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ISSUE 536 | November 8, 2018

Office 'escape' buzz for women's network

COVER STORY P10



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Mid-rise demonstration building tall timber guide for constructors

'Versatile and environmentally-friendly option for 21st century tradies'

A MID-RISE demonstration building was 'launched' last week at Holmesglen Institute's Chadstone campus in Melbourne by the Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources Senator Richard Colbeck.

An industry inspection of the building was enhanced by a presentation from Dr Paolo Lavisci, manager of the WoodSolutions mid-rise advisory program, which will use the structure as a teaching tool and a reference on mid-rise buildings.

The building will benefit Australia's construction and forestry industries by demonstrating the amazing capacity of timber as a sustainable, renewable and versatile building resource.

The launch of the building preceded the FWPA 2018



High expectations... mid-rise demonstration building inspection in Melbourne.

SHOWS THE AMAZING CAPACITY OF TIMBER

AGM that welcomed two new non-executive directors, Katie Fowden and Craig Taylor.

Ms Fowden is strategic relations manager for Hyne Timber and is also a non-executive director of

Responsible Wood. Mr Taylor, a director and principal of The Fifth Estate Consultancy, has more than 30 years' management and consulting experience in primary industries, mostly in the plantation forestry sector.

Respected industry identity John Simon was re-elected as chair of the FWPA board.

Senator Richard Colbeck said the FWPA mid-rise demonstration building represented an exciting step forward for Australia's forestry sector.

"The change to the national construction code in 2016 has created new opportunities for the forestry sector to market timber products as a renewable rival for steel and concrete," Senator Colbeck said.

"We're certainly seeing a trend towards increased use of structural timber in large-scale construction developments as a more versatile and environmentally

Cont P.3

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From P 2

friendly option for 21st century tradies."

Senator Colbeck said the mid-rise building had been developed to give builders and designers a better understanding of how timber could be used, including cutting-edge engineered wood products such as CLT.

FWPA managing director Ric Sinclair said the demonstration building was an important learning tool to help builders and designers better understand the practicalities of using timber in taller buildings.

"Our partnership with Holmesglen TAFE is an excellent example of how industry and education providers can work together



Senator Richard Colbeck with re-appointed FWPA chair John Simon and Dr Adil Abbas, head of department, applied building technology, Holmesglen TAFE, at the launch of the mid-rise demonstration building in Melbourne.

to ensure that new building design and construction techniques can go from the conceptual to the practical," he said.

"It will be invaluable for builders and consultants to use in explaining the principles of engineered timber construction to

students, staff and clients.

"We are very pleased to have been able to work closely with the federal government to deliver this exciting project, which has been co-funded under FWPA's voluntary matched funding system."

Partnership in mid-rise timber program adds value to industry in New Zealand

A NEW program launched in Wellington this week aims to boost mid-rise building construction using New Zealand-engineered and panelised framing timber and deliver a range of regional, social, environmental and other benefits.

Red Stag Investments Ltd, a company with its roots in forestry, wood processing and property development, has partnered with the Ministry for Primary Industries to deliver Mid-rise Wood Construction, a four-year, \$5 million Primary Growth Partnership program.

"Combining CLT, glulam and panelised framing timber is a cost-effective, fast, resilient, and sustainable system for mid-rise construction," says Red Stag Group CEO Marty Verry.

"Our PGP program aims to encourage widespread adoption of precision-engineered timber in mid-rise



Marty Verry... cost-effective.

building construction in New Zealand," he said.

Construction costs associated with the program will be covered by Red Stag. The ministry's investment through the Primary Growth Partnership program will contribute to other aspects of the program, such as design, collating and sharing information, and establishing the centre of excellence.

Director investment programmes at MPI Steve

Penno says benefits from the mid-rise wood construction PGP program would be felt beyond the co-investors.

The program will assemble a collective of excellence – a pool of New Zealand professionals experienced in mid-rise wood building design and construction – to help share and grow knowledge and expertise within the broader industry.

Red Stag will design and build two mid-rise wooden buildings to showcase engineered timber construction, to act as reference sites and inform case studies. The first will be the Clearwater Quays' five-level apartment development at Clearwater.

The program aims to substantially increase demand for engineered wood products in buildings, which will have associated flow-on benefits across the entire supply chain.



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Supply security assured as AKD acquires CHH NSW operations



Dedicated... staff gather at the Tumut Sawmill on the first day of purchase by AKD Softwoods.

AUSTRALIAN-OWNED Associated Kiln Driers Softwoods, based at Colac, Vic, has finalised the purchase of Carter Holt Harvey's NSW sawmilling business.

Major assets include the Tumut sawmill, Gilmore

treatment facility, a 50% interest in the Highland Pine Products joint venture in Oberon and a distribution centre in Berkeley Vale on the central coast.

Tumut processes about 565,000 cub m of sawlogs

producing a range of outdoor and structural products and the Gilmore treatment facility is a value-adding site also located in Tumut.

The HPP joint venture processes about 600,000 cub m of sawlog.

All of the nearly 500 NSW employees will continue to be employed by the business.

AKD CEO Shane Vicary explains: "We are excited to be acquiring the assets and merging the NSW people into our AKD team. The operations are well run and operated by dedicated, talented and passionate people."

