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FALL PROTECTION FOR WINDOWS AND DOOR OPENINGS TWO STOREYS AND ABOVE

There has been a number of requests from builders recently for frame and truss fabricators to provide fall protection covering the windows and door openings for all 2nd storey or above projects.

FTMA Australia believes if a fabricator is asked to provide this as part of the quoting process, then by all means include a piece of timber to block the windows and door openings as directed by the builder.

FTMA Australia has spoken with Worksafe Australia to ensure our interpretation of the *Preventing Falls in Housing Construction Code of Practice 2016* is correct and therefore points out two important parts for fabricators to keep in mind if including any fall protection for 2nd storey windows or openings:

1. You should ensure you charge for the timber as part of the quoting process, and;
2. You should have a disclaimer on your delivery paperwork stating that the fall protection provided as per the plans does not take away from the builder's legal obligations to provide adequate and safe fall protection as per the instructions in the ***Preventing Falls in Housing Construction – Code of Practice 2016*** for their building site and that no liability in anyway lies with the fabricator.

FTMA Australia's recommendation is that fabricators do not provide any form of fall protection, however if you do, you MUST ensure you include a disclaimer as stated above.

If you have any questions please contact FTMA Australia on 0418 226 242.



Diagram from page 4 of the Preventing Falls in Housing Construction Code of Practice



It is the builder's responsibility to provide the fall protection for the building site whether you include fall protection for window and door openings or not.

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