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COVER STORY P18



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Lamtec a window of opportunity for Malaysia

VISITING the Malaysia Timber Council's wood product showroom in Kuala Lumpur, visiting journalists Candace King, senior writer, Timber IQ, Johannesburg (left), and Marleen van Herwijnen, HoutWereld Magazine, Amsterdam, are introduced to Malaysian home-grown Lamtec scantling by Andrew Kong, manager, MTC corporate communications, and Alexis Chan, market promotion director, MTC.



Malaysia's forest operations and wood manufacturing factories (See Pages 18-20).

Malaysia is among the

world's largest exporter of tropical logs, plywood, sawn-timber and furniture to international markets.

Lamtec is the result of collaboration between the Malaysian Wood Industries Association, the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia, Malaysian Timber Industry Board, and the Malaysian Timber Council.

A premium grade laminated scantlings or 'lam-scant', the trademarked Lamtec Malaysia is manufactured from meranti, kasai, bintangor and gerutu.

The product is widely accepted in the US and particularly Germany, largely due to the efforts of a leading window frame manufacturer.

Turning sawmill residues into hard cash

MILLIONS of tonnes of logging and sawmill residue could be turned into cash, according to a new report.

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences says in 2016-17 alone, 6.5 million tonnes of harvest residue and 5.2 million tonnes of sawmill residue nationally could have been turned into revenue.

In its report, ABARES outlines how by 2050 the industry could make better

use of its waste.

"In Tasmania it is an opportunity around biofuels, particularly for heating needs, so that's the manufacture of pellets," Forestry Industries Association Tasmania CEO Craig Jones said.

"There are a number of companies that have started manufacturing pellets.

"We want to increase the pellets being made. It's sustainable and it solves one of our immediate problems



Craig Jones... potential to reduce prices.

around heating (in Tasmania). It has the potential to

reduce prices."

The report says that with investment in infrastructure, residue could be turned into biofuel, generating heat and power on-site, briquettes and pellets, pulp and panels.

It estimates that by 2050, Tasmania could export more than 70% of its hardwood residue as woodchip, with the rest as pellets.

It could use about 15% of its softwood residue as pulp, and most of the rest for fuel.



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Dual forestry standard to benefit Aust-NZ markets

Trading partners embrace PEFC certification



PEFC certified... NZ-based Hikurangi Forest Farms at Gisborne.

“MOMENTUM is building as we remain on track to develop a historic joint trans-Tasman standard for sustainable forest management.”

Returning from a visit to New Zealand industry, Responsible Wood CEO Simon Dorries added: “Under the proposed joint standard, forest growers will be able to operate using the same standard in both markets.”

Meeting with the New Zealand Forest Certification Association (NZFCA), the national governing body for PEFC in New Zealand, Mr Dorries spoke about the benefits of a joint standard, with the proposed new standard to cover forest managers who have a presence in either market.

“New Zealand and Australia are two of the world's closest trading partners and this is reflected in the number of forest growers in both countries certified under both PEFC-endorsed certification schemes,” Mr Dorries said.

“Under the proposed joint standard, forest growers will be able to operate using

the same standard in both markets.”

Mr Simon said that following the re-brand of the Responsible Wood certification scheme in Australia, PEFC certification in Australia and New Zealand continued to grow from strength to strength.

Gisborne-based Hikurangi Forest Farms Ltd is the latest New Zealand-based forestry organisation to successfully secure PEFC certification. A member of One Tree (NZ) Group, the HFF estate is primarily made up of radiata with 27,000 ha of a total 35,000 ha of defined forest available for production forest.

PEFC certification continues to grow in New Zealand with more than 470,000 ha of defined forest area now certified under NZS AS 4708:2014, the New Zealand standard for sustainable forest management.

“CERTIFICATION CRITICAL FOR TIMBER EXPORT MARKETS”

“PEFC certification remains critical for the timber export market, none more so than in South Korea,” Mr Dorries said.

From October 1, importers must now present the Minister of the Korea Forest Service with a document that is internationally recognised to certify timber legality.

To demonstrate legality, importers can provide the minister with a PEFC Forest Management and Forest Product Certificate or a certification from Responsible Wood, the governing body for PEFC in Australia.

In 2017, New Zealand was the largest exporter of log timber to South Korea, supplying more than 40% of the country's total importation of log timber.

More than 300 million ha of forest area is managed in compliance with PEFC's internationally-accepted sustainability benchmarks. Two-thirds of all certified forests globally are certified to PEFC and more than 19,800 companies and organisations have achieved PEFC chain of custody certification.