AKD Softwoods is a privately-owned Australian company with a proud history of 60 years in the forest industry, with 55 of those years as softwood sawmillers.

From humble beginnings in the regional Victorian town of Colac where the head office remains. AKD will now have 12 operational sites across three states and will employ more than 1000 people.

"We are proud of our story – the products we produce and relationships we hold with our customers, employees, suppliers and



On site... AKD CEO Shane Vicary and site manager Rab Green at Tumut on day one of AKD ownership.

communities," Mr Vicary said.

"We see the NSW business as a strategic fit for the AKD group as we have a long-term dedication to our industry producing timber products for the Australian market.

"This opportunity will provide AKD with a larger range and volume of products, and greater flexibility with multiple sites located across the eastern seaboard to offer new and existing customers superior service and supply security."

This expansion continues AKD's approach of growth and sustainability through strategic acquisitions and continual capital investment, cementing its commitment to the forest and forest products industry.





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Green Triangle awards recognise exciting industry future for region

Celebrating skilled professionals and uniting all stakeholders

JOHN HALKETT

THE inaugural Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards stand as one of the country's most successful industry events of the year.

The awards function was testament to the recognition of the Green Triangle as home to Australia's largest plantation and timber processing industry boasting more than 355,000 ha of soft and hardwood plantations producing timber for local manufacturing as well as national and export markets. The industry provides employment for around 8500 people.

As reported last week the supreme winner of the inaugural Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards held

“ AWARDS WILL ATTRACT SKILLED EMPLOYEES TO THE REGION

at The Barn in Mount Gambier was multi-generational

logging company Reid Logging. (See Page 9 for the



1/ Glamour girls out for the awards night... Kiera Broad; Kate Morony, and Robyn Herrewyn.

2/ Friends catching up for a pre-dinner chat... Adam and Kate Sealey; Elizabeth and Andrew Crowe, and Cassie and Ben Munro.

full list of award winners).

Green Triangle event chair Adrian Flowers said the awards were all about celebrating and rewarding individuals and companies involved in the timber industry for their dedication, hard work and best practises in their various roles and businesses.

He said the event encompassed all sectors of the industry from nursery to silviculture, harvesting, haulage,

Cont P 6



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From P 5

logistics and processing and everything in between. "It is important that we recognise everyone that contributes to the industry success," Mr Flowers said.

"The committee is very happy with nominations received. We had excellent numbers, and all were of a very high calibre right across all categories. It was about recognising everyone who contributes to the success of an industry that annually generates more than \$778 million gross regional product."

Leonie Stapleton from Timberlink was honoured with a lifetime contribution award, recognising her long-term commitment and involvement in an historically male-dominated industry.

OneFortyOne Wood Products received three awards, taking out the timber



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processing as well as the regional and community development excellence prizes and Des Schebella was applauded for his outstanding contribution to the timber industry.

Adrian Flowers said the inaugural awards campaign would benefit the region's timber industry in several exciting ways.

"The awards will enable us

1/ The best attire for a big night out... Adam and Bridget Jennings, Chris Bonney, and Matt Thomson.
 2/ Out for a good evening... LV Dohnt staff Jodie O'Brien, Philip Dohnt, Sarah and Craig Shaw, and Chris Cram.

3/ Who said a glass of bubbly wasn't a girl's best friend? Jo Davidson, Sherry Vickery, and Jillian Gylett-Brown enjoy the excitement in Mount Gambier.

to attract skilled employees to the region as valued industry players and will up-skill and lift the standards of the workforce here. It also provides an opportunity for the Green Triangle's timber industry to celebrate its skilled professionals and unite industry players."

There will be a final report on the awards evening next week.

NOVEMBER

12: PEFC General Assembly
– Geneva, Switzerland.

14-15: ForestTECH 2018 – Rotorua NZ. Tech updates and the integration of research results operationally by local forestry companies will be the focus. www.foresttech.events/

15: Forest Learning Education Alliance Meeting – Canberra, Australia.

Four day native forest management workshop series.

13-14: SESSION 1 – Private Forestry Service Qld's forest management workshop
– 672 Beenham Valley Rd, Queensland. 8am-3pm.
Contact Bronwyn Lloyd on (07 5483 6535 or email pfsq@bigpond.com Sponsored by DAF through private native forest extension program.

20-21: ForestTech 2018 – Melbourne, Australia.
Annual technology event for

forest resource managers, remote sensing and GIS specialists and inventory foresters from throughout Australia and New Zealand. www.foresttech.events/

21-22: Responsible Wood workshops – Launceston and Hobart, Australia. providing Fine Timber Tasmania licensee holders an opportunity to discuss the Responsible Wood certification scheme and reinforce the logo usage requirements for both Responsible Wood and PEFC. North: 10 am at UTAS School of Architecture, 8 Invermay Road, Launceston. South: 10 am at Sustainable Timber Tasmania, executive boardroom, Level 1, 99 Bathurst Street, Hobart. A light lunch will be provided by Fine Timber Tasmania following both workshops. Contact Mark Leech on +61 (0) 487 386 833 or email mleech@iinet.net.au by

November 15. Inquiries also to Jason Ross at Responsible Wood on (07) 3359 1758 or email jross@responsiblewood.org.au

22: Australian Timber Importers Federation: Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) treatment forum – Mercure North Melbourne Hotel, Melbourne. To identify difficulties associated with the currently required BMSB treatment regime (geography, offshore and onshore treatment, instructions and advice) and to suggest improvements to current BMSB-related practices aimed at improving 2019 BMSB treatment requirements. For further information contact John Halkett on 0417 421 187 or email: john.halkett@bigpond.com or

27-28: SESSION 2 –Private Forestry Service Qld's forest management workshop
– 672 Beenham Valley Rd, Queensland. 8am-3pm.

