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## **Craig Lowndes urges Queenslanders to protect homes**

Australian motorsport legend and V8 Supercar champion Craig Lowndes opens up about a lucky escape when preparation saved him from serious injury and he's urging Queenslanders to do the same to protect themselves from extreme weather.

"In motorsports, preparation is the difference between success and failure," Mr Lowndes said.

"Over the years I have found myself in many dangerous situations throughout my career.

"In 2015 at the Supercars event at Pukekohe (NZ), I was leading a race when a tyre exploded, spinning my car out of control and into the fence. I was doing about 250 km/h at the time, so it was a big impact.

"Luckily, I escaped without major injury but it could have been a lot worse if I didn't have the right protection in place.

"In many ways, it's a similar story for the hundreds of thousands of Queenslanders who live in cyclone-prone areas, particularly those in North Queensland.

"You never know when a cyclone may hit, but you can be prepared when it does. One of the most important lessons I've learnt is that it pays to have the proper protection in place."

In a new video which has been launched, Mr Lowndes has teamed up with Suncorp Insurance to encourage North Queenslanders to implement cyclone mitigation on their homes.

"Up to 100,000 homes in North Queensland may not be up to the latest cyclone building standards and are at risk of damage every cyclone season," Mr Lowndes said.

"There are many steps that people can take to prepare their homes for a cyclone and protect their families from serious injuries.

"We are urging North Queenslanders to educate themselves about mitigation measures, so they can say: 'It could have been a lot worse'."

Suncorp Insurance spokesperson Joshua Cooney added: "Prevention is always better than cure, and mitigation is better than rebuilding. This is why we've teamed up with Craig, as part of our *protecting the North* initiative, to help get the message out about the importance of taking steps to protect your home well before storm season is upon us."

Information about cyclone building codes and how you can strengthen and protect your home to be more cyclone resilient can be found at [www.suncorp.com.au/insurance/protectingthenorth](http://www.suncorp.com.au/insurance/protectingthenorth).

A sneak preview of the video can be viewed here: Video can be viewed [here](#), Password: suncorp

**ENDS**

Notes to Editor:

Instructions on how to embed Facebook video can be found [here](#).

Further information:

Angela Wilkinson

Ph: 0477395119

E: [angela.wilkinson@suncorp.com.au](mailto:angela.wilkinson@suncorp.com.au)

Josh Cooney

Ph: 0477 391 260

E: [joshua.cooney@suncorp.com.au](mailto:joshua.cooney@suncorp.com.au)