

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 29 October 2010



Batten down the hatches

Territorians have been advised to prepare their homes for the upcoming cyclone season, which is forecast to be the worst in years.

Tom Saunders, Weather Channel meteorologist¹, comments, "Typically, Australia averages around ten tropical cyclones per year, of which around six cross the coast. We're expecting around a 50% increase this year."

Once a cyclone warning has been issued, The Bureau of Meteorology checklist says that windows should be boarded or taped. In advance, residents and building owners should ensure their windows meet Australian Standards for safety glass.

Strengthening windows, skylights and glass doors with safety window film provides a safeguard against shattered glass. If flying debris or gale force wind breaks a window or door, safety film will hold the shards together.

New variants combining the characteristics of different films are now available. Solar control safety film, for example, provides safety benefits while blocking heat and UV rays from entering through the window.

Rob Hamilton, President of the Window Film Association of Australia and New Zealand (WFAANZ), comments, "Territorians in particular should be aware of the dual application of solar control safety film. The effects of the Territory's harsh climate and the threat posed by shattered glass can be nullified by this one product."

Optically clear and highly transparent, safety film allows light to pass through, while reinforcing the glass so it is not brittle. It is retrofit to existing windows easily and inexpensively, to the interior surface of the glass.

Rob continues, "Safety film brings old 'float' glass windows up to current Australian Standards for safety. It has been used on government buildings to mitigate against bomb blast damage, in shops to stop theft, and in high-traffic and play areas in the home to prevent injury. The recent cyclone warnings amplify the importance of protecting windows against breakage."

According to WFAANZ, a trained professional should be consulted to ensure the most appropriate product is selected and applied correctly. A list of window film installers who abide by a strict code of practice can be found at www.wfaanz.org.au.

About window film

Window film, or window tint, 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 harsh Australian climate 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 while setting performance guidelines for its members.

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¹ *Sunrise*, Channel Seven, Tuesday, 19 October 2010