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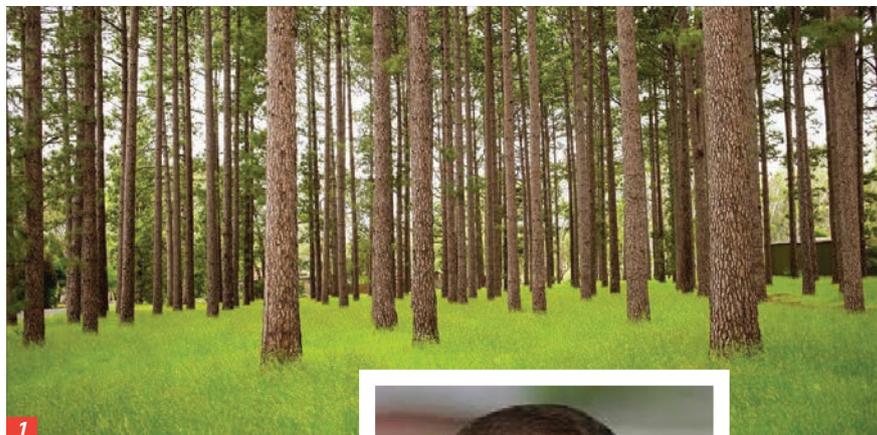
An industry-led program managed by ForestWorks

New advisory council to re-charge forest industries in South Australia

ESTABLISHMENT of a new forest industry advisory council for South Australia was flagged at the Green Triangle timber industry awards in Mount Gambier last month.

Speaking on behalf of the Minister for Primary Industries Tim Whetstone, the MP for MacKillop Nick McBride said an announcement was pending on the details and composition of the proposed advisory council, which would include representatives from across the forest and wood products sector.

"This new council is going to help us focus on the right areas to grow the industry and provide clear lines of communication between



1/ **Green Triangle... home of Australia's largest collective plantation and timber processing industry.**

2/ **Nick McBride... clear lines of communication between industry and government.**

industry and government as the state seeks to ensure regional voices are heard as

growers, wood and paper processors, harvest and haulage contractors, nurseries and other businesses.

"It is encouraging to see continuing investment in the industry's capacity to

process plantation timber right here in our region, growing jobs for our communities."

In his presentation at the gala awards dinner, Mr McBride noted the launch of the Mount Gambier hub of the National Institute for Forest Products Innovation earlier this year.

"This institute is supported by the South Australian Marshall government and aims to grow Australia's forest and forest products industry by exploring and facilitating innovation in the plantation forest product sector, in areas such as forest management, timber processing, wood fibre recovery, value adding, advanced manufacturing and the bio-economy," he said.

The \$4 million Mount Gambier innovation hub was launched in February, guided by a committee comprising Dr Charlma Phillips, Tammy Auld, Phillip Dohnt, Glen Rivers and David Oliver along with Professor Christopher Saint from the University of South Australia.

The Mount Gambier facility will partner with the Launceston Hub which was launched last year.



part of our commitment to recharging the industry," Mr McBride said.

He said the Green Triangle was indeed home of Australia's largest collective plantation and timber processing industry, contributing significantly to the economy in both Victoria and South Australia.

"As a whole, the industry in the Green Triangle generates \$1.2 billion in sales and employs about 2500 people directly that underpins more than 5200 regional jobs," Mr McBride said.

"This is from about 350,000 ha of softwood and hardwood forestry plantations, and from the hard work and efforts of forest

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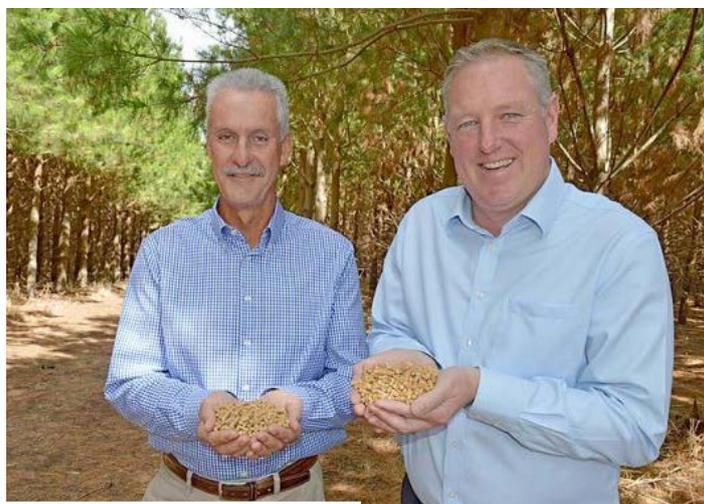
Joint-venture explores potential for wood pellet plant in Green Triangle

ALTUS Renewables Ltd and Mitsui & Co Ltd have entered into a new long-term wood pellet offtake agreement in relation to Altus' Tuan wood pellet production facility located near the Hyne mill at Maryborough, Qld.

The joint initiative will explore the construction of a significant new production facility in Australia's Green Triangle region of South Australia and Victoria.

The 1 million metric tonne, 10-year sale and purchase agreement, will see the export of 100,000 MT of industrial wood pellets per annum from the Port of Bundaberg to the Japanese power generation market.

Industrial wood pellets are used at power stations reducing their carbon emissions. Additionally, Mitsui has provided Altus



1/ Powering up... Altus Renewables managing director and CEO Ian Sandeman and Independent Member for Mount Gambier Troy Bell are confident about a major wood pellet project in the Green Triangle.

Photo Border Watch

2/ Long-term agreement... Altus wood pellet facility at Tuan.



with a finance facility that will enable the company to upgrade its Tuan wood pellet production facility to achieve an annual production of 125,000 MT.

The funds will also

enable the company to complete the construction of a dedicated wood pellet storage and export facility

“BIG EXPORT ORDER FOR JAPAN MARKET

at the Port of Bundaberg, including a new export conveyor linking Altus' facility to Queensland Sugar Limited's ship loading infrastructure.

