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ISSUE 539 | November 29, 2018

## Plantations a 'good mix' for top NSW tree farmer

COVER STORY P6



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# Fifth generation Hyne is elected chairman of Timber Queensland

JIM BOWDEN

A FIFTH generation member of the Hyne timber family James Hyne has been elected chair of Timber Queensland.

James Hyne is the son of Warren Hyne, who was elected chairman of the Queensland Timber Board in 1984 and was a recipient of the Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 1997 for services to the forest and timber industries.

Few invested a lifetime's devotion and faith in the timber industry on the scale of Warren Henry Hyne who died on March 15, 2007 aged 77. He was the eldest of three sons who grew up under the dynamic tutelage of 'the boss' J.R.L. (Lambert) Hyne, CMG, grandson of Richard Matthews Hyne ('RM'), an English carpenter who founded the Hyne dynasty on the banks of the Mary River in 1882.



1/ James Hyne, who was elected Timber Queensland chair last week, joins Vicki Lane, general manager, forestry science, DAF, during centenary celebrations at the Salisbury Research Centre in April this year.

2/ Paul Bidwell... elected TQ deputy chair.



A unanimous decision by members elected James Hyne, stakeholder engagement manager, Hyne Timber, as new chair and Paul Bidwell, deputy chief executive, Master Builders Queensland, as deputy chair.

Mr Hyne said the incoming board has a strong eye to the future given the significant potential for further industry growth and development.

"A key strength of the industry body is its diversity of members and directors who understand all facets of the industry and the opportunities that are available for future growth," Mr Hyne said.

"Timber Queensland provides a united, powerful voice on political, technical, market development, industrial and environmental issues. As an industry, we have a positive story to tell as timber really is the ultimate renewable."

Other directors elected at the AGM included Skene Finlayson, managing director, Finlayson Timber and Hardware, Robert Tapiolas,

"I feel the steps I am treading in," James Hyne said yesterday. "I am truly proud to take on a position that my father held 34 years ago."

Timber Queensland, the peak body representing the

state's \$3.2 billion forest and timber industry, held its annual general meeting last week.

**"I FEEL THE STEPS I AM TREADING IN – JAMES HYNE"**



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director, Parkside Group, Curly Tatnell, chairman, DTM Timber, Doug Simms, managing director, Simms Group, Islay Robertson, chief operating officer, HQPlantations, John Ryan, fabrication sales manager, Sunshine Mitre 10, and Bob Engwirda, CEO, Hurfords Wholesale.

“We all look forward to the launch of the Queensland Parliamentary Friends of the Queensland Forest and Timber Industry Network in 2019, with the inaugural reception to take place in the Premier’s Hall on February 27,” James Hyne said.

Timber Queensland CEO Mick Stephens said the board had identified key priorities going forward, including long-term resource security and manufacturing competitiveness, and low-cost energy and opportunities such



**Recollections... retiring chair of the Queensland Timber Board Errol Wildman (left) presents a gavel and cedar box to incoming chairman Warren Hyne during the QTB annual general meeting in Brisbane on September 14, 1984. Looking on are Janna Wildman, Forestry Minister Bill Glasson, and Margaret Hyne.** Photo: Jim Bowden

as promotion of bioenergy.

“Now, more than ever before, our industry’s future rests on government decisions that will be made during the next few years,” he said.

“These decisions will impact resource availability and will influence manufacturing investment and the use of our products in the built environment.”

## Back on path to support forests

AN aggressive campaign by conservation groups that forests are at the heart of environmental issues fell on deaf ears at the Victorian state elections last Saturday.

Green groups also campaigned for the establishment of a great forests national park, which would lock up 355,000 ha of ash forests in the central highlands and east Gippsland.

Plagued by some loony candidates, the Greens, who hoped to win more inner-city seats and gain the balance of power, suffered a massive swing against it in the election losing four of its five Upper House Seats, and possibly the north-east Melbourne seat of Northcote.

Victorian Labor under Daniel Andrews has won a second term, increasing its

electoral margin. The result, which could see Labor take 55 to 60 of the 88 seats in the lower house, was disastrous for the Liberal State Opposition which lost traditionally safe seats.

**“STRIVING FOR A FRAMEWORK THAT PROVIDES SECURITY”**

Victorian Association of Forest Industries CEO Tim Johnston said the resounding election result gave the Andrews government the opportunity to demonstrate its continued commitment to jobs and infrastructure through providing certainty to the state’s timber and forest industry.

“We look forward to working with the government

to strengthen and secure the vital timber and forest industry,” he said.

Mr Johnston said VAFI’s core purpose was to support its members and ensure a sustainable resource supply, which would benefit the economy and community.

“We have been working closely with the government on a number of critical policy issues that are important to our membership, striving for a framework that provides security and certainty to the industry,” he said.

Mr Johnston said VAFI would continue to seek government commitment on a number of priority actions, including a comprehensive industry plan that secures sustainable long-term timber supply from state forests and expanded supply from plantations.



