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Outdoor fitness equipment safety standards

GymGuru completes certification of European & Australian safety standards

New Zealand-designed and developed outdoor gym equipment maker GymGuru has reinforced its safety ethos by completing European & Australian safety standard certifications. GymGuru already holds New Zealand playground equipment & surfacing certification.

Since entering the outdoor fitness market in 2014 GymGuru have placed a high value on product safety and the wellbeing of users and observers in local parks. Managing Director, Brett Forsyth says, "We have always felt there should be compulsory compliance for all fitness equipment in New Zealand public spaces. Unfortunately, it's rather discretionary and dependent on the proximity to child playgrounds, meaning that some fitness equipment has crush points, sharp edges and other potential hazards. In the UK they recently created a standard specifically for outdoor fitness equipment and we are hopeful this will be adopted in NZ in the future."

With customers and users firmly in mind, the equipment is not only designed to comply with three different global safety standards but also for low maintenance and durability, and so they can be used by any person, regardless of their age, body type and physical condition. "This was no small challenge," says Brett. "Meeting the requirements whilst not compromising the user experience was not always easy, however we remained committed to our principles and achieved it."

In order to attain EN16630:2015 & AS4685:2014 GymGuru engaged Australian based experts Consulting Coordination. With over 30 years of experience in the field of international compliance, inspection, assessment, audit and certification, Consulting Coordination were perfectly placed to independently ensure GymGuru's product meets the risk mitigation needs of modern public environments. Consulting Coordination are the Asia Pacific representative for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents Play Safety and the Register of Play Inspectors International. RoSPA is the largest safety organisation in the world.

GymGuru currently have several new products in the pipeline, says Brett. "We have some exciting developments planned however we always need to ensure any new offering is really robust, safe and well tested before release to market. The bottom line is that every piece of equipment in our range must create a great user experience and satisfy the needs of the buyer. Community groups in particular work very hard to raise their funds and we want to make sure their experience with outdoor gym equipment is positive and the assets remain in the community for many years ahead."

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