

Wind rated

Since featuring in the May 2024 edition, Brick Bud inventor Carl Harris has hardly had time to stand still.

As a reminder, Brick Bud was invented in response to an ever-increasing number of brick wall blow-overs, which occur when the props supporting a drying brick or block wall fail and the whole lot crashes down in the wind. One such event ended the career of seasoned brickie Carl, who then focused his attention on addressing this expensive and frequently hazardous issue, and his Brick Bud now offers a safer and more reusable solution.

Small wonder his device has been gathering favourable notices and has also been in development to make it even safer. Brick Bud certainly impressed Lovell Homes, which is trialling a number of units at its Scarborough site. Likewise constructor Crest Nicholson, which had apparently lost thousands in labour and material costs due to repeated blow-overs – The company's Aspen Grange site manager Alan Thorpe and brick work supervisor Luke Latham fund out about the product and tracked Carl down via Google.

Brick Bud itself now has a new design, with an extra strengthening strut and a 75-page document attesting to its temporary works compliance. It is one also of the finalists in the Construction News Awards and Carl and business partner Cliff Torr



recently picked up the prestigious Stevenson Shield innovation prize from the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH). Carl and Cliff are now working with the CITB to deliver demos on the importance of correct bracing procedures, and they've already received manufacturing interest from Australia.

It's all getting mighty real for the Brick Bud team. As for hirers, many will have housebuilders and construction as clients, and they'll undoubtedly know about the dangers and costs of blow-overs. Find out more at <https://harrisbricksafetysystems.com>.