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An industry-led program managed by ForestWorks

# Wood's health benefits reach over one million on ABC radio program

MORE than one million ABC radio listeners are better informed on the health benefits of wood after an interview with Planet Ark's Make It Wood Campaign manager David Rowlinson.

Mr Rowlinson spoke with well-known TV and radio personality Myf Warhurst about the health and wellbeing benefits that wood and biophilic design provide.

The show, aired across Australia just after the 1 pm news on November 9, highlighted that school children are quicker learners in a timber built environment with reduced stress response (lower heart rate and blood pressure).

Also, hospital patients can



*On the air... David Rowlinson talks up the health benefits of wood in the built environment.*

have shorter post-operative recovery times and workers in offices are more satisfied leading to higher creativity and productivity and reduced absenteeism, answered Mr Rowlinson.

Research by strategic market research firm Pollinate and the University of Canberra suggests bringing biophilic elements such as wood into the workplace can boost employee satisfaction and productivity.

Based on a survey of 1000 indoor Australian workers, the research provides fresh evidence to underpin the business case for biophilia – the principle that exposure to nature increases human wellbeing.

**“WOOD HAS A MUCH LOWER IMPACT ON HEALTH**

The study found that the more natural looking wooden surfaces workers could see from their workstation, the higher their workplace satisfaction and wellbeing.

Associate professor Jacki Schirmer from the University of Canberra said the results held true even after rigorous analysis that controlled for factors known to impact on the wellbeing of workers such as age, income, gender

and workplace culture.

More than 80% of workers exposed to eight or more wooden surfaces in their workplace reported being “satisfied or very satisfied” with work, compared to over two-thirds exposed to five to seven wooden surfaces and half (53%) with no wooden surfaces.

Responding to a question from Myf Warhurst on the ABC program about the impact of embodied energy, David Rowlinson confirmed that wood has a much lower impact than more carbon-intensive materials such as concrete and steel, and that replacing a cubic metre of concrete with a cubic metre of steel would divert a tonne of CO2 emissions from going into the atmosphere.

Myf also asked if wooden buildings would be ‘tinder boxes’ and also wanted to know if it’s “good to chop down trees”.

In response, Mr Rowlinson discussed the concept of charring and the benefit of the slow and predictable way that timber behaves in the event of a fire. He also spoke about the importance of certification, which proves that the wood comes from legally harvested and responsibly managed forests or plantations, and that when a tree is harvested others are planted in its place.

According to the show’s executive producer, Barbara Heggen, including the online audience, the show reached more than a million people.

Hear the interview at this Make It Wood website link: <https://makeitwood.org/media/audio>



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# Hyne partners with machinery group to establish new GLT factory in Qld

HYNE Timber, manufacturer and distributor of high-volume industrial, structural and engineered timber products, has announced a major expansion of its glue laminated timber (GLT) plant in Maryborough on Queensland's Fraser Coast.

The move has involved the purchase and installation of 14 new machines supplied by Australian firm Stirling Machinery, part of the Accurate Group.

With the rise of the use of GLT in Australia for an increasing array of construction types including high rise, Hyne Timber identified an opportunity to increase competition in this market.

The simultaneous emergence of Stirling, the machinery arm of the Accurate Timber Products business, along with support from the Queensland government's Jobs and Regional Growth Fund, meant Hyne could build on a long-standing relationship.

"Increased GLT manufacturing capability has



**Counting down to the completion of the new GLT plant in Maryborough... Cliff Chang, partner at Stirling Machinery, Jon Kleinschmidt, CEO, Hyne Timber, Warren Tye, Hyne Timber's national sales manager, Craig Honeyman, managing director, Stirling Machinery, and Hsu-Hsi Huan, head designer at Stirling.**

been on our horizon for a number of years to increase our volume and delivery speeds," Hyne Timber CEO Jon Kleinschmidt said.

"Given the size of the investment, we needed to be sure of the best service delivery and support from machine selection and customisation to installation and beyond.

"We look forward to working with Stirling and managing director Craig Honeyman to bring this project

to fruition over the next few months."

Hyne Timber's investment involves a complete automated, state-of-the-art machinery solution from Stirling. Accurate Timber Products, which will support all machines well into the future, providing a fully

**“HYNE PROJECT BIGGEST YET FOR STIRLING**

integrated experience over the lifetime of the hardware.

Stirling Machinery's Craig Honeyman says the Hyne Timber project scope was the biggest yet for Stirling.

"We're really excited to have been chosen for this project because it validates our capacity as a serious contender in the machinery market," he said.

"But at the heart of Stirling's value set is helping the industry thrive. In small centres like Maryborough, when a company expands to the degree that Hyne Timber has, it brings tremendous flow-on effects for employment and the economy of the region.

"We're really proud to have helped facilitate this growth."

Stirling Machinery and the Accurate Group have gone from strength to strength in recent months, including a head office expansion and plans to launch a New Zealand branch in 2019.

The Hyne GLT project is expected to be completed by mid-2019.