Contact Bronwyn Lloyd on (07 5483 6535 or email pfsq@bigpond.com Sponsored by DAF through private native forest extension program.

MARCH 2019

2: AFPA board meeting and members' dinner – Canberra. 6pm.

8: AFPA members' forum and chamber meetings – Canberra.

26-29: AUSPACK Packaging and Processing Week – Melbourne, Australia.

APRIL

1-2: National Sustainability Conference – Brisbane, Australia

JUNE

19: AFPA board meeting and members' dinner – Canberra. 6pm.

20: AFPA members' forum and chamber meetings – Canberra.

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NOVEMBER**5-10: 54th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council and Sessions of the Associated Committees**

- Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan. ITTO Secretariat. See: www.itto.int/workshop_detail Email: itto@itto.int

Tel: +81-45-223-1110

8-9: 28th Global Forum on Forest Governance – Chatham House, London.

Annual two-day event, previously known as the Illegal Logging Update & Stakeholder Consultation Meeting, will include sessions on conflict timber, the latest isotope technology to trace timber supply chains and updates on the Voluntary Partnership Agreements. For further information contact: Melissa MacEwen, Chatham House, Programme Coordinator, Energy, Environment and Resources, +44 (0)20 7314 3639 or mmacewen@chathamhouse.org

12: PEFC General Assembly – Geneva, Switzerland.**12-17: 2nd DANA 2-day Central America and Andes Forestry Sector wInvestment Conference – Cancun Mexico.** With 2-day optional pre-conference field

trip to teak and eucalyptus plantations; a large modern MDF mill in Villahermosa region; and a 2- day optional post-conference tour to Mayan archaeological and recreational sites. For further information: www.danaevents.co.nz/2018mexico/

12-18: XI International Workshop on Uneven-aged Silviculture: Challenges for increasing adaptability

- Valdivia, Chile. Uneven-aged silviculture is attracting increased interest due to its positive effects upon carbon sequestration, biodiversity, landscapes, and in its ability to provide a range of goods and services from managed forest ecosystems. Do uneven-aged forests have better options for adaptation to these future changes?

See: www.uas.uach.cl/2018

Email: pdonoso@uach.cl

JANUARY 2019**24: Mapping the Course: Timberland, Forest Products Processing, and Fiber Issues for 2019 – Vancouver, Washington, USA.**

The conference and optional workshop will provide an in-depth analysis on forest products market challenges, opportunities, and threats for 2019 in the North American

West Coast timberland region. For further information see: <https://westernforestry.org/upcoming-conferences/mapping-the-course-timberland-forest-products-processing-and-fiber-issues-for-2019>

www.fph2019.org

20-23: A Century of National Forest Inventories: Informing Past, Present and Future Decisions – Oslo, Norway.

For further information see: www.nibio.pameldingssystem.no/nfi100years

MARCH**19-21: International Mass Timber Conference – Portland, Oregon.**

The largest gathering of cross-laminated timber and other mass timber experts in the world, with a special focus on manufacturing and mid-to high-rise construction. Over 1,200 experts from 22 countries attended in 2018. The conference will explore the supply chain for cross-laminated timber (CLT), nail-laminated timber, glulam beams and panels, mass plywood panels, dowel-laminated timber, and laminated veneer lumber; and the opportunities and obstacles for mass timber in global manufacturing and construction. See: www.masstimberconference.com/

16-17: ICATEA 2019:

21st International Conference on Advanced Timber Engineering and Applications – Zurich, Switzerland. The conference aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of advanced timber engineering and applications. For further information see: <https://waset.org/conference/2019/09/zurich/ICATEA>

SEPT/OCT**29 SEPT-25 OCT: XXV IUFRO World Congress – Curitiba, Brazil.** For further information see: www.iufro2019.com

• Please send any events listings to John Halkett via email: johnh@timberandforestrynews.com

MAY**8-11: World Conference on forests for Public Health – Athens, Greece.** For further information see:**MERBAU**

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Green Triangle award winners

The 2018 GTTIA award winners were:

Trainee: Ben Bruhn, Tabeel Trading, and Dylan Edwards, L.V. Dohnt. Sponsor Port of Portland.

Forest Operations: Adam Sealy, Reid Logging. Sponsored by PF Olsen.

Work, Health, Safety: Bryan Haywood, Nature Glenelg Trust & Environment. Sponsored by OneFortyOne Plantations.

Outstanding Contribution to Timber Industry (female): Linda Cotterill, OneFortyOne Plantations. Sponsored by Pacific Forest Products (Australia).

Outstanding Contribution to Timber Industry (male):



Looking forward to the awards night...Sarah Boyd, Marcel Griffiths, Rachel Pridham, and Nigel Boy.

