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ISSUE 496 | February 1, 2018

Exposing wood for commercial construction

COVER STORY P9



\$190M MILL PROPOSAL
FOR BURNIE
STATE OFF TO THE POLLS




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Proposed NZ standards shut out most Australian species

JIM BOWDEN

YOU had to read it twice: 'Requirements in draft NZ standard 3640 for wood preservation posted on the Standards New Zealand website for comment exclude all species except Pinus radiata for Hazard Class 3 and higher.'

Miffed producers in Queensland and NSW are not sure if this was intentional or an oversight. The standard, recently released for public consultation, means most Australian species could be restricted for use in many applications in New Zealand.

There's no radiata grown in Queensland and only small amounts in southern NSW.

Australia has a long history of successfully preservative-treating a broad range of exotic plantation, native softwood and hardwood species and it is unclear why these restrictions have been introduced, especially where there are no similar species restrictions in Australian standards used in New Zealand to treat their wood destined for export



to Australia.

One industry player asked for comment said: "Treated pine handrails from New Zealand don't last like Australian hardwoods, and it is best that NZ wood stays in New Zealand and Australia uses more of its own durable hardwoods."

All draft standards are posted on the Standards New Zealand website. The DZ 3640 and DZ 3602 draft standards are widely publicised through various channels including Standards

New Zealand e-zine, the Standards New Zealand website, and through key sector organisations.

The public consultation drafts are each supported with a briefing document that outlines the key changes to the standards and the rationale for the proposed changes.

“ RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSED CHANGES

The draft preservation standard applies only to radiata pine for Hazard Class 3 and higher.

For the past 12 months, two standards development committees have been working on revisions to the timber-related standards NZS 3640:2003 Chemical preservation of round and sawn timber and NZS 3602:2003 Timber and wood-based products for use in building.

The committees comprise representatives from timber preservative manufacturers, timber auditor interests, wood and timber-based product manufacturers, the building regulator, research organisations, regulatory agencies, local authorities and relevant industry bodies.

Draft standards are available for public comment for a specified period (usually eight weeks). Standards proposed to be withdrawn are open for comment for two weeks.

Cont P 4

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Will Hodgman



Rebecca White



Guy Barnett



Cassy O'Connor

Forestry under the radar, but \$190m mill a 'game changer'

JIM BOWDEN

AS Tasmanians head to the polls to elect the next state government on March 3 it appears the forest sector has hardly registered a blimp on the radar among political parties on the campaign trail.

Until now.

Premier Will Hodgman, who faces a "very real possibility" of a hung parliament, has excited industry with the announcement of a new \$190 million sawmill for Burnie on the northwest coast that will be Australia's largest plantation hardwood mill and first-ever hardwood CLT production plant.

Hodgman says the deal by his government would

secure an investment by the Melbourne-based Hermal Group for the new facility in Burnie.

"This will be an absolute game-changer for Tasmania's north and northwest," he said.

The Liberals are in for a struggle to reach the 13 seats needed for majority.

All the parties have been in campaign mode since early November with a string of policy announcements on health, education, the economy and poker machines, and only 30 days out from the election few if any policies have surfaced on the forest industry.



Plantation hardwoods... most of the Burnie mill supply will be from Forico, Tasmania's largest private forest management company.

"No-one seems to be talking about us, and that's the way we like it," was a comment shared this week among notable stakeholders in the Tasmanian forest industry.

“NO ONE TALKS ABOUT US AND THAT'S THE WAY WE LIKE IT”

"We all want to wind back from the issues of the past; the sector has new confidence and has been in good shape for last 12-18 months – not as it was in 2012 when the collapse of Gunns and the MIS failures hung like a pall over the industry."

"We want to go on doing what we do best – sustainably managing the forests, both plantation and native, and providing jobs."

A year after taking Labor party leadership, self-described "farm-girl" Rebecca White could become Tasmania's second female premier.

Premier Hodgman has warned against the risk of a minority government.

Cont P 4



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An industry-led program managed by ForestWorks

From P 3

White, in her second term as an MP, was elected unopposed last March after Bryan Green stepped down.

The 34-year-old is expected to spark a surge in Labor's approval ratings which were in dire straits when the Liberal party romped to power in 2014. According to an EMRS poll released in December, Rebecca White is peaking at the right time.

The Burnie project will initially process more than 300,000 cub m metres of plantation hardwood logs each year.

"In addition to the 221 new jobs at the plant, a further 160 jobs will be created

during construction and thousands of indirect jobs in the forest industry, transport, engineering and construction," says Will Hodgman.

Most of the supply will be from Forico, Tasmania's largest private forest management company, but the Burnie mill will also provide an opportunity for private forest growers.

"The government has agreed to provide \$13 million in grant and training support on the recommendation of the Tasmanian Development Board," Resources Minister Guy Barnett said.

"A loan of up to \$30 million will also be available."

Greens leader Cassy

O'Connor says the new Burnie facility will be a "real game changer" if it worked because it would mean Tasmania would have "cracked that elusive code" to turn plantation timber into high-end products.

“PROPOSAL SHOWS THERE IS PLENTY OF GOOD SAW LOG AVAILABLE”

"We're saying, if it's going to happen, they need to prioritise workers who have been displaced out of the native forest industry, skilled workers who are committed to the industry, local workers

who were part of the native forest logging industry, which is on its knees."

O'Connor said the proposal showed there was plenty of good saw log timber available.

Meanwhile, South Australia is gearing for a state election on March 27.

SA Best is poised to claim at least three seats, putting its leader Nick Xenophon in the role of kingmaker, new polls suggest.

Xenophon's party is more popular with South Australian voters than either the Labor or Liberal parties, and almost half of the state's voters want the former senator to be their next premier, according to Newspoll.

Aussie timber species miss the cut in NZ standards review

From P 3

DZ 3640 (committee P3640) chemical preservation

of timber and wood-based products standards New Zealand and the P3640

committee are seeking feedback on the draft revision to NZS 3640:2003.

