what people have to know and be able to do to get their licence. Sign-off on the final competency standards has almost been completed by the various working groups (carpentry, site and design).

There are a couple of outstanding issues, mostly around the site lead role, but these should be sorted out in the next few weeks.

Assessment process

We are working very closely with the DBH around the design of the assessment process. This process is more or less where everything needs to come together — the forms, competency standards, assessment tools and assessment process.

We have been putting a number of people through pilot

assessments, so that as many of the wrinkles as possible are ironed out before the process goes public later this year.

Liability

One of the bigger issues we have been raising with the Government is the risk we saw around legal liability for licence holders, given the current requirement in the Building Act for Licensed Building Practitioners (LBPs) to “certify” their work.

The Government has agreed with us on that risk, and so changes to the Building Act have been drafted to clarify that LBPs will be “responsible” for their work, and have their licences at risk should their work not be up to standard. But they will not need to “certify” their work.

So, that's very good news and a great outcome for the work the RMBF and other industry parties have done in this area.

DIY proposals

This topic has become particularly hot since the Minister's announcement around the possible loosening of the restrictions on DIYers. We are working very closely with the DBH and the Minister to see if we can agree something that will work.

Continued page10

Winner confirms right career choice

Paul Randall is sure he made the right choice in joining the construction industry after winning the Registered Master Builders 2006 Apprentice of the Year, in association with Carters.

Randall, who was named the East Coast Region's Apprentice of the Year last year, entered the competition hoping to find out whether he had what it took to become a successful builder, and was thrilled to find out he had made the right career decision.

He attributes much of his success to the support and encouragement of his employer, Francis W Yates Ltd, as well as the training advisors from the BCITO.

“Francis and the other guys in the crew are always there to answer questions and have been incredibly helpful,” he says.

“I have been given the opportunity to really step up in my third year, and that has helped me advance more quickly.”

Francis Yates is a great supporter of the apprenticeship programme, and currently employs five apprentices.

“We are very proud of Paul's achievements, and he is a great employee. I have been training apprentices for 25 years, and would certainly encourage all my guys to enter the Apprentice of the Year competition,” he says.

“It gives them a great opportunity to test themselves against their peers.”

Randall chose the construction industry because of the attractive nature of the work — it's outdoors and practical, and being paid to train and with nothing interesting him at university it seemed the natural choice.

He is in the final stage of his apprenticeship with the BCITO, and plans to enrol in a carpentry management course at Gisborne Polytechnic next year to continue improving his industry skills and prepare to one day run his own building company.

“My ultimate goal is to have my own company, but I am in no hurry to get there. I want to do it right,” he says.

Randall is also encouraging younger apprentices he works with to enter the Apprentice of the Year competition, after finding it such a worthwhile experience.

“Winning the competition was such a confidence boost, it has really confirmed I chose the right career path, and I would definitely encourage all other apprentices to give it a go,” he says.

Entries in the 2007 Registered Master Builders Apprentice of the Year competition, in association with Carters, are open until Tuesday, July 31. The competition is also supported by the Building and Construction Industry Training Organisation (BCITO) and the Department of Building and Housing.

Entry forms can be downloaded from www.masterbuilder.org.nz or www.bcito.org.nz, or are available at Carters stores nationwide.

Natural materials transform simplicity into stunning

Brackenridge Builders Ltd's striking development of an Omaha Beach property gained the top prize in the New Homes \$450,000-\$600,000 category of the Registered Master Builders 2006 House of the Year, in association with PlaceMakers.

Competition judges were particularly impressed by the immaculate presentation as well as the simple and effective use of natural materials in this beach setting.

"Here we have a beach house not quite on the beach. This property is a combination of innovative design and impeccable detail. Incorporating natural materials effectively transforms simplicity into stunning," the judges said.

The main living area has a coloured concrete floor forming an anchor, offsetting the large sliders designed to peel back to reveal a stunning view. A solid fireplace

acts as the focal point in an airy space of oversized glass and wood grain panels.

Brackenridge Builders created a home ideally suited to its beautiful surroundings. The clever use of beech ply wall linings and kitchen cabinetry adds to the natural appeal of this simply stunning beach house.

Downstairs, a wall of large glass sliders provides access to a private, L-shaped courtyard, enclosing a barbecue and spa pool. This clever design allows for outdoor living no matter which way the wind blows.

The built-in cabinetry and the natural wood beds in the rumpus room downstairs provide durability and practicality, while eye-catching sea views are captured from sizeable windows in a large double bedroom and bathroom with wooden flooring and muted wall colour.

Externally, a contemporary visual sensation has been created with a combination of materials — stained ply side walls and a wide cedar frame to the front and rear.

The design and attention to detail are what makes the property stand out. What also made it special during its evolution was the team effort and passion displayed by everyone involved in the home's construction.

"The owners and the builders were really passionate about the project," Brackenridge Builders says.

When asked what made them enter the property in the 2006 House of the Year competition, Brackenridge Builders says it is continually striving to be the best, and the competition is a good way to test the business.

"We've been part of the competition for the past few years. But the seed to enter this property was planted when we were having several of our properties photographed for promotional purposes.

"The photographer, who photographs many House of the Year properties, said to us 'You've just got to enter it!' And we did."

Winning a House of the Year award has had many benefits for the business.

"The win really cemented our place in the market. It also gives the team involved in the project a sense of pride. As a winner you receive a lot of effective nationwide exposure from which we have had lots of great feedback."

Brackenridge Builders Ltd is quick to offer words of encouragement to prospective or first-time entrants.

"Using House of the Year entry as a team goal is a great motivational tool. If you are starting a project that you're very excited about and proud to be undertaking, encourage all involved in the project that the best possible standards need to be achieved, and that the home has the potential to be a winner."



Patient care made easy

A purpose-built manufacturing and design facility constructed by Clelands Construction Ltd won the Taranaki-based builder the Seismic Industrial/Utility Project Award in the Registered Master Builders 2006 Commercial Project Awards, in association with PlaceMakers.

The winning project, located in the shadow of Mt Taranaki in New Plymouth, was built for Howard Wright Ltd, leaders in manufacturing and selling state-of-the-art hospital beds and other patient handling equipment.

Now 50 years old, the company decided it was time to consolidate from being located in five separate buildings to relocate under one roof in a purpose-built building.

"Our clients' desire was to create a simple, high quality, eco-friendly industrial facility with emphasis on staff comfort, efficiency and working environment," Martin Stephens of Clelands Construction says.

The competition judges noted: "The nature of Howard Wright's work is one of precision, and it was appropriate that this be reflected in the design and construction of the new building."



The site is strategically located in Bell Block on the arterial route between New Plymouth city and the airport. It is handy to the suburban shopping centre for staff but, more importantly, to the airport and on the main trucking route to enable efficient transportation of inward and outward goods.

The factory has natural light through translucent roof lights. North-facing glass provides solar energy to heat the building. This energy is stored in the exposed ground concrete insulated floor that runs the full length of the administration building.

In addition to the floor, precast concrete walls between the administration area and factory store energy as well as provide acoustic separation between the two main zones.

The passive solar design is augmented with gas-fired heated water run in the slab. Excessive solar gain is

limited by the use of aluminium louvres, dimensioned to admit winter sun but to exclude summer sun.

The management philosophy is unusual in that the owner of the company does not have a separate office, but works in the same open area as the staff. A small interview room has been provided for confidentiality when needed.

In summing up the property the competition judges said: "The use of high-calibre materials and quality workmanship is widely evident, and this open-plan, functional building has helped the client become more efficient in its day-to-day business processes."

Clelands Construction had 40 tradespeople plus consultants working on the project at the peak of construction, who were delighted by the win and the opportunity to benchmark the quality of their work.

"Achieving success in these Awards has greatly assisted our marketing efforts with potential clients. Premium industry recognition like this provides huge credibility to clients who place their trust in you," Mr Stephens says.

"It differentiates RMBs from others in the industry. The competition is nothing but positive for your business. Don't be afraid of being judged by your peers."

Mico continues its support of industry excellence

Mico Bathrooms, New Zealand's premier plumbing supplies merchandiser for bathrooms, kitchens and laundries, is continuing its support of the Registered Master Builders House of the Year competition, in association with PlaceMakers.

A long-time sponsor of the Mico Bathrooms Excellence Award in the lifestyle category of the House of the Year competition, Mico Bathrooms says its partnership with Registered Master Builders aligns well with its business.

"We've built our brand around being a specialist and expert in designing and providing quality bathroom solutions," according to Mico Bathrooms marketing services manager Iain Harrison.

"We have exclusive international brands and superior technical knowledge and expertise."

Mr Harrison says Mico Bathrooms' support of the House of the Year competition reinforces the company's own brand values and commitment to supporting quality and integrity in building, and industry excellence and expertise.

The Mico Bathrooms Excellence Award recognises a

bathroom that best meets the lifestyle and family needs of home owners. It must demonstrate obvious workmanship quality, specification and installation requirements, and functionality of design and fittings.

"The bathroom is an important feature in any home, and this lifestyle award allows us to recognise the thought and technical skill that goes in to planning and building an award-winning bathroom," Mr Harrison says.