Des Schebella, OneFortyOne Plantations. Sponsored by QUBE Ports.

Innovation Award: James Williamson, Porthaul. Sponsored by South West Fibre.

Timber Processing Excellence:

OneFortyOne Wood Products. Sponsored by Trident Tyre Centre & Scania.

Harvesting Excellence:

Reid Logging. Sponsored by Timberlands Pacific & Penola Plantations.

Silviculture Excellence: A & M Contracting. Sponsored by Teagle Excavations.

Distribution & Logistics: Porthaul. Sponsored by HVP Plantations.

Safety Excellence: Tabeel Trading Pty Ltd. Sponsored by OneFortyOne Plantations.

Regional & Community Development: OneFortyOne Plantations. Sponsored by Kalari.

Lifetime Contribution Award:

Leonie Stapleton, Timberlink Australia. Sponsored by Climate Friendly.

Green Triangle Supreme Timber Industry Award:

Reid Logging

Responsible Wood workshops give clear message to licensees

RESPONSIBLE Wood will expand its certification message across the Bass Strait at a series of workshops organised with Fine Timber Tasmania.

The workshops in Launceston and Hobart later this month will provide Fine Timber Tasmania licensee holders with an opportunity to discuss the Responsible Wood certification scheme and reinforce the logo usage requirements for both Responsible Wood and PEFC.

The first workshop will be at the UTAS School of Architecture in Launceston on November 21, with the second workshop at Sustainable Timber Tasmania's offices in Hobart on November 22.

One of Responsible Wood's leading group chain-of-custody license holders, Fine Timber Tasmania incorporates 30 different licensees

operating a variety of timber-based businesses throughout Tasmania.

Fine Timber Tasmania's CoC coordinator Mark Leech said the workshops would provide clarity to all licensees.

"The Responsible Wood certification scheme is critical to all our licensee businesses; it provides our members with access to domestic and international markets."

Presenting the workshop, marketing and communication officer Jason Ross will provide licensee holders with a Responsible Wood certification scheme update.

"Our scheme holders are the bedrock of the Responsible Wood certification scheme," Mr Ross said.

Contact Mark Leech on +61 (0) 487 386 833 or email mleech@iinet.net.au by November 15.

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Strong values at industry sites impressed WFTN's tour group

Opportunity to grow knowledge and develop collegiate relationships

TWENTY-FIVE members of the Queensland Women in Forest & Timber Network enjoyed visits to industry operations on the Gold Coast last week taking in the sights, sounds and smells they rarely experience in their predominantly office-based jobs.

The group inspected the operations of Multinail and Hurfords at Stapylton and Timber Queensland's strategic relations and communications manager Clarissa Brandt said she wasn't the only one on the tour who gained a deeper understanding of each of the company's product offerings.

"Not naming names, but I did hear someone on the tour say she thought Multinail just made lots of nails," Clarissa said.

“SKILL AND EXPERTISE IN ALL DEPARTMENTS – AND A WOMAN IN EACH OF THEM”



1/ On tour... back row from left, Nissah and Charlotte Blanchford, Stairway Solutions, Alicia Oelkers, TABMA. Lesley Francis, DAF, Lexie Hurford, Hurfords, Vaimiti Rigal, Multinail, and Clarissa Brandt, Timber Queensland. Front row, Rica Minett, DAF, Tahlia Bellotti, TABMA, Telia Pauchet, Timber Queensland, Kerrie Catchpole and Nicole Richardson, DAF and Sarah Porter, Timber Queensland.

2/ All's good – and welcome to Multinail... Matthew Smith.

3/ On the WFTN trail...Debbie Payne from Tilling Timber.

"Of course this was a bit of a joke but the fact remains

that unless people who are generally behind a desk are

provided with the opportunity to get out and about to learn what the other organisations in our incredibly diverse industry do, how can we understand and appreciate

the complexity that comprises our full industry supply chain."

Clarissa said in Queensland WFTN held these annual field days to provide an opportunity for women to grow their knowledge and develop the collegiate relationships by spending time with people face to face, rather than just emailing and talking over the phone to them."

The field day commenced at Multinail with excellent presentations from the

Cont P 11



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From P 10

software, stamping, machinery and IT divisions giving insight into the benefits of their Cornerstone Project software and the soon-to-be-launched Augmented Technology app for truss and frame manufacturers.

"Getting to trial the app and see what it was like to 'walk through' a design was impressive and it was easy to see how beneficial it will be for building professionals," Casey Holmes, Queensland office manager at Dindas, said.

"Touring the innovative manufacturing facility was noisy, but incredibly interesting to see the skill and expertise of all departments – and that there are women in each of them."

One thing that nearly all of the tour attendees was particularly impressed with was the length of service of many employees at both the Multinail and Hurfords sites.

"In a world where we hear of people constantly changing jobs and having a myriad of careers, it was a pleasure to meet the many long-term and multi-generational staff at the Multinail and Hurfords operations," observed Alicia Oelkers, TABMA Queensland general manager.

"This long-term commitment is testament to the care and value both family-owned businesses place in their staff's wellbeing," she said.

"It was great to hear Jamie-Lee Davey, production supervisor, stamping, talk about how she started straight out of school, following her mother into the business. Her comment that Multinail 'allowed me to be me' was powerful."

