

UV or not UV?

New Zealand enjoys a temperate climate, yet even when the day feels cool UV radiation levels can still be high enough to cause sunburn.

The slip, slop, slap and wrap message reminds us to stay protected when we're out and about, but what about when we're indoors? When sitting by a window inside your home or car, for example, you are just as exposed as if you were in direct sunshine.

According to The Cancer Society website, over 300 New Zealanders die each year from skin cancer. It advises people prone to sunburn, with a history of melanoma or those who are photosensitive must be aware of the dangers related to sun exposure both indoors and out.

One inexpensive and easy solution for people, particularly parents, wanting to protect their family from sun damage is solar control window film.

Pete Arthurs, New Zealand President of the Window Film Association of Australia & New Zealand (WFAANZ), comments, "Large windows that connect the interior of a home with the view outside are becoming more and more popular every year. This design trend looks great, yet it can lead to heat, glare and UV issues. Window film presents a viable solution to this design dilemma."

Window film can reduce up to 99% UV radiation, 79% total solar energy and 90% glare in a home, all the while letting in natural light. So views can be safely and comfortably enjoyed without cumbersome curtains or distracting blinds and awnings.

Compared to other window treatments, window film is relatively inexpensive, plus it can be retrofit, so windows do not need to be removed and replaced. In addition to safeguarding people from UV exposure, it also protects your upholstery, flooring, artwork, photos and furnishings.

Pete Arthurs adds, "Case studies show that air conditioning usage has been reduced by as much as 30% after the application of window film. This not only creates monthly energy bill savings, it also means less pressure on the heat pump or air conditioner."

New Zealand's hottest months are January and February, so home owners are advised to prepare their windows for the coming summer. Auto window film is also available for your car or vehicle, offering your passengers the same protection from the sun as its flat glass counterpart.

WFAANZ is the industry body representing the window film industry in New Zealand. WFAANZ film manufacturers provide a minimum 10 year warranty, and some even offer a lifetime warranty on residential applications. Visit www.wfaanz.org.nz for more information about window film and a list of installers near you.

About window film

Window film has come a long way since its introduction in 1961. Advanced technologies mean window films now offer greater variety of shades, colours and performance levels; the best products are guaranteed to survive the different New Zealand climate zones with scratch resistant coatings for protection and metallic layers for colour stability.

About WFAANZ

A non-profit organisation, WFAANZ is dedicated to improving the standard of product and installation of window film in New Zealand. The association sets out strict performance guidelines for its members, so you can rely on a WFAANZ installer.

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For further information, a local case study, an interview or images please contact:
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