"Over recent years there's been quite a shift with home owners taking more control and ownership in deciding the design, quality and source of their bathroom products. We're looking forward to being part of the 2007 competition and seeing the bar raised even further with this year's entries."

Mico Bathrooms is a one-

stop shop for advice on products and design, and trade referrals.

Encompassing design and building services for commercial and domestic bathrooms, Mico Bathrooms employs consultants that have the expertise to guide customers through its extensive product range and assist with making "First Choice" solutions the right ones.



Lindesay Construction Ltd won the Mico Bathrooms Excellence Award in the Registered Master Builders 2006 House of the Year, in association with PlaceMakers.

Getting it right for builders

From page 7

Our general position is that we are happy to support genuine DIY exemptions if they can be managed, but we do not think there should be a general exemption which would allow rogue builders to masquerade as DIYers rather than get their licence.

Tradespeople getting paid to build houses should be licensed — it's that simple (see *Building Today* May 2007 for more on this topic).

Housing Affordability

There's been a lot of press recently about how unaffordable houses have become. The Commerce Select Committee is undertaking an inquiry into the problem, and we have been liaising with the DBH on ensuring the terms of reference are sufficiently broad on housing cost research, so that it picks up the right issues that have affected house costs.

The RMBF's approach to the Select Committee will be along the following lines:

- There has been substantive capital growth in the housing market over the past five years,
- Land prices have effectively doubled in the main centres in that time,
- Local government infrastructure levies/charges have risen over the same time from minimal cost to many thousands in fees for an average new home,
- Compliance and construction costs in the sector have risen as a consequence of the Building Act and the general response to leaky homes issues,
- There has been some cost increases from material cost increases and building industry salary and wage rate increases but, overall, these are not the key drivers of the cost increases (and, in our view, the salary and wage rate increases have been long overdue in comparison to other sectors).

We certainly want to avoid the presumption that builders are charging too much to build a house compared to five years ago. We know that's not the case, and so we want to validate that to the Select Committee with some detailed research, which we are now undertaking.

Insurance/Liability Industry Reference Group

The RMBF has put quite a lot of work and effort into a DBH policy review exploring the introduction of compulsory home warranty insurance. We understand that the final paper is currently with the Minister for his consideration — with no indication, as yet, to when decisions around this might be taken.

Building Code Review

We are part of an industry group that has been giving input into the Building Code Review project, and it's becoming clear that significant changes to the Code are on the horizon.

The DBH intends to release another discussion document in a month or so for further consultation with the industry, and is still on track to present the Minister a final set of recommendations in November.

On the one hand builders just build what the Building Code says is required — but on the other, we have a strong interest in making sure the Building Code doesn't get too complicated, and that it doesn't make house building too expensive, thereby impacting on home affordability.

Also in this area, we should note that the Government recently announced some energy efficiency enhancements to the Building Code, which it will implement ahead of the full-scale Code review.

Product Certification

The DBH has almost done most of the design work on a new product certification scheme, as required by the Building Act. In the short term, it's not likely the new scheme will deliver everything the broader industry (designers, builders and local authorities) is looking for, and so we are involved in continuing discussions around the need for a second-tier scheme to fill that gap.

We've had some good discussions with other industry parties, as well as the DBH, and we have reached a useful consensus on what needs to be done.

Green Building issues

We participate in a wide range of green building issues and activities, including:

- The Green Building Council's programme of designing green building rating schemes,
- EECA and solar water heating,
- Electricity Commission's Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL) programme,
- Smart Build web site, and
- Building Code/Business Council for Sustainability.

This area is a bit like the Building Code work referred to above.

On the one hand builders will build green buildings if that's what clients want, but on the other, we need to

stay abreast of this area so that we can fully inform our members as to what's happening and help them keep up to speed.

Timber treatment/timber standards

We continue to advocate for two core outcomes regarding this:

- Ensuring timber treatments are safe to use, and
- Reducing the complexity of the timber treatment standards.

It looks like we have been gaining traction on both of these in recent months which should see improved safety outcomes pretty quickly, but will also see less industry confusion around timber treatment standards.

Building Consent Authority (BCA) accreditation/consent delays

We did quite a lot of work last year on building consent delays and BCA accreditation. We maintain a watching brief on the local authorities' aim for a November 2007 BCA accreditation deadline.

ACC

We have been doing a lot of work collaborating on a joint submission process, coordinated by Business NZ, on an ACC proposal which would have seen more injuries added to Schedule 2 of the Accident Compensation Act.

The proposed changes to the Act would see more onus put on the employer to prove injuries such as hearing loss are not their fault as opposed to the employee as it is now.

The coordinated submission approach has resulted in the proposals being shelved for the time being.

That's actually a great outcome for the construction industry. To otherwise have hearing loss issues automatically noted as being the employer's fault would have been a huge onus on the industry, and we were able to usefully stop that from happening.

As you can see, there is a lot of activity happening to ensure we reach our strategy goals of proactive policy advocacy, and securing balanced and realistic building standards and regulations for the construction industry — and, hopefully, you weren't too bored while reading through this list.

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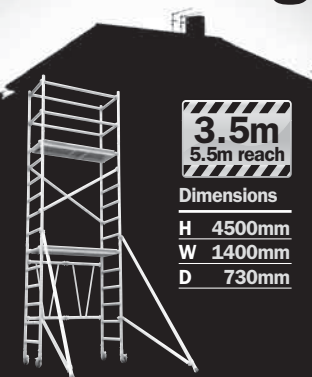
"The DryBlock system has taken masonry construction to the next level" says Managing Director Jeff Wilson.

"DryBlock produces peace-of-mind for all parties – the designer, the builder, the blocklayer, the building inspector and the property owner. We used stock item colour Fire Ash with a honed, clear sealed finish – the result looks fantastic. We've had a huge amount of positive comment. Even more important to us though, is the performance of the weathertight system."

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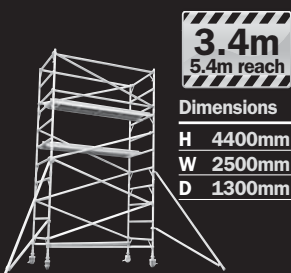
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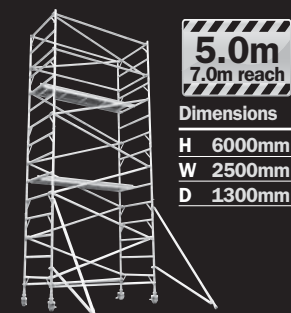
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5.4m reach

Dimensions

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W 2500mm

D 1300mm



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7.0m reach

Dimensions

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Wellington apprentices' Big Day Out . . .

For the sixth year running, the Wellington Registered Master Builders Association is encouraging carpentry apprentices to stay and progress through the building profession by taking them on a Trade Training Day.

The day includes visits to building-related manufacturing plants and the BRANZ research facility, and concludes with a social function hosted by Wellington City Council.

Thanks to the ongoing support of Carters, BCITO, Weltec, First Aluminium Windows and Doors, Metropolitan Glass, BRANZ and RMBF, the Wellington Association can ensure they put on a fantastic day for up to 80 apprentices.

This year's trip takes place on Tuesday, June 19, and attendance is complimentary.

If you are interested in getting on board, contact Association Manager Gerald Rixon on 04 381 2850, or email wrmmba@xtra.co.nz.

Look for a full account of the training day in next month's Building Today.

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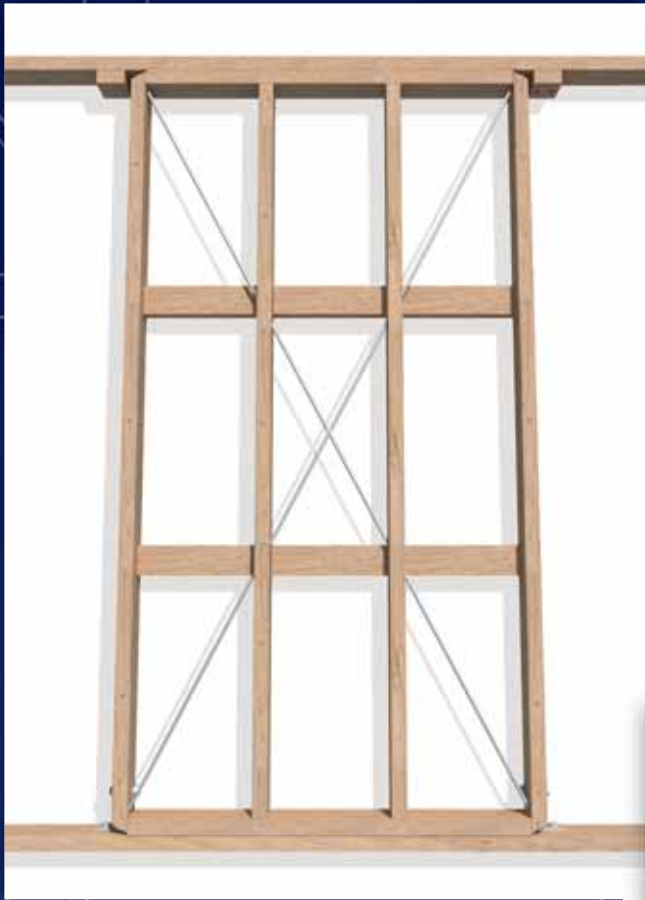
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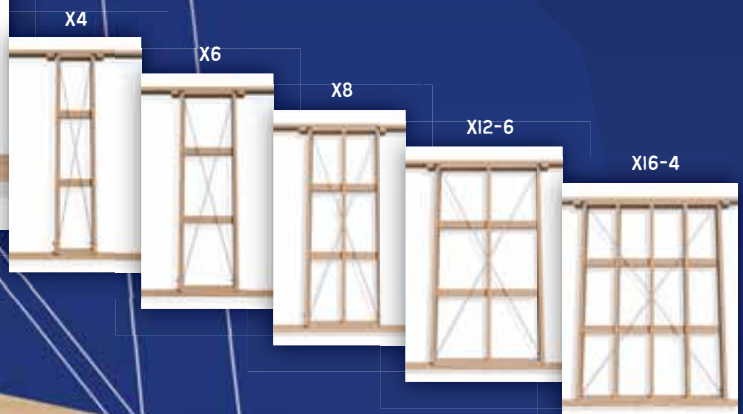


