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COVER STORY
P10



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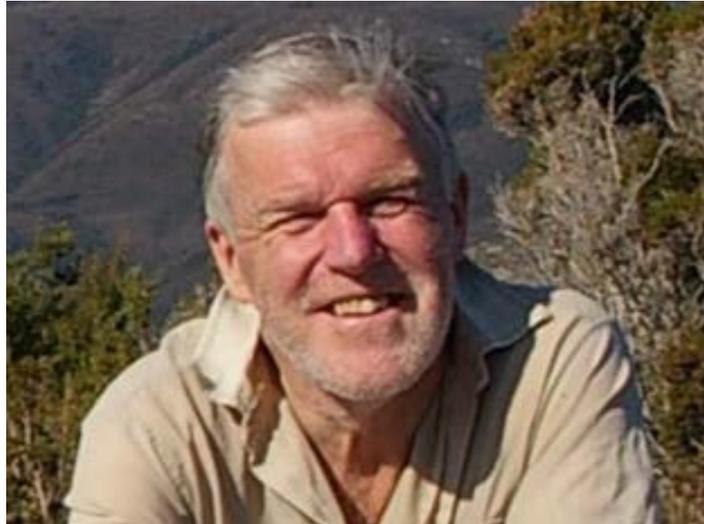
‘VEAC advice to government an illusion of environmental safety’

IFA says agency ‘deaf’ to Victoria’s regional communities

THE Victorian Government has ignored the concerns of rural communities in its rush to create more national parks, says professional body the Institute of Foresters of Australia.

IFA, which has represented forestry since 1935 and has more than 1100 members engaged in all branches of forest management and conservation, has called on the state’s Environment Minister Lily D’Ambrosio to direct the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council to follow its legislated charter. This requires VEAC to adhere to the principles of ‘ecologically sustainable development’.

IFA spokesman Mark Poynter said: “VEAC’s advice to the minister is a clear breach of the VEAC Act (2001) which requires the council to “enhance individual and community well-being”, yet its recommendation to slash the state forest area by 90% is opposed by a substantial majority of local people living



Mark Poynter... the notion that only national parks and reserves can ‘protect’ the environment is plainly incorrect.

in and around state forests. “These communities rely on the forests for a range of public services and life-style activities,” Mr Poynter said.

“The recently released final report of the VEAC into the future of forested public land in central-west Victoria shows that the agency has not listened to local communities,” he said.

“They have ignored the great work done to care and

look after the environment by Landcare, farmers, foresters and people living in bushland settings.

“The notion promoted by VEAC that only national

“THEY HAVE IGNORED THE GREAT WORK OF FORESTERS AND FARMERS

parks and reserves can ‘protect’ the environment, is plainly incorrect. The IFA strongly supports biodiversity conservation, and we believe that the existing mix of dedicated parks, other reserves and state forests already conserves biodiversity while allowing people to undertake activities such as horse riding, free camping, hunting, dog-walking, and domestic firewood collection.”

Mr Poynter said VEAC had not explained why the current mix of public land categories was unacceptable and what threats to biodiversity, if any, would be alleviated by the land tenure changes that it was recommending.

“The critical threats to biodiversity, such as fire, pest plants, feral carnivores, and climate change, do not respect land tenure boundaries,” he said.

“Conservation requires active forest management

Cont P 3



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Timber regulations in PNG a dog's breakfast, says FIA

'Forestry can no longer be regarded as a cash cow'

JOHN HALKETT

THE PNG government plans to ban round log exports by January 2021 as part of its commitment under the Paris climate change agreement.

Allied to this commitment is an intention to promote domestic downstream timber processing to add value to forest products and to generate a range of related development and employment benefits.

Additional domestic timber processing has considerable merit and support, but Bob Tate, executive officer of the PNG Forest Industries Association, asserts that currently the timber sawmilling and further timber processing sector is in decline.

"There are now just seven significant sawmilling operations in PNG and there have been no mills established in the last 15 years," Mr Tate said.