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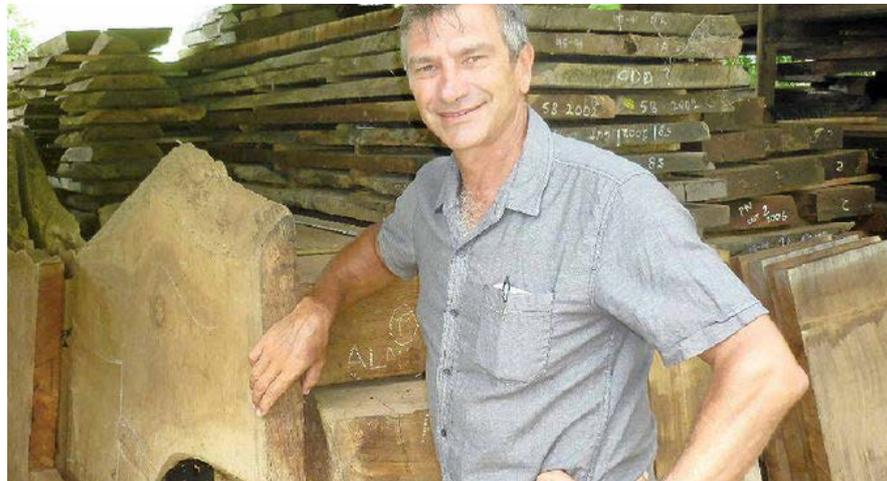
# Tony's management of mixed plantation species wins award

## Cabinet timbers thrive across NSW north coast's Big Scrub

MANAGEMENT and farm planning of a mixed plantations of sub-tropical cabinet timber species in the NSW north coast has won Tony Kenway of Coorabell the 2018 Australian Forest Growers NSW Tree Farmer of the Year Award.

The plantations have been established throughout the region's Big Scrub, an area of 75,000 ha between Byron Bay, Lismore and Ballina.

The plantation has created quite a lot of interest and Tony's company Building Forest Designs is now responsible for about 220 ha of cabinet timber



**Furniture designer and plantation re-forestation consultant Tony Kenway knows the real value of sub-tropical Australian cabinet timbers.**  
Photo: Northern Star

reforestation across five sites within the Big Scrub area.

These plantings demonstrate excellence in farm planning, the adoption

of farm forestry principles, innovation and leadership – all of which are critical considerations for the award.

Foresters will generally select trees of good form, rapid growth, with small branches and gentle taper. As an internationally recognised cabinet maker, Tony was keen to ensure that the species selected would yield high-quality cabinet timbers. He also consulted widely with many foresters and timber workers to finalise his list. It was decided that the planting would be with a species mixture.

Tony said there was little information on how to design a mixed species planting as most large plantations were established as monocultures.

“There is a valid reason for this,” Tony said, “as all management and records can be limited to one species. However, when two or more species are used, challenges arise as to how to treat each individual species in relation to adjacent trees and other species.

“Each species will have

different growth rates, canopy shapes, and water and nutrient requirements and there will be differences in their tolerance to competing trees and weeds.

“It is also likely that management operations such as pruning and thinning will be different for each species. So it's easy to say let us have a mixed species plantation but there will be many managerial challenges ahead that few will have encountered before,” Tony remarked.

He said he was pleased to be awarded the NSW AFG Tree Farmer of the Year and to assist with the promotion of agroforestry.

Tony thanked the Australian Forest Growers for the award and the Forestry Corporation of NSW for sponsoring the competition.

**On the cover: Forestry Corporation of NSW district manager Peter Walters (right) presents the AFG 2018 NSW Tree Farmer of the Year Award to Tony Kenway at one of his cabinet timber sites in the hinterland near Byron Bay.**

## The united voice for Australia's forest industries



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**MARCH 2019**

**1: Top of the South Forestry Awards – Nelson and Marlborough, New Zealand.** Inaugural awards in fourteen categories to be awarded across individual and companies, with the ultimate award being the Skilled Professional of the Year. The awards will culminate to an evening of celebration, presentations and dinner in Nelson on Friday, June 14 at the Trafalgar Event Centre. For further information see: [www.totsforestry.co.na](http://www.totsforestry.co.na) or call Prue Younger, Event Manager +64 (21) 2765484

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

**8: AFPA members’ forum and chamber meetings – Canberra.**

**17: Women in Forest Industries workshop – Canberra, Australia.** More information and registration inquiries to Natalie Heazlewood. Email: [natalie.heazlewood@ausfpa.com.au](mailto:natalie.heazlewood@ausfpa.com.au)

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

**APRIL**

**1-2: National Sustainability**

**Conference – Brisbane, Australia**

**JUNE**

**17-18: Frame Australia – Crown Promenade Melbourne, Australia.** A dedicated conference and exhibition will allow delegates to fully understand the exciting developments in the Timber Offsite Construction space. The conference will feature prominent local and global experts, with topics exclusively devoted to timber and mass wood building construction. It will be the only event that will enable delegates to appreciate the

world-wide transformation that is taking place and how building costs are being lowered. At the Frame Australia exhibition, booth sizes will be larger at no extra cost, with booths two to three times the previous floor area without any change in pricing from 2018. Visit [www.frameaustralia.com](http://www.frameaustralia.com)

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

**20: AFPA members’ forum and chamber meetings – Canberra.**

# BC mounts largest forestry trade mission to Asia

MORE than 40 senior Canadian forest sector representatives are heading to Asia from December to 15 to grow markets for British Columbia wood products.