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Nailing it Home

Breaking news for members



MEMBERS LOGIN

HOY

AOY

BUILDING TODAY

This is a reproduction of RMBF's electronic newsletter to members.
Go to your online copy for access to all the information!

Employment Guide for Registered Master Builders' seminar – Coming your way!

This programme has been designed to provide members with a general understanding of a number of Acts relating to employment legislation in New Zealand, including the Holidays Act, the Employment Relations Act, Privacy and Human Rights Acts, and the Wages Protection Act. Course content has been further enhanced to develop exercises and coaching tools that reflect actual cases and situations from within the building and construction industry. Please see schedule below for a seminar near you.

Date	Time	Where
Wednesday 6 June	12.00 - 4.30pm	Dunedin
Thursday 7 June	12.00 - 4.30pm	Invercargill
Thursday 14 June	8.30 - 1.00pm	Wellington
Tuesday 19 June	12.00 - 4.30pm	Auckland
Wednesday 20 June	12.00 - 4.30pm	Hamilton
Tuesday 26 June	12.00 - 4.30pm	Timaru
Wednesday 27 June	12.00 - 4.30pm	Christchurch

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LOSP Treated Timber

There has been some recent media attention given to health effects of handling LOSP treated Timber. LOSP treatment of timber and the preservatives used in the LOSP formulations have all been approved for use in the timber treatment standard NZS3604:2003. For further information please refer to email Issue 6 of Nailing it Home.

Articles of interest from NAHB's Nation's Building News

Demand for "Green" builders exceeds supply as the housing market turns downwards. Design is the crucial factor in effectively building "Green". For further information please refer to email Issue 6 of Nailing it Home.

Home Energy Rating Scheme Update

Although the HERS development may have appeared a little quiet for the last couple of months, behind the scenes it has been anything but. A huge amount of work has gone into ensuring that the energy rating tool is the best option to meet our requirements and we share the preferred option with you. Having nearly completed the hurdle that was the tool selection process, the wheels are now in motion for other pieces of work such as tool modification and how assessor training might be delivered. With only eight months away from the launch date of December, we're looking forward to now stepping up our communication with you to develop a scheme that drives a real improvement in the energy efficiency of New Zealand's homes. For further information please refer to email Issue 6 of Nailing it Home.



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news

Hot and cold angle on speaker circuit

A national circuit of builder breakfasts entitled "Cold Calling" involving registered master builders and Architectural Profiles Ltd (APL) is to be held soon.

The breakfast meetings will focus on the proposed changes to the thermal efficiency provisions of the Building Code and the wider impact on building and architecture. The gatherings, which will feature a talk by 2007 Thermal Heart Antarctic adventurer Kevin Biggar on his and Jamie Fitzgerald's 52-day polar trek, will be held in 10 centres over a two-month period.

APL, proprietors of a new thermally efficient range of aluminium windows and doors, as well as the Altherm, First and Vantage brands, are sponsoring the "Cold Calling" circuit. The gatherings will be free to builders.

Registered Master Builders Federation chief executive Pieter Burghout and president Ashley Hartley will alternate as RMBF speakers at the breakfasts, and will update builders on builder licensing developments.

APL technical consultant Robert Campion will deal with impacts on builder practices arising from the Building Code energy changes, especially as they relate to glazing and window and door installation and support.

"The H1 changes as foreshadowed by the Government are quite far reaching," APL marketing manager Shane Walden says, "and we thought there was value in putting the circuit together and dealing in some detail with how the changes will affect builders at a 'hands-on' level.

"At the same time, to make it more interesting, we thought it would be good to get a Thermal Heart polar trekker along to tell builders what coldness is really all about and how the Antarctic ordeal panned out."

Mr Walden says APL is aware that there were two ends to a temperature gauge and that the company also wanted to get behind Auckland Registered Master Builder Marty van der Burg's Ethiopia housing initiative.

"So while we'll pay for the breakfasts we thought we'd pass the hat around at the gatherings to raise money for Marty and the builder team he plans to take to Ethiopia later in the year."

Mr van der Burg, who was a leading light in the South Auckland Ofafanua house project a few years ago, visited Ethiopia last October and February to investigate hands-on aid possibilities for a team of kiwi builders under the Habitat for Humanity programme. He plans to return with a team in October, the exact numbers dependent on fundraising.

The actual venues and times for the builder breakfasts will be advised directly to registered master builders in the regions and cities included on the circuit.

For further details members can contact RMBF membership services manager Craig Marsh on 04 385 5636, 0800762 328, 0274 404 007, or email craig.marsh@masterbuilder.org.nz. Circuit dates are:

- Auckland (North Shore), Wednesday, June 20
- Wellington, Thursday, June 21
- Napier, Wednesday, June 27
- Queenstown, Wednesday, July 4
- Nelson, Wednesday, July 11
- Christchurch, Thursday, July 12
- Palmerston North, Thursday, July 19
- Tauranga, Wednesday, July 25
- Auckland City, Thursday, August 9
- Hamilton, Friday, August 10

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That's helpful.



Assessors sought for Licensed Building Practitioner scheme

The Department of Building and Housing has contracted Assessment Systems Ltd (ASL) to be its assessment agent for the Licensed Building Practitioner (LBP) scheme, which gets under way in November this year.

ASL is now recruiting assessors who will need to be technically competent in the licence classes they assess, computer savvy, have good interpersonal and communication skills and have credibility in the industry.

The licences for which ASL is recruiting now are:

- Design 1, 2 & 3,
- Site 1, 2 & 3 (covers builders, site supervisors and construction managers), and
- Carpentry.

The fundamentals and techniques of assessment will be covered in a series of training sessions planned for

August through to October.

The majority of assessors will be engaged on contract, with a handful of permanent assessors being located in Auckland, Lower Hutt and Christchurch. The permanent assessors will primarily cover the high volume licence classes of Carpentry and Site 1.

By way of background, licensing will help ensure that people in the construction industry are competent and accountable for their work, so homes and buildings are designed and built right the first time.

Licensed Building Practitioners will be responsible for their work and the work of people they supervise within a clear framework of roles and accountabilities. To be licensed, building practitioners will need to demonstrate that they have the required experience, skills and knowledge.

Skilled people in the industry will benefit, in that their expertise will be formally recognised. Licensing will

promote, recognise and support professional skills and behaviour. Over time, there will be an increased emphasis on education and training, along with better career pathways.

ASL will manage the assessment process, and the assessors' task will be to evaluate written applications, check technical referees, to conduct, where need be, face-to-face interviews and then make recommendations to the Registrar for the scheme.

ASL has been involved in regulatory assessment in New Zealand since 1992, initially for aircraft pilot and aircraft maintenance in the aviation industry and, latterly, for Land Transport New Zealand for driving instructors and passenger vehicle operators. ASL also does aviation work in Australia and parts of Asia.

If you'd like to apply to be an assessor call Bob Brownlie at ASL on 04 931 0063 or 027 2076 51, or email BobB@asassessment.com.

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AS PER NZS 3604:1999

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★ A definitive guide to the description and installation of Roof and Ceiling Plane Braces as well as Roof Space Braces.

MiTek

LUMBERLOK simplifies roof bracing

LUMBERLOK from MiTek has produced a definitive guide to the description and installation of Roof and Ceiling Plane Braces as well as Roof Space Braces.

The LUMBERLOK guide covers roof bracing requirements to resist horizontal loads as set out in NZS 3604:1999 Section 10 and will prove a handy reference for specifiers and builders alike.

The Building Act 2004 focuses attention on the documentation required for a building consent. As a result bracing and fixing details take on an extra importance at building inspection time when the need for the specified use of strip brace is increasing.

The LUMBERLOK four page guide covers Roof Bracing rules for both fully trussed and framed roofs with hip and gable definitions. A selection flow chart for Roof Plane and Space Brace requirements is included together with installation details.