"Also, forest plantation development has fallen from



Bob Tate... PNG needs trade regulatory reform

65,000 ha to 40,000 ha since the 1990s."

Mr Tate said that if the government was to achieve domestic timber processing goals, it needed to institute a fair and equitable fiscal regime and fiscal stability.

"Forestry could no longer be regarded as a cash cow," he said.

He confirmed that 88% of PNG timber exports are sold

**TIMBER
PROCESSING
SECTOR IN
DECLINE**

a balance between conservation and uses that satisfy all stakeholders.

"If adopted, VEAC's final recommendations for the central-west forests would provide only an illusion of environmental protection, while permanently shutting out a range of legitimate community uses."

into China as round logs for processing and on-selling into developed markets.

"In 2018, volumes rose slightly and prices averaged at around the high of \$US90/cub m," he said.

He added: "The trade war between China and the US has not directly affected forestry or forest products, but it has created a high degree of uncertainty and caution in forest products markets."

In relation to expanded domestic timber processing, Bob Tate said there needed to be trade regulatory reform to enable efficient and cost-effective exports of timber products.

"Currently it's a dog's breakfast of regulation, red tape, and duplication of process and approvals involving five different government departments and agencies and requiring two discretionary approvals by cabinet ministers," he said.

Mark is an academically trained professional forester with more than 40 years' experience working in both native forests and plantations for both government and private industry in Victoria and Tasmania. This includes 24 years as a Victorian-based independent forestry consultant and contractor.



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From P 2

and simply changing the land category from state forest to parks and conservation reserves will not address these key threats.

"VEAC's recommendations are inappropriate for a government agency responsible for creating

Timber importers call for action on port congestion and charges

Propose formation of industry taskforce to address concerns

THE Australian Timber Importers Federation stands with other business representative bodies in requesting that state and federal governments take a more active role in Australia's sea freight supply chain.

ATIF general manager John Halkett said the national economy and the ability of importers and exporters to compete in international markets depended on such action.

"ATIF has forwarded a submission to the federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Michael



1/ Port challenges ... governments must work with industry to improve sea freight shipping, infrastructure and associated empty container storage services.

2/ John Halkett... port infrastructure congestion impacting on business viability.



McCormack and the NSW Minister for Transport and Roads Andrew Constance detailing how importers

of timber and wood-based products are experiencing port infrastructure congestion and unexpected container charges that are adversely impacting on the viability of their businesses."

Mr Halkett said imports of timber and wood-based products were a vital input to the building and construction industries, particularly residential housing. "Because domestic production cannot meet timber product demand, imports have grown in value by 17% per year over the last five years."

He said ATIF member companies were responsible for 85-90% of sawn timber, wood panels and allied products imported into Australia with a value of more than \$1.05 billion a year.

In its submission to ministers, ATIF says governments need to work with business in strengthening the mechanisms that exist for businesses with respect to sea freight shipping, associated infrastructure and empty

container storage services.

The housing industry and increasingly, commercial and multi-residential construction, depend on imported timber and wood-based products for constraining the costs of construction. Furniture makers depend on many imported timbers; particularly hardwoods as domestic hardwood timber supplies become increasingly difficult to source.

ATIF says unplanned and excessive port delays and charges can make the difference between a profit or a loss.

"The timber and wood-based product importing industry cannot continue to bear these additional costs which appear to be the result of disorganisation and lack of planning by state and federal authorities," Mr Halkett said.

He added: "ATIF strongly believes that governments need to take a more active role in Australia's sea freight supply chain. The national economy and the ability of importers and exporters to compete in international markets are dependent on such action."

As the situation is most acute in Sydney, ATIF has recommended to ministers that a task force be setup with the NSW and federal governments working with stakeholders to address the situation.

The submission has been positively endorsed by the Customs Brokers and Forwarders Council of Australia and the Freight and Trade Alliance.



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New FWPA program to uncover opportunities in detached housing

FOREST and Wood Products Australia has launched a technical extension program to encourage the use of wood products in residential Class 1 properties.