Chemical preservation of timber and wood-based products NZS 3640:2003 chemical preservation of round and sawn timber was published in 2003 and set out the requirements for chemical preservative treatment.

The standard describes the hazard classification for service and biological hazard and also provides timber identification requirements.

NZS 3640 has been amended five times since it was first published. This latest revision to the standard, says Standards New Zealand, reflects changes in industry practice, new treatments, additional wood products, and non-biocidal treatments.

President of the Timber Preservers Association of Australia Gerry Gardiner said he was aware of this "seemingly neglectful approach by our New Zealand friends".

He said TPAA had the issue on the agenda for a councillors' meeting on March 8.

"If it is an oversight then it should be easily remedied," Mr Gardiner said.

"If it is in fact intentional, then we have a real issue. One that may need to go all the way up the line to the trade minister. I am hopeful sanity will prevail."

“REVISIONS REFLECT CHANGES IN INDUSTRY PRACTICE”

Mr Gardiner said with such close ties to New Zealand it would be appropriate to have some Australian representation on these relevant standard committees.

"There certainly is precedent here in Australia. At a recent AS 1604 meeting I seem to recall that there were as many Kiwis in the room as there were Aussies," he said.



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FEBRUARY

5-9: Gottstein Trust wood science course – Fenner School of Environment and Society, Australian National University.

Contact Gottstein Secretariat on (02) 6153 3044. Email: gottsteinsecretary@gmail.com or apply online at www.forestry.org.au/external-events/gottstein-wood-science-course

MARCH

6-7: ABARES Outlook 2018 – 'Creating Value in an increasingly Connected World' – National Convention Centre, 31 Constitution Avenue, Canberra. Australia's premier information and networking forum for the agriculture and economics sectors. Join delegates from across agricultural industries to hear from leading national and international speakers. Early bird rate if registered before Christmas. Visit www.agriculture.gov.au/abares

21: All-industry lunch – Brisbane. Celebrating United Nations International Day of Forests. Time, venue program to be advised.

APRIL

18-20: Timber Queensland's 2nd Biennial State Conference – Royal International Convention Centre, Brisbane. 'Doing Timber Business

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- Log cutting stations
- Circular saws

in Queensland: Room to Grow'. Visit www.doingtimberbusinessqld.com

JUNE

18-19: FRAME 2018 conference and exhibition – Park Hyatt Melbourne. Focus on timber offsite construction, expanding local and global markets for timber buildings and the digital future ahead in design, manufacture and construction of timber frame multi-residential and mass timber commercial buildings.

Current initiatives with cloud-based digital platforms by both the construction and manufacturing industries, combined with new data technologies have the power to change the future of the built environment by creating smarter and more efficient processes for construction of sustainable and cost-efficient timber buildings. Delegate tours will visit a range of timber frame and mass timber construction sites, panelised prefabrication plants and recently completed buildings that are outstanding examples of timber construction. Contact Kevin Ezard, conference director, Frame Australia. Mob: 0419 538 638. Email: kevin@frameaustralia.com Visit www.frameaustralia.com

20-21: FIEA Woodflow 2018 – Melbourne, Australia.

26-27: FIEA Woodflow 2018 – Rotorua, NZ.

The objective, with 30-40% of delivered log costs being contributed by transport, is to improve efficiencies through the wood supply chain. It builds on the success of the HarvestTECH 2017 event. Unique opportunity to learn about innovations being developed and employed to assist in harvest and transport planning, logistics and operations. Visit www.woodflow.events

JULY

12-14: Tinaugural International Furniture Show Australia – International Convention Centre, Sydney.

Presentations by Australian retailers and wholesalers and opportunity to deal directly with global furniture manufacturers from countries such as China, India, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines and Pakistan. Excellent platform for Australian manufacturers to reach out to buyers from within Australia and New Zealand. Contact Australasian Furnishing Association at compliance@australianfurniture.org.au

AUGUST

8: FIEA Forest Industry Safety and Technology 2018 – Rotorua, NZ.

15: FIEA Forest Industry Safety and Technology 2018 – Melbourne, Australia. Covering updates and developments in forest industry safety, as well as providing a

space for sharing ideas on how people, culture, technologies and systems are used to improve the safety of workers. Visit www.forestsafety.events

SEPTEMBER

11-12: FIEA WoodTech 2018 – Melbourne, Australia.

18-19: FIEA Woodech 2018 – Rotorua, NZ.

Drymill scanning, wood machining, timber manufacturing. Includes timber scanning and optimisation, timber gluing and laminating, finger-jointing, cross cutting, timber machining, kiln drying and timber finishing technologies. Visit www.woodtech.events

OCTOBER

19th Australian Timber Design Awards in Sydney.

Full details to confirm. Entries open February 12 and close July 6. Judging period July 16-20. People's Choice voting July 23-August 17. Awards gala dinner mid-October. Visit www.timberawards.com.au

NOVEMBER

4-5: FIEA ForestTech 2018 – Rotorua, NZ.

20-21: FIEA ForestTech 2018 – Melbourne, Australia.

FIEA annual technology event for forest resource managers, remote sensing and GIS specialists and inventory foresters from throughout Australia and New Zealand. Visit www.foresttech.events

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Growth vs gremlins: ForestWood to focus on NZ plan for a billion trees

THE new government has thrown a sudden and revolutionary challenge to New Zealand's forest industry.

To reach a billion new trees, planting must double the present rate – sustained over the next 10 years.

Forest Wood 2018 is designed to take a hard look at the 'growth vs gremlins' in the new era of New Zealand forestry.

With 160 days into the new government's forest goals, Forest Wood 2018 at the Museum of New Zealand The Papa Tongarewa, on March 21 – the United Nations International Day of Forests – will hear how and where all this planting is about to happen in the grand plan.

Critical issues are to be addressed, such as the role of the Overseas Investment Office, the future of carbon credits, a Wood First Policy and the sustainability of New Zealand wood processing.

ForestWood is jointly supported by the Wood Processors and Manufacturers Association, NZ Forest Owners Association and the Forest Industry Contractors Association.

The conference dinner, starting from 5 pm on March 21, will be held at the same venue.