They will explore opportunities and strengthen relationships in China, Japan and South Korea — three of the province’s largest markets for wood products.

“Our government is committed to creating jobs by growing and diversifying markets for our quality wood products both at home and



**Asian trade... British Columbia Minister for Forests Doug Donaldson (left) stands next to lifts of Canfor lumber in a housing factory in China.**

overseas, and reducing reliance on the US market,” Minister of Forests Doug Donaldson said.

This is British Columbia’s largest-ever forest sector

trade mission to Asia and includes an increased number of indigenous participants.

Other delegates include those from industry, research

and labour. They will meet formally and informally with customers, senior government officials and industry representatives to examine market trends that will shape future demand for wood products and opportunities to raise the value of products.

They will tour prefabrication plants in Japan and demonstration projects in China and visit the first public sector wood-frame construction community housing development project in South Korea.

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**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/](http://www.masstimberconference.com/)

**APRIL**

**10-12: Focus on Forestry 2019** – *Mpumalanga, South Africa*. For further information see: [www.cmo.co.za](http://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](http://www.risi.com/invest)

**8-11: World Conference on forests for Public Health** – *Athens, Greece*. For further information see: [www.fph2019.org](http://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](http://www.nibio.pameldingssystem.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](http://www.iufro2019.com)

• **Please send any events listings to John Halkett via email: [johnh@timberandforestrynews.com](mailto:johnh@timberandforestrynews.com)**

# Business payments review will identify Australia's worst payers

THE Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman Kate Carnell has announced a review of payment times, to measure the effects of late or extended payment practices on the cash flow of small businesses and family enterprises in Australia.

This follows a written request by the Minister for Small and Family Business, Skills and Vocational Education Michaelia Cash for advice on the effect these payment practices are having on small and family businesses.

"In our 2017 Payment Times and Practices Inquiry, we found Australian payment times were the worst in the

world, with invoices paid on average 26.4 days late," Ms Carnell said.

"We identified a growing trend for large Australian and multinational companies to delay and extend payments from 30 days to 45, 60, 90 or 120 days.

"More recent research involving 1600 businesses identified the biggest cause of business disputes is payments (44%), with either the full amount not being paid (26%) or not being paid on time (18%).

"Partial and late payments, seeking discounts to pay in 30 days, offering loans to cover extended terms, all place stress on the cash flow of small businesses. It forces the business to find ways to finance the short fall in their working capital."



**Kate Carnell... Australian payment times the worst in the world.**

ASBFEO has a five-minute survey for small and family businesses to fill out so we can get a better idea of the state-of-play on payment times and practices in Australia.

The survey questions are straight forward: what payment times are in your contract? Do you have to provide a discount if you want to be paid in 30 days or less?

Are you paid later than the contract states?

"We have also written to large corporations requesting a copy of their payment terms and conditions to suppliers," Ms Carnell said.

"Extended payment times for suppliers effectively uses the businesses in the supply chain as a cheap form of finance. Too many small and family businesses are being crippled by slow payments and the national economy suffers as a result.

"When a business experiencing extended payment times is also hit with late payments, it stresses the business further, which can easily put them out of business.

"Poor cash flow is the primary reason for insolvency in Australia."

**“ SLOW PAYMENTS CRIPPLE SMALL AND FAMILY BUSINESSES ”**

# Standards Australia endorses Responsible Wood trust mark

AS one of five accredited standards development organisations, Responsible Wood is subject to regular surveillance audits to ensure its scheme is independent, credible, transparent and technically competent.

And so the Responsible Wood offices were abuzz with activity as the Standards Development and Accreditation Committee appointed an independent auditor to oversee the organisation's 'check compliance' to Standard Development Organisation (SDO) requirements.

According to certification coordinator Alan Snow, the surveillance audit provides Responsible Wood with an opportunity to demonstrate to Standards Australia its ongoing commitment to standards development.

Standards Australia is the owner of the standards and trademarks.

"As one of five accredited SDOs we are licensed to develop Australian standards for forest certification



**Compliance check... David Syme, SDAC auditor (left) with Responsible Wood's Simon Dorries and Jason Ross and certification coordinator Alan Snow.**

through our ongoing SDAC accreditation," Mr Snow said.

"With the rebrand from the Australian Forestry Standard to Responsible Wood, we are the only forest certification scheme that has the endorsement of Standards Australia for sustainable forest management and chain of custody for forest products.

**“GOVERNANCE IS A VERY CONTENTIOUS TOPIC**

"We are the ultimate 'trust mark' and with the endorsement of Standards Australia consumers can take heart that products that carry

our logo are not only better for the forests but also better for you and me," Responsible Wood's Jason Ross said.