LUMBERLOK Strip Brace is available through leading builders hardware stores and GANG-NAIL Truss Fabricators.

Download a PDF of the guide at:
www.mitek.nz.co.nz

Big show presents new technology

More than 100 stands presenting new technology and a series of topical seminars and breakfast forums will inspire visitors from all key sectors of the construction industry at BuildNZ 07, which runs at the ASB Showgrounds in Auckland from June 24 to 26.

Billed as New Zealand's largest and most important construction industry expo, the two-yearly event features technology from manufacturers nationwide and around the world. Speakers at the keynote lecture sponsored by Vector will be prominent Australian architects Lindsay and Kerry Clare. Their lecture will be CPD accredited.

"People and Homes of the Future" will be the topic of a seminar presented by Neil Henson, principal of Fashion Bytes, an Australian leader in forecasting social trends and how they will impact on design.

The Registered Master Builders Federation will have a significant presence at BuildNZ, and the Department of Housing and the NZ Institute of Building will also be involved. RMBF chief executive Pieter Burghout will make a presentation on Builder Prospects & Licensing — an Industry Perspective.

BRANZ principal writer Trevor Pringle will also present two valuable and relevant seminars on the E2/AS1 Risk Matrix and a look at good design.

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Riding the Ranger — on automatic

By Building Today
Motoring Correspondent

When car manufacturers design cars, or utes for that matter, it is very easy to get tangled up in wish lists.

One of the more common items on a wish list, for utes anyway, is to make them into cars when it comes to driveability. Many manufacturers have gone to great lengths to achieve this, frequently diluting the functionality of the ute.

Ford is not guilty of this. The Ranger launched last year as the replacement for the long standing Courier has seen some improvements, but they certainly have not emasculated the backbone of the Ford working range.

Even with this — the top-of-the-tree 4x4, double-cabber in XLT specification — there is a sense and feeling of the Ford “Built Tough” philosophy, which has been the catch-cry of the Ranger’s predecessor.

That catch-cry has been reinforced, and the principle is alive and well in the Ranger.

Having side that, you can’t shy away from adding elements of refinement to the specification levels.

The XLT models in the Ranger line-up, therefore, boast heated rear window, 6-speaker disc CD player, chromed interior highlights, carpet floor covering, reclining front bucket seats and power windows.

More than pretty chrome

There is more to the XLT spec than just pretty chrome and convenience. The XLT has safety advantages too, including driver and front passenger side and knee airbags, ABS brakes with electronic brake force distribution and remote central locking.

Additionally, the XLT 4x4 double cab is the only Ranger model blessed with an optional automatic transmission.

Ford invested a great deal into securing this transmission, which offers a huge degree of what we call “elasticity” in the ratios. It creeps well in first gear and offers greater potential fuel savings thanks to the fifth cog at top gear.

And there is nothing tricky about the transmission. It is simple and strong, and brooks no nonsense with dicky Tiptronic-style pluses and minuses. Just drop it into Drive and go.



The Ford Ranger XLT.

Of course, if you want to go places where the tarmac isn’t, you have the selectable 4WD on a dial-up controller just behind the shifter.

It, too, is uncomplicated: 2WD, 4Hi and 4Lo — that’s it. Just dial up your traction requirement and take to the trees if that’s where you want to go. Your ground clearance, by the way, is 207mm or about 2mm more than you need to qualify as a true and proper 4x4.

The XLT 4x4 Ranger comes with the “hero” engine, namely a 3-litre common rail turbo diesel.

This powerplant, with its 115kW at 3200rpm and 380Nm of torque at 1800rpm, is standard fare for the 4x4s.

The 4x2s offer a 2.5-litre option in single cab derivatives, but the 3-litre is the real star of the Ranger show, offering smooth and responsive power delivery.

In fact, the engine is one element of the Ranger where some concessions to a car-like quality have been made. Yes, it is definitely a diesel, but there are enough diesel-powered passenger cars to compare it to.

Heavy-duty engine

The 3-litre is undeniably a heavy-duty engine designed to work rather than purr, but it is far from unrefined under load, making the workhorse remarkably tractable in and around the city.

Fuel consumption figures from Ford give the Ranger a 10.4-litre per 100km economy figure for the 3-litre auto

and 9.2 litres per 100km for the 3-litre manual which, given the five person and cargo carrying ability of the ute, is pretty good economy especially on combined highway and urban cycle.

City roads handled superbly

On that line of thinking, the Ranger handles city and suburban roads comfortably and capably. Even the 13.6 metre turning circle demonstrates Ranger’s city capabilities.

But what of working on site?

Well, most buy utes with the intention of carrying stuff. And the Ranger double cab offers a 1530mm long, 1452mm wide and 457mm load tray.

Our test vehicle came with a Fleetline canopy with standard side windows and a conventional two-catch rear door. It’s an option, not standard.

Towing capacity for the Ranger is rated at 750kg for an unbraked trailer. For a braked trailer that figure jumps to 2500kg for the 3-litre auto and 3000kg for the 3-litre manual.

What is standard on the XLT 4x4s are the 16-inch alloy wheels running 254/70R16 tyres.

We mentioned earlier that this model is the top model in the Ranger line-up and, as such, it commands the highest price.

At \$53,990 even the top end Ranger auto is still looking healthy, given the level of specification, the ride quality and its capabilities.



Overseas model shown. New Zealand specification may differ.

Ford Ranger 4x4 Auto.

With its sophisticated 5-speed Automatic transmission, Ranger 4x4 is incredibly refined as well as legendary tough. And thanks to an all-new high-tech, high pressure common rail turbo diesel engine, the Ford Ranger delivers legendary power. The 3.0L diesel unleashes 115kW of power and 380Nm of grunty torque. And with a big 2,500 kg* of towing power, Ranger has the muscle to carry a giant-size load. Come face to face with the legendary tough Ford Ranger at your Ford Dealer today.

* When fitted with Genuine Ford heavy duty towpack



Testing testing one two three

By Jenny Baker

Modern roofing systems offer excellent durability and years of trouble-free service, provided the former is true of their fastening systems too.

Ramset New Zealand product manager David Osten says Buildex fasteners, manufactured by Ramset, are tested in the field in real-world conditions to ensure they comply with the Australian Standard AS3566.2 2002.

"Modern roofing systems have been developed to meet extreme conditions. The sheet metal now used has excellent corrosion resistance and colour fastness, but this can all be undone if the fastening systems are not to the same high standard."

Mr Osten says there is no Standard in New Zealand that governs roofing screws. Ramset consequently uses the Australian Standard to test and benchmark the quality of its roof fasteners.

The Standard has two procedures for testing fasteners. One calls for fasteners to be tested for thickness of coating, type of coating and the porosity of the coating, and is fine for theoretical applications.

The other Standard is real world testing. Fasteners are placed in a test rig exposed to extreme environmental

conditions and compared with a control — in this instance Zinc coupons.

"Buildex uses the latter to test all our fastening systems, and our fasteners have been proved to be a match for real world challenges," Mr Osten says.

He explains test sites are monitored and calibrated by the Australian research organisation CISRO, so "the results are scientifically correct, and the ensuing warranty is issued with confidence".

He says Buildex developed the coatings ZAC4 and the newly-launched Climaseal 4 as a direct result of the test programme.

"Climaseal 4 meets and exceeds all real world testing requirements, and is designed to be the perfect fastener with Zinalume systems. Buildex also consistently outperforms other fasteners in the same class.

"It may pay the roof fastener buyer to consider more than price to ascertain whether their new roof will prove to be good in theory only, or if it will, indeed, last the distance," he cautions.



A test site in King Island, Australia.



The Buildex fastener, far right, after six months on the test site.

Quality sheet fixing vital

With today's demands for quality products that are proven to stand the test of time and ensure weathertightness, roof sheet fixing is very important.

The sheet roof as supplied in New Zealand is of the highest quality, and builders need to be confident that the screw fastening the roofing material is of the same high quality.

With the introduction of Buildex Roof Zips, Ramset has supplied a roofing screw designed and proven to exceed the requirements of standard sheet roofing.

Developed by Buildex, Australasia's most innovative manufacturer of self-drilling screws and fastenings, Roof Zips is the product of two years' collaboration with the roof industry and extensive field research by Ramset and Buildex to determine the precise requirements of a new generation of roofing fastener.

The result is a revolutionary roof fastener which not only meets the needs of roofing contractors but also exceeds current roof fastening strength requirements.

The product incorporates a range of patented features. The new head design has 10% greater surface area to hold the sealing washer more securely, reducing the problem of washer damage.

The specially designed buttress thread reduces distortion when fixing to steel purlins, providing a robust connection and greater pull out strength.

The unique drill point design eliminates screw skidding

Continued page 24

Buildex
ROOF ZIPS

The roofing industry has become increasingly aware of the need to supply the highest quality products to meet the demands of an ever more discerning market.

Buildex - as supplier of quality roofing fasteners to the New Zealand roofing industry - has for many

A revolution at your fingertips

years lead the fastener industry in the development of innovative solutions for Roof Fixing.

The latest is the Roof Zip with superior features that set it apart from other roof screws and ensures the fasteners perform to the high standards set by the New Zealand roofing industry.