Altus Renewables managing director and CEO Ian Sandeman welcomed the agreement with Mitsui.

“The long-term offtake and financing agreement will enable us to substantially scale up and respond to growing market demand from the Japanese market,” Mr Sandeman said.

Altus and Mitsui have also entered into a MOU to conduct a feasibility study for the construction of a greenfield 500,000 MT per annum wood pellet production facility in the Green Triangle region.

The facility is estimated to take about two years to complete, bringing employment opportunities and investment to the region. Altus and Mitsui aim to complete a feasibility study on the Green Triangle Project by the first quarter of 2019.

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American tulipwood feeds the Hungry Fox

Melbourne café has stability, affinity with natural environment

THE link between our physical environments and our emotional well-being has been substantiated by a number of studies. Australian designers seem to have a unique affinity with the natural environment and an innate understanding of how best to bring nature closer to life and leisure.

The latest example of this skill is a café which recently opened its doors in Melbourne.

The Hungry Fox (by LaManna) at Autocentro at Essendon Fields has been designed using natural materials from around the world and is the first project in Australia to use thermally-modified American tulipwood



The Hungry Fox... bringing nature closer to life and leisure.

in exterior cladding.

Selected for its rich colour and uniform texture, American tulipwood provided not only the aesthetic impact sought by Bruce Henderson Architects, but

also the stability. The thermal modification process heats the tulipwood to almost the point of combustion. This changes the molecular structure of the timber and results in a material that

durable for outdoor use.

Interior architects Lukas Partners took on the challenge of creating a contemporary, warm and inviting interior for the café. Aware of biophilic design principles and their emotional impact, the mood they looked to capture was one of earthy Australian fauna. Their focus was on natural materials, inspired by gum nut and eucalyptus tones.

The vaulted ceiling, taking its lead from the exterior design, is also an expanse of thermally-modified American tulipwood.

The timber was supplied by Hazelwood & Hill through the American Hardwood Export Council.

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NOVEMBER

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

Four day native forest management workshop series - second session. 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.

Trump accused of 'fake news' in backlash over California fires

US President Donald Trump is threatening to withhold federal payments to California, claiming its forest management is "so poor".

Trump, via Twitter, says "there is no reason for these massive, deadly and costly fires in California. Billions of dollars are given each year, with so many lives lost, all because of gross mismanagement of the forests. Remedy now, or no



more Fed payments!"

The remarks triggered swift backlash from the president of the California Professional Firefighters association, who accused Trump of "demeaning" the fire crews

working tirelessly to save lives and property as flames tore through both northern and southern California.

"The president's assertion that California's forest management policies are to blame for catastrophic wildfire is dangerously wrong," Brian Rice said.

"Wildfires are sparked and spread not only in forested areas but in populated areas

and open fields fueled by parched vegetation, high winds, low humidity and geography."

He said at time when every effort should be focused on vanquishing the destructive fires and helping the victims, the president has chosen instead to issue an uninformed political threat aimed squarely at the innocent victims of these cataclysmic fires."

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NOVEMBER

12-17: 2nd DANA 2-day Central America and Andes Forestry Sector Investment 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: pdonosu@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>

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/

APRIL

10-12: Focus on Forestry 2019 – Mpumalanga, South Africa. For further information see: www.cmo.co.za

MAY

7-9: RISI's Sixth Annual Forest Investment Conference – London, UK. A key two day conference that will take an in-depth look at timberland investments around the globe and how these opportunities will unfold in the near future. For further information see: www.risi.com/invest

8-11: World Conference on forests for Public Health – Athens, Greece. For further information see: 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.pameldingsssystem.no/nfi100years

JULY

8-18: IUFRO Small-scale Forestry Conference – Lake Superior in Duluth, Minnesota, USA.

Presentations and field sessions will explore a mix of family-owned, tribal, industrial, and public ownerships with a focus on small-scale forest management. For further information see: <http://iufrossf.umn.edu/>

SEPTEMBER

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

PNG groups urge China to act on illegal timber imports

PAPUA New Guinea civil society groups have called on China to introduce regulation on illegal wood imports from the country.

A letter signed by PNG groups including the Centre for Environmental Law and Community Rights and ACT states that governments of PNG and China have failed to act while the country's globally significant forests are being destroyed.

PNG is China's single largest supplier of timber. However, large quantities of

these imports come from illegal operations.

President of the Lavongai Local Government in New Ireland province John Aini said rampant logging had brought little but misery to communities who depended on forests.

"For decades studies of PNG's forestry sector have identified the unsustainable rate of illegal logging without the problem really being confronted systematically by the local government," he said.

A policy adviser with the NGO Global Witness Lela Stanley said civil society was looking to China to lead the change.

She said other major economies had created laws to ensure timber they sourced abroad was produced legally and sustainably, so China's lack of regulations was now standing out.

"China is taking steps to clean up its domestic manufacturing sector and polluted environment, and

positioning itself as a global leader on climate change," Ms Stanley said.

"But if it's serious about its vision of an 'ecological civilization', it needs to ensure the raw materials like timber that it sources abroad are produced legally and sustainably."

The letter to China's President Xi Jinping comes on the eve of his arrival in PNG for this weekend's APEC leaders' summit.

Scholarships target women leaders in resources sector across New Zealand

FUNDING grants to support professional development by female leaders in the resources sector have been announced by Women & Leadership New Zealand.

