



Building Services Authority ***MEDIA STATEMENT***

18 March 2010

Tradie advice: preparing your site for a storm or cyclone

The Building Services Authority (BSA) is urging tradespeople to prepare their building sites for the extreme weather predicted to hit the Queensland coast this weekend.

BSA's General Manager, Ian Jennings, said contractors should take the following precautions to help avoid the risk of injury, damage and costs associated with storms and cyclones.

- Remove from sites all loose material and building rubbish that would be considered a possible missile or hazard to people near the site.
- Secure all onsite scaffold/planks and equipment.
- Brace or fully core-fill concrete masonry walls.
- Secure fully all metal roof cladding, gutters and flashing.
- Raise and secure all material above known flood levels in case of high tides or storm surges.
- Secure any temporary structures like site offices and shipping containers.
- Add extra bracing to frame areas that may have to resist high winds.
- Provide adequate and compliant site drainage to avoid site flooding.
- Close window openings to adequately protect all tongue and groove flooring and other timber features and furniture from wet weather.
- Check your insurance policies and coverage are fully up-to-date and sites and values are accurate.
- Install protection or retaining walls to cut and fill sites to prevent collapse of un-retained walls and soil runoff.
- In the event of bad weather or high winds, revisit the building site as soon as practical and secure or address any dangerous or failed areas.

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