Special guest Davey Hughes from Swazi Apparel has hunted caribou in the Arctic Circle, grizzlies in Alaska and buffalo in Tanzania. He's the



Peter Clark... president, NZ Forest Owners Association.

yarn or two.

Be part of this milestone event and register now for ForestWood 2018.

The full conference program is available online at forestwood.org.nz/ programme.

Register before Tuesday, February 13, to secure the best early bird registration fees.

ForestWood is the only opportunity to participate in a whole-of-industry conference and will be an event not to be missed.

Reduced rates are available to members of FOA, WPMA, FICA, and NZFFA.

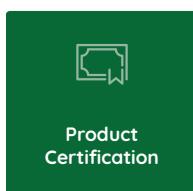
A special rate is also available to members of NZIF.

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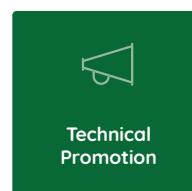
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Value-adding a successful recipe

DMK Forest Products optimises Australian manufacturing content

A WHOLLY-owned and operated Australian family company now in its 46th year of business, DMK Forest Products is a specialist plywood and wood panel value adding manufacturer and distributor with facilities at Brookvale in Sydney, Burleigh Heads on Queensland's Gold Coast and Banyo in Brisbane.

Managing director Steven Maxwell is quick to emphasise the company's mission of providing quality products to customers that represent value for money – and with PEFC and FSC certification.

"Our clear intention is to support our loyal customer base with value adding manufacturing to assist their business success," he said. "So, it's a collaborative effort – we defiantly do not compete against them."

Steven is also keen to point out that the company prides itself as one of the

most exclusive plywood suppliers, and has exclusively represented the Finland-based UPM-Kymmene Plywood Group in Australasia for 35 years.

"Their plywood brand – WISA – is widely known and very well respected," Steven said. "WISA birch plywood products are without doubt our strength, with a wide range of sizes, thicknesses and coatings. They underpin much of our value-added manufacturing activities."

Steven explains that DMK Forest Products supplies plywood and panel products to cabinet makers, joinery companies, furniture makers and to the building industry.

"Finnish birch plywood underpins our business," he said. "It is simply

“ FINNISH BIRCH PLYWOOD UNDERPINS OUR BUSINESS



Value-adding... Jason Lehman, machine operator, Brendan Quinnell, sales and manufacturing coordinator, Damien Brooks, Queensland sales and marketing manager, and Steven Maxwell, managing director, at the Gold Coast branch.

the best plywood for an extraordinary wide range of applications, such as perforated ceiling panels, construction, furniture, joinery, speaker boxes, base panel for veneering, truck body plywood, aircraft grade plywood components – the list goes on – including many quite specialist applications such as model aeroplanes and even souvenir boomerangs."

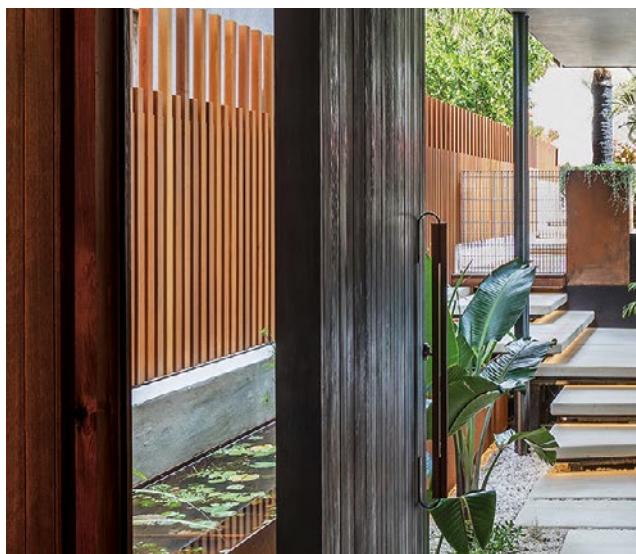
DMK Manufacturing, a division of DMK Forest Products, makes an exclusive slat-wall product 'SlattMax' at Burleigh Heads. Available in a range of other colours and wood grain finishes.

DMK represents some well-respected manufacturers

in Australia, including Austral Plywoods, The Laminex Group, Borg Manufacturing, EGR and Carter Holt Harvey.

The company's philosophy has been to optimise the Australian manufacturing content of products, and to increasingly do as much of the value-adding manufacturing in-house as possible, rather than outsource.

The DMK Forest Products journey proves the success of having the courage to stick with high quality products, value adding manufacturing and a collaborative synergy with customers – a recipe others might care to emulate.



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Honoured for work in bushfire management

'It's more than planting trees, you have to protect the forest, too'

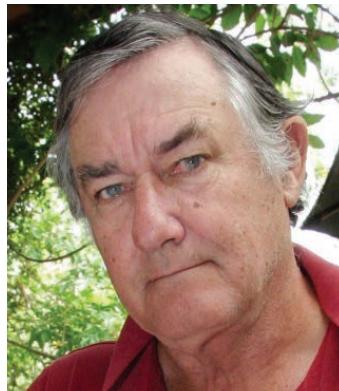
DEDICATED foresters Roger Underwood and Gary Morgan have been awarded the Order of Australia (AM) in the Australia Day Honours for their professional work in forest and bushfire management.

Historian and author Roger Underwood was honoured for decades of service to the community of Western Australia through forestry and bushfire management. He is a former member of the IFA and received the Norman W Jolly Medal, the institute's highest award, in 2008.

Mr Underwood said the honour was something he had gained thanks as much to the work of those around him as it was for his own efforts managing and caring for forests.

His first job after leaving high school was with a forestry fire gang in Dwellingup in the summer of 1958-59. On his second day he was deployed to a bushfire sparked by a steam locomotive hauling logs. It would be the first of hundreds of nights where he returned home late smelling of smoke.

In 1963 he was employed as



Roger Underwood... dedicated service to bushfire management.



Gary Morgan... significant service to forest and fire research.

a forester and helped develop aerial controlled burning and oversaw the introduction of aircraft fire spotting.