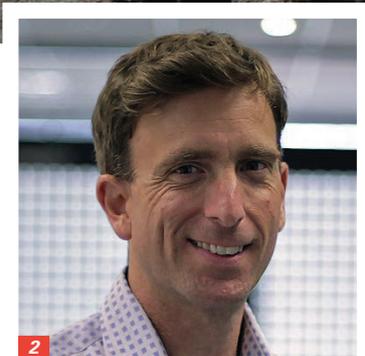
The initiative is providing women across New Zealand with grants of between \$3000 and \$7000 to enable participation in a range of leadership development programs.

“The fee support campaign has the specific intent of providing powerful and effective development opportunities for women in industry,” WLNZ general manager, marketing and communications, Alistair Young said.

“The grants, specifically allocated as a result of the success of previous funding rounds, is strictly limited and has to be allocated prior to the end of this year,” he said.

“The organisations has been developing female leaders and supporting the increased presence of women in business and community leadership roles for more than 14 years, based on a simple truth that women represent an enormously under-utilised national resource.

“WOMEN CONTRIBUTE ENORMOUSLY TO NATIONAL RESOURCE”



“We believe that supporting a greater percentage of women to step up into leadership positions enables tremendous cultural and economic benefits.”

Timber&Forestry enews is supporting the venture and suggests New Zealand readers advise their associates or organisations about the venture.

Find out more and register an expression of interest by December 7 at www.womenandleadership.co.nz/scholarships

Meanwhile, in New Zealand, a forestry scholarship has been developed at the University of Canterbury for a forestry degree. The scholarship – Ngā Karahipi Uru Rākau – provides

\$8000 a year to Māori and female students enrolling in either a Bachelor of Forestry Science or Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Forest Engineering.

Four scholarships will be awarded for the 2019 academic year, and this will increase to a total of 18 over the next three years.

The One Billion Trees program is a key focus for the government which

wants to ensure young men and women see forestry as a sustainable and exciting career.

- 1/ *Women and leadership... tremendous cultural and economic benefits.*
- 2/ *Alistair Young... powerful and effective development opportunities.*



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FSC Australia launches national forest stewardship standard

FSC Australia has released a national stewardship standard – a standard developed by Australians for sustainable forest management.

Developed by Australian industry, conservationists and social stakeholders, the standard reflects the unique conditions in Australia's forests and plantations.

The Australian FSC standard has been developed over five years by elected representatives from each FSC chamber, and has included extensive consultation, expert input and testing in the field.

FSC Australia says the new national standard delivers a clear, stable, and reasonable framework for responsible forest management in Australia.

"It provides greater clarity for forest managers around how to meet FSC requirements," FSC says.

Key areas of the standard include:

- Much greater clarity for forest managers on how to identify, assess, and



manage the six categories of high conservation values – species diversity; landscape level ecosystems and mosaics; rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats, or refugia;

“DEVELOPED OVER FIVE YEARS BY FSC CHAMBER REPRESENTATIVES”

identification and assessment of old growth forest.

- Basic ecosystem services in critical condition, such as erosion control in vulnerable soils; forest areas that are fundamental to meeting the basic needs of local communities; sites of cultural significance at global, national, or local level (including for indigenous peoples).

In Australia, the requirement of social impact assessments is unique to FSC. The standard provides greater clarity to forest managers on how they should carry out these assessments, and what to consider.

FSC members include some of the world's leading environment groups (WWF and Greenpeace), social organisations (the National Aboriginal Forestry Association of Canada), businesses (Tetra Pak and Mondi PLC) as well as forest owners and managers, processing companies and campaigners.

FSC is a member of the ISEAL alliance, a global association of social and environmental standards systems that includes Fairtrade, the Marine Stewardship Council, and Rainforest Alliance.

Greenpeace Finland, Greenpeace USA, Greenpeace Canada, Greenpeace China, and Greenpeace are also members.



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Collaboration name of the game: AFPA's communications summit

"COLLABORATION is the name of the game. Today is our chance to discuss how we can better communicate with our audiences."

AFPA communications manager Joe Prevedello welcoming forest industry representatives to the inaugural AFPA-hosed communications summit in Canberra last week added: "It's great to get people from across forest industries into a room to discuss a range of issues from information sharing to industry data, common messaging and more."

Twenty-seven participants from 21 different organisations also heard from the National Farmers



Information sharing... industry representatives communicate at AFPA meeting in Canberra.

Federation's media and communications manager Laureta Wallace about dealing with communications challenges as well as Fairfax agriculture journalist Mike Foley about media relations.

The gathering set a single mandate – to frame a coordinated message promoting the benefits of wood.

At the close of the

summit, representatives nominated delegates to participate in a 'working group' to present a refined communications message at a future summit. Jason Ross of Responsible Wood was one of eight delegates invited to participate.

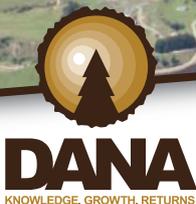
"We expect work to soon commence," he said. "Our focus will be to promote the environmental and social

benefits of wood and ensure that messaging is channelled to consumers of timber and timber-based products."

Commenting on public awareness, Mr Ross said universally all stakeholders appreciated the role certification played in demonstrating environmental and social credentials to consumers of timber and timber-based products.