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ColorCote® ARX™ is available in more than 80 colours to match your architectural or design taste.

THE ALUMINIUM ALTERNATIVE



Made for New Zealand

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Tried and trusted roofing systems to be introduced

By Jenny Baker

Sika (NZ) Ltd will be introducing a new range of Sika Sarnafil roofing systems into New Zealand in the coming year.

Sika Sarnafil is a sheet membrane waterproofing solution that can be tailored to suit the design and appearance requirements of new and existing roofs that are being renovated.

In New Zealand since 1959, Sika's products have been tried and tested in local conditions in two of the most prominent landmarks in the country — Wellington's Te Papa Museum and Auckland's Sky City Casino complex.

According to a company spokesperson, projects such as these two that require a very long design life called for a wide range of Sika's durable concrete admixtures, sealants, epoxies, grouts and flooring systems.

"And the international reputation and proven performance of Sika products world wide give our customers the reassurance to use them at local level," the spokesperson says.

Established in 1910 in Zurich by the Swiss inventor Caspar Winkler, the company has been in New Zealand since 1959. Sika (NZ) Ltd attained ISO 9002 accreditation in 1994 and is a Telarc ISO 9002 registered supplier.

The spokesperson says the emphasis for Sika is on providing integrated system solutions to meet every requirement.

"This internationally recognised certification is independent proof of our commitment to providing products and services of a consistently high quality."

The company is a member of the New Zealand Chemical Industry Council and committed to the environment and to environmental safety, in particular the industry's Responsible Care Management Programme.

Sika carries out a periodic and systematic risk-hazard analysis in all its production facilities, and implements appropriate measures where necessary to ensure any risks to staff or the environment are minimised.



Olympic Oval, Salt Lake City, United States.

A Revolutionary New Industry Innovation



BoardWalk is a Modular Platform System designed to provide safety and protection over a wide range of applications. Initially its use has been for low pitch roofing where access is required for maintenance to roof-top plant and machinery. The product is seeing increased use as temporary flooring over wet or unstable areas, and for outdoor shows and displays.



Boardwalk Systems NZ Ltd

Phone: 64 9 6388 278 Email: boardwalk@clear.net.nz

www.boardwalk.co.nz

Quality sheet fixing vital

From page 22

and scratching of the roof profile, and allows for quick and easy installation in timber battens, steel purlins up to 1.9mm thick and thin metal battens.

It also does away with the need to pre-drill, even on steep pitches and lapped sections, and helps reduce the amount of swarf and "pigtail" that can cut the sealing washer.

Roof Zips also incorporate the many unique features found throughout the Buildex roofing screw range, including:

- HiGrip, which grips the roof sheeting and prevents water entry,
- ShankGuard, which protects the fastener shank from corrosion,
- Climaseal 4 Coating, which meets AS3566 Class 4, and
- Peace of mind through being fully covered by the Buildex warranty.

The fast, easy installation and versatility of Roof Zips, together with its multiple applications in timber and steel, is expected to significantly reduce users' stock holdings of Buildex Tek and Type 17 screws.

Now available is the newly developed 65mm Roof Zips. The range is available from Ramset trade centres and all major rollformers.

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250ml 13 litres ± 2L	500ml 26 litres ± 3L	750ml 39 litres ± 3L
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750ml 48 litres ± 3L	750ml 55 litres ± 3L
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Colour my world

A roof and its accessories need not be boringly conventional

By Jenny Baker

A roof and its accessories need not be boringly conventional, but can be an exciting architectural feature that adds colour, texture and personality to a home.

Steel & Tube Roofing Products is in an ideal position to supply the roof shopper with a customised solution for their needs, according to commercial manager Rod Newbold.

A division of Steel & Tube Holdings Limited, Steel & Tube Roofing is New Zealand's largest manufacturer of Colorsteel longrun roofing materials, rainwater systems, gutters, fascias and flashing.

Its seven manufacturing and distribution sites are all certified to ISO 9001:2000. The company's range of roofing profiles and claddings includes Custom Orb Corrugate, trapezoidal or rib profiles, trough section profiles and commercial profiles.

All the products are available in a range of finishes including galvanised, Zinalume and Colorsteel, as well as in non-ferrous metals such as aluminium, copper and stainless steel.

Mr Newbold says New Zealand Steel's new products Colorsteel Endura and Colorsteel Maxx prepainted steel, introduced to the market in 2004 to take advantage of the latest advances in coating technology, were designed to meet the demands of New Zealand's range of environments.

Integral part of every building

"The roof is an integral part of every building. Colorsteel prepainted steel roofing can weather our harsh climate and is suitable for almost every design, long straight lines or gentle curves, to create stunning homes," he says.

"Steel's light weight gives greater design flexibility, while the colours give the designer the choice of blending or creating interest through building design."

He recommends that builders discuss their site location and building design with Steel & Tube Roofing Products' technical staff to find the correct roofing solution, and to ensure the profile and finish will perform to their expectations.



This seaside home shows a Spring Curved Custom Orb Corrugate roof in a Colorsteel finish.

"With correct product selection, installation and maintenance, a Steel & Tube Roofing Products roof will remain attractive and weatherproof for many years," he says.

The company offers a toll-free technical help line, an online list of recommended installers and a comprehensive library of design details.

Prepainted and metallic coated products are suitable for the collection of drinking water, and are backed by a comprehensive warranty.

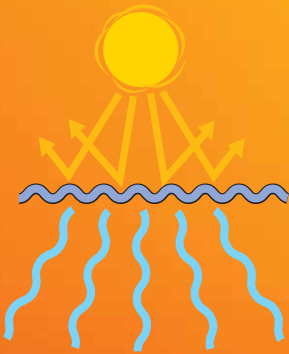
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Check out our revamped web site!**

www.buildingtoday.co.nz

DUROLITE HEATGUARD

Dimond's revolutionary Durolite® HeatGuard™ range is specifically designed to reduce the solar heat transmitted into a building while maintaining a high level of visible lighting.



Durolite HG4 and Durolite HG8 have infra-red ray reflecting additives in the gel coat which reduce heat without losing light transmission plus Durolite HG4 and Durolite HG8 block 99% of the harmful ultraviolet UVA and UVB rays for extra protection.

When this energy efficient product is used as roofing or cladding, costs for cooling and lighting in commercial and residential buildings are reduced.

HOW IT WORKS

The heat we feel from sunlight is actually the solar energy from the sun being transmitted by infra-red rays on a different wavelength to visible light. Durolite Heatguard is designed to reflect most of the infra-red rays so they do not pass through the Durolite sheet, thereby reducing the amount of heat entering the building while maintaining a high level of visible light.

Product	Visible Light Transmission	Total Solar Transmission	Selectivity Transmission Index
Durolite HG4	64%	50%	1.28
Standard clear	63%	63%	1.00
Durolite HG8	49%	36%	1.36
Standard opal	36%	40%	0.90

GR37851T



- ✓ **20% less heat without any loss of light compared to clear or opal sheets**
- ✓ **Reduce the need for artificial light**
- ✓ **Blocks 99% of harmful UV rays**
- ✓ **Wide range of profiles and sheet lengths**

Continuous sheet ensures



Paying the price

By Jenny Baker

A fall from height fatal accident in 2005 reportedly resulted in the second highest reparation order made under the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992.

In March 2006, the Tokoroa District Court ordered Carter Holt Harvey Ltd to pay a \$30,000 fine and \$100,000 in reparations to the family of a worker killed when he fell almost 10 metres to his death through PVC roof sheeting.

Court records showed the roof was easily accessible and there was no guard rail system or designated walkway in place.

Earlier in 2006 a court ordered South Island Seed Dressing and Storage Co Ltd to pay \$60,000 to the widow of a maintenance worker killed when he fell 6.5m through a skylight in August 2005.

At the time of CCH's sentencing, Department of Labour chief advisor, health and safety, Mike Cosman, said the lessons learnt "from these tragic workplace accidents are simple — falls from heights maim and kill".

He said employers need to properly assess all tasks that involve work at height and ensure appropriate precautions are taken.

Often this can be as simple as roping off or covering fragile materials, or providing designated safe walkways. People have been getting killed this way for years "yet we don't seem to have learnt the lessons".

He added the department will continue to take a firm line where there is a clear disregard for basic precautions.

More recently, in March 2007 a roofing contractor was fined \$1000 and ordered to pay \$1000 in reparations after one of his workers fell 4.7m during a re-roofing job, injuring his spine.

At the time of the incident there was no roof edge protection in place and neither of the two workers present was using a safety harness.

Department of Labour Wellington service manager Alan Cooper said at the time: "This incident emphasises once again just how important it is for employers to make sure their workers have the appropriate gear and protection when working at height.

"The fact is that, whether the fall is one metre or 15 metres, the impact at the bottom can result in serious, even fatal injuries. The frustrating thing is that many of the accidents that happen are easily preventable."