He was general manager of Conservation and Land Management between 1985 and 1994 where he spent most of his time overseeing regional operations and bushfire management.

In 1994 he left that job to take a role at a forestry and bushfire management consultancy firm.

Nine years later he co-founded volunteer group The Bushfire Front in response to what he said were declining standards of bushfire management in

Western Australia.

In between, he has written numerous papers, articles and books on forestry and bushfire history, with more on the way.

Gary Morgan, principal consultant, Global Wildland Fire Management Services based at Alfredton, Vic, is chair of the forest fire committee of the Institute of Forestry of Australia. The award recognises Mr Morgan's significant service to the community through

“ AWARDS AN HONOUR FOR ALL FORESTERS

emergency response organisations, and to forest and fire research and management.

"People think forestry can just be planting trees and caring for forests, but you have to work to protect the forest too," he said.

Mr. Morgan was chief fire officer for the former Department of Sustainability and Environment for nine years.

National president of the Institute of Foresters of Australia Bob Gordon said the foresters recognised in the Australia Day awards had all made enormous contributions to the body of scientific knowledge about Australia's forests over many years.

"The institute is over 80 years old now and has a history as a trusted source of reliable, scientifically robust information about Australia's forests – and that is a tradition which is well served by current members," Mr Gordon said.

• *Dr Hans Dilemma honoured for service to sustainable management practices and certification programs. See P. 11*



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Exposing timber for commercial construction: lessons for Australia

Gottstein mission identifies value of digital modelling

KIM BABER

A KEY lesson for Australia's engineered wood sector is the importance of a high level of sophistication in prefabrication technology – throughout the digital modelling and fabrication stages and the effective management of the processes between.

Test cases in Europe and Japan convincingly illustrate how these technologies could be utilised in Australia.

In taking a by-product of the local plywood industry, such as hoop pine peeler cores, the prototyping case study undertaken is a first-hand demonstration of how a precise and resolved connection detail can be used to add value to cheaply available timber through a novel and attractive timber-to-timber connection detail.

The continuing legacy of this research will be the active dissemination of the systems and the formal findings through ongoing teaching and research at the University of Queensland's Schools of Architecture and Civil Engineering.

As an architect in private practice, the research will also prove invaluable in its application in real projects in Australia.

**TIMBER IN ARCHITECTURE
A SENSE OF COMMUNITY PRIDE**



Kim Baber, with wife Monique, in their Brisbane studio... digital modelling and fabrication systems in Europe and Japan have exciting potential in Australia.

[Kim Baber, fellow of Civil Engineering and Architecture at UQ and a principal of Baber Studio in Brisbane's West End, undertook a Gottstein research fellowship investigating the innovative use of timber in architecture in Austria, Switzerland and Japan.]

The Gottstein mission was an opportunity to visit international contemporary exemplar projects where the architecture is characterised by its expression of timber structure. The research has identified the value of exposing timber and identified the critical processes required for it to be feasibly realised in commercial construction.

Medium-rise multi-residential buildings in Vienna and Graz gave an insight into the European benchmark for CLT construction. These projects, all government housing, had to be cost effective. Efficiencies lie

in the prefabrication of the building elements,

Cont P 10

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From P 9

which enabled follow-on efficiencies on site by reducing the number of trades on site and shortening the overall construction program.

A key insight gained from these visits was an appreciation of how the exposed timber ages over time, and how its exposed components should be properly detailed. In combination with a properly-designed construction detail, it was also critical that the fabrication had a high level of precision, which was provided for in the digital modelling and the CNC prefabrication processes.

The community buildings visited in Graz, Tyrol and Bregenzerwald encapsulated a broad range of benefits, both direct and indirect, that come with expressing timber in architecture. The physiological and psychological health benefits provided by exposing unsealed timber internally are highly-valued by the community.

The environmental benefits of exposing timber include balancing the humidity in an internal space, allowing the building to perform more passively with less reliance on mechanical air conditioning.



Japanese connection detail generates a highly unique architectural outcome. Here, small timber sections, normally reserved for furniture making, were chosen for a university sports hall.
(Japanese studio FT Architects).

A wider-reaching value in expressing timber in architecture was a sense of community pride taken when buildings are constructed wholly from local timber resources. This has a double effect – the building itself is valued for the added amenity and beauty that the timber brings, but perhaps more significantly,

“ EACH PROJECT GENERATES A UNIQUE ARCHITECTURAL OUTCOME

it also symbolises the dedication of communities and authorities to use local resources sustainably while also positively supporting the local forestry economy.

These beautiful buildings offer a useful example for Australia; they demonstrate how even a single timber building has the capacity to bring all members of a community together.

The highly innovative timber structures visited in Switzerland and Japan demonstrated what is possible in terms of designing and fabricating expressive timber

connection details. The examples in Chaserrugg and Zurich showed the successful translation of timber connections to large-scale structures, and in doing so, creates unique architectural spaces that are defined by both daring and elegant articulations of the timber connections.

The inventive use of CLT in the Chapel St Loup shows how a conventional panel product can be articulated through a unique synthesis of structure and surface.

In Japan, the intricate use of interlocking ‘chidori’ methods shows how a simple system of joining small pieces of timber can create a complex and rich three-dimensional spatial structure.

Each of these projects are defined by the successful deployment of a highly resolved connection detail, and each generates a highly unique architectural outcome.

It is in this area of research that inventive approaches to connection detailing can be advanced further in Australia.

• Kim Baber's full Gottstein report can be viewed at [www.gottsteintrust.org](http://gottsteintrust.org) under reports.

On the cover... complex wooden lattices provide a stage set for archery competitions and boxing matches at university buildings in Tokyo.
(Japanese studio FT Architects).

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Australia Day award recognises dedication to forest management

Hans Drielsma honoured for contribution to certification programs

JIM BOWDEN

A RESPECTED forester who has contributed enormously to the global acceptance of forest management and certification has been awarded the Order of Australia (AM) in the Australia Day Honors.