"As Australia's largest certification scheme, processors, merchants and retailers carrying our 'trust mark' on their packaging, frames a message that encourages consumers to accept 'make it wood' as a must," he said.

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



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A policy with plenty of platitudes that please: did I miss something?

OKAY. I admit it – I am not a policy guru. I'm much more into removing and replacing jammed chains in harvesting heads, and that can be tricky enough.

However, I must say if I may, that I am somewhat underwhelmed by the federal government's national forestry plan – the so-called 'Growing a Better Australia: A Billion Trees for Jobs and Growth'.

Or did I miss something?

If that is the best we can do 26 years after the 1992 National Forest Policy Statement I reckon we have been let down. This despite the long, vigorous advocacy efforts of the Australian Forest Products Association and the industry's energiser bunny Ross Hampton, and the leadership and commendable input by the Rob de Fégely-led Forest Industry Advisory Council.

Yes, plenty of hype, and a gala dinner launch in Canberra (I didn't get an invite), but a bit light on specifics and solid targets. Lots of talk about 'working with' and 'reviewing' this and that – so plenty of platitudes, but I didn't find, for instance, plantation establishment targets, resources, where they'll plant the trees and a budget.

Okay, some general words about \$20 million over four years to "... demonstrate how the Coalition government is supporting forest industries to meet the challenges of the future and underpinning growth in the renewable timber and wood fibre industries" and "... the Australian government



Stimulant... NSW Minister for Forestry Paul Toole and NSW Forest Industries Taskforce co-chair Rick Colless inspect seedlings at the NSW Forestry Corporation's Blowering Nursery near Tumut. Photo: NSW Forest Corporation

will work in partnership with industry to ensure Australia reaps the benefits of this forest fibre boom."

Tell me, please, what does all this mean to an on-the-ground practical girl like me?

Other than several vague mentions about a billion trees, there are no specifics about plantation expansion. I am doubtful if the plan will see an extra tree in the ground, much less a billion. Am I being too harsh?

“ IS THIS THE BEST WE CAN DO 26 YEARS AFTER 1992 FOREST STATEMENT? ”

From high-rise timber construction to replacing plastics with new and emerging wood-fibre based materials, global demand for wood and fibre is continuing

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to increase. And, yes, the plan outlines the present scary picture well with global demand for timber expected to quadruple by 2050 and with Australia's population going gangbusters beyond 25 million, the challenge to supply timber will get even more pronounced unless something changes.

And yes, we all know as the plan reaffirms, that home builders relying heavily on softwood sawmillers and timber processors around Australia to build the next

generation of houses are already in deep trouble.

I am much more enthusiastic about the efforts of NSW Forestry Minister Paul Toole in securing \$71 million to support the forest industry in the state.

Of that amount, allocated in the last NSW Budget, \$24 million has gone directly to the Forestry Corporation of NSW to stimulate new plantation establishment.

The plan stresses that Australian forest industries are well placed to seize this opportunity so let's see some resolve and commitment like New South Wales.

So overall, I reckon the plan is a disappointing effort. We need specific targets – the hectares, resources and budget, all missing in action.

We need and deserve better. What do you think?

Catch you next time.

Cheryl

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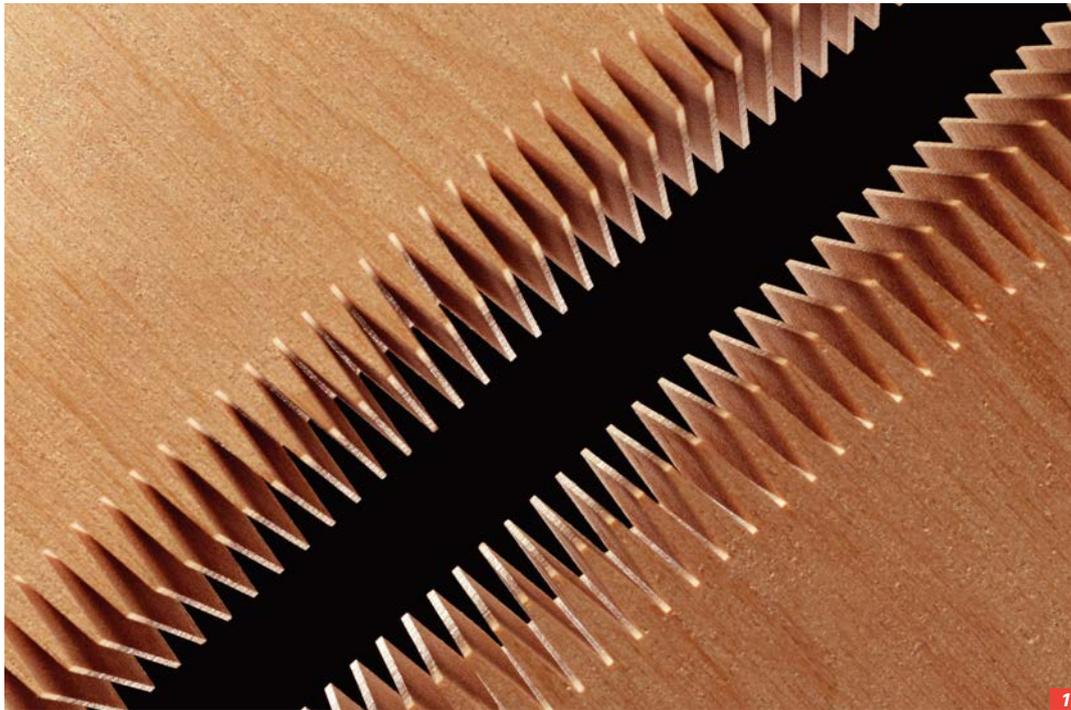
INNOVATIVE value-adding processing is critical in today's timber products industry.

