



FTMA Newsletter Autumn 2023

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Word from the Chair – Seith Harrison



Our big news for this edition is of course the upcoming FTMA conference at the Te Papa Museum on July 25 – 27. We originally planned this event for 2020 but as you all know too well, a worldwide pandemic and lockdowns in one form or another meant that we had to postpone multiple times.

Nonetheless, after all the disruptions over the last few years I am excited that we are finally able to hold the event and I look forward to seeing many members there. If you have not yet received a registration form please contact FTMA admin or go to the FTMA website. Also do not hesitate to contact Peter Carruthers our member services on 021 912 977 for any other assistance or information.

We have received strong support from our suppliers and industry partners so I also want to make it a worthwhile investment for them with a strong turnout of

frame and truss manufacturers. Many thanks to all of our sponsors particularly our naming sponsor Spida, and the other major sponsors Mitek, Pryda and Red Stag. We have a wide range of speakers and presentations relevant for our sector and have retained Te Radar as the MC and a special conference wrap-up presentation by Nigel Lata. There will be excellent evening functions being the Pryda Icebreaker on the 25th along with the Red Stag Cocktails and the Mitek Gala dinner on the 26th. Also please note, consider bringing your partners or business associates to the Gala dinner on July 26 for a great night out. Contact FTMA admin for details of additional dinner places.

So I am hoping to see as many of you as possible there, particularly our smaller and independent manufacturers who might not normally see this type of information. I can confidently say that it will be well worth your time and investment.

FTMA Conference Fast Approaching

It is now only a bit over 2 months to go before the FTMA national conference at the Te Papa Museum in Wellington. After all the frustration and delays over the last couple of years, we have a great event planned and strongly encourage you to make the time to attend.

The programme is largely the same as planned for 2021 with some updates to reflect changes in the intervening time. Megan Woods the Minister for Housing & Construction will officially open the conference at 9:30 AM on Wednesday July 26. However, don't forget the Pryda and Mitek technical sessions on the 25th for detailers and designers and the Pryda Icebreaker event from 5 PM – all welcome.

The FTMA member early bird registration fee of \$400 + GST runs out at the end of May. This is sensational value for an event of this quality so if you have not already done so, register now. If you purchased tickets in 2021 and did not request refund you are still good to go. The registration form can be downloaded from www.ftma.co.nz. Fill out and return the form to us and we will invoice you. Also note that we arranged a special conference rate of \$175 per night for the 25th and 26th of July at the adjacent West Plaza Hotel which again is sensational value for Wellington at this time. Your code for the FTMA rate is #CH39 – but the number of rooms at this rate is strictly limited so book now before they are all gone (reservations@westplaza.co.nz). For any additional information or assistance contact member.services@ftma.co.nz.

FTMA Chair Seith Harrison and the Executive look forward to welcoming you in July.



Changes to H1 - Building Performance

As members will be aware, the changes to clause H1 of the Building Code requiring higher insulation values for residential building comes into effect in May 2023. As we have previously relayed, these current changes should have minimal if any effect on frame and truss manufacturers for the great majority of the country and building situations. However, MBIE Building Performance have signalled that further changes are likely going forward so we will keep monitoring and responding to the situation as it develops.



In general it is the architects and building designers who need to be most aware of these issues and provide clear guidance for the frame and truss manufacturer if required. MBIE and BRANZ have information hubs [here](#) and [here](#) for assistance. This topic and others will also be addresses by presenters from MBIE at the FTMA conference in July.

Introducing WorkDek



When David Grigor saw the type of working at height and fall protection systems in use in the building industry, he thought that there has to be a better way. Traditional scaffolding although essential in many cases is expensive, heavy to move around and requires qualified installers. Net type systems are of limited efficacy, don't themselves provide a working platform and in some cases still result in injuries if they are called into action.

Enter WorkDek – a light, easy to install “snap together” system for creating comfortable working at height platforms within the building envelope. For example, using the WorkDek system, installation of trusses or mid-floor beams can be three or even four times faster and safer than with other working practices.

WorkDek will be featured at the FTMA conference in July so come along and check it out and meet David Grigor. Frame and truss manufacturers may not be the direct purchasers of WorkDek, but such a system could be valuable to recommend or suggest to builder clients who buy your frames and trusses.

<https://workdek.com/about> Phone: 0800 663 255 / Email: info@workdek.com



WorkDek makes standing of trusses easy and safe compared to working on ladders, and much faster than using cranes to lift and position each truss.

National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC)

NAWIC is a non-profit organisation focused on supporting women who work across the construction industry. Last month Carters Manufacturing Cambridge were pleased to host a NAWIC Member Site Visit to their Cambridge factory. NAWIC members from a wide range of building industry segments were given an insight into the frame and truss design and manufacturing process by Carter's Cambridge Manufacturing Manager Aaron Quinn.

Local NAWIC Waikato Chapter Chair Melanie Reid noted that the designers & architects amongst the group were particularly impressed with the technology on display, including the latest Mitek Sapphire CAD software and the seamless fabrication process.

Originally founded in Texas in 1952 NAWIC is now an international organisation with branches in USA, UK, Ireland, Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, and most recently in Qatar. NAWIC New Zealand has been active in Wellington since 1996, and has Chapters in Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Wellington and Canterbury, and three satellite chapters - Queenstown Lakes, Otago and Wairarapa. Anyone interested in learning more about or joining NAWIC can contact secretary@nawic.org.nz or visit the website <https://www.nawic.org.nz/>



Carters Cambridge factory manager Aaron Quinn explains the operation of the Hundegger optimising saw to the NAWIC group – the first step in converting timber stock into finished frames and trusses.

FTMA Executive

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