After a very generous (and delicious) lunch provided by Multinail, the group moved



The Pink Ladies at Multinail.

onto the Hurfords site to inspect yards, timber drying in the open and in kilns and the huge variety of species that Hurfords provides.

"The variety and volume of stock was amazing; it was incredible to learn how quickly it all turns over – the demand is there!" exclaimed Clarrisa.

Of particular interest was the process for making the Shou Sugi Ban architectural cladding. The process evenly chars the face of the board before it is cooled and finished to Hurford's 'straight charred' effect.

Joining the tour, Hurfords co-founder and principal Lexie Hurford talked about her experiences growing the company.

"She told how her career and business grew by getting out and about and going to meetings, where more often than not she was the only woman," Clarissa said.

"Lexie and the Hurford family's love for the industry is evident in the way she speaks and in the industry promotional material that features in the family's 'Warrazambil Tree'.

"This shows where everyone in the family is involved in growing trees, so Lexie is out and about selling the timber industry's 'social acceptance' message

– a message that we all should spread among our local communities and social networks.

"Lexie is a great role model."

The WFTN would like to express thanks for the time and generosity shown by Multinail and Hurfords to host the group. Special thanks go to WFTN members Vaimiti Rigal, structural

engineer, Multinail, and Kerrie Catchpoole, senior project officer, forest industries, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, who were instrumental in organising the tour.

On the cover: A field day for women... Kimberley Lingard, Hurfords, Vaimiti Rigal, Multinail, Sarah Porter, Timber Queensland, and Lesley Francis and Rica Minett from DAF

Sustainable Timber Tasmania

REQUEST FOR TENDER



- Tender number: FP2018-002
- Closing time: 4:00pm AEST, Friday 21 December 2018
- Description: Sustainable Timber Tasmania offers for purchase a mature eucalypt plantation tree crop located on Permanent Timber Production Zone land in Southern Tasmania. The tree crop is offered for purchase under a 12 month contract. Purchase price for the tree crop will be based on offered stumpages. Full description of tender requirements is available in the Request for Tender documents.
- Location: Primarily in the Huon region.
- Documents and enquiries: Prospective tenderers should register their interest by requesting the relevant documents via email at tenders@sttas.com.au no later than 4:00pm AEST, Friday 23 November 2018.
- Lodgement: Tenders must be lodged electronically to email tenders@sttas.com.au or post to GPO Box 207, Hobart TAS 7001.

sttas.com.au

 **Sustainable Timber Tasmania**

Toronto's mass timber institute to propel international research

A MASS Timber Institute launched in Toronto, Canada, last week aims to propel research and manufacture of wood engineering systems – possibly beyond North America.

The institute aspires to be an ambitious and unique public-private collaboration focused on ground-breaking research and development as well as specialised teaching and training on mass timber tall wood buildings and the use of advanced wood products.

The partnership, co-led by the University of Toronto and George Brown College, includes the universities of Lakehead, Laurentian and Ottawa, and FPInnovations

and Wood WORKS.

The institute's director Dr Anne Koven aid the new facility would help push the industry ahead giving greater access to research.

An adjunct professor at the University of Toronto and a forester, Dr Koven said the institute was a multi-discipline enterprise driven by designers building, architects, engineers, and contractors," she said.

She said it was planned to expand the institute nationally and eventually internationally.

Presentations at the launch focused discussions on opportunities and specific challenges that lie ahead for mass timber integration. To gain market share, mass



Dr Anne Koven... mass timber very much in the hands of industry.

timber must be widely accessible.

A building science guideline is under development by the institute to serve as a knowledge map connecting the dots for the stakeholders.

The guideline is viewed as a transition publication until mass timber becomes fully supported by vertically integrated manufacturers, suppliers and constructor networks offering building systems solutions.

Key issues and concerns include builders' risk and property insurance, the need for an A+ design team, and the need to share mass timber knowledge with building code officials.

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A cut above: sharpening service keeps pace with new technology

TODAY automated manufacturing systems offer real benefits in terms of productivity, quality and labour savings, but cutting attachments can be a critical weakness.

Clearly, automated processing demands the use of the right saws and blades, plus their adequate monitoring and maintenance. Even the best machines won't perform to their optimum with poor blades and saws, or inattention to sharpening and maintenance.

A market leader in all things cutting and sawing, ASL Industries offers a full supply and sharpening service from



1



2

its modern, purpose-built premises in Silverdale, near Auckland, NZ.

With an impressive 25-year business track record, the company can advise and deliver the best quality solutions for wood processing facilities and sawmills, and for all cutting-related maintenance and replacement needs.

ASL Industries stocks a comprehensive range of quality products used for saw and blade and cutting, plus accessories for timber, metal, plastics, concrete, masonry, printing and binding industries. Their sawshop is equipped with some of the most technically advanced equipment in the southern hemisphere.

Director Nigel Andrews

says many customers have been with the company right from the start.

"They have seen the efforts we have made to keep up with new technologies while

“MANY CUSTOMERS HAVE BEEN WITH THE COMPANY RIGHT FROM THE START”

1/ *The cutting edge... ASL Industries offers a full supply and sharpening service from its modern purpose-built premises in Silverdale, near Auckland.*

2/ *The ASL machine inventory includes the Vollmer RC110 benching centre for fully automatic and complete machining of band saw blades.*

maintaining the highest possible quality," he said.