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2



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- 1/ Precision... Weinig products can be specifically tailored to individual production needs.
- 2/ Weinig Grecon compact, enhanced finger-jointing options... tailored to individual production needs and supported by labour-saving sophisticated software.

Weinig Grecon project manager Frank Medicus says that with this improved system it is now possible to process even shorter timber pieces.

"For customers this means input lengths of just 550 mm," he says.

Pre-alignment together with a special tandem clamping station provides for optimal positioning of timber pieces and also facilitates a high cycle output. With automatic feeding and unloading easy production, order selection and stacking are all possible.

Weinig Grecon's improved PowerJoint 12 model enables innovation and automation of an entire product line. Also,

jointing options can be specifically tailored to individual production needs, supported by labour saving sophisticated software.

Thanks to their PowerJoint range, Weinig Grecon offers internationally established technology in timber

fabrication. Non-contact glue application and superior quality finger joints are just two among many benefits.

Weinig Grecon's highly productive top model, the PowerJoint 15, is complemented by a new version. The starting point of

this development was, as is often the case, a customer requirement. Weinig Grecon met the demand of a specialist cross-laminated timber manufacturer, not only in terms of enhanced productivity, but also improved technology.

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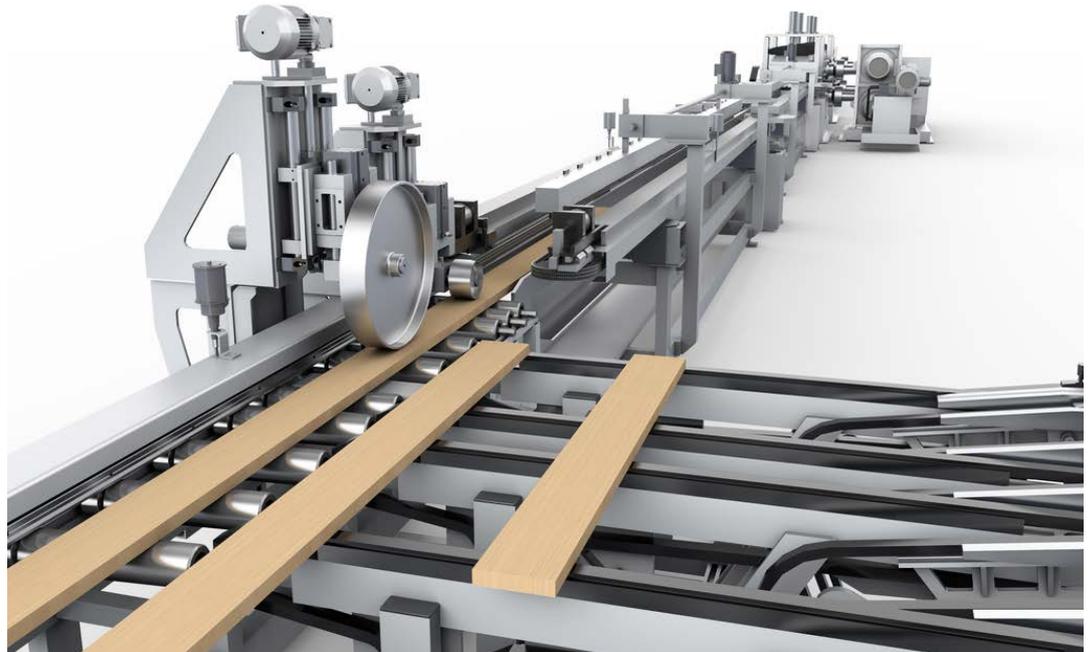
the decentralised compact system includes optimisation and other improvements to finger jointing lines allowing larger cross sections to be processed in less time.

Frank Medicus says several tailored configuration versions are possible for all machine models to meet the increasing demand for customer-specific systems.

“At Weinig we are recognised for our ability to quickly identify new market needs and specifically implement customers’ requests with highly efficient finger jointing technology,” he said.

Weinig Grecon product

“PROCESS OF EVEN SHORTER TIMBER PIECES NOW POSSIBLE



Weinig is recognised for its ability to quickly identify new market needs and specifically implement the customers' requests with highly efficient finger-jointing technology.

manager Dirk Bartens adds: “We are well positioned for digitisation and as a technology partner we support our customers on their way with solutions that are exactly matched

to their needs.”

Weinig Australia is part of the worldwide Weinig Group, synonymous for providing solutions and the latest in technology to solid timber

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Welcome... Perak state forest officers greet members of the MTC familiarisation program for journalists ahead of forest inspections.

Malaysia: responsibility in the factory and deep in the forests

Foresters passionate about the sustainable trees they manage

JIM BOWDEN

RESPONSIBLE... we counted its repetition 17 times during presentations at the Malaysian Timber Conference in Kuala Lumpur in mid-October.

