NEWSLETTER VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2023

Annual General Meeting (AGM) Queenstown

The 2022 AGM was held in Queenstown this year and was well attended with a quorum of 8 ordinary members.

- · All incumbent executive members were re-elected.
- The Chairmans report was tabled along with the financial report.

Once all formalities were completed the meeting was closed and the monthly general meeting began.

General Monthly Meeting

LIFE MEMBERS RECOGNISED

WMAI Life Members

- Jim Gerbes
- Brian Greenall
- · Mark Rayner

During the 2022 AGM two of our founding members were acknowledged with WMAI Life Membership.



Brian Greenall is awarded Life Membership; presented by Gerry Mekkelholt, WMAI Vice-Chair



Mark Rayner is awarded Life Membership; presented by Chris Withers, WMAI Chair

Mark and Brian are both foundation members, continue to be a driving force and share their valuable contributions to the Waterproofing Membrane Association Inc. They have been instrumental and work tirelessly on the Codes of Practise.

Their roles within the Association have changed over the years from being Chair, Technical Writer, Secretary,

Treasurer, Vice-Chairman. Today Mark is Secretary & Treasurer, with Brian being Technical Advisor and both are active on the Executive Committee.

Our industry owes them a great deal of admiration and gratitude for their commitment to Waterproofing. Their vision has been inspirational to not only our industry but many others who try to emulate the success of WMAI.

We thank Mark and Brian for their tireless work and look forward to their continued commitment and support.

Congratulations and thanks from all of us in the Membrane Association.

This meeting also had two guests from the Australian Institute of Waterproofing (AIW), and a representation from Tile Association New Zealand (TANZ).

AIW

The AIW has expressed an interest in our **Internal Wet Area Membranes** (**IWAM**) **Code of Practice**, as this is an area where they are seeing a significant number of issues. The IWAM is seen as a way forward that does not require them to re-invent the wheel. We were also given an insight to the state governance system of the Australian building industry.

One of the issues faced in the Australian model is that building merchants are 'selling direct to anyone'. This brings the cheapest products with no training required. The resulting problems are costly for homeowners with little to no accountability for the installer, applicator, and manufacturer. All parties are at fault, but it is the building owner that ultimately pays the price.

Unfortunately, the answer is for the government to regulate this sector, which is never popular and will initially increase costs.

This is a reminder of the critical importance of getting systems specified, sticking to the specification and manufacturers details- the full system must be adhered to.

Codes of Practice (COP)

Brian and Chris gave the group a report from their meeting with MIBE. The disappointing news was the timeframes to cite the COPs has again been extended. MIBE recommends we continue with the writing of the COP's and acknowledge the value that they bring to the industry. The good news is that this gives the WMAI more time to use the codes as a revenue stream. Once cited, the government releases the document as 'free to public'.

To date, WMAI focus has been writing of COP:

- 2022 saw the completion of Below Grade Tanking COP
- · 2023 we are working on Single Ply Membrane COP

Additionally, our focus will include engagement with our applicator partners through training initiatives. WMAI will be setting up applicator discussions in Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch in 2023.

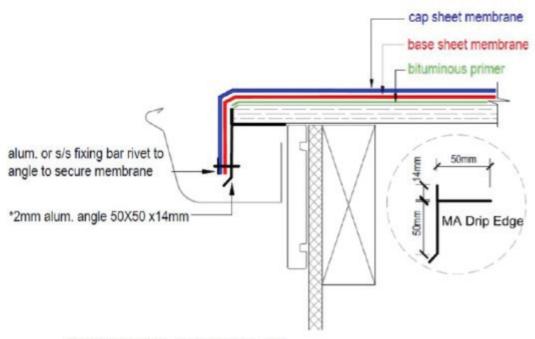
WMAI Drip Edge

The uptake of the WMAI Drip Edge has been slow. All agreed this was due to a lack of marketing. Applicators don't know it exists.

It was agreed that all members who supply Torch-on membrane should be stocking the minimum amount of 50 lengths. These are packed into 5 length bundles.

The item will not sell itself until it is widely used.

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Metal drip edge, proprietary angle

Pre-drilled......4mm diameter @ 300mm centres

Packaging5 X 3m lengths (bundled)

WMAI Drip Edge installation by Gerry Mekkelholt esq.