Hobart-based Dr Johannes (Hans) Drielsma, chair, Responsible Wood, has played a leading role in the development of the Australian Forest Certification Scheme, and its endorsement by the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

The award is "for significant service to the commercial forestry industry, to sustainable management practices and certification programs, and to professional bodies".

Dr Drielsma is a former director of the Institute of Foresters of Australia and a recipient, in 2015, of the institute's highest award, the Norman W Jolly Medal.

He was a director of the PEFC council from 2006 to 2016 and served on the PEFC International governance review panel. He was also instrumental in a more active multi-nation



Dr Hans Drielsma... dedication to standards over decades – pictured with Responsible Wood director Katie Fowden at the launch of the Responsible Wood brand in Hobart.

promotion of PEFC in the Asian region.

Responsible Wood CEO Simon Dorries said Dr Drielsma's Australia Day award was thoroughly deserving.

"The award recognises his support of sustainable forest management and his dedication to standards work over decades," Mr Dorries said.

"He was instrumental in the establishment of Australian Forestry Standard Ltd [now Responsible Wood] and his international efforts ensured the Australian

standard was recognised by PEFC."

Mr Dorries said Dr Drielsma's Australia Day honour sent a wider message about the value of forestry and foresters and sustainable forest management; it also gave the Australian forest products industry the social license and credibility it needed to go forward.

“SENDS A WIDER MESSAGE ABOUT THE VALUE OF FORESTS”

Growing up in the Blue Mountains of New South Wales, bush walking and the Scout movement led Dr Drielsma to an early interest in the effects of the forest industry on the environment and local communities. Following postgraduate studies in natural resource sociology at Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, he worked for Forests NSW and Forestry Tasmania. During his time in Tasmania, he led the introduction of environmental certification into the organisation.

Hans Drielsma said his father cultivated his interest in trees and forestry.

"He was always a man of the soil and trained in tropical agriculture in Holland before working for a short time in New Guinea as a forestry officer after the war," Dr Drielsma said.

"He spent some time in Indonesia working with coffee plantations and, in a small way, the forestry sector. Both my father and mother then migrated from Indonesia to Australia in 1950, settling in the Blue Mountains."

VAFI dinner in October as state gets into election mode

THE Victorian Association of Forest Industries has announced the date for its annual dinner, one of the premier events for the state's forest and wood

products industry - and of particular significance with 2018 a state election year.

The event will be held on Friday, October 19, at the RACV Club, Melbourne.

"Being five weeks prior to election day, this is the final opportunity for the state's political parties to promote their policies to our industry, so this should make for an

interesting night," VAFI CEO Tim Johnston said.

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Integrated harvesting guide has lessons for Australia on residues



Cable harvesting Tasmania... harvesting residues is an issue of growing urgency where native forest operations forest residues are subsequently burnt or just left to rot.

A NEW guideline produced for British Columbia contains useful information for all companies interested in harvesting of conventional round wood and biomass.

The manual begins with an explanation of integrated harvesting. An overview is then provided of the common end products from roadside residues – fuel wood, chips and pellets. The guideline discusses the different components of the residues, concentrating on tops, long butts and crown wood. Attention is given to the machinery and transportation used to process, load and haul the

biomass, including horizontal grinders, tub grinders, electric options, loaders, chippers and micro-chippers, and runs comparisons of different machine options.

The guideline also focuses on best practice of the primary and secondary harvester. The best practice of the primary harvester deals with planning, roads and pile management. The pile management focus considers pile formation, best practices for piling, road grades and cut slope height.

The best practice for the secondary harvester considers planning,

communications and techniques (grind to truck, grind to ground, residue chipping and unprocessed collection with off-site processing), contaminants and post-secondary harvest.

The publication, 'Best Management Practices for Integrated Harvesting Practices in British Columbia', can be accessed at: fpinnovations/docs/integrated_harvest_

“ INCREASING DEMAND FOR HARVEST RESIDUES ”

operations_in_bc

Utilising harvesting residues is an issue of growing urgency in Australia where, in native forest operations, residues have, in many cases, traditionally been burnt to mitigate fire hazard or just left to rot.

With an increasing demand for energy and concern over climate change and air quality, burning may no longer be the most desirable practice for dealing with residues. Further, there is an increasing demand for harvest residues by both primary and secondary users to fuel the growing bio-economy.

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New passion for forestry in schools

Great enthusiasm and feedback from involved teachers

FWPA program ForestLearning provides Australian educators with free teaching resources relevant to the Australian curriculum and with a focus on forests and sustainable timber products.

The program launched newly-written teaching and learning resources in the final month of 2017, with great feedback and enthusiasm from teachers who have saved weeks of planning for new curriculum subjects and outcomes.

Resources have included Year 12 Agriculture: forests and their impact on water quality and quantity Interaction of genotype, environment and management in the forestry industry, managing competition between forestry plants; Year 9-10 Agriculture: AgForestry – trees at work on the farm; Year 11-12: earth and environmental science – Depth study: scientific models 1, 2 and 3 – and more on the way.

To help teachers learn more about, and adopt, ForestLearning's new resources in classrooms, the 'AgForestry: trees at work on the farm' resource was launched at the

National Agriculture Teachers Association conference in Launceston in January.

The resource provides teachers a 'bridge' from traditional primary industry contexts for their classroom to the incorporation of contexts surrounding a balanced, sustainable view of the forestry and wood industry.

More than 110 agriculture teachers from every state and territory attended the conference and ForestLearning held two workshops, manned a trade booth and hosted two field study bus tours to an agroforestry field study site at Formosa Estate at Cressy near Launceston.

ForestLearning partnered with Private Forests Tasmania, CSIRO, University of Tasmania and the Forest Education Foundation to give attending teachers an insight into forestry through new science research data that reveals the great benefits of incorporating trees into an agricultural landscape for farm businesses, including a 15-20% pasture yield growth compared to non-tree areas on the farm.

