



FTMA Newsletter Winter 2021

In this edition:

[Word from Chair: Dan Howe](#)

[FTMA Conference 2021: Nearly there](#)

[SAFETY: No compromises for speed](#)

[MBIE Consultations](#)

[Construction Sector Accord: Diversity Roadmap](#)

Word from Chair: Dan Howe



There is so much going on at the moment, it's hard to know where to begin. Since our last newsletter, the FTMA has been busy and so has the industry at large. All of the members that we have heard from are reporting once in a generation levels of demand and business activity. It can be a struggle to do much else except battle through each day balancing one demand against another, trying to keep customers and staff as happy as possible. I have also heard from some of you that things are so hectic at the moment that you just aren't able to get time out of the business. I understand that and I could say the same.

While acknowledging these pressures, I really hope

that all members make it to our conference in September, if at all possible. I really believe that it is important to make the effort to invest a bit of time in these events. It is an opportunity to re-connect with your peers and colleagues in the industry, see how suppliers to the industry are innovating and hear about some of the changes and trends in the wider market. It can be isolating to be down in the trenches fighting through all the challenges every day and we owe it to ourselves and the businesses we represent to keep abreast of developments in the industry we work. Please make it to the Wellington conference this year if humanly possible. We have a great conference programme, top quality presenters, facilitators and functions.

Finally, I have heard of a number of safety incidents recently and particularly those where the employees felt themselves under time pressure to complete work as fast as possible. The cases mainly relate to hand and nail gun injuries, some of them being severe. I appeal to everyone not to compromise safety for the sake of work rate. The disruption and cost of a safety incident far outweighs the possible benefit of a few minutes saved on a line. This will be an important subject at our conference.

All the best for now and hoping to see many of you in early Spring in Wellington.

Dan Howe

FTMA Executive Chair

FTMA Conference 2021: Nearly there

We are now in the late stages of planning for the FTMA national conference, just a month away on September 7 – 9 at Te Papa Museum Wellington. At the

risk of sounding a bit overconfident, we simply have an awesome programme lined up this year. Even though early bird registrations are now closed, for FTMA members at \$500 + GST per person, this is still sensational value. Register [here](#).

Tickets for partners of delegates to the gala dinner are available for \$150 per person (+GST).

Some of the highlights in the programme are as follows:

September 7	2:00 – 5:00pm: Technical detailing workshops with Mitek and Pryda (bookings essential)
	5:30 – 7:30pm: Pryda Ice Breaker networking function
September 8	9:30am: Opening and Welcome from the FTMA with MC, Te Radar and Official Opening by Hon. Poto Williams Minister of Building and Construction
	6:00pm: Red Stag Cocktail function
	7:00pm: Mitek Gala Dinner with special guest speaker
September 9	11:00am: Knowledge Café - six 15-minute sessions on different business subjects moving between tables each hosted by a business area expert and wrap-up by Te Radar
	2:00pm: Keynote & summary with Nigel Latta - <i>Shining a light on the future of work</i>

And much, much more in addition to these highlights. With a special note on safety, we will be introducing FTMA safe tool and machine training video SOP's which will become available to members later in the year.

See the FTMA website for the full conference [programme](#) (*preliminary – may be subject to change*).

The Hon. Poto Williams, Minister for Building and Construction will open the FTMA 2021 Sharpen Your Vision conference on September 8 at Te Papa Museum.



SAFETY: No compromises for speed

People working under pressure for long hours and trying to work quickly may be more likely to make mistakes and have injuries. Recent reports from FTMA members indicate that we may be seeing more such cases currently with the high demand environment. However, as Dan notes in the introduction, safety must not be compromised for productivity. We recommend particularly with nail gun tools, pre-use inspection and checks are always completed, hands are kept well way from the impact area at all times and that it is better to call for help rather than rush work to the extent that safety is compromised.



Safety training video SOP's covering nail gun use and other key tools will shortly be available from FTMA and will be previewed at the conference in September.