Unfortunately, this is the best kept secret in the Torch-on world. I confess that I have installed the WMAI Drip Edge on my own build.

It is without doubt the easiest way to install a drip-edge. I had no help to hold the drip-edge in place and it was still easy.

Easy because it comes with pre-drilled holes:

- 1. Push it tight into place.
- 2. Put the screw in, and it holds itself.
- 3. Screw in the remaining screws.

So long as you have a charged 18v drill and the correct long bit; job done! I did pre-prime the aluminium face with a solvent bitumen primer days earlier.

So, let's talk cost.

The WMAI Drip-Edge is an aluminium extruded profile. It comes pre-drilled and is cheaper than the usual 3mm thick aluminium angle. **Faster install and cheaper to buy**.

Next time you are at your membrane suppliers' yard, pick up a 5-pack of lengths and give it a go. You are helping support the WMAI and it is better and more cost effective than the old angle.

Currently available from Vikingroofspec and Deck-Master NZ

Written by Gerry Mekkelholt

Technical: H1 Insulation

The new requirements concerning insulation of buildings that had been scheduled for November 2022, are due to take effect on May 1st, 2023. The most significant changes in R value apply to the roof of a building. The method of calculation and 'climate zones' have also been altered.

While improving the R value of a home is a positive step, there is always resistance to change when the costs associated with it hit our roofing sector. In this regard, we should cast our mind back to 2004 when the 'Smoke-free Environments Act 1990' was amended to include all indoor public workplaces and hospitality venues (pubs, clubs, restaurants etc). Opinion was divided at that time too. A lot of us had been bought up on a staple diet of second-hand smoke, and looking back now at what appeared as 'nanny state thinking', who among us would wish to go back to the old days of passive ingestion of second-hand smoke?

I see these new changes having a similar effect to the health of our homes and its occupants. Because these changes apply to new builds, it will take a lot longer before the benefits are felt by a significant percentage of the populous.

In an uninsulated house more heat is lost through the ceiling and roof than any other part of the house, making the roof the top priority for insulation.

How the overall R value is calculated is achieved by using one of the 3 methods below.

- Schedule Method
- · Calculation Method
- Verification Method.

Commercial buildings, or roofs over 300m2 have different R values they are required to reach. This is dependent on the new climate zones and their respective R values.

Residential buildings all require 6.6 R unless you are in the coldest climate zone; then it is 7.0 R.

Climates are now split into 6 zones.

These new rules will become difficult for the designers to comply with as the insulation products by nature will most likely be thicker and require more space in the roof build up.

We will no doubt see some innovation of insulation products as technology rushes to find solutions for the problems that R values and consequential increased build-thicknesses bring.

Member Profile: Soprema

Meet: Oliver Verdickt

Hello everybody, my name is Oliver Verdickt. I was born in Belgium and have been working overseas in the waterproofing industry since 1996.

My life in waterproofing started as a quality assurance engineer in South-East Asia for Belgian manufacturer De Boer. The construction industry was new to me and after in-depth courses and training from my colleagues, I left to manage installation teams in Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam. The job became a real adventure where I had to learn the local requirements for below-ground and roof waterproofing quickly, as well as some foreign languages. It was a great



experience, and I made many friends during this journey that eventually brought me to NZ when De Boer joined the SOPREMA Group. Waterproofing in Australia and NZ wasn't new to me as I had been supporting our distributor Equus Industries Ltd since early 2000. It was literally very "refreshing' to come and live in NZ with its 4 seasons. In SE-Asia it's only hot, very hot and super-hot:-)

Now, I provide commercial and technical support to our distributors in Australia and NZ. We have a small but dedicated team that's looking after this region. SOPREMA has more than 100 factories and 17 R&D centres worldwide with an extensive range of waterproofing and thermal insulation products. I'm very interested to learn about the day-to-day requirements of our applicators in NZ. Part of my job is to look at whether we have solutions for those needs within SOPREMA. This again allows me to meet lots of new colleagues all over the world. For me, that international diversity is what I enjoy the most about my work. I'm looking forward to meeting a lot of WMAI members soon.