A hard copy of the teaching



Learning curve... National Agriculture Teachers Association delegates on a field tour for the launch of the ForestLearning's 'agroforestry: trees at work on the farm' teaching resource at Formosa Estate, Cressy, Tas.

resource and student workbook (with thanks to Private Forests Tasmania for support with the printing) along with a ForestLearning teachers pack were also distributed to all teachers attending.

“TEACHERS CAME AWAY WITH THEIR FIRST TASTE OF FORESTS AND SUSTAINABILITY”

Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with teachers coming away with, in most cases, their very first taste of forestry as a renewable, sustainable, carbon-positive industry and trial schools have been recruited for the resource this year.

Let's spread the message

about ForestLearning to schools around the country and raise more awareness of the sustainable forestry industry.

We are calling for ForestLearning education champions to sign up and join our growing network of industry representatives to give a talk in schools, host a field tour or partner on a longer-term project with a local school.

ForestLearning can equip you with teacher class packs and PowerPoint presentations. Sign up at www.surveymonkey.com/r/forestlearning2015. Or read more about the industry education champion program and discuss 2018 opportunities at <http://bit.ly/2ntHdPl>

• Beth Welden is manager of the ForestLearning Education Program, based in Brisbane.

Childers field day an update on native forest management

THE Private Forestry Service Queensland is kicking off 2018 with a native forest management field day near Childers in the Wide Bay-Burnett region on February 23.

"This is a great opportunity to join with the Timber

Growers Network which is based around Gin Gin," Bronwyn Lloyd of PFSQ said.

"The group has completed a four-day workshop and is keen to meet up regularly to discuss all things to do with timber growing. The day will have a lot of discussion

and there will be good opportunities to talk through management problems or any obstacles you may have about timber management."

PFSQ is an incorporated association with a management board of six eminent forest industry

representatives, including chairman Paul Ryan, immediate past principal scientist for DPI & F.

Inquiries to Bronwyn at (07) 5483 6535 or email pfsq@bigpond.com

Australia again set to dominate global hardwood woodchip trade

'Renaissance' in last 5 years all-time highlight for industry

DENNIS NEILSON

THE story of renaissance of the Australian woodchip export trade in the last five years has been one of the all-time highlights of the timber industry.

Several years ago, Australia was the world's largest supplier of woodchips to the north Asian market, with most of it to Japan.

The problem: It was all

“ 2017 RIPPER YEAR FOR EUCALYPTUS EXPORTS



Optimistic... Australian industry players are reporting strong demand for woodchips in 2018.

woodchips from native trees. In 1995, 3 million BDT (bone dry tonnes) was exported from Australia – all native

hardwood chips.

However, the long-running environmental battles in several states over harvesting

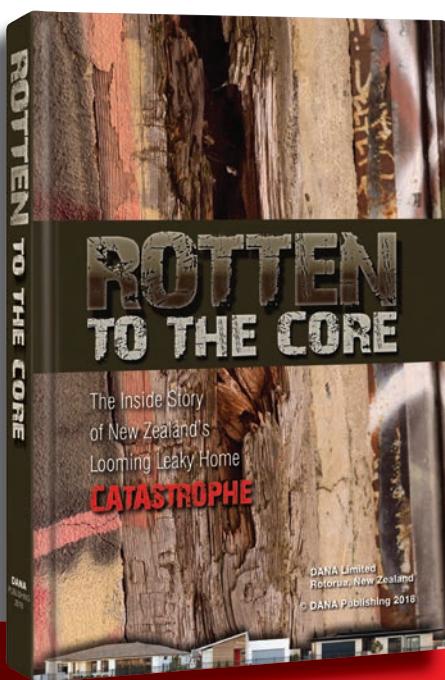
native eucalyptus trees, followed later by a Japanese buyer preference switch from native to plantation wood fibre, resulted in Australian influence in the market crashing.

An 'orderly' switch in Australia from native to plantation exports was disrupted for several years because of the failures of so many MIS plantation owners from 2009, and then the time it took to engineer a wholesale restructuring of industry ownership. This was

Cont P 17

ROTTEN TO THE CORE

The Inside Story of New Zealand's Looming Leaky Home CATASTROPHE



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- What caused most of the carnage?
- Was it preventable?
- Who tried to stop the Rot?
- Who ignored their pleas?
- Who covered it up?
- Who is accountable?
- Why is New Zealand still in denial?
- What cost — \$30 Billion or \$100 Billion? You decide.



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Thanks for words of appreciation!

Support for enews from friends in industry

CO-PUBLISHER John Halkett said he was humbled and appreciative of the many emails and calls received following the distribution of the first issue of the new-look Timber&Forestry enews.

"I think, to a large degree, it's a testimony to the keen readership and wide industry appeal of this weekly industry briefing publication," John said.

From P 16

only completed in 2015.

However, with a financially stable industry and strong chip demand in north Asia, especially from China, 2017 should end up a ripper year for Australian eucalyptus exports.

Up to November, quantities of Australian eucalyptus woodchips were 8% above the 2016 figure, at 5.7 million BDT. YTD to November imports jumped from 4.5 to 5.2 and then to 5.7 million BDT, a jump of 28% in three years.

By contrast, imports from the (still) world's largest supplier Vietnam had increased by only 3% to 7.3 million BDT, and there are

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"It was a substantial task setting up the on-line enews as a separate stand-alone publication over the holiday break, with its own website and administrative

signs that supply volumes may fall off in time.

Demand from the largest hardwood woodchip importer, China, has increased over the last three years by 19%, to 10.2 million BDMT (only 15 years after China was a net woodchip exporter), while the traditional major importer Japan volume has increased by only 2% to 9.7 million BDT.

Australian industry players are reporting strong demand in 2018, with some prices already settled and increases

“BLESSED WITH GROWING TWO SPECIES IN STRONG DEMAND

backup structure.

"I am particularly grateful for the effort of managing editor Jim Bowden and graphic and layout genius Zonya Bird.



Dennis Neilson... managing director, DANA Ltd.

and others expected shortly.

Australia is blessed with growing the two species in strongest demand in North Asia, E. globulus and E. nitens.

