



## FTMA Newsletter Winter 2023

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### Word from the Chair – Seith Harrison



I am delighted to share with you my satisfaction and relief following our long-awaited FTMA conference, which finally took place in July after several false starts and postponements. I can confidently say that the event was definitely a success, thanks in large part to the unwavering support and patience of our sponsors and exhibitors.

I extend my sincere gratitude to our naming sponsor, Spida, and our other major sponsors, Mitek, Pryda, Red Stag, and BCITO Te Pukenga. Their generous support made this conference possible, and we are immensely thankful for their ongoing commitment to FTMA. I would also like to acknowledge and express appreciation to all our other sponsors and exhibitors who contributed to the success of the event. Your partnership is truly invaluable, and we are indebted to you for your dedication.

I extend a special thank you to all the FTMA manufacturing members who invested the time to attend and made the conference worthwhile for our sponsors. It was truly encouraging to see our community come together after such a long time. I hope you enjoyed reconnecting with fellow members and industry colleagues as I did. I also hope that the insights and knowledge shared during the conference provide great value for you personally and your businesses. Finally, a big thank you to Chris Thomas and the team at Special Events. They delivered the promise and due to their efforts it was a special event.

For me, one of the highlights of the conference was undoubtedly the gala dinner and the captivating talk by Brad Smeele, sponsored by Mitek.

His inspiring journey from a life-altering catastrophe to rediscovering happiness and purpose serves as a powerful reminder to cherish the blessings we have and find courage during adversity. It was a truly humbling experience that left a lasting impact on all in attendance.



For those who were unable to attend this time, we extend our commiserations. Nevertheless, we look forward to welcoming you at our next FTMA conference in 2025. The camaraderie and knowledge exchanges that take place during these events are unparalleled, and we are eager to have you join us in the future. A survey form has been emailed to all attendees so we will appreciate it if you can take a few minutes to respond to that as it will help us plan the next event.

I am also looking forward to our next event for the year, the FTMA annual general meeting on September 27 in Auckland. We will be sending out further details and the agenda shortly. The momentum and progress achieved during the conference and recent developments further reinforce my belief that together as the FTMA, we can be stronger and more effective in advancing the industry.

As always, my door is open to each of you. If you have any concerns, questions, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to pick up the phone and give me a call or send me an email. Your input and feedback are integral to the continued growth and success of our association.

Once again, thank you all for your support and commitment to the FTMA. I am

truly grateful for the privilege of serving as your Chair, and I look forward to our continued journey towards a thriving and prosperous industry.

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## Conference Wrap-up



The conference finally happened and was well worth the wait according to the great majority of comments from attendees including Dave Geddes of Ecko who is seen explaining the finer points of nail gun operation to conference MC Te Radar.

We have received many inquiries regarding obtaining copies of the presentations and photos from the event. The photos and presentations are now on the FTMA website. Go to [www.ftma.co.nz](http://www.ftma.co.nz) and the photo gallery and some other documents from the event can be accessed from the home page. For the conference presentations, go to the members login on the top right menu. The password for the members area is “mcgregor”, all lower case. In that section there is a tab for “Presentations from our conferences”. You may also see some of the content from the 2018 conference and gain an insight into how much has changed since that time.

Also please respond to the survey form that has been sent out if you can. This helps us understand your preferences for the next event. Do not hesitate to contact member services for any more questions or assistance.

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## FTMA Website - Members login area



A lot of members may not be aware of the resources that are available on the FTMA website behind the members login area. While you are checking out the conference presentations as above, also take a look at some of the other information such as the FTMA Code of Practice, annual reports, templates and other resources that are available to help your business.



The members area requires a password with is “mcgregor”, all lower case in recognition of previous member services executive Ian McGregor. The FTMA training SOP videos as presented at the conference will also be available shortly through the members area.

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## Annual General Meeting

The 2023 FTMA annual general meeting will be held at the Remuera Club, 27 Ohinerau Road, Remuera on September 27 from 11 AM to 12:30 PM approximately. A light lunch will be provided after the meeting. Formal invitations with the agenda and documents will be distributed to members shortly.



One key point, we will be seeking some new members for the executive committee as a number of current members are stepping down after lengthy service or due to other commitments. We are keen to hear from any manufacturing members who are willing to step up and serve on the FTMA executive. The normal term is 2 years and involves 5 to 6 meetings per year and

potentially some committee work outside of normal meetings.

It is critical for our success as the industry association that we are strongly connected to the membership base and a key way of achieving this is to have experienced and knowledgeable representatives from member companies on the executive committee. Please contact Seith Harrison (021 917 004) or Peter Carruthers (021 912 977) if you are interested in serving on the committee in the next period.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on September 27.

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## Truss design - restricted building work or not?

A recent case with building consent process at Auckland Council has highlighted a significant contradiction from within MBIE in the appropriate designation of restricted building work (RBW) regarding truss design. A recent Code Compliance Certificate application was declined by Auckland Council as a signed Certificate of Work was not provided for the trusses by a licensed building practitioner (LBP).

The MBIE Determinations branch has agreed with the interpretation that under the Building Act, design of key structural elements such as trusses is restricted building work. However in another area for guidance of LBP's, MBIE state that in the case of off-site manufacture, design of trusses is not RBW.

*The design of trusses in a factory as part of an off-site manufacturing process is not RBW. However, the design LBP needs to ensure that the truss design will fit in with the rest of the building's design to meet the requirements of the Building Code. This includes making sure they have provided the correct information to the truss manufacturer and have checked that the information used by the manufacturer is correct and matches what was supplied.*

Source: [Design process | Licensed Building Practitioners \(lbp.govt.nz\)](#)



So it is confusing but the potential implications for frame and truss manufacturers is very significant as we are sure that you will appreciate. FTMA has set up a working group to seek clarification urgently from MBIE



on this matter. We will keep you posted of developments.

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## New Members

We are pleased to announce two new FTMA Industry Associate members being Premier Building Products and LumberBank NZ. Both companies had representatives at our conference and subsequently are keen to support FTMA.

### Premier Building Products

Phone: 0800 PREMIER

Email: [sales@premierbuildingproducts.co.nz](mailto:sales@premierbuildingproducts.co.nz)

Website: [www.premierbuildingproducts.co.nz](http://www.premierbuildingproducts.co.nz)

Premier Building Products specialises in overseas sourcing of a range of building materials and products including LVL and plywood.

### LumberBank NZ

Phone: 0800 4LUMBER

Email: [sales@lumberbank.co.nz](mailto:sales@lumberbank.co.nz)

Website: [LumberBank NZ | Engineered Wood Products | Timber Suppliers](http://LumberBank NZ | Engineered Wood Products | Timber Suppliers).

LumberBank are well known in the industry being one of the largest national distributors of LVL. However they also supply a wide range of other engineered wood products and specialty timbers.

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### FTMA Executive

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