Only in the last two years have Asian countries such as Japan, Korea, China,

Vietnam and Indonesia moved to develop real import regulations on illegally-logged timber in their markets.

But none has embraced forest 'responsibility' as passionately and for so long as Malaysia, seen as the pioneer of tropical

forest certification.

The Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme was the first for tropical timber in the Asia-Pacific region, utilising ITTO standards and endorsed by the Program for Endorsement of Forest Certification since 2009.

More than 4.45 million ha covering seven forest plantation units and 13 forest management units have been certified under the MTCS – the largest in the world for tropical forests.

Such adherence to sustainable forest management has won Malaysia export markets in more than 160 countries. As a PEFC-endorsed scheme, the MTCS is also recognised under 'green' building schemes in Australia, Italy, Singapore, the Netherlands, UK, Canada, USA, Japan and the United Arab Emirates.

Malaysia holds true to two main components to this

certification process – the upholding of internationally-agreed forest management standards and chain of custody.

“ COMMITTED TO MAINTAINING FOREST COVER ABOUT 50PC

Malaysia's commitment to maintaining forest cover at above 50% – pledged at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit – will ensure the timber industry remains sustainable in the long-term.

Almost half of the total land area or 14.55 million ha in Malaysia is protected as permanent reserved forests, managed for their economic, social and conservation values. Today, more than 70% of the total PRFs are set aside for sustainable management of timber, while the remaining

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areas are strictly protected as 'protection forests', virgin jungle reserves and conservation areas.

The total area planted under Malaysia's forest plantation development program, administered by the Ministry of Primary Industries and implemented in 2017, is 114,000 ha. An additional target of 7-8 ha is expected to be planted by end of this year.

Most of the projects funded under this program will be harvested beginning 2021, with an expected yield of 700,000 cub m of timber as a start.

Each of the 13 states in Malaysia is required by law to draw up forest management plans based on the concept of rational land use and multiple functions of the forests.



Inspection... Jim Bowden, editor, Timber&Forestry enews, and Joseph O'Donnell, director, government and public affairs, International Wood Products Association, Washington DC, inspect a Forestry Department log holding site at Bukit Kinta on the Malay Peninsular.

Ahead of MTC's inaugural timber conference, an invited group of foreign journalists was taken in 4WD convoys to state forest operations and logging sites on the west coast of the Malay Peninsula.

With the monsoonal

“ HARVESTING ALLOWED ONLY IN PRODUCTION FORESTS

season under way, the pushing and sliding through thick orange mud on forest roads was a new and exhilarating experience for some European writers.

It was at the state forest in Perak, the fourth-largest of Malaysia's 13 states, that we saw how deep the responsibility for forest management has been planted. State forestry officers openly showed their

passion and responsibility for the forests, taking the visitors off road and among the trees to explain the benefits of selective harvesting and the growth rates of various species.

The Perak Forestry Department's management unit comprises 991,436 ha of permanent reserved forest of the state's total land area of 2,102,122 ha. The inland

Cont P 20

does big mean better?

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From P 19

consists mainly of hill and upper hill Dipterocarp forests – the tallest and most diverse forests in the world. The annual allowable cut is set at 7770 ha and for a three-year period, the harvest amounted to only 22,000 ha.

In terms of socio-economic contribution, forestry has been an important economic sector within Perak; it supports a workforce of 5101 mainly in the logging and sawmilling industries.

[Perak's (Malay word for silver) administrative capital of Ipoh historically was the tin-mining capital of the world until the price of the metal collapsed, so timber, and to a lesser extent palm oil, dominate the landscape and the region's revenue today. The visitors also enjoyed an inspection of the Royal Selangor factory where the metal alloy pewter – mostly tin mixed with copper and sometimes silver – is crafted].

More than 55% of Malaysia is under natural forest and home to some 2650 tree species, many of which are valued commercially.

Years of intensive R&D have introduced renowned timbers popular in Australia

“ DRONES TO COMBAT ILLEGAL LOGGING



1/ Officers in the Perak state forest demonstrate how trees are measured and selected for harvesting.

2/ Here's mud in your eye... journalists take time for a stretch during the MTC 4WD convoy to forest operations on the Malay Peninsular.



such as balau for decking, merbau and kempas for flooring, and dark red meranti for doors and windows.

Back in the Perak state forest, the visiting writers from South Africa, the Netherlands, the US and China at various times were scrutinised by hovering

drones in a demonstration of the Peninsular Malaysia Forestry Department's latest technology to combat illegal logging and wildlife poaching. Another demonstration of forest responsibility.

The drones are also used to monitor changes in forest cover in real time, which

has had a big impact on tree management.

The drones, along with integrated technology such as hyperspectral imaging using satellite imagery, make enforcement more effective when it comes to forest encroachment, unlicensed logging and other offences in the forest. It also helps identify high-risk areas and illegal logging hotspots.

The forestry department is also developing a turnkey hyperspectral imaging system to increase the effectiveness of aerial observations. This has an operational range 10 times greater than methods used now, with a detection capability range of 2000 km.

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Over the moon with gutsy Triton's dual-cab comfort and performance

THE bright red-orange moon materialising above Byron Bay seemed to sizzle in the Pacific Ocean and begged the question to my astrologist daughter Jessica-Rose: "An eclipse or what?"

