



CHRISTCHURCH

Horncastle

CASE STUDY

Traditionally, building wraps in the cavity have formed the majority of the air seal layer around New Zealand homes. However, there are performance issues associated with thin, flexible wraps and building companies like Horncastle Homes are now turning to a rigid air barrier system as a more practical and robust alternative to flexible underlays.

key advantage of HomeRAB Pre-Cladding over flexible underlays.

It also provides the added benefits of structural bracing. The 4.5mm thick fibre cement board provides general rigidity to the entire structure and reduces the amount of bracing material required.

HomeRAB Pre-Cladding is BRANZ Appraised and comes with a 15 year product warranty, which gives Horncastle Homes added security.

“We started using plywood as a rigid air barrier, but found that the plywood tended to bow and swell causing us some issues. HomeRAB Pre-Cladding does not have these issues. Plus it provides us with long-term insurance, as it is resistant to damage from moisture and rot.”

HomeRAB Pre-Cladding is suitable for very high wind zones. It also offers a solution to connect studs to top plates to achieve a 4.7kN connection as per NZS3604 and eliminates any special fixings.

Stiven says the introduction of HomeRAB Pre-Cladding demonstrates James Hardie's commitment to continuous improvement of its products and a high level of customer service.

PROJECT DETAILS

Location
Kaiapoi

Project Type
Residential

Builder
Horncastle Homes

FEATURED PRODUCTS

· HomeRAB™
Pre-Cladding

OVERVIEW

Horncastle Homes uses HomeRAB Pre-Cladding for a vented cavity system on all its Auckland builds. Murray Stiven, Operations Manager at Horncastle Homes, says in addition to its durability, the ability to start internal work sooner is a



HOMERAB™ PRE-CLADDING

Is made from a 4.5mm thick fibre cement board. It's a robust rigid air barrier which offers resistance to gusting winds, reducing draught, keeping homes warm and creating comfort inside

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“James Hardie’s technical staff are open to feedback from customers and the launch of HomeRAB Pre-Cladding 4.5mm is an example of this customer focus. We were pleased to be offered a trial of the product when it was launched, and are happy with how it is performing in our homes.”

THE JAMES HARDIE SOLUTION

James Hardie identified the need for a rigid air barrier in the early 2000s following the introduction of cavities

in E2/AS1 of the NZ Building Code. Cavity construction was introduced to manage incidental moisture ingress behind the cladding.

After undertaking significant research and development, James Hardie launched its RAB Board into the New Zealand market in 2005. Since then RAB Board has been proven in commercial applications and was the prototype for the product development for residential buildings – HomeRAB Pre-Cladding.