The Department of Labour's best practice advice on how to work safely at heights, *Guidelines for the Prevention of Falls*, can be found at www.osh.govt.nz.

weathertightness at Vector

There's no getting away from it, Auckland gets more than its fair share of rain. Surprising enough, however, up until now Auckland City hasn't had a covered arena to encourage fans off the sofa, and bands and sports teams into the heart of the city.

Positioned about as close to the Waitemata Harbour as you could possibly manage without taking a dip, the recently opened Vector Arena has changed all that.

Keeping the punters warm and dry is a priority, and to do so Peddle Thorpe Architects specified a Dimond roof, which was installed by Clark Roofing.

"Having been involved in almost all stadium or events centre projects in New Zealand, including the Telstra Clear Pacific Events Centre, Jade Stadium and Waikato Stadium, Dimond had the required depth of experience to successfully complete this project," according to Dimond's Scott Townsend.

"In this case, the main roof consists of two elliptical, tilted planes. The challenges, which were all successfully overcome, resulted from the arena's height, the roof's angle and the length of the sheets to be installed," he says.

The roof features Dimondek 630 concealed fixed roofing in Colorcote ZRX — the only product in New Zealand that met the architect's specific requirements.

With sheets up to 47.5m long, it was necessary to manufacture the sheets using the Dimondek 630 onsite manufacturing unit. The absence of any steps or joins in the continuous sheet lengths greatly increases the roof's weathertightness and protection against corrosion.

The concealed fixing system used with Dimondek 630 also ensures no fixings pierce the roof, eliminating a common source of leaks from incorrectly installed screws.

The Arena's harbourside, inner-city location required durable roofing and cladding materials that would perform in the salt-laden environment. Dimond recommended a material and paint coating system called Colorcote ZRX which is specifically designed for severe marine environments where there is a high risk of corrosion.

Other Dimond profiles, such as Brownbuilt 900, Corrugate and V-Rib were used as wall cladding materials at the ends of the structure and under the eaves. They also used the Colorcote ZRX system, and the variety of profiles helped to provide contrasting design features, contributing to the stunning final appearance of the Vector Arena.



We want your feedback!

Building Today wants to know about your experiences with any types of roofing you have worked with during the past five years — both good and bad — for our "Roofing" Part 2 feature next month. For example, was the product itself a good quality product whose specs stood up to the demands of the application? Do you have any opinions on the innovative roofing products we've

featured in this issue? We've got some power tools and accessories up for grabs for readers who respond, so don't hesitate to tell us your views on vital industry issues.

*Write to Building Today,
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Auckland,
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Expand your Sales!

Due to the success of Colorflo Downpipe sales Dimond is looking for additional installation companies to sell and install Colorflo downpipes. If you are interested in expanding your product offer and sales and want access to the easiest to install metal downpipe on the market, please phone **0800 COLORFLO** (0800 265 673).

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At last a pre-painted downpipe system that allows you to match your fascia, gutter, roof, wall colour or even window joinery.

Suitable for new and existing homes, Colorflo® Downpipes are available in a range of colours** to complement any architectural style. Made from pre-painted steel or copper, Colorflo Downpipe systems are designed to last, retaining their good looks for years and are backed by Dimond's comprehensive warranty*.

Colorflo Downpipes have pre-finished elbows, clips and fittings making installation fast and simple, and best of all there is no painting required.

The only hard part is choosing which colour you want!

For details and specifications visit our website or call 0800 Dimond.

* Refer to Dimond's Downpipe Warranty for full details.

** See back page for standard colour range



- Coloured metal downpipes and fittings
- No painting required
- Fast, simple installation
- Die-cast bends and fittings
- Fits all Colorflo gutter profiles

Accident count remains high

By Jenny Baker

Safety statistics in the New Zealand construction sector remain a source of concern to the industry.

According to ACC, it received 38 claims for work-related construction fatalities in the period July 2006 to date, compared with 39 in the July 2005 to end June 2006 year.

A spokesperson says the most common cause of fatalities in both years was inhaling or swallowing substances. ACC is also seeing an increase in hearing loss claims across all industries.

The entitlement claim count for this year so far stands at 4036 compared with 5540 the year before, costing the taxpayer \$25,061,503 this year compared with \$35,304,580 the year before.

An entitlement claim consists of medical fees as well as additional support, such as weekly compensation and rehabilitation.

ACC says the construction industry continues to

record a large number of fatalities and serious injury claims. The reason is construction work involves a dynamic working environment where hazards, if not prevented, can often pose sudden and immediate risk to the workers.

Construction industry stakeholders have been running new focused safety awareness and training programmes since 2005. In 2005 the New Zealand Construction Industry Council (NZCIC) published the NZCIC Health and Safety strategy, with clear objectives to reduce accidents in the workplace.

NZCIC members, as representative bodies of key sector organisations in the industry, have undertaken to promote this strategy and its application among their own constituents.

ACC is working closely with the construction industry to reduce the number of injuries sustained by workers. A key focus area is residential builders as they have the highest number of serious claims across the entire industry, including civil, commercial and total trades services.

ACC has also commissioned research into the main

activities that cause injuries in construction. The findings will be used to target specific dangerous activities and work with the industry to increase safe working practices.

Registered Master Builders Federation chief executive Pieter Burghout believes it is significant that the construction industry average injury rates are at their present rate, even though employment rates are up.

"This is probably a good reflection that we are adopting a culture of safety that filters down to even new staff," he says.

"The message I get is the industry sees health and safety compliance as necessary, even though they think some rules are over the top. Our job now is to make the rules more common sense.

"There is a gap between the commercial and residential sector. We still have a way to go with the residential sector, and we are working with them on it."

• To calculate accident and injury costs for the business owner, go to the Cost Calculator on ACC's web site. For more information on good health and safety practices, visit www.acc.co.nz.

Fit for a King

By Jenny Baker

New Zealand Scaffolding Supplies takes its safety duty of care as seriously as its legal responsibilities.

Director Laurie Sayers says the team lives by a zero tolerance policy for unsafe work acts, products or conditions in its own environment, its end-user environment and when in contact with the general public.

The company gained Telarc-approved ISO 9001:2000 certification for its administration and production systems in January. Mr Sayers says as part of ISO procedures the company must ensure products are manufactured according to the relevant Standards.

"However, if no Standard is applicable, we design our own tests and contract with independent New Zealand testing authority P-Test to run them.

"The consistent quality and reliability of our products determines their fitness for purpose and safety. This is the concern of every person in the organisation.

"To that end, and to maintain our policy of conforming to relevant standards, customer requirements and continuous quality improvement, we educate, train and certify all employees in their own areas as well as in the required quality control aspects," he says.

Mr Sayers reckons health and safety begins at home. Employees have regular meetings, continually monitor and manage hazards, and purposefully aim to eliminate incidents involving staff and the public from near miss level up.

No customer complaints, total customer satisfaction and zero faulty manufacturing

Continued page 33



New Zealand Scaffolding Supplies Limited

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- Full range scaffold clips
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Taking you into the future . . .

May saw the 2007 series of Future-Proofing Roadshows kick off. The first one was held in Wellington on May 22, and saw more than 250 builders and architects turn up for bacon and eggs, coffee and information on Future-Proof Building.

CMS (Construction Marketing Services Ltd) is the company behind the Future-Proof Building initiative.

The turnout at the roadshows so far shows that the concept is really gaining momentum. This is especially so as the world is becoming increasingly aware of sustainability and environmental issues, all of which reflect the need to prepare for the future.

The roadshow consists of three speakers:

• **McConnell Property sustainability manager**

Mark Fraser presents an interesting update on producing sustainable buildings,

• **RMBF chief executive Pieter Burghout** provides information on licensing and the Building Act, and

• **Lester Haycock from CMS** shows his drive and passion for getting people to think about building a better home to live in now that's worth more in the future.

There are 20 Future-Proof suppliers and partners present with display stands at the roadshows. All of



Another packed roadshow in Christchurch.

the suppliers are there to showcase and educate the trade on what products they have that fit with Future-Proofing, and how these products can improve a home for their customers and meet future demands.

There are some leading edge innovative products on

display, and this forum provides the ideal opportunity to keep abreast of recent developments and trends in the industry.

For example, Norman Ellison anti-allergen carpets, the only 100% wool carpet that's anti-allergenic, helps eliminate the common triggers of allergies — and they're no more expensive than other carpets in the market.

Wattyl is another great example, leading their industry in resource responsibility with their eco-proof paint — a paint that gives off virtually no paint odours or dangerous fumes.

And consider In-Sink-Erator, which has a tap system where one tap produces boiling hot water, and the other tap produces cool, filtered water all at the touch of a button.

The Future-Proof Building roadshows are happening all around the country over the next few months. To register your interest call 0508 FUTURE.



The first roadshow in the series went off without a hitch.

FFB
FUTURE-PROOF BUILDING

Dry Blocks . . . about time!

By Jenny Baker

W Stevenson and Sons Ltd recently launched DryBlock, a system designed to enhance the weathertightness of masonry buildings.

Applied in the context of best design practice, the system results in water-repellent walls. This, according to product manager Shaun Owen, offers "an excellent second line of defence against water ingress should the first line of defence, such as sealer, plaster or paint fail".

"It also facilitates the use of architectural masonry in applications where it would never have been considered previously."