MBIE Consultations

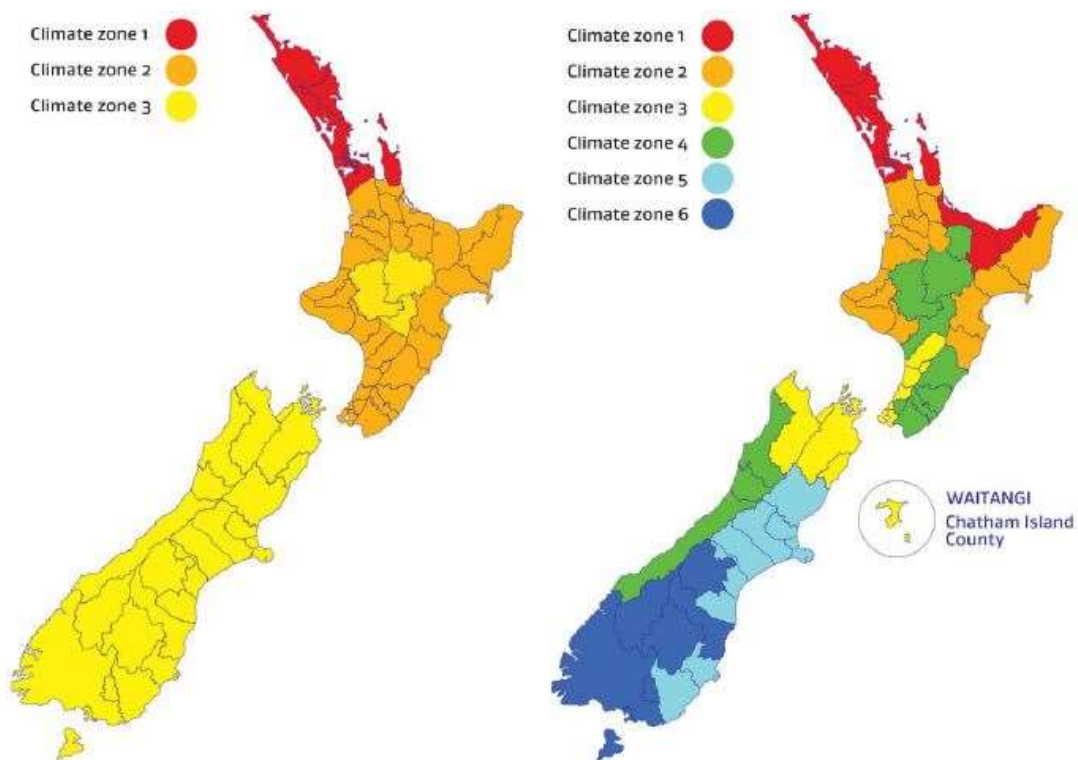
There was a time, maybe not too long ago, when MBIE was not visibly very active in industry matters. Well that is certainly no longer the case. MBIE has been very active recently in pushing out a number of consultations and discussion documents that may herald potentially large changes for the building and construction industries, including the frame and truss manufacturing sector. Among these consultations, to which FTMA have responded, are the following:

- **Building for Climate Change** – ways to reduce the greenhouse gas emission footprint of our buildings and infrastructure resulting from their construction and operation.
- **Building Amendment Bill** – improving the information supplied for building products and materials and certification of prefabricated modular components.

- **Energy efficiency for housing and small buildings** – the thermal performance and energy efficiency of New Zealand’s houses under current code requirements is well under those in some comparable overseas jurisdictions. MBIE proposes a new schedule of improved insulation performance standards.
- **Whole-of-Life Embodied Carbon Assessment** – supporting the Building for Climate Change programme covering how the net greenhouse gas emissions or offsets in building construction and operation may be calculated for estimating total impact.

These initiatives may have some beneficial impacts for our sector, some are likely to be neutral and some we see as potentially problematic. Space does not allow for any detailed coverage of these issues here. However, FTMA’s position is to reinforce the substantial contribution that we make to the building sector currently (insufficiently recognised perhaps), as well as the inherent beneficial attributes of timber frames and trusses in these considerations and that most of our current systems are functioning satisfactorily.

While we are not resistant to change per se, we want to see that any changes mandated are justified, proportional, within our sector’s capacity and do not add unnecessary costs and complexities to our processes. All these issues will be covered in various sessions at the September conference including presentations from senior MBIE representatives. This will be a good opportunity to come up to speed with the latest developments and thinking. For any further details on FTMA’s submissions to these consultations in the meantime, please contact Peter Carruthers – member.services@ftma.co.nz and 021 912 977.



MBIE proposes to divide New Zealand into 6 climate zones (right) for insulation performance requirements compared to 3 zones currently (left). FTMA is

concerned that this change may introduce excess complexity for designers and builders for marginal benefit.

Construction Sector Accord: Diversity Roadmap

MBIE has commissioned Diversity Works, a not-for-profit organisation previously known as the Equal Opportunities Trust, to help measure the degree of diversity in construction industry workplaces in New Zealand across the board. MBIE is aware that there is a critical labour shortage looming in the industry. The aim in the longer term is to broaden the range of potential employees available and selected for work in the industry, including those from disadvantaged groups as a strategy to help alleviate the labour shortage.



FTMA has agreed to distribute an initial survey link from the Construction Industry Accord to our members. The survey is intended to gain a picture of the current diversity in our workplaces. Participation in the survey is entirely voluntary and specific company details are not collected.

The survey form for companies can be accessed [here](#) up to August 27.



Diversity at work at Akarana Timber frame and truss factory.

FTMA Executive

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



Copyright © 2021 Frame & Truss Manufacturers Association of New Zealand, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you are a member of FTMA New Zealand.

Our mailing address is:

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

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Frame & Truss Manufacturers' Association · 1/26 Pleasant Road · Glen Eden · Auckland, 0602 · New Zealand