The big challenge now is that Australia soon will be tipping from having an

"Jim founded Australian Timberman in 1977 and has continued a passionate interest in the industry for more than 40 years. And Zonya has put in a monstrous effort with the enews graphics and website and the clever web-based wizardry that allows enews to drop into thousands of in-boxes

Cont P 18

excess supply of plantation eucalyptus fibre – to a balance – and then to a need to perhaps significantly reduce annual harvests, as the areas planted in trees reduces.

It will be a race to see if reducing Vietnamese supply, coupled with perhaps (still) some increases from Australia will enable Australia to (albeit briefly) regain the mantle of the world's largest hardwood woodchip exporter – before it may lose it again.

- For the past 26 years, Dennis Neilson, managing director of DANA Ltd, based in Rotorua, NZ, has co-authored the annual International Pulpwood Trade Review with Bob Flynn of USA-based RISI. The 2018 edition will be available in March.

Timber & Forestry enews is the most authoritative and quickest deliverer of news and special features to the forest and forest products industries in Australia, New Zealand and internationally. Enews is delivered weekly, every Thursday, 48 weeks of the year. Advertising rates are competitive with any industry magazine. Timber&Forestry e-news hits your target market – every week, every Thursday!

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From P 17

every week."

John added that he was also very grateful for the continuing support of advertisers and for the new companies who had taken a leap of faith to support the magazine with advertising and best wishes.

"This confirms our view that enews plays an important function across the Australasian and international forest-based industries," he said.

"We are rolling out new features and content and have made a solid start on expanding the distribution database."

Some comments from industry:

John Simon, chairman FWPA:

Congratulations to the three of you for taking on the challenge of enews. I look

forward to the "new" version.'

Ross Hampton, CEO, AFPA:

Best wishes Jim for 2018. Good to read that things are moving forward there and you are still holding tightly to the quill.

David Rhodes, CEO, NZ Forest Owners Association:

Thanks. All the best with the new venture.

Dr Gary Bacon, former CEO forestry, DPI, Brisbane:

John Halkett, Dennis Neilson and Jim Bowden now in complete charge of Australasia's premier coverage of the region's premier industry.

Congratulations to you three wise men who, like the fabled precursors, will continue to bear golden gifts to our unique timber and forestry industry. With well over a century of professional and committed expertise to draw upon, I can envision

“A LEAP OF FAITH BY INDUSTRY FOR ENEWS

an exciting period of keen analysis and insightful reporting ahead. With every best wish for your continuing endeavours.

Brian Schaumberg, ex-forestry, DPI, and former School of Forestry rugby team:

Great issue, Jim. Congratulations. Great to see a real hooker in the front row.

Nigel Catchlove, principal consultant, Parsec Communications:

Great edition. Happy New Year.

Bob Newman, forester, Canberra:

It is pleasing to hear this latest development. I hope it goes well and I look forward

to the read.

Dr Harry Greaves, HG Consulting, Melbourne:

Thanks Jim. Good to see you still at the editorial helm.

Gordon McCormack, former director, fisheries, DPI:

Congrats mate. You're a real survivor. Presume it needed at least three bottles of Chardonnay to mark the happening. All the best.

Bob Gordon, president, Institute of Foresters of Australia:

Looks good. All the best.



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- Chengdu Panda Breeding Centre

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Timber business: state has room to grow

Message is clear: don't miss out on this conference

BOOK early or risk missing out is the message from Timber Queensland communications manager Clarissa Brandt on the 2nd biennial Doing Timber Business in Queensland: Room to Grow conference in Brisbane from April 18 to 20.

"Everyone wants to know where and how our industry has room to grow," Clarissa said.

"Part of the conference provides a chance to get a bird's eye view of timber products that are stimulating new opportunity – but only for the first 150 registrations."

Delegates will be moving offsite for the last session of the day to hear Lend

Lease speak about the advantages that timber offer for commercial buildings, in an area overlooking the construction of its 25 King Street Development (the world's tallest timber office building).

Due to space limitations this session will be limited to the first 150 delegates to book a conference ticket.

Gaining an insight into how engineered timber and prefabrication is building our future will be of direct interest to the full industry supply

“ HOW EWPS ARE BUILDING OUR FUTURE ”



Clarissa Brandt... conference stimulating new opportunity.

chain as they come together to assess development opportunities," Clarissa said.

The conference is also attracting architects and engineers and registrations from timber specifiers is exciting and provides the chance to establish great business relationships."

Clarissa said the conference offered plenty for people keen to know more about growth opportunities in indigenous community

forestry development, regional industry hubs and Queensland's place in the national timber industry plan.

The state had significant forest resources that could play an even greater role in its economic future.

"Our keynote presentation on industry perceptions and market awareness from Howard Parry-Husbands, CEO, Pollinate, will be really useful for businesses working on their own marketing and advertising strategies," Clarissa said.

The Doing Timber Business in Queensland: Room to Grow conference also features a forestry field tour, workplace health and safety workshop and two student award programs – SmartTimber18 and SmartForests18.

Register at www.doingtimberbusinessinqld.com

Upturn in commercial construction sector expected

TOTAL dwelling approvals increased by 0.9% in seasonally adjusted terms in November, adding a 10th consecutive month of positive growth in the approvals data.

"New approvals for apartment developments have again been the source of growth in the last few months, pushing up approvals for new dwellings to 11.2% in November," Master Builders national manager, economics

Matthew Pollock said.

"But the bigger emerging story is from non-residential approvals data, which was up in value terms by 6% in November, and up by more than 13% over the previous

12 months.

"This latest data supports our expectation that the arrival of the long-awaited upturn in the commercial construction sector is imminent."

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Apple-green Kona Highlander at the core of SUV driving pleasure

"YOU'RE covering the Stanthorpe Grapple and Rape Festival on Saturday," boomed my editor, the one with the humour bypass.

The what?

"The Apple and Grape Festival ... and you're to pick up Gabby," he replied.

"Would that be Gabby Hayes, the sidekick of cowboy Randolph Scott?"

Frustrated editor: "No! Gabby Horan."

And so it came to pass on a Saturday in February 1968 ... I collected the popular TV and radio personality and president of the Queensland Housewives Association and headed for the Granite Belt.