Mr Owen says DryBlock technology has been appraised by the Building Element Assessment Laboratory's (BEAL) 14-day leak-test. Having proven all its product characteristic claims to be true, the DryBlock System is now a safe and efficient building system in terms of the New Zealand Building Code.

"We consider this to be a breakthrough in masonry technology. Feedback from our customers, including builders and home owners, supports our view that DryBlock should be the consumer's first choice for withstanding New Zealand's wet, cold and humid environment in sustainable manner," he says.

For the DryBlock system to be fully effective, it is essential that good practice be followed right from the design process through to the completed installation.

DryBlock masonry blocks must be used with DryMortar and all other components of the DryBlock system.

The "panel concept" must always be obeyed to control cracking, with block work being designed in panels, tied together with suitable steel and separated by control joints.

The engineer must pre-empt crack control through well-placed control joints and the use of suitable crack control steel, including in-joint reinforcing if required.

This must be supported by generous top protection, such as eaves and suitable coatings. But, in the end, Mr Owen says, no building system, however good, will succeed if not supported by good detailing and good workmanship.

"Best practice makes the difference. We also like to work closely with designers, builders and blocklayers to ensure optimum application of the system in accordance with DryBlock specifications."

The product is available as a veneer or a structural block in fair face, honed face and split face finishes in

eight colours. It is also designed to take surface treatments such as paint, plaster, clear sealer or a cladding.

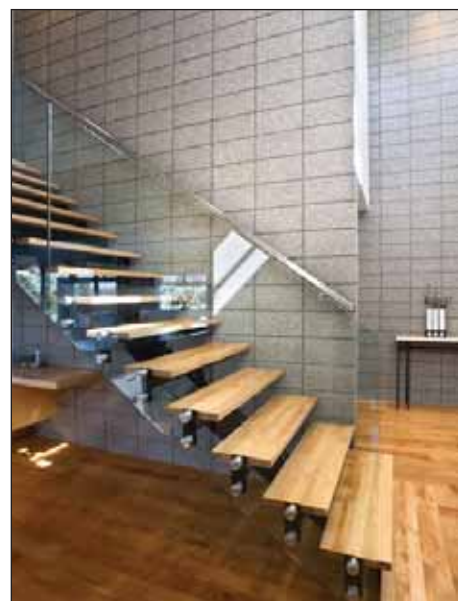
The system offers designers, builders and home owners several advantages. It is recommended in all single-skin masonry walls and in some veneer applications.

"This advance in masonry technology ensures water repellency becomes an integral part of the wall. It reduces colour issues such as staining and efflorescence in architectural masonry.

"The builder doesn't have to wait long for blocks to dry out during wet weather construction, and they also don't have to wait long for blocks to dry out before lining. In certain situations you can begin lining the interior prior to completion of the exterior weathertight coating.

"The builder can directly fix interior plaster board, which raises the question of the need for DPCs between timber and DryBlock.

"In fact, DryBlock technology offers all the advantages of building with typical masonry, including structural



Clear sealed, honed face structural Dryblock.

strength, durability, fire-control, noise-control and thermal mass performance, while offering value-added built-in water repellency."

Call 0800 DryBlock (0800 379 2565) for further information.

Fit for a King

From page 31

product returns are other company objectives that have paid off. As did Mr Sayer's flexible approach to best practices.

"We're not fixated on one scaffold system, but will strive to supply what the customer requires and offer advice on the best system for their needs. We can manufacture or source any major scaffolding system, or develop one for the customer."

New Zealand Scaffolding Supplies is consequently New Zealand's longest-running 100% Kiwi-owned specialist scaffold store.

Mr Sayer proudly comments on its wide customer base. "We supply builders, government departments, home handymen, painters, roofers, theatres and most of the scaffold companies in New Zealand. We've sent scaffolding as far south as Scott Base, and have even supplied to the King Kong movie set."

The company is an active member of employer group SARNZ, which focuses on scaffolding training and safety, and supports Tai Poutini Polytechnic, the main South Island training provider for scaffolding.

The latest in-house developed scaffold system is the Pro-System series. Based on the successful H Frames, it offers increased ease of use, speed and safety.

New Zealand Scaffolding also sells safety harnesses. The company has branches in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.



New Zealand Scaffolding's new in-house developed Pro-System Series scaffold system offers metal planks, easy-to-use plank locks, drop-in handrails, gates for ease of access and hop-up brackets. It complies fully with the Department of Labour's safety and other requirements.

Estimating software made easy

Databuild for Windows is Australasia's most popular estimating package and has been for more than 30 years.

The system is great for businesses of all size in the construction industry, and provides users with a powerful but easy to use, business management tool.

The package incorporates comprehensive rapid job estimating tools, quoting, ordering and a full general ledger, including Profit & Loss and GST reporting in the one system.

Full training and ongoing support are provided, and with its flexible structure it can be set up to suit any construction-based business.

Databuild users can produce fully quantified and

accurately priced take offs within 30 minutes for houses of any size.

The integrated General Ledger saves hours by not having to re-key information.

The "Live" Job Costing gives users the power to see overruns, underruns and budget blowouts during every stage of construction.

Detailed reporting provides users with business and job profitability from the same core information.

As a Windows-based enterprise solution, it is fully scalable from single user to several hundred users in multiple locations.

See Databuild at stand 239 at the BuildNZ 07 trade show in Auckland, or call 0800 080 009 for a free onsite demonstration or for more information.

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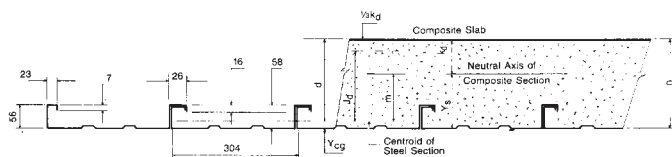


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The Tray-dec 300 Composite Flooring System

- One of the least expensive options for placing concrete above ground level upwards
- The Tray-dec profile's greater cover means 15% to 20% less fire steel is required
- Does not require end caps or crimping tools to lay
- Flat soffit and uniform thickness allows the thinnest possible slab for a given load carrying capacity
- Fast and easy for builders and contractors to lay
- We also supply and manufacture slab edge formwork to suit the Traydec flooring system

Fig 1 TRAY-DEC 300 — NOTATION FOR COMPOSITE SLABS



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Sloping curtainwall a feature at centre

In the Rotorua Government Gardens, where the buildings come from another era, there is something brand new.

It's the Rotorua Energy Events Centre, tucked to one side of the old museum — a multi-purpose centre to provide Rotorua with premises for community cultural, sporting and entertainment activities.

The new centre is a large building capable of accommodating 2600 delegates for a seated banquet, a rock concert of 6000 unseated concertgoers and about 500 exhibition booths. Spread over 8000 sq m of floor space, it is designed for the varied needs of many different types of activities.

Tasman Aluminium, as a major sub-trade, worked closely with the designer, BGB Architects and the main contractor, Mainzeal Property & Construction, on the detailing and design of the aluminium joinery, with particular input being required on the curtainwalling at the front of the building.

Using the Elite Window & Door brand, Tasman



Aluminium manufactured and installed 610 windows and 150 doors for the project. Of particular note is the six metre high, 118-metre long, sloping curtainwall.

The curtainwall changes from external joinery to internal joinery, creating complex weatherproofing and flashing requirements.

There are more than 100 hush shutter internal doors providing soundproofing between separate areas, and the front entry doors are an unusual configuration.

They are frameless glass, triple stacker, automatic sliding doors, and with the glass etched with graphics makes a striking entry.



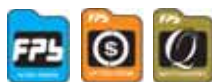
Introducing the Evolution Suite



The Evolution Suite is a highly versatile, complete suite of aluminium windows and doors suitable for residential, architectural and low level commercial applications.

It has been expressly designed to utilise a concealed fixing system that does not require a timber liner which achieves a much more modern and clean internal finish to the windows and doors.

This Suite is the answer for those wanting to achieve a unique look and feel and point of difference to standard residential joinery. Ideal when not requiring the superior performance of the Aluminium Systems Architectural Series.



Contact your local Elite or Fairview manufacturer for more information
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An Aluminium Systems Product

www.aslnz.co.nz



Carpentry literacy profile developed

Profiles help carpenters identify skills needed

As part of its proactive leadership role, the Building and Construction Industry Training Organisation (BCITO) has commissioned Workbase to develop a literacy profile of a carpenter.

The profile lists the literacy skills sets required of a carpenter, as well as outlining the tasks that require a certain level of literacy.

Literacy profiles are used to provide information about the specific literacy requirements of a role and to help identify where trainees may need additional literacy skills training.

Literacy profiles also help the BCITO to improve the quality and content of the qualification, as well as identifying to potential trainees the skills they need to be effective in their industry.

Workbase selected four companies of different sizes and observed carpenters on the job, as well as talking to the different people who work with carpenters, such as managers, assessors, supervisors and trainers.

From this, Workbase was able to obtain a detailed knowledge of the range of literacy tasks involved in a carpentry role and collect examples of the documentation a carpenter was expected to work with.