"But it is the overarching governance structure, the commitment to independence

in the certification process, that carries the upmost importance," he said.

"Governance is a very contentious topic at the moment. With so much 'greenwashing' in the marketplace the Responsible Wood certification scheme is the only forest-based certification scheme that is independent and technically robust."

For more information about standard development, including a detailed overview of the standards, refer to the Responsible Wood standards brochure at [www.responsiblewood.org.au](http://www.responsiblewood.org.au)

## \$1m to promote Tasmanian timber

THE Liberal government has provided \$1 million to the Tasmanian Timber Promotion Board for a national campaign to promote Tasmanian timber.

The contribution matches industry contributions from forestry companies, including Neville Smith Forest Products, McKay

Timber, Britton Timbers, Porta, Hydrowood, Specialty Veneers, Corinna Timbers and Oak Industries.

The Tasmanian Timber campaign will run across the country until mid-2021 to raise awareness of the state's timber and its applications.



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# Top of South Awards recognise NZ region's growth and change

## 'Healthy competition between companies, contractors and crews'

ONE of New Zealand's pre-eminent forest industry locations the Nelson-Marlborough region is set to host the inaugural Top of the South Awards to recognise the excellence of local companies and forestry practitioners.

Chair of the Marlborough Forestry Industry Association Brendon Whitley said the forest industry was going through a period of unprecedented growth and change.

"Technology advancements in mechanisation, robotics, drones, and satellite imagery are creating efficiencies and opportunities every day," Mr Whitley said. "The skill sets of those working in the industry are also undergoing change."

He said the Top of the South region had been at the forefront of this technology revolution, punching well above its weight.

"We have a number of highly-skilled and



Picton log storage area in Marlborough... one of New Zealand's leading forestry regions.

experienced people, and it is great to be able to recognise their contributions to our region's success," he said.

A culmination of keen forestry contractors, forest owners and wood councils from the Nelson and Marlborough region have come together to initiate forestry awards for the industry in the top of the South Island.

"Having seen the success other regions have generated from staging awards, the committee feels very sure the same effect will be offered to the local industry,"

Mr Whitley said.

A key objective of the awards will be to attract skilled employees to the region as valued forest industry players, to up-skill and lift the skill base of the forestry workforce, and to provide an opportunity to celebrate and unite the industry.

**“ATTRACTING SKILLED WORKERS TO THE REGION”**

Cont P 11



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# New rules for NSW private native forests

LAND owners, the forestry industry and the community can have a say on the remake of native forestry rules that will apply to private land.

“Sustainably-managed native forests on privately-owned land are an important part of NSW’s forest estate,” the NSW Minister for Lands and Forestry Paul Toole said.

“Private native forestry makes a significant contribution to the supply mix of the timber industry and represents an opportunity for landholders to broaden their farm mix.”

The review, part of the NSW Forestry Industry Roadmap, will support development of new codes of practice and the rules, regulations and approvals process of private native forestry. It will also guide development of training and advice services.

“We are seeking input of those with on-ground experience and knowledge, interest groups and the general public so we can come up with a workable set of rules that are good for



landowners and good for the environment,” Mr Toole said.

There will be further opportunity for public comment next year when the draft codes of practice are released.

Minister for the Environment and Heritage Gabrielle Upton said the

industry is keen to follow this example.”

Mr Taylor said with nominations opening in March next year, the awards were sure to bring healthy and challenging competition between companies, contractors and crews.

“There are 14 categories to be awarded across individual and companies, with the ultimate award the Skilled Professional of the Year.

**1/ NSW Forest Industry Roadmap... state government's strategic action plan to build a stronger, more competitive and sustainable forestry industry.**  
**2/ Paul Toole... workable set of values.**

government wanted the review to ensure the appropriate balance has been set for private native forestry so that it was done in a way that was ecologically sustainable.

“While this is just the start of the review, we know the forests of NSW are vitally important for iconic plants

**“ FURTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

The awards will culminate on an evening of celebration, presentations and dinner in Nelson on Friday, June 14.

Marlborough is situated in the north of New Zealand's South Island where it enjoys a temperate climate allowing for a diversified economy encompassing forestry, viticulture, aquaculture, farming, horticulture and tourism.

Foresters in Marlborough

and animals such as koalas and other threatened species, as well as our precious waterways, and it is in everyone’s interests to make sure the rules are appropriate and effective,” Ms Upton said.

Minister for Primary Industries Niall Blair said the review would ensure there was a consistent and sustainable approach to how landholders managed their farms and forests.

“Private native forestry benefits from landholders’ strong sense of environmental stewardship and we want to continue to support it as an alternate source of on-farm income,” Mr Blair said.

The terms of reference are on public exhibition and submissions close on January 31, 2019.

The NSW North Coast region comprises 11 million ha of land, with more than 60% of it forested. More than half (3.8 million ha) of the region’s forests is in private ownership, spread across thousands of individual holdings.

own 71,400 ha of plantation forest which represents 4% of New Zealand's plantation forest resource. The main species is radiata pine making up 95% of the forest area.