Mr Andrews says that if blade and saw repairs or replacement are necessary they are actioned with absolute priority and repaired or new blades and saws can be dispatched promptly.

ASL Industries' sawshop is run by a team combining more than 40 years' experience that can advise and deliver the best quality solutions for blade and saw use and maintenance.

"Our core business is industrial blade and saw sales, sharpening and repairs," Mr Andrews said.

Cont P 15

From P 14

"We are dedicated to stocking the highest quality, best performing cutting products, so companies can feel confident when buying from us.

"We are able to supply and replace a complete range of bandsaw blades, chipper and slabber knives, sawshop equipment, including grinders and benching machines, and stellite tippers, circular saws, planner knives, LV cutters, heads and CNC tooling knife grinders.

ASL Industries is also able to offer a complete range of new or reconditioned machines for the manufacturing and

“DEDICATED TO STOCKING HIGHEST QUALITY PRODUCTS”



ASL Industries' sawshop is equipped with some of the most technically advanced equipment in the southern hemisphere.

maintenance of wood cutting tools.

These machines are all well-known brands, such as Vollmer, Gockel and Ideal and include sharpening machines,

benching stations, grinders, tensioners, welders, and knife grinders."

ASL Industries also carries a full range of spare parts for sharpening machines of

all brands, as well as expert technical advice based on an outstanding knowledge of machines in the industry.

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The supply of detached housing has remained static. Why is it so?

The 'known unknown': finding an explanation is important

DID you know that since 2000 the time it takes to build a detached home is 24% longer having increased from 5.25 months to 6.5months after a peak in 2009 of 7.5 months?

The reasons for this could be many and logically would be associated with the fact that we are building more houses to meet the strong demand. However, this is misleading. While we are starting more detached houses we are still only building (completing) the same number.

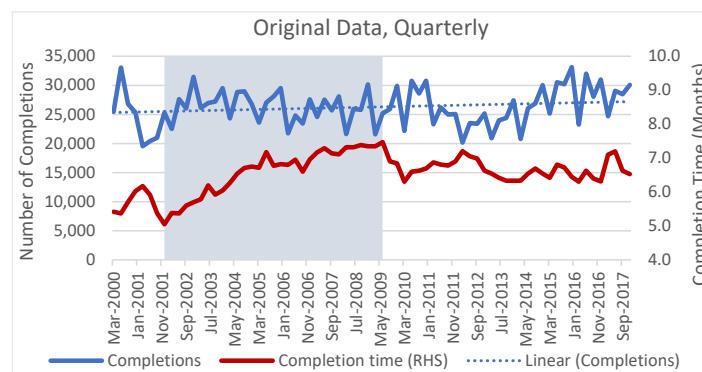
The chart shows that the output of the industry remained stable over the period. The house building industry produced on average about 26,000 houses per quarter between 2001 and 2017. However, during that period, completion times increased.

That would appear counter-intuitive.

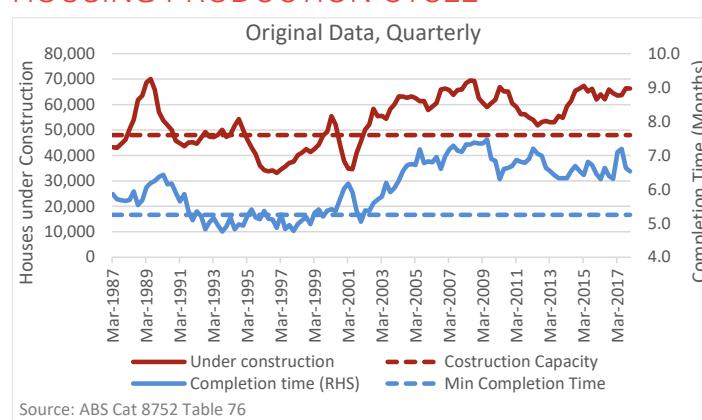
Normally in a market economy as demand grows it encourages a supply response – initially with higher prices which in turn encourage more production or a combination of the two. But somehow the supply of detached housing has remained static. Anecdotally, some explanations would include, shortage of trades, shortage of materials, bigger houses or factors such as town planning delays. However, none of these are supported by hard evidence.

This is a serious issue and has been a subject of research by RMIT from a housing affordability perspective in a number of papers published

HOUSING COMPLETIONS VS COMPLETION TIMES



HOUSING PRODUCTION CYCLE



by AHURI. For the timber industry, shorter completion times, assuming demand is steady, would represent opportunities for further sales. An element of this work relating to housing completions times has been recently updated by Dr Ehsan Gharie in a project for the FWPA.

According to Dr Gharie, the answer lies in manufacturing analysis, commenting that if we perceive the house-building industry as a manufacturing system, we should see a correlation between the number of houses under construction (work in progress WIP) and

suggests that the housing sector works like a production system. The implication being that when the number of houses under construction (WIP) rises beyond a 'steady state' level of capacity, average house completion times increased.

Dr Gharie has undertaken further analysis commenting, "The break point or the critical number of houses under construction falls on 48,000 houses. This is a rough figure; however it points to an important concept. It shows the industry capacity is limited. Whenever, the number of houses under construction goes beyond this level the completion time increases and whenever the number of houses under construction is below this figure the completion time is at its minimum level."