The national residential construction and fit-out program, headed by Dr Alastair Woodard, a structural engineer and construction consultant previously involved in FWPA's WoodSolutions programs, will uncover the issues and opportunities for timber that exist among Australia's top builders.

The first phase of the program will involve market research and consultation over several months with leading residential builders in every state. This phase will gather insights into the building community's perceptions of using wood products, what they see as the benefits and their concerns.

Managing director of

“CONSULTATION WITH BUILDERS IN EVERY STATE



Opportunity... residential sector invites a wide range of structural and appearance products, both sawn and engineered.

FWPA Ric Sinclair said the program would build greater connectivity between the forest and wood products sector and its biggest current and traditional market.

“The residential sector is very significant for a wide range of structural and appearance products, both sawn and engineered,” Mr Sinclair said.

“There has been strong



Dr Alastair Woodard... heading new national residential construction and fit-out program.

residential construction sector.

Following the research phase, a strategic plan will be developed outlining the real issues in the residential sector and how the forestry and wood products industry can address them. The plan aims to identify the key activities and industry players, the potential associated costs, as well as any potential R&D or marketing investment to support the required activities.

Dr Woodard said he was looking forward to taking the lead on this new initiative.

“I am really keen to be involved in the new program and to determine what needs to be done to see new market growth and importantly existing market protection in the residential area,” he said.

“The beauty of this program is going in with a blank canvas and identifying the common concerns and priorities from the builders themselves.”

interest from FWPA members to have a dedicated program for this sector where most of their products end up

“The business

dynamics of the residential construction sector are constantly changing and we need up-to-date information on how wood products can deliver better outcomes for both builders and home owners.”

Mr Sinclair said it was not a promotion program, rather it was about in-depth market understanding, listening and co-creation with the

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Gottstein funding campaign under way

THE 2019 funding campaign for the Joseph William Gottstein Memorial Trust was launched at the recent AFPA members' meeting in Canberra.

The national education trust was established in 1971 and recognises eminent CSIRO scientist Bill Gottstein, who lost his life in a forest accident in PNG.

The trust promotes the development of Australia's forest products industry and the Gottstein awards recognise the need for constant improvement through increased knowledge and skills development in furthering the industry.

Trust chair John Simon said the trust had funded more than 100 fellowships and provided overseas study tours.

"Many of these 'fellows' are now in senior positions in the industry," Mr Simon said. "We consider this program to be our industry's equivalent of a Rhodes Scholarship," he said.

The trust also funds scholarships for undergraduate and postgraduate students to further their studies in timber industry related subjects.

The awards are open to students formally enrolled and registered in a bachelor degree, graduate diploma or master degree in forestry, forest science or wood science.

Each year, in conjunction with Australian National University in Canberra, the Gottstein Trust organises a one-week 'crash course' in wood science or forest



John Simon... industry's equivalent of a Rhodes Scholarship.

science. This year more than 30 individuals graduated from the forest science course.

The administration of the Trust is managed by well-known industry identity Helen Murray, with corporate governance through a board of trustees comprising John Simon, Suzette Weeding, Brian Farmer, Nils

Gunnerson, Jason Wilson and James Malone, all of whom give their time on a voluntary basis.

Funding of the activities of the trust is assisted by generous annual contributions from industry.

John Simon said with current low interest rates, the trust had a need to expand the number of patrons and supporters.

"All are acknowledged on the Gottstein website and patrons receive a significant discount for the courses at ANU," he said.

Inquiries about applications and patron and supporter sponsorships should be directed to Helen Murray at gottsteinsecretary@gmail.com or on 0419 991424.

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JULY

10-12: 5th Pacific Timber Engineering Conference (PTEC 2019) – Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Merivale and Glenelg streets, South Brisbane, Australia.

A forum for both young and experienced academics, practitioners, researchers, and research students in the Asia-Pacific region and elsewhere in the world to share the latest developments in research and application of timber in construction. What the industry is achieving using timber in construction will also be showcased