The region has a progressive infrastructure with a deep-water export port at Shakespeare Bay near Picton and two medium-sized sawmills.

From P 10

Organising committee representative and facilitator Nathan Taylor said the region has a lot to celebrate.

“We have been industry leaders with mechanisation and have some really capable people working the slopes,” he said. “It’s fair to say we have seen the benefits to other regions that manage forestry awards and our



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*“Ultimately, the GoldHEALTH rating awarded in this case reflects the impressive measure to which Koppers Performance Chemicals has invested in developing and manufacturing a wood treatment technology product that is safe for use around people, pets and plants,” David Baggs CEO Global Greentag International.*

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# Chain of custody big deal in Tasmania

FRESH from a whirl-wind tour of the Apple Isle, Responsible Wood's Jason Ross says it's clear that the Tasmanian timber and forest industry is changing.

"Today, sustainability, legality of timber and chain-of-custody are on the lips of all that work in the forest and timber industry," Jason said.

"For Tasmanian, chain of custody is a big deal."

Courtesy of Fine Timber Tasmania, a system of chain of custody developed by Tasmanians for Tasmanians, Jason was able to get up close and personal with the sights and sounds of the state's forest and timber industry. He followed this up with workshops in Launceston and Hobart.

Fine Timber Tasmania manages a Responsible



*Fine Timber Tasmania... certification along the timber supply chain.*

Wood group chain of custody certification scheme, the largest of its type, for licensees within the fine timber and hardwood supply chain.

The group, managed by Brueckner and Mark Leech and Eddy Willis, travels extensively throughout

the state, working with licensee holders to ensure Responsible Wood's group chain of custody certification is maintained.

"Fine Timber Tasmania was introduced 10 years ago and consumers are now demanding that wood products can be traced back

to a sustainable and legal source," Jason said.

"The certification scheme is the only one endorsed as an Australian standard."

Fine Timber Tasmania is an example of collaboration in action. The system has buy-in from all major sawmills as well as manufacturers of wooden furniture, designers, musical instrument makers, retailers and gallery owners.

"Many of our licensees are using Responsible Wood certification to export products globally through PEFC-endorsed certification," Eddy Willis said.

Jason Ross said Design Tasmania in Launceston was a 'must see'.

"From wall to wall, Responsible Wood certified timber and timber-based products hang proudly."



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# WA's first mass timber-framed office building a healthy option

A NEW mass timber-framed office building – the first of its kind in Western Australia – is coming up in Fremantle with an aim to deliver one of the state's healthiest and happiest workplaces.

Developed by York Property Group in partnership with Harris Jenkins Architects and Josh Byrne and Associates, the six-storey commercial development combines several sustainable design features with natural materials to ensure a green environment for its future occupants.

Harbour by York will use materials from natural sources both during construction and fitout, and an abundance of plant life would be incorporated into the design, on the exterior as well as the interior.

York Property Group director Pete Adams says office workers spend around eight hours a day indoors, often in offices that lack adequate sunlight and fresh



air while being surrounded by manmade materials such as plastic.

"This really isn't a healthy environment," he says. "In contrast, studies have shown

- 1/ **Happier and more productive employees... new timber 'health centre' rises in Fremantle.**
- 2/ **Pete Adams... sustainable buildings.**

workplaces that utilise natural materials such as wood, incorporate plant life and allow for natural light, result in happier and more productive employees.

"Our aim with this project is not just to develop a highly sustainable building but to create an environment that has a positive impact on those within it," Mr Adams said.

"We want to reimagine the idea of an office, producing spaces that employees will enjoy spending time in."

York and project partners presented research on mass timber construction highlighting the dual benefits on the environment as well as the occupants to support the approval process for the ambitious development.

"Timber is one of the most sustainable materials available and has also been shown to boost productivity and mood, with research indicating satisfaction and wellbeing in the workplace are improved with the inclusion of wood and other natural materials," Mr Adams said.

A research paper on the subject titled Workplaces: Wellness + Wood = Productivity, produced by strategic market research firm Pollinate and the University of Canberra, was released at the Green Cities conference in March.

The study surveyed 1000 indoor Australian office workers and revealed how natural-looking and timber surfaces in the workplace, along with the use of natural elements indoors such as stone, wood, water features, plants and natural light, contributed to enhanced employee wellbeing and satisfaction, leading to higher productivity.

City of Fremantle mayor Brad Pettitt said the development was a unique and welcome addition to the commercial offering in Fremantle.

**“TIMBER SHOWN TO BOOST PRODUCTIVITY AND MOOD**

"This project, while having a small footprint, will have a large positive social and environmental impact. It is an example of a development using sustainability and innovation to create positive outcomes for the community," Mr Pettitt said.

Harbour by York will offer 1895 sq m of office space and 150 sq m for a café/bar/retail offering. Strata spaces range from 57sq m to full floors of 380 sq m. The project is expected to be completed mid-2020.

(Architect&Design)

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# It's Christmas time ... so let's put up a real tree grown to perfection

CHRISTMAS is fast approaching.

