

## MEDIA RELEASE

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# Accident-proof your windows

*Safety film information from the Window Film Association of Australia and New Zealand*

Each year hundreds of children and adults around the country visit their local emergency ward because of injuries sustained by broken or shattered glass. Despite safety decals now being mandatory on sliding glass doors in the home, accidents are still occurring when children – and the odd grown up – run into a glass door thinking it open.

The architectural trend for large expanses of uninterrupted, clear glass windows and doors has not helped reduce the incidence of glass related accidents.

To help prevent potentially fatal injury and serious damage caused by shattered glass, safety conscious parents and home owners are installing safety film on their windows and doors. This window treatment is especially popular in children's play rooms and high traffic areas in the home.

When safety film is applied to the interior surface of glass, it holds the shards together if the window or door is broken. Safety film also helps bring old 'float' glass up to current Australian Standards for safety glass.

The Herbert family, living in Collaroy on Sydney's Northern Beaches, recently installed safety and solar film onto 15 sliding glass doors in their home after their nine year old son ran into a glass door and it shattered around him.

Mrs Herbert explains "My son was playfully running through the house and he ran straight into one of our sliding glass doors upstairs. He was lucky as he bounced back from the door and survived the incident with a few cuts. The door smashed completely though, and I was horrified at the dangerous shards of glass that I cleaned up. The accident could have been a lot worse.

"This made me aware of the serious dangers of normal float glass, and I knew I needed to do something about the 15 glass doors in our home" continues Mrs Herbert. "When the glass company replaced the glass in the door they recommended I look into safety window film as a convenient and inexpensive option."

After some research, Eddie Meth from Instint Window Tinting was hired to install safety and solar window film at the Herbert residence. The job was completed in one day.

Mrs Herbert comments "Our upstairs living area catches the afternoon sun so it used to get extremely hot. We used solar control safety film up there. Now I know it's safer, plus it's much cooler and more comfortable on hot days. We now don't need to worry about curtains or blinds to block the sun, which is a huge relief as our view is beautiful. Another surprise benefit is the fresh appearance the tinted film has given our house, it's as though it's been given a mini make-over."

Instint Window Tinting has been in business for 28 years. As a member of the Window Film Association of Australia and New Zealand (WFAANZ), Instint Window Tinting abides by an industry code of practice and offers a minimum 12 year warranty on all residential film applications.

Safety and security films are available throughout Australia. Visit [www.wfaanz.org.au](http://www.wfaanz.org.au) for a list of installers located near you or for links to film manufacturer websites.

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### Safety film

There is no denying the dangers associated with broken or shattered windows and doors. Safety film lessens the dangerous consequences of broken glass as it helps hold the glass together if there is an accident.

Optically clear and highly transparent, safety film allows light to pass through, while reinforcing the glass so it's not brittle.

The term 'elastomeric' applies to safety film, as it has the ability to stretch. When safety film is applied to the interior surface of glass with a pressure-sensitive acrylic adhesive, the broken shards are held in place in the event of breakage.



New variants combining the benefits of various films are constantly being introduced, so creating new industry categories such as solar control safety film.

### 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. WFAANZ film manufacturers provide a minimum 10 year warranty, and some even offer a lifetime warranty on residential applications.

### About WFAANZ

A non-profit organisation, WFAANZ is dedicated to improving the standard of product and installation of window film in Australia and New Zealand, while promoting the performance, values and cost effectiveness of window film. The association sets out performance guidelines for its members and is a reliable voice for window film manufacturers, suppliers and applicators at all regulatory levels. Visit [www.wfaanz.org.au](http://www.wfaanz.org.au) for more information and a list of members.

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