Job literacy important in key areas

For carpenters on the job, literacy was important in several key areas, including reading building plans and instructions, working out how to build a structure, building structures as set out in plans, following building standards and regulations, working with other carpenters and tradespeople on site and discussing progress with site managers and clients.

For instance, reading skills were important for carpenters to be able to understand and perform tasks such as interpreting information from graphical material such as tables and price lists, and following written instructions and diagrams.

Likewise, the literacy profile identified that writing tasks were important for carpenters to be able to perform tasks such as using diagrams and sketches to clarify a point, and writing points in a logical order.

BCITO will continue to work with Workbase to develop and pilot suitable literacy assessment options and appropriate methodologies to assist apprentices identified as having literacy difficulties.

The profile can be viewed on the News page of the web site www.bcito.org.nz in the reports and studies section.

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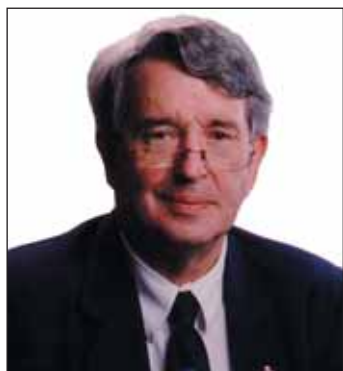
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The simple dignity that is Avebury

Dr Kerry Rodgers gets emotional over his favourite British structure — and birthright



Avebury has always affected me deeply. I saw its standing stones first in 1973. It wasn't their immensity, nor their simple grandeur — rather, the entire structure held an agelessness. Its stones claimed a voice that called across the millennia.

The stone circles of Avebury in Wiltshire, England, are the largest henge in the world, constructed more than 4500 years ago. Nearby stand the equally ancient structures of Silbury Hill, the Sanctuary and the West Kennet Long Barrow.

The main circle at Avebury occupies an area of some 11.5ha. It is 425m across and more than 1.5km around. Its perimeter was marked originally by 98 large, quartz sandstone or sarsen slabs averaging some 40 tonnes in weight. Unlike the trilithons of Stonehenge, the Avebury sarsens were not dressed.

Two smaller 100m circles, of 30 stones each, lie within the main ring that also once contained prominent large stone masses, one six metres high.

The circles are enclosed by a substantial ditch and outer bank. The height from ditch bottom to bank top was originally 17 metres, with more than 200,000 tonnes of chalk and spoil excavated during the construction.

Cultural vandals

Two great avenues of sarsens ran for more than 1.5km from the sou-western and sou-eastern entrances of the main ring. Only one remains today.

All stones were dragged 3km from Marlborough Downs. They were then erected on edge by being sunk in the ground to depths between 30cm and 60cm. There they stood for 3800 years, more or less

untouched.

But in the 14th Century, local Christian authorities began a systematic destruction as they attempted to stamp out lingering pagan beliefs. Stones were toppled, broken and buried.

This vandalism ceased when one of the iconoclasts was crushed beneath a falling stone, his skeleton unearthed only in 1938.

In the 17th and 18th Centuries, the remaining stones were recognised as a valuable resource.



Avebury today.

Early autumn sun highlights Avebury's perimeter ditch and sarsen stones.

Image copyright K A Rodgers

Many were cracked with fire and water before being broken into smaller pieces used to construct much of the present village.

The marvels of marmalade

In the 1920s and 30s, Dundee marmalade millionaire and part-time archaeologist Alexander Keiller happened upon Avebury. By now much the area was an overgrown waste, with the ditch being used as a local rubbish dump.

Keiller began acquiring properties occupying the site and undertook a systematic restoration of the entire complex.

He cleared the ground, unearthed buried stones — some a metre

down — and re-set them in their original holes. He marked missing stones with concrete pillars.

Today, the restored henge is truly a wonder to behold. Yet its purpose remains unknown. I get pleasure from simply wandering its perimeter and touching the ancient stones.

And I like to reflect on the efforts of my ancestors who built with only stone tools, bone antler picks, woven baskets and their own sweat, blood and tears.

These feelings were stirred anew in 2003 when I caught a BBC report of the finding of a buried 100 tonne sarsen close to the circle . . . and not a stone-age JCB in sight.



The sarsens of Avebury.

Image copyright K A Rodgers



Avebury restored. An 18th Century reconstruction by English doctor, clergyman and eccentric about town William Stukeley.

Bergin & Bergin v North Shore City Council & Others: Individuals behind developer companies

Tim Bates of Auckland law firm Legal Vision reports on the liability held by individuals behind developer companies in leaky buildings cases



This High Court decision concerned a townhouse in Long Bay, Auckland. The second defendants had brought a claim for summary judgment against the plaintiffs and said that the two causes of action alleged against them could not succeed.

In response, the plaintiffs argued that they had arguable causes of action, and that these could only be tested at trial and after cross-examination.

The first cause of action against the second defendants alleged that as developers, they purchased the land with the intention of subdividing it and building three townhouses.

The plaintiffs alleged that the second defendants owed them a duty of care to ensure that the house was built to the minimum standard set by the Building Act 1991, and that it was carried out to a workmanlike standard.

The second cause of action alleged that the second defendants, as directors, shareholders and employees

of Hibiscus Coast, owed the Bergins a duty of care to ensure that the townhouse was constructed to a workmanlike standard.

The claims are unusual in that they not only name the developer company Hibiscus Coast as a defendant, but they also name the directors of that company as second defendants.

The burden that the second defendant had to reach in order to succeed against the plaintiffs was to establish to the balance of probabilities that Mr and Mrs Bergin could not succeed on either of the causes of action against them.

Dealing with the first cause of action, the court held that there was an arguable case that the second defendants were both legal and beneficial owners of the property up to the time it was transferred to Hibiscus Coast, immediately prior to its transfer to the Bergins.

Sufficient evidence

The court also held that there was sufficient evidence of the second defendants having involvement in the subdivision, building consent and construction phases to establish an arguable case for them being held liable as developers.

Accordingly, the court concluded that it could not conclude that Mr and Mrs Bergin's first cause of action against the second defendants would fail.

As regards the liability of the directors of Hibiscus Coast in the summary judgment context, the court felt no need to decide upon this point because it had decided that the second defendants would be kept in as parties to this litigation anyway, on the basis of the first cause of action.

This case once again shows the court's willingness to find a liability for individuals of developer companies, where they have had active involvement in the development process.

By analogy, and as has been found in other cases (see *Dicks v Hobson Swan Construction Ltd & Others*), individuals of construction companies that actively get involved in the construction process, similarly, will attract personal liability.

That having been said, it should be remembered that these conclusions were only made at summary judgment level. It still may transpire that the second defendants attract no personal liability should a full trial take place.


Update on the repercussions of the Hartley decision reviewed in last month's column

One of the findings in the Hartley decision was that, in fact, a WHRS adjudicator did not have jurisdiction to award general damages for mental distress and anxiety.

There was considerable reaction to this finding, especially from leaky home owners interest groups.

In response, the New Zealand Government has acted quickly and has immediately introduced to Parliament a bill which amends the Weathertight Homes Resolution Services Act 2006.

The proposed amendment will enable the Weathertight Homes Tribunal to make any order that a court of competent jurisdiction could make.



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Tip 38. Plasterboard Installation Checklist

If the Installation Checklist below is followed, the chances of remedial work being required will be greatly reduced. Exactly who carries out the checks is up to individual organisations. The object of a quality check is to encourage contractors to take responsibility for their part in the building process. It is important that the sign-off name is clearly legible.

The completed checklist should be included in the job file for future reference.

Plasterboard Installation Checklist:

Site Address	Builder	
	Fixer	
	Stopper	
	Painter	

Before ANY board is fixed to the framing...	Y/N	Checked by	Date
Has the framing surface been checked for flatness? i.e. no protruding nogs, lintels etc?			
Is the moisture content acceptable i.e. 18% or less			
Are grooved jambs set up correctly to allow 1-1.5mm clearance for sheet edge?			
Are all ceiling battens running in same direction within room spaces?			
Are there any factors that could affect the fixing of the board? Please note here			
Substrate accepted by fixer			
NAME SIGNED DATE			

Before ANY stopping commences...	Y/N	Checked by	Date
Have the number of joints been kept to a minimum?			
Has the lineal meterage of joints been kept to a minimum?			
Has the board been fixed horizontally wherever practical?			
Fastenings (nails or screws) have not been overdriven?			
No joints above or below the edges of windows or doors?			
No fastenings to sheet centres on walls? (Not applicable to Fire Rated systems or tiled surfaces)			
Butt joints in ceiling back-blocked where required?			
Correct size and spacing of glue daubs? (If viewed during installation)			
Only paper tape used on stopping joints? No fibre mesh tape to be used.			
Are there any factors that could affect the stopping of the board? Please note here			
Substrate accepted by stopper			
NAME SIGNED DATE			

Before ANY painting commences...	Y/N	Checked by	Date
Surface free of visible trowel marks or defects.			
Are there any factors that could affect the painting of the board? Please note here			
Substrate accepted by painter			
NAME SIGNED DATE			

For more information and full installation instructions see the GIB Site Guide.

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