



## FTMA Chair's Report

### The 2021/22 year in review

#### General:

Following on from our 2020 / 21 year, residential building demand and hence frame and truss continued to increase to unprecedented levels in living memory. The high demand along with periods of Covid work and movement restrictions, material shortages and labour shortages certainly made it a challenging period.

One unfortunate result of these pressures was that members of the FTMA executive committee found it increasingly difficult to divert time and attention to industry matters in the effort to manage their own operations. However, that said we still managed to make good progress in certain areas as will be discussed later in this summary.

At the AGM to be held on September 28 this year, I am stepping down as Chair of the FTMA and from the executive committee. A new Chair will be nominated and hopefully confirmed at the meeting. As we have previously requested, anyone interested in joining the executive committee should contact myself or another executive committee member as soon as possible.

As always, our ongoing focus is on providing meaningful services to our members, advancing the interests of our industry sector and prudently using the resources of the FTMA. The FTMA remains in a sound financial position and we will be doing more to use these resources for the benefit of our members and the industry as detailed in this report.

#### Membership

At the conclusion of the 2021 / 22 year, our membership structure stands as follows.

Member Type	Details	
Category D	Frame and truss manufacturers	76 (as manufacturing sites)
Corporate category A	Certified design & detailing software and nail plate providers	Mitek Pryda
Corporate category B	Major frame and truss manufacturing equipment and material providers	Spida Machinery Vekta Automation Red Stag Timber
Corporate category C	Major timber and building material merchants – support offices	Bunnings Carters ITM Mitre 10 PlaceMakers
Industry associates (various entities with interest in frame)	Ecko Fastening Systems Fortress Fasteners NZ	Nelson Pine Industries Northpine



and truss manufacturing industry)	Hexion NZ Hiandri Solutions Hundegger Aust Juken New Zealand Koppers Performance Chemicals Arxada Wood Protection	NZ Wood / IBuilt Prowood NZ Pukepine Sawmills Senco Brands Technoform TuffPlans Winston Wallboards
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Corporate and industry associate member fees account for 57% of our revenues in the 2021 / 22 year with the balance from frame and truss manufacturing members. A couple of industry associate members have elected not to continue their membership into the 2022 / 23 year but on the other hand there are some new industry associate and other corporate members committing to join for the new year. As always, we ask that our manufacturing members support our corporate and industry associate members where possible and we acknowledge their contribution without which the association could not function in the current form.

### FTMA Executive Team

During the year we saw a couple of changes to the executive committee notably the departure of Brendon Pugh who requested to be excused due to commitments required for a new role. At this stage Brendon's seat on the committee has not been re-filled. As noted last year's report, Rene Pienaar now represents Carters at FTMA executive. At the end of the 2021 / 22 year the executive team makeup is as follows.

Chair	Daniel Howe – Akarana Timber
Vice Chair	Andrew Skinner – Martelli McKegg Law
Executive team	Richard Rozbicki – Thomsons ITM Phil Broadley – Prenail Frames & Trusses Mark Buckenham – PlaceMakers Seith Harrison – ITM Support Office Rene Pienaar – Carters Andrew Crighton – Northern Timber Manufacturing Steve White – Pryda Antony Cooke – Mitek
Non-executive contractors	Peter Carruthers – Member Services Baldish kaur – Secretariat

At the 2022 annual general meeting a new Chair and potentially new executive members will be nominated for confirmation by members.

### Financial Position

In the 2021 / 22 year we returned to normal membership fee rates after the previous 2020 / 21 year where we discounted corporate and industry associated membership rates by 50% and zero fees for



manufacturing members. For the year ending March 31, 2022, the association has returned to a profitable basis with income from membership fees of \$130,058. Expenses from normal operations for the year (not including conference related costs and special projects which will be covered separately) were \$62,240 and cash reserves stood at \$273,556. Details of conference costs and income and special projects expenses will be covered in more detail in the financial summary papers.

### **Associated Support Memberships**

We continue to strengthen our connections with key industry partners, including:

- Associate membership of **BIF (Building Industry Federation)** – one of the key benefits being access to the Government bodies responsible for policies and regulations that affect our industry particularly in relation to supply chain and impacts on merchants.
- We joined the **New Zealand Construction Industry Council (NZCIC)** being the peak body of building and construction industry organisations. Again this increases our reach with government and related industry players.
- Associate membership of and continuing close engagement with **BCITO (Building & Construction Industry Training Organisation)** and representation on their National Advisory Group via three members of our Executive team. BCITO and other industry training organisations are currently under a lot of change with the ambitious Reform of Vocational Education program.
- We work closely with the **Wood Processors and Manufacturers Association (WPMA)** on relevant issues such as reform of NZ Standards and the changes to energy efficiency under the revised clause H1 of the Building Code.
- We continue to work with **WorkSafe** in the form of their review of our SOP training videos which will be detailed later in this summary.
- Building a closer relationship with **BRANZ (Building Research Association of New Zealand)** and working with their technical staff to ensure that detailing solutions proposed for changes to Building Code clause H1 are practical and retain other requirements particularly structural integrity and safety.
- **MBIE**: FTMA is recognised as an important industry voice and regularly invited to working groups and consult on relevant matters, including reviews of legislation and codes that affect the frame and truss sector. Further details are presented later in this summary.
- We continue to develop our relationship and cooperation with **FTMA Australia** including joint work on and funding of the SOP training video project which is being shared with them.
- With frame and truss being the first major off-site building component manufacturing activity, FTMA have joined **OffsiteNZ** (previously PrefabNZ) as we wanted to better understand the sector and be able to report opportunities or developments that may be of interest to FTMA members. Some FTMA members are also members of OffsiteNZ in their own right.

### **General Activities**

**FTMA SOP Training Videos:** This has been one of our flagship projects over the last year and we are excited to update the membership on progress at the 2022 AGM. Members may recall that at the 2021 AGM we previewed an early version of the nail gun safety training video which generated a lot of interest.



Since that time there has been a large amount of work and formalities to complete including securing funding, intellectual property ownership, legal liabilities, website reconstruction, filming additional SOPs and appropriate expert review of the content. The rebuild of our website in order to host the videos is due to be complete by the end of October.

In total we have the first six videos complete covering a range of equipment and processes used in frame and truss manufacture. Each video has undergone a peer review process with professional health & safety moderators in New Zealand and Australia and is also reviewed by WorkSafe (although they don't give any endorsement as such). We are confident that members will find these short videos to be a very valuable resource for staff training, new employee induction and general safety improvement in the future.

We want to express our thanks to the equipment and machinery suppliers who have generously supported this project. Without their support this project would not have been possible. We would also like to acknowledge the participation of FTMAA in this project which has allowed us to offer greater value to our contributing suppliers.

**FTMA conference:** Unfortunately with the Covid restrictions on events and gatherings introduced early in the 2022, it was decided to further postpone the FTMA conference to July 2023. Further details and a new conference programme will be issued early in 2023.

**Frame & Truss qualifications:** The FTMA executive Training committee members have continued to work closely with BCITO in further developing curriculum for frame and truss qualifications through the National Advisory Group. For example, a training module for floor cassette manufacture is being considered as well as a frame and truss manufacturing management component. As members will be aware, vocational training institutions are going through a wide ranging restructure under the Te Pukenga banner to bring together national training standards and resources. We are watching the situation closely as the new structure evolves although we are concerned about how BCITO in particular will be transformed in this process.

**Newsletter and website:** We continue to send quarterly digital newsletters containing information and updates relevant to our membership, and we welcome your feedback on any additional content you would like to see in the newsletter or on our website.

**Standards reviews:** As previously advised, FTMA is represented on the working group for the revision of NZS3604. However we have been concerned about recent problems in the NZ Standards working committee process and the failure to deliver a result in the case of the review of NZS3602 and NZS3640. We have been invited to a working group examining issues in the Standards review process so we are hopeful that these issues will be resolved to deliver a revised NZS3604 by late 2023.

**MBIE building sector reforms:** Through the year we continued to respond to a number of MBIE consultations regarding changes to the building code and other regulatory changes that may potentially impact frame and truss manufacturers. As mentioned previously, we have established a much improved profile and relationship with MBIE and we are being proactively contacted for commentary on issues and to participate in working groups. However what we have found most often is that the high level intentions of these regulatory and code changes (such as energy



efficiency, climate change adaption et cetera) are not well resolved down to detail that may be required for frame and truss manufacturing. We are not alone in this concern and other industry associations have found similar problems in their respective areas. Despite this we do see MBIE as making a concerted effort to engage and consult with industry.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate that your continued membership, ongoing support and active participation is vital to our efforts on your behalf to enhance manufacturing and operating standards throughout the industry, guide our way through code and regulatory changes and to promote timber-framed structures as the preferred choice of building material in New Zealand.

Our core values remain as follows:

**ADVOCACY      COMMITMENT      EDUCATION      QUALITY      SUPPORT**

Your Executive team remains focused on improving training and work standards within our sector, raising the profile of the frame and truss sector within the building & construction industry, on building our credibility with Government to ensure that our voice is heard, and on supporting our membership as well as we possibly can.

Much of our work is carried out in the background and is not widely visible, and my thanks are hereby extended to my team for their ongoing efforts on your behalf.

Daniel Howe

Chairman, FTMA NZ

September 2022