Gabby was a judge of the festival's Miss Delicious contest and said they were one short on the judges' panel. "A top job for you," she grinned.

A daunting task – 15 beautiful entrants who had raised a lot of money for charity, and their parents and families, mostly of Italian heritage, looking on about to give me (just me I was sure), the kiss of death if I made a wrong choice.

The apple of my eye was an orchardist's daughter and fellow judges came in with the same vote. Next day, along with the Charity Princess, she climbed on a float of fruit to wave to more than 6000 people crammed along a quarter-mile strip of the town's main street.

My capabilities as a judge of beauty and brains spread. Over the years as a rural journalist I have been invited to judge Miss Beef, Miss



The Hyundai Kona pulls in at Ballandean's Hidden Creek Winery against a backdrop of granite boulders, deposited there 220 million years ago after a granite magmatism. Top tucker. But what happened to the apple pie, Andy?

Fleece, Miss Dairy, Miss Banana, Miss Pineapple, Miss Pork (you read it right) and Miss Seafood.

The 2018 Stanthorpe festival this year is set for February 23 through to March 4 with a grand parade, art show, vineyard visits and wine tasting fiesta and wine masterclasses.

Re-visiting this lovely region 225 km southeast of Brisbane and up to 1500 m above sea level last weekend was a clever idea to beat the festival crowds and Brisbane's ghastly heat and humidity. Temps in the town hovered around 25-26 deg. with an occasional light shower. Glorious.

The combination of cool weather and decomposed granite soils produces outstanding wines and a very diverse range of food. Wine production in and around Stanthorpe represents more than 60% of all Queensland production and the region is home to almost 50 winery cellar doors.

In 1968, I arrived there in a Holden HD. No radio but Gabby was in tune. This time I was aboard Hyundai's

new stand-out apple-green Kona Highlander complete with green anodised trim on the air-conditioning vents, dashboard and around the gear selector, with matching green seatbelts. So it was fun being green, Kermit.

The Hyundai Kona is a sub-compact crossover SUV, the South Korean manufacturer's smallest SUV, that measures 4165 mm in length, 1800 mm in width and stands 1560 mm tall with a 260 mm wheelbase.

A battery-electric version with a 320-402 km range is expected sometime this year, but who's waiting?

“AUSSIE BUYERS GET A CHOICE OF TWO ENGINES”

Kona has got an enormous breadth of ability, the right powertrain options and plenty of room, and a generous list of standard equipment across the range. And there's plenty of choice, with three trim levels and two different powertrains.

Aussie buyers get a choice of two engines, both of them

petrol, and each gets its own gearbox and drivetrain. The cheaper option is a 110 kW 2-litre four-cylinder petrol engine with a six-speed automatic transmission and front-wheel drive; the second choice a 1.6-litre four-cylinder turbocharged petrol engine mated to a seven-speed dual-clutch gearbox and all-wheel drive.

Both are available on the Active, Elite and Highlander specifications, starting at \$24,500 (plus on-road costs) for the Active 2.0 and up to \$36,000 for the range-topping Highlander 1.6T.

The 'green hornet' as we named it rides on torsion beam rear suspension while the 1.6-litre turbo gets a sophisticated multi-link independent rear end.

The engine sends power exclusively to the front wheels by way of a six-speed automatic and is claimed to consume just 7.2L/100km on the combined cycle.

We put the Kona it at the top of the compact SUV segment. Ride, handling and comfort on rough or smooth roads make it a front runner.

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Further information: www.daf.qld.gov.au/forestry/research-and-innovation/forest-product-innovation

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For further information about this position contact Rob McGavin

Ph: (07) 3708 7374. E: Robbie.McGavin@daf.qld.gov.au

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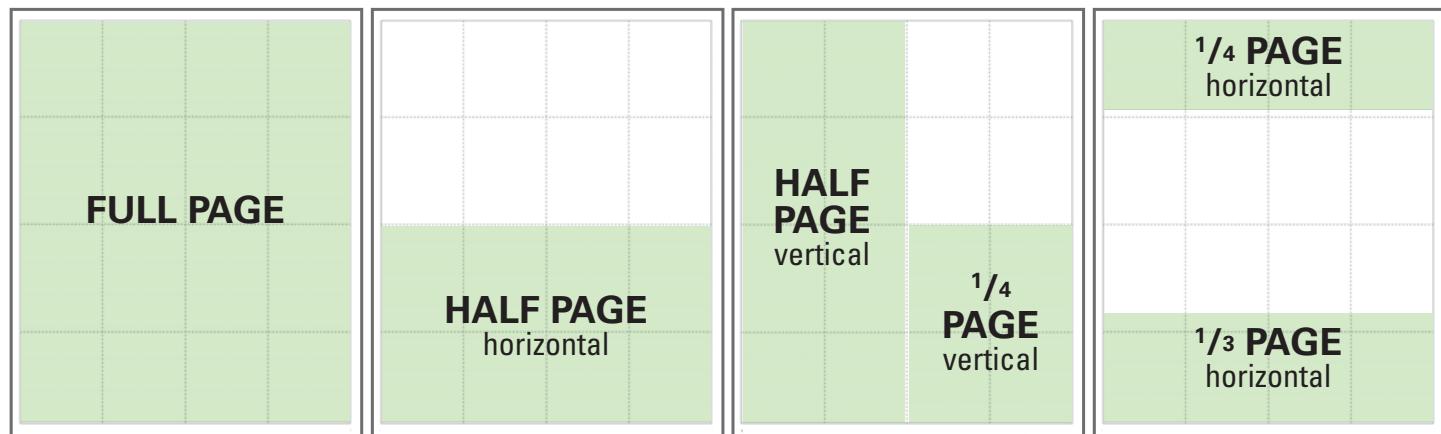
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* Publishers' claim. The publication draws on a new data-base vault of more than 14,500 emails – a number that grows weekly.

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PAGE 1 Front cover strip: Contract booking

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PAGE 1 Front cover module: Contract booking

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