Interesting isn't it that at the centre of this, the most prominent annual festive holiday, is a tree?

However, long before the advent of Christianity, trees that remained green all year round had a special meaning for people in the winter. Just as people decorate their homes during the festive season with ever-green pines or fir trees, ancient people hung evergreen branches over their doors and windows.

In many countries it was believed that evergreens would keep away witches, ghosts, evil spirits and illness.

The evergreen fir tree has been used to celebrate winter festivals for thousands of years. In the northern hemisphere, the shortest day and longest night of the year falls on December 21 or December 22 and is called the winter solstice.

Ancient people believed that the sun was a god and that winter came every year because the sun god had become sick. They celebrated the solstice because it meant

**“MANY FIND THE SMELL OF TREES AMAZING**



*Festive fir... children decorate a real, growing Christmas tree.*

that at last the sun god would begin to get well. Evergreen branches reminded them of all the green plants that would grow again when the sun god was strong and summer would return.

The Romans used fir trees to decorate their temples at the festival of Saturnalia. Christians use them as a sign of everlasting life of God.

In 1844, Hans Christian Andersen published the first Christmas tree fairytale *The Fir-Tree*, which recounted the fate of a fir-tree being used as a Christmas tree.

Although the Christmas tree's inception was in Germany, it was Britain that popularised it. In 1846, the popular royals Queen Victoria and Prince Albert were sketched in the *Illustrated London News* standing with their children around a Christmas tree.

The Christmas tree had arrived in the British Empire.

## TALKING TREES



With **JOHN HALKETT**

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In Australia, until recently, most of the Christmas trees bought by Australian families came from the early thinnings of conventional pine plantations. However, specialised Christmas tree production, including potted and cut trees, has expanded enormously and now many Australians will only buy Christmas trees that have been carefully nurtured into a dense, conical shape.

Most Christmas trees come from repeatedly shearing selected, densely branched varieties of *Pinus radiata* or *Pinus caribaea*. But, despite their slower growth rates, other species, including Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii* or *P. glauca*) and Norway spruce pine (*Picea abies*) attract a premium price

Today the shops are full of the artificial varieties but, according to Alex Frichot, owner of Christmas Trees of Wanneroo, WA, more and more people are opting to purchase a living Christmas tree.

Mr Frichot said that as well as the experience of going out and choosing your own tree, many people found the smell of the trees amazing and were often surprised by the perfection of their colour and shape.

He said choosing a natural version was also good for the environment. "It takes three to four years to grow a tree and we plant a new one when one is cut down, so we are doing something for the planet."

So finally, thanks to the Forestry Corporation of NSW for supporting this column during the year. So to all their staff and to Timber & Forestry enews readers and advertisers have a great and safe Christmas.



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# Bugs bugging timber importers

## DAF to review ATIF concerns over future treatment methods



THE federal Department of Agriculture and Water Resources will provide further advice and recommendations for the treatment of the northern hemisphere 'hitch-hiker' pest the brown marmorated stink bug following concerns expressed at a Melbourne meeting of the Australian Timber Importers Federation last week.

The ATIF-hosted meeting considered current and likely future treatment options for the pest, which has the potential to have a serious detrimental impacts on agricultural production should it be inadvertently introduced into Australia.

ATIF general manager John Halkett said the meeting was well attended by timber importers, customer brokers, and a contingent from the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.

"The meeting was assisted by introductory remarks and a background presentation from



**Bug brief...** Zoran Kostadinovski, regional manager, Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Association, Nathan Reid, director, compliance partnerships section, policy branch, DAWR, Kathleen Quan, compliance controls branch, DAWR, Norm Tilling and Anna Zsiga, Tilling Group; Chris Howard, biosecurity plant division, DAWR, and John Halkett, general manager, ATIF.

department officials," Mr Halkett said.

While it was acknowledged that biosecurity and environmental protection were paramount, lively debated centred on current and probably future brown stink bug treatment requirements and perceived shortcomings.

"Strong concerns were voiced about some aspects of present treatment regimes and apparent inconsistencies with goods in other tariff categories," Mr Halkett said.

"Inadequate departmental

resources, document complexity and duplication, inequitable treatment of timber relative to some other commodities, were among the issues raised with officials."

Mr Halkett confirmed that ATIF would be responding to the concerns and suggestions arising from the meeting in future representations to the

**“STRONG CONCERNS VOICED AT MEETING**

department ahead of the 2019 brown stink bug risk season.

The brown marmorated stink bug (*Halyomorpha halys*) is native to China, Japan, the Korean peninsula and Taiwan. It was accidentally introduced into the US, with the first specimen collected in September 1998.

The bug is an agricultural pest and by 2010–11 had become a season-long pest in US orchards. It is now established in

many parts of North America and has recently established itself in Europe and South America.

The odor from the stink bug has been characterized as a "pungent odor that smells like coriander." The bug's ability to emit an odor through holes in its abdomen is a defense mechanism meant to prevent it from being eaten by birds and lizards. However, simply handling the bug, injuring it, or attempting to move it can trigger it to release the odor.