"No eclipse tonight," she responded. "Probably red moon gases."

As we climbed out of the Mitsubishi Triton GLX+ for a late-evening snack, she remarked: "Talking about moons, Triton was the first moon discovered orbiting the planet Neptune back in 1800 something." I needed to know that.

And no, our imaginations couldn't stretch to an image of the mythical Greek god Neptune surfacing on the bay in his chariot.

As a workman's 'chariot' the dual-cab Triton GLX+ dual cab doesn't quite shape up as an alternative family wagon, especially with manual transmission. But it's a good comfortable fuel-efficient touring machine, and priced well under \$40,000.

The new 2.4 litre turbo-charged diesel provides an advanced power plant – 133 kW at 3500 rpm and 430 Nm of peak torque at 2500 rpm, more than its predecessor.

This 4WD arrives with a stack of standard equipment including side-steps, 16in. alloy wheels., Bluetooth connectivity with voice



1

1/ Mitsubishi Triton GLX+... comfortable, efficient touring machine.

2/ Inside Triton... safety and with sat-nav, leather, heated front seats, climate control, reverse camera and Apple CarPlay/Android Auto.



2

command and 7 in. touch screen for phone and audio, trip metre, air-con, and plenty of safety gear.

As the range flagship, this 4WD challenges mid-level rivals with sat-nav, leather, heated front seats, climate control, reverse camera, Apple CarPlay/Android Auto, DAB+ digital radio, HDMI port, paddle shifters, keyless entry/start, HID headlights, side steps and sports bar. And there's Bluetooth connectivity with voice command and 7 in. touch screen for phone and audio, and plenty of safety gear.

Front seats are supportive, assisted by a tilt and telescopic steering column and good vision to all corners of the vehicle.

“HONEST, NO-NONSENSE VALUE FOR A 4WD UTE

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Cabin storage options include bottle holders and storage pockets in both front doors, a single glovebox, overhead holder for sunglasses and a central console with open cubby at the front, two cup holders in the centre and a lidded box at the back which doubles as an elbow-rest.

Mitsubishi claims a manual Triton ute will give around 7.2L/100 km on a combined cycle – an 11% improvement over the previous model. But that can stretch out to 14 litres on bush tracks – and more than 20 if towing the maximum three tonnes.

The Triton rides surprisingly well for a one-tonner and the steering with 3.8 lock-to-lock turns is a boon in busy traffic. It's easy to park, too, despite a 5.2 m-long body.

The Triton runs with a five-star ANCAP rating, primary safety helped by seven airbags – front, side, curtain plus driver's knee airbag – and a reversing camera mounted in the tailgate. There's also a stack of electronic aids from ABS to emergency brake assist, hill start assist and trailer-sway control.

The roomy dual cab is good for four passengers and six tie-down points in the rear tray allow for all kinds of cargo from bags of cement to golf clubs and the family pooch.

And all this comes with Mitsubishi's five year/100,000 km warranty.

It wasn't that long ago when Mitsubishi was one of four local manufacturers offering honest, no-nonsense value units for generations of Aussies. Some of those characteristics remain in today's Triton.

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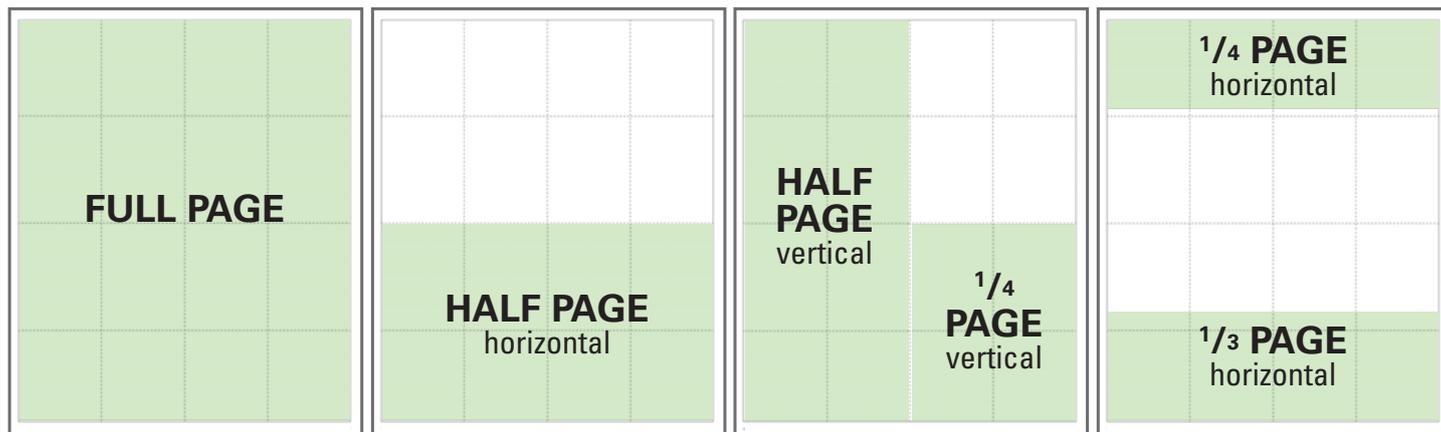
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