

Timber Talk

Tunncliffe's

December 2007

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Christmas 2007

Despite a slow down in some areas of business it has been a steady year for Tunncliffe's. In general the door pre-hangers and aluminium joiners were going a little slower than normal but the traditional joiners have been rather busy. Recent building statistics indicate that we are passing the peak of building activity we have been getting used to over the last few years, so it can be expected that we will be going back to 'normal' next year.

The beekeepers have been, and still are, very busy. We are experiencing a record year selling beehive boxes. There is a real run on Manuka honey, a new liquid gold it seems. The spring has been particularly good with the honey starting to flow early. It is interesting to listen to the beekeepers, being close to nature, they are forecasting a long hot summer, which is good for their business, but would we not all enjoy this...

The biggest news item this year was the introduction of new legislation with regard to the New Zealand building code. New buildings and extensions to new buildings will have to achieve higher levels of insulation, which will see an increase in the use

of double glazing for exterior windows and doors. This will change the scenery for the manufacturers of windows and doors significantly. You can check out details on our homepage www.tunncliffes.co.nz. More on this in the following article.

We were able to welcome a number of new customers in several of our markets this year and with the generally positive outlook for the New Zealand economy we are upbeat about the new year coming up.

We would like to thank all our customers and suppliers for their support this year and wish all of you a happy and safe holiday break.

Christmas Hours

At Tunncliffe's we finish the year on Friday 21 December 07, back in full swing on Monday 14 January 08.

We will have our office manned from Monday 7 January 08 to take any orders and dispatching stock items.



Successful First Test

As announced in our Timbertalk October 2007 "Double Glazing Special Edition" Tunncliffe's started working close together with four of its Auckland based customers (Bowdendoors, Seaboard Joinery, Total Timba Joinery, Westpine Joinery) to design a new system to accommodate the larger double glazed units in timber joinery. The introduction of double glazing will change the exterior timber window and door products significantly.



The group entered into the second stage of development by testing its first prototype last month, which included a hinged open/out door, casement and awning window with an integral mullion and transom. This configuration was fully tested to meet New Zealand Standard 4211 for structural strength and weather tightness.

The window and door unit is framed up in a test-booth forming two compartments. In one of these compartments air pressure is build up or decreased simulating wind pressures. The forces released can be positive (direct wind pressure), and negative (suction caused in a lee situation). The test was done simulating for the most extreme wind zone in New Zealand where wind speeds of up to 180km/h are



applicable. For the Very High Wind Zone, the Ultimate pressure the joinery currently is required to withstand is ± 1550 Pa, although during testing we actually got up to 1800 Pa.

Under the Lesser Serviceability pressures ± 330 Pa water is added to the mix to test weather tightness, our prototype also passed this test with no water coming through the joinery using a combination of weather-seals and weather grooves and throating.

Being present at such a test is quite an experience and surprising to see the severity of the forces that are released on the joinery. During the most severe suction test the top of the door came out of the frame by approximately 18mm.

Sill Update



We have recently improved our laminated 175 x 45 H3.2 Tanalised® Ecowood™ Open-Out Door Sill by increasing the thickness with 5mm, making it a lot stronger. We were able to achieve the improvement without an increase in cost.

This product is a step up from the standard ex 200x50mm (185 x 38mm) Open-Out Door Sill, with more slope, a bigger nose and a bigger step with enough "meat" for a weather-seal. The laminated sill is designed to go with Tunncliffe's weather-seal suite of rebated jamb and mullion.

All weather-seal profiles are available in H3.2 Tanalised® Ecowood™ only.

Tunncliffe's is now also stocking a double-hung sill ex 200x50mm (180 x 42mm) SJ10 to the New Zealand Standard 3610:1979, as can be seen on the image below. The product comes in H3.2 Tanalised® Ecowood™ only.

Detailed profile diagrams can be downloaded from our website: www.tunncliffes.co.nz



A Snippet From the Past

The Eastern Bay of Plenty has featured frequently in the national news lately, unfortunately for all the wrong reasons. We can report that we operate in a quite and peaceful corner of New Zealand and that everything is business as usual. The name Tunncliffe's used to be synonymous with the logging and milling of native logs in the wider Eastern Bay of Plenty. We often quote in this column from Tunncliffe's history book *Tunncliffe & Timber 1923 1974* by K.O. Tunncliffe.



"On 17 October 1963 Gordon Spence took me up in an Aero Club plane and flew me over country adjoining our Waiohau Bush, mainly on the Ruatoki side of the range, and also near Awakeri. Later that month Boy and I did a 10 mile tramp over country and bush between Matahina dam site and Awakeri. The timber was scattered, but of several varieties quantities were not great and the country rather steep. We felt it would be best if the bush cover were left on it".