That minimum level appears to be 5.25 months (1.75 quarters).

Understanding which part of the production system is causing most of the delay is to paraphrase former US Secretary of Defence Rumsfeld ... the "known unknown." Finding an explanation is important; it has implications for costs (time is money) and sales (shorter production time means potentially more sales). Furthermore, if there are issues with the efficiency of the production system then it may create opportunities for substitute products such as steel framing where an installed solution which reduces cycle time may be seen as offering greater value.

FOCUS ON FORESTS



By JIM HOUGHTON

the average house completion time (cycle time).

The chart shows there is a clear correlation between the number of houses under construction and house completion time. This strongly

False beeches still conjure stories of Gondwanaland and exploration

SOUTHERN beeches, or Nothofagus, are a genus of 43 species of trees and shrubs native to the southern hemisphere and found in southern South America, southeast Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea and New Caledonia.

They are sometimes dominant in temperate forests in these regions, and were once a feature of coastal regions of Antarctica.

Although separated by 10,000 km of the Pacific Ocean from eastern Australia and New Zealand, southern beech occurs along the west coast and the tip of South America. There southern beech forests grow on the western side of the Andes Mountains for about a third of their length. Where the climate and soils are suitable, they extend eastwards through the mountains passes into Argentina.

When the super continent Gondwanaland started to fragment about 100 million years ago, the trees, especially the beech forests, stand as a testimony to the existence of the tectonic building blocks that are the basis of the geography of today's southern hemisphere. Southern beeches are perhaps the most compelling evidence of the former



New Zealand beech forest ... three species were collected by Banks and Solander when Captain Cook's Endeavour was anchored in Queen Charlotte Sound, at the northern end of New Zealand's South Island.

ancient land mass.

The plant fossil record shows that southern beeches have descended from forests once thought to have been extensive in the cool and temperate latitudes of Gondwanaland more than 150 million years ago.

What are the origin of those forests? How they came to be separated from the northern hemisphere Fagus, the so called 'true' beech – presumably true because they were first named by botanists – remains a bit of a mystery.

After they were identified by botanists more than 200 years ago the beech forests of the Southern Hemisphere – the false or bastard beeches – eventually became known as southern beeches or Nothofagus.

as beeches at the time.

Departing New Zealand, the Endeavour collected another southern beech specimen in Tierra del Fuego in southern South America. Solander considered this tree to be some kind of birch and gave it the name of Betula antarctica. However, there was ongoing doubt about the name because in Joseph Banks' subsequent journal Betula antarctica was included as one of the plants collected, but the name below the illustration is Fagus antarctica.

This represented a change of mind, probably influenced by the Foresters, German father-and-son botanists who accompanied Cook on this second voyage and saw the same trees.

Meanwhile, European botanists had been examining beech tree specimens from southern lands – New Zealand, Tasmania and South America. They seemed to be beeches and had been named Fagus, but they differed from their northern hemisphere counterparts in a number of characters and in their diversity.

In 1850 Dutch botanist Blume separated the northern hemisphere Fagus from the southern hemisphere which he called Nothofagus, or false Fagus.

TALKING TREES



With JOHN HALKETT

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Among the plants collected by Joseph Banks and Daniel Solander when Captain Cook's Endeavour was anchored in Queen Charlotte Sound at the northern end of New Zealand's South Island included three species of southern beech, although they were not recognised



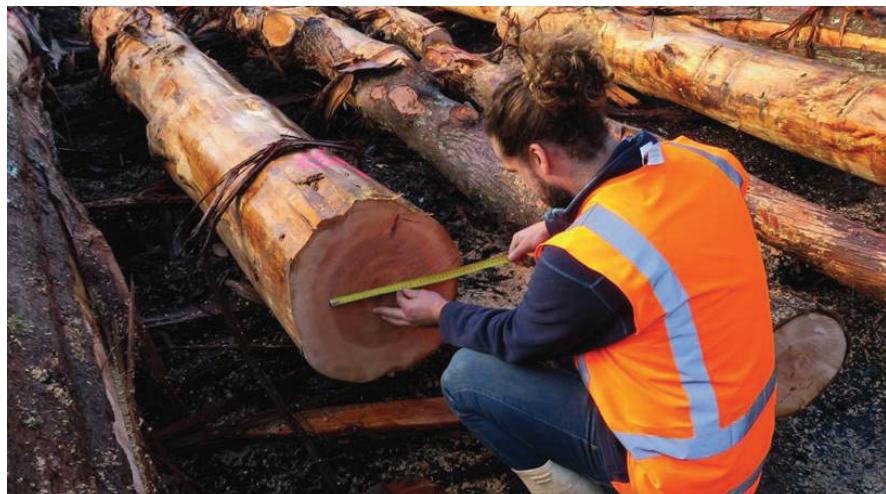
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Totara industry pilot: the business case for an indigenous NZ species

MICHAEL SMITH

FARMS in the Northland region of New Zealand are home to large areas of naturally regenerating totara, an indigenous species which has an uncanny ability to colonise poor pasture.

For more than a decade, the Northland Totara Working Group and Tane's Tree Trust have been promoting the sustainable management of farm totara for commercial production. An initial



Assessing logs for heartwood content at Toi Ohomai training mill.
Photo: Greg Steward

FAVOURABLE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OUTCOMES

business case to process and market the 'resource' suggested very favourable economic and social outcomes – but the value

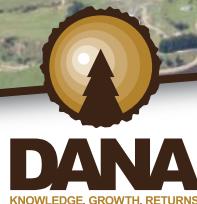
chain and costings used in the model needed testing in a commercial environment.

Stepping up to the plate is the Totara Pilot Project

Steering Group, which includes project partners Te Taitokerau Maori Forest Collective and the Ministry

Cont P 10

THE 11TH EDITION OF THE NEW ZEALAND FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY REVIEW



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From P 9

for Primary Industries – with funding from the government (via the One Billion Trees program), Crown research institute Scion and Northland Inc.

Project manager Dr Elizabeth Dunningham, a wood scientist with Scion says: "The two-year pilot is the largest project in the continuing initiative to build a robust business case for a new manufacturing industry using on-farm totara in Northland."

She says the project aims to confirm continuity of supply; determine where costs are incurred throughout the supply chain; create an enabling environment for success (in social and legal terms); and develop the product mix, brand story and associated channels to market.

Chair of Tane's Tree Trust Peter Berg says that while the emphasis of the project is on economics, other important considerations include environmental and social values.

"If the project demonstrates an economic return to landowners, this could encourage the retention and management of large tracts of existing scrubland – and complementary planting and



Loading totara logs for milling in Rotorua.

Photo: Paul Quinlan

management of new native forest areas on private land," he said.

The first harvest under the pilot project involved the recovery of 100 cub m of totara from a farm near Kaeo. Dr Dunningham says the operation applied continuous cover forest management principles and at no time was it necessary for machinery to enter the forest areas.

The logs were then transported to Toi Ohomai's training mill in Rotorua where they were sawn and graded for drying. Recovery was higher than expected given that a wide range of trees from class 1 to class 4 were selected for harvest.

Dr Dunningham adds that a second harvest this summer-autumn, involving up to 400 cub m, will be taken from three of the four sites

currently being assessed around Northland.

Paul Quinlan from the Northland Totara Working Group says the first harvest involved exemplary long-term forest management, but that difficulties remain with the Forests Act regarding the commercial use of regenerating native trees.

“REGULATORY FRAMEWORK IS STILL AN ISSUE”

"MPI and I [on behalf of the NTWG] executed a trial of the Sustainable Forest Management plan process and permits," Mr Quinlan said.

"The ministry designed and ran what they considered to be the most

efficient field inventory and application to demonstrate that the present provisions of the Act can be effectively applied.

The trial started in May 2017 – and still hasn't been issued. Furthermore, it is looking like having to resort to an extremely conservative harvest rate. So the regulatory framework is still an issue, despite our excellent working relationship with MPI."

Mr Quinlan is optimistic that a solution can be found, although it may ultimately require amending the existing legislation. He says it's encouraging that people are increasingly receptive to the idea of sustainably managing our native tree species and to recognising the difference between remnant and regenerating native forests.

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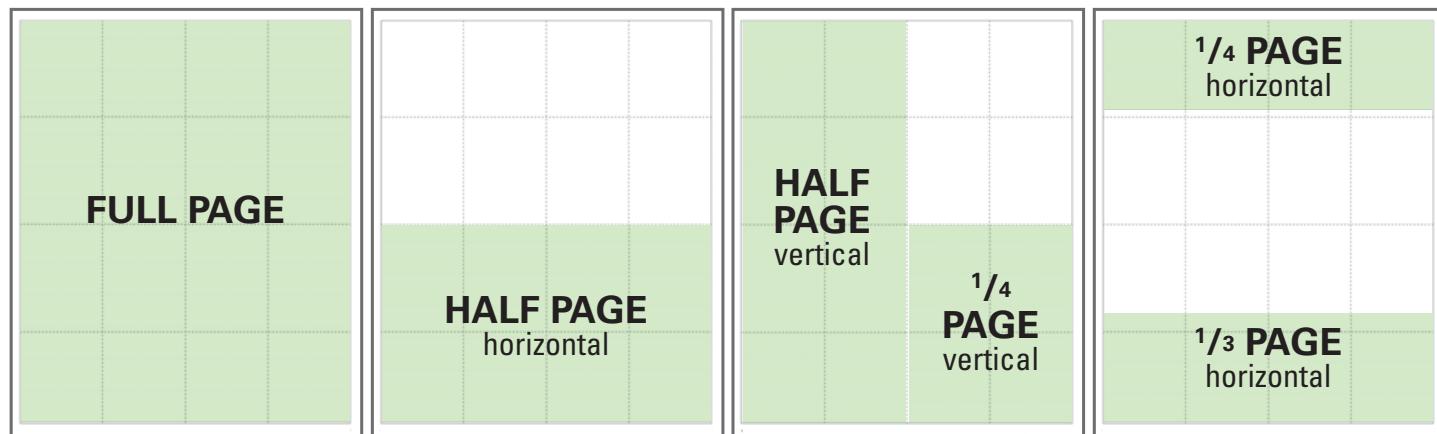


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