

TRADE NEWSLETTER

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UBS Highlight

UBS continues to operate as an ISO-accredited builder, maintaining the highest standards for Environmental, Quality, and Safety procedures.



Storm Season

As storm season approaches, it's crucial to ensure your team is prepared for the increased demand, particularly if you're a makesafe trade. Start by reviewing your makesafe protocols and ensure all necessary equipment is ready and accessible. If you have new workers, ensure they're fully inducted in the LinkSafe platform to avoid any last-minute hiccups. Proper preparation now will help you respond swiftly and effectively when storms hit, ensuring safety for all involved.



"Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships." — Michael Jordan

MAKESAFE®

TARPING

Make-Safe (MS) Tarping is an innovative roofing solution that is used as an alternative to traditional tarpaulins. Make-Safe Tarping is made from plastic cross-meshed materials, making it flexible enough to contour to any roof and is secured by using roofing screws, washers and tile clips.

The benefits of Make-Safe Tarping include:

- A reliable high-quality make-safe for our customers.
- Customers have peace of mind that a repeat make-safe is not required from secondary weather events.
- Reduces further damage internally to the home once installed.
- Customers on occasion can live inside the home without the fear of a noisy or leaking tarp.
- A safer solution compared with traditional tarps that use ropes, sandbags and loose tiles.
- No rental or hire fees.
- It can be reused in certain scenarios, is recyclable and also biodegradable.

All trades are required to complete the MS Tarping training before utilising any MS Tarping products to ensure proper application. Additionally, UBS has MS Tarping products available at our depots. Please contact us if you would like to obtain any of these materials.

<http://makesafetarping.com.au/training>



At UBS, we're excited to introduce our new Tier System—a streamlined approach to categorising trades based on cost and value.

Understanding the Tiers:

- **Tier 1:** These trades are prioritised for daily project work, because your rates and service levels reflect our expectations based on industry standards and our contract with you.
- **Tier 2:** Balanced options with solid cost and quality, however more expensive rates and fees.
- **Tier 3:** Higher-cost schedules reserved for specialized services.

Why It Matters: Trades in Tier 1 will be given priority, leading to more opportunities and consistent work. Remember, our allocation of insurance work depends on sustainable costs. If we are competitive, you get more jobs!

The Tier system sets clear expectations during contract renewal, allowing you to align your pricing with our standards for a stronger partnership, and greater opportunities.

Reminder: During contract renewals, we'll be monitoring trade costs against this system, prioritising Tier 1 trades.

Let's continue building successful projects together!

Silica and Falls Construction Blitz



At UBS, we are dedicated to ensuring the safety of our workforce, our trades, and customers. WorkSafe Victoria and SafeWork NSW have a heavy focus on reducing the risks of falls from height and exposure to crystalline silica dust during the upcoming cross-border construction blitz. Inspectors from both regions will visit worksites throughout Victoria and NSW to educate employers on their health and safety obligations, identify potential hazards, and ensure consistent safety practices across both sides of the border.

Since 2018, the construction industry in Victoria has experienced 20 fatal falls from height, with construction workers accounting for nearly a third of all fall-related injuries—2,283 out of 7,769 claims accepted by WorkSafe. In NSW, falls from height remain the leading cause of traumatic fatalities on construction sites, with 16 deaths recorded between 2018 and 2022. Workers aged 20 to 29 experience the highest number of falls, while those over 50 suffer the most fatalities. In 2023 alone, 80 construction sites in NSW have been inspected, resulting in 187 improvement notices, 37 prohibition orders, and eight penalty notices for unsafe work practices.

Another key focus of the blitz will be **crystalline silica**, where inspectors will ensure that employers are identifying high-risk silica work and preparing hazard control statements before commencing any tasks. **Without proper protection, activities such as cutting or crushing ceramic tiles, concrete, bricks, and marble can expose workers to respiratory diseases like silicosis.**

Employers must take all necessary measures to protect workers engaged in high-risk silica work, including providing tools with water suppression, ensuring the availability of well-fitted PPE, and conducting regular air monitoring. Since 2018, WorkSafe has accepted 321 injury claims related to crystalline silica dust exposure, with 16 reported fatalities.

At UBS, safety is our top priority, and we are committed to fostering a culture of vigilance and responsibility to prevent workplace injuries and fatalities.