



FTMA Newsletter Spring 2022

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Welcome to incoming FTMA Chair – Seith Harrison



At the annual general meeting on September 28, Seith Harrison was appointed as the next FTMA Chair following Dan Howe who stepped down at the same time. Initially trained as a chartered accountant Seith has been with the ITM Support Office for 6 years where he is currently the General Manager for Operations. Prior to ITM, he gained extensive experience in building materials supply with PlaceMakers and the Fletcher Group.

Seith said, “First, my thanks goes to Dan Howe who has led and guided the FTMA through an extraordinary two year period. Our sector saw highs and lows which I had not previously faced in my career, and hopefully we have learned some important lessons from the experience.

“Fortunately through careful management and the ongoing support of the

members, the FTMA has come through the last couple of years with a strong balance sheet and a high quality executive team. I will be working with the executive team and members over the coming months to develop a strategic plan for the association using the substantial resources that we have available.

"For example, the SOP training video project that Dan captained is a case in point where we can commit significant funds to develop a useful resource for members. However, as a counter point, like many others I was very frustrated last year in Auckland when we were prevented from working during some of the lockdown periods because we were not seen as an essential industry even though some other building materials supply sectors were allowed to operate. We just didn't have sufficient reach into the government regulators and I think that we are still experiencing the negative impacts of that imposition. So I want to improve our standing in the construction sector to reach government so that hopefully we are not placed in such a situation again.

"I look forward to hearing from and working with our members, so do not hesitate to reach out to me via seith.harrison@itm.co.nz or 021 917 004 and express your views and concerns on how we can better serve the interests of our sector."

FTMA 2022 Annual General Meeting

On September 28 we held the FTMA Annual General Meeting in Auckland. Approximately 30 members joined the meeting in Auckland and another 10 joined via a Zoom link. As presented in the meeting notes, Dan Howe stepped down as Chair and ITM's Seith Harrison was appointed as the new Chair. Andrew Skinner stays on as the Vice Chair and Jake Pretorius from PlaceMakers will join the executive committee in place of Mark Buckenham. It was also announced that two executive committee places will be made available for a representative from each of the Bunnings and Mitre10 groups.

FTMA wishes to thank Dan for his contribution and leadership over the last two years. Dan's grace, humility and good humour will be missed, but we appreciate that after 10 years on the FTMA executive he has earned a break to spend more time with family and to attend the daily demands at Akarana Timber. We also thank Mark Buckenham of PlaceMakers for his valued contribution to the executive team in a demanding period.

For the new period, the FTMA executive committee stands as follows.

- Seith Harrison – Chair, ITM Support Office
- Andrew Skinner – Vice Chair, Martelli McKegg Lawyers

- Richard Rozbicki, Thompsons ITM
- Philip Broadly, Prenail Frames and Trusses
- Rene Pienaar, Carters
- Andrew Crighton, Norther Timber Manufacturing
- Jake Pretorius, PlaceMakers
- Steve White, Pryda
- Antony Cooke, Mitek
- To be advised, Bunnings
- To be advised, Mitre 10

FTMA secretary, Baldish Kaur, presented the FTMA financial report, which for the year ending June 30, 2022 showed a net earnings after expenses from normal activities of \$71,000 and a cash balance of nearly \$245,000.

Helen Hynes-Randall from BCITO presented a summary of the current changes within the vocational training sector and the frame and truss apprenticeship cohort in particular. A summary of the presentation has been forwarded to AGM attendees and if other members require a copy please contact [FTMAAdmin](#).

A video recording of the meeting is available [here](#)



Outgoing FTMA Chair Dan Howe addressing the AGM with Vice Chair Andrew Skinner on the left and incoming Chair Seith Harrison is next down the table after Andrew.

Dust control – targeted by WorkSafe

We have heard from some members that WorkSafe has picked up on dust control for the general factory floor areas in their audits. This is a separate matter to fixed dust extraction associated with specific machines such as cross cut saws. The key point is that they don't want to see clean-up methods such as manual sweeping or air-blowers which can generate air borne dust in the process.

The recommended dust clean-up method for floor and general areas is a mobile vacuum system with fine filters to prevent dispersion of air borne dust during operation. A wide range of equipment is available for this purpose depending on the size of the factory, dust volume and floor area. Contact member services for further information.



More about frame and trusses on YouTube

There is a lot of useful information about frames and truss application to be found on YouTube. For example, in this [presentation](#), well known (in the USA at least) Build Show presenter, Matt Risinger, goes through the pros and cons of pre-fabricated trusses compared to stick built roof framing.

Recall that in the US market there is still a higher proportion of on-site frame and roof construction compared to New Zealand, for example. In this video, Ray Pavlich of Builders First Source does a good job of explaining the advantages of factory manufactured truss sets compared to on-site, hand built roof structures. Ray goes through how the pre-manufacture detailing and computer-controlled fabrication sorts out difficult geometry and makes the builder's job faster and easier among other benefits.



Special note, look at about 3 minutes 20 seconds where they discuss a storage area that has been designed into the roof space and the beefed up bottom

chord sizes to take the additional load expected in the storage space. Now that is something worthwhile to point out for a home designer.

FTMA Executive

admin@ftma.co.nz | member.services@ftma.co.nz | www.ftma.co.nz



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Our mailing address is:

c/- Martelli McKegg
PO Box 5745, Victoria Street West
Auckland 1142

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