



the  
futurebuild<sup>®</sup>  
range

**SPECIFY WITH  
CONFIDENCE.**

CASE STUDY

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BIRT'S hyFRAME<sup>®</sup>,  
NOT JUST ANY OLD SHED

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CARTERS MANUFACTURING,  
AUCKLAND

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REGAN VIAL BUILDERS

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KARAKA

JULY 2018

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# NOT JUST ANY OLD SHED

MAX BIRT DESCRIBES HIS WIFE'S BUSINESS AS A "HOBBY THAT GOT OUT OF HAND", WHICH IS EASY TO SEE WHEN YOU WALK AROUND THEIR NEWLY BUILT 970M<sup>2</sup> SHED (INCLUDING MEZZANINE).

Irene Birt runs a home staging business, working with real estate agents to prepare homes for sale by fitting them out with furniture and furnishings. A successful business like this requires a lot of storage space, at any given point in time, Irene can be fitting out over 30 homes and is where the decision to build a shed came from. For the Birts it couldn't just be any shed: it had to be something not just with functionality, but character too. It needed to offer a room to support the demands of Irene's business, and of course, Max's boat!

### Newly Built 970m<sup>2</sup> Shed (Including Mezzanine)

Irene Birt started her business small, but as it grew, so too did her storage requirements. From one storage unit, to two, onwards to 12 storage units it became evident that something a lot larger was required. Running a business like this out of multiple locations was challenging, time was lost looking for items, items went missing and jobs were made harder than they needed to be.

After looking into commercial sites, Max and Irene decided the best thing for their budget and requirements was, in fact, a shed on their rural property in Karaka. Having looked into tin and steel sheds, Max got talking to the Futurebuild® LVL team and soon realised, a timber-based LVL shed was the way to go.

Max Birt, is the owner of Max Birt Sawmills, and for him, wood products offer so much more than their structural properties; "I've been sawmilling all my life and building in timber, it fits that"

**PROJECT NAME: BIRT'S hyFRAME**

**FABRICATOR: CARTERS  
MANUFACTURING (AUCKLAND)**

**BUILDER: REGAN VIAL BUILDERS**

**LOCATION: KARAKA**

**SIZE: 48M X 15M WIDE + A MEZZANINE  
FLOOR = 720M<sup>2</sup> FOR FLOOR + 250M<sup>2</sup> FOR  
THE MEZZANINE**



*LVL supplied directly from the Marsden Point Mill to the fabricator, Carters manufacturing.*

# A BUILDING TO BE PROUD OF



Large Futurebuild® LVL hySPAN columns and beams enabled a 42m clear span.

## Simply, Easy and Cost Effective

Max and Irene's shed had some important factors they had to take into consideration. It needed to be simple, easy, cost effective but strong and reliable. On top of that, the Birts didn't want a large eyesore on their property; they wanted a building he could be proud of. As a saw miller and timber merchant, Max knows the benefits of using wood products in construction, and it was an obvious choice to build an LVL timber shed. For their requirements, it made perfect sense to work with the Futurebuild LVL team and use a hyFRAME® portal frame solution.

The Futurebuild® hyFRAME® is a ready-to-order kitset portal frame solution, designed to work with a total build system to produce an LVL timber shed that is strong, reliable and environmentally friendly. Working with a merchant and fabricator, the kitset solution makes the entire process easy, by simplifying the framing components.

After doing a rough sketch of what he was after, the Futurebuild team helped Max to pick the right kitset solution for him. Even better for Max, it simplified the process: "I had so much help from the team, the whole process was pretty painless".

The hyFRAME® kitset is made from Futurebuild® Laminated Veneer Lumber (LVL), which is an engineered wood product that offers many practical advantages. Futurebuild® LVL is made through a precise manufacturing process, layers of peeled wood veneers are laminated together with glue, heat and pressure. As a result, natural defects which would ordinarily appear in timber, are minimised, which optimised the strength and rigidity of the section and results in a solid, uniform building material that is both reliable and effective.

As a kitset, the hyFRAME® solution had many benefits for the Birts to take advantage of. For Max, it also came down to the bottom dollar: "from what it is, you would have expected it to cost so much more". The natural characteristics and appearance of timber are ultimately Max and Irene's favourite element of the shed: "we absolutely love it. It's different. It's warm. It's got character". Futurebuild LVL gives the look and warmth of wood, something that gives this shed a unique character and adds a homely element that fits Irene's business.

# WORK SMARTER AND FASTER

**Using a hyFRAME® kitset also helped Max's contractors work smarter and faster. The offsite fabricated componentry and kitset construction process ensured accuracy of assembly, reduced build time and minimised the risk of construction errors compared to onsite fabrication of componentry.**



*Manufactured from sustainably grown NZ plantation pine, rotary peeled, dried, and laminated together in continuous long lengths.*

Fabricated offsite, the hyFRAME® roof components were then assembled into bays on the ground and then lifted into place, which also dramatically reduced the amount of work to be done at height, increasing site productivity. Max was pretty impressed: "we had a crane come in the afternoon, I came home, and there it was: standing up already". These productivity enhancements, coupled with the ease of construction and reduced labour requirements for installation are where the cost efficiencies of LVL structures are realised.

For the builders, working with LVL is easy. hyFRAME® systems are able to be assembled using normal wood working tools they are familiar with, and doesn't require any specialist equipment. Being lightweight, straight and uniform, LVL is the perfect building product for most structural applications.

Futurebuild LVL is also environmentally friendly, a product that is made in New Zealand from renewable plantation pine and available Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) Certified. Wood is one of the world's most environmentally responsible building materials and can have a substantial impact on carbon emissions when compared to other high energy-intensive building products.

# AN EASY SOLUTION

For the Birts, the entire process was easy. Futurebuild® LVL offered all the framing components, technical know-how, a Producer Statement for the structure, structural and construction drawings, together with engineering support. This gave Carters, the builder's merchant, an easy opportunity to offer them a complete, customisable building solution. Choosing to work with Futurebuild LVL meant Max and Irene and their contractors were able to utilise technical and engineering support from a team of experts. The only downside, Max is quick to add, is "we now have a lot of very jealous friends."

The hyFRAME® range of kitset solutions are available in pre-designed 12 or 15 metre wide spans in 3.6, 4.2 or 4.8m clear heights with 6 metre bay increments, with set kit-set pricing so it was simple to get what Max was after. The 4.8m range of building solutions now comes with options for mezzanine floor solutions subject to design confirmation.



Max and Irene Birt outside their newly built hyFRAME® shed.

## FEATURES & BENEFITS

Using Futurebuild LVL timber as the primary construction material brought great benefits to this project, including sustainability, economy and ease of construction.

- Straight, true, strong and dimensionally stable
- High strength, yet easy to handle
- Veneers bonded using type 'A' (marine) bond, offering proven performance for upwards of 50 years
- Manufactured from sustainably-grown NZ plantation pine, rotary peeled, dried, and laminated together in continuous long lengths
- Readily available untreated or H1.2 treated using a glue line and surface spray treatment to the requirements of NZS 3640
- Available FSC CoC Certified on request (Certificate Number: SCS-COC-001319)

For more information or to discuss your own building using hyFRAME®, contact Futurebuild LVL on 0800 585 244 or email [info@futurebuild.co.nz](mailto:info@futurebuild.co.nz).

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