## XLam committed to driving pre-fab innovation

XLam committed to driving pre-fab innovation

XLAM, the fast-growing prefabricated structural timber solutions company, has announced that contrary to a recent media release the company is not 'up-for-sale' nor 'selling-off' any business units/divisions and is not experiencing financial stress.

Staff and customers are assured that the organisation is performing toward its agreed plan and gaining momentum as an alternative building solutions provider in the construction sector.

The XLam board and senior management team felt it necessary to silence any rumours of a sell-off and provide confidence to

its staff, current and future customers and the wider market it remains committed to delivering innovative solutions that increase value in construction.

XLam remains committed to all current and future negotiations, which will continue unabated, providing service and product solutions to projects in the

Asia Pacific region.

CEO Shane Robertson says: "XLam is thriving from an operational standpoint as we continue to see robust project sales and build strong relationships with some of the most recognisable construction companies throughout Australia, New Zealand and Asia.

# Frame 2019 reveals revolution in off-site timber construction

## Smart technology is changing everything we do with wood

SMART technology is changing everything. The advances taking place in the offsite manufacture of timber frame and mass wood buildings for residential and commercial buildings, is nothing short of revolutionary.

New and smart technologies are improving productivity and speed of construction and as a consequence the number of construction projects utilising timber and mass wood systems is growing rapidly, both overseas and in Australia.

A dedicated conference and exhibition organised by Frame Australia will allow delegates to fully understand the exciting developments in the Timber Offsite Construction space.

The conference will feature prominent local and global experts, with topics exclusively devoted to timber and mass wood building construction. It will be the only event that will enable delegates to appreciate

“A SHIFT TOWARDS THE FRONT END OF A PROJECT

the world-wide transformation that is taking place and how building costs are being lowered.

Announcing next year's event, conference director Kevin Ezard said the June event would be the best and biggest conference yet, with a new and larger venue and an expanded two-day sessions program.

“There's such an exciting array of new technologies, new building products and services to meet the design and construction sector's evolving needs,” Mr Ezard said.

In Australia, the building industry has been slow to change. However, an increasing shortage of skilled labour has now become a key driver for greater adoption, with new timber and mass wood offsite pre-fabrication facilities emerging to meet the growing demand.

In the US, the growth trend to prefabricated housing over the past year has been spectacular, with recent moves to mass production of buildings by a number of large corporations.



**Craig Curtis... from one-off projects to repeatable products.**

These include Sidewalk Labs, an Alphabet (Google) company, with new construction methods and flexible building designs that enable radical mixed-use and walkable neighbourhoods that reduce the cost of housing.

Another example of this new approach is Katerra, a US-based technology company on a mission to change, by optimising every aspect of building design, materials supply, and construction.

President of Katerra Architecture Craig Curtis says the benefits of off-site manufacturing are many – less waste, greater precision, safer work, fewer delays.

“But the greatest result stems from the decision-making shifting towards the front end of a project. By locking in the details necessary for manufacturing, we can significantly reduce risk to project schedules and budgets,” he says.

With this global shift under way, the Frame 2019 conference will also offer suppliers the opportunity to access expanding building construction markets by participating with an exhibition display booth.

Delegate surveys have confirmed an exhibition display is a very important way delegates establish contacts and it provides an unparalleled opportunity for networking.

As an added incentive for 2019, booth sizes will be larger at no extra cost, with booths two to three times the previous floor area without any change in pricing from 2018.

Frame 2019, titled Timber Offsite Construction, will be held on Monday and Tuesday June 17 and 18 at the Crown Promenade Melbourne. Visit [www.frameaustralia.com](http://www.frameaustralia.com)

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- A key role of the CEO is to provide leadership, innovation, business development and motivation at all levels of the organisation. The position is also pivotal in providing leadership and direction working with key industry stakeholders from the private and public sectors.
- The CEO manages a diverse team and sets the direction of operations and operational objectives. It is the responsibility of the CEO to work with the Board to develop strategy and to review policies and procedures that drive continual improvement and operational excellence within PFSQ.
- The CEO is responsible for managing the PFSQ budget (currently about \$1.8 million). Income is primarily sourced from grants, consultancies, contracts and commercial operations.
- PFSQ routinely undertakes the development and delivery of extension programs in all aspects of forest management

- The current organisational scale and structure requires the CEO to work in both office and field on an approximately 50/50 basis. However, this balance fluctuates and is subject to change according to operational and other requirements.

PFSQ is a well-respected, independent and leading Not for Profit Forestry Business involved in developing, coordinating and delivering Forestry projects of all types. It also manages, on behalf of Gympie Regional Council (GRC), the Elgin Vale heritage listed sawmill and the Wood Works Museum and Interpretive Centre at Fraser Road, Gympie where PFSQ's office is located.

Salary per annum: \$90,000 - \$120,000 p.a. (to be negotiated)

To discuss the position further, please call Sean Ryan, 07 5483 6535

**Please go to <https://pfsq.net> for the Key Selection Criteria and Job Description.**

**Expressions of Interest to be received no later than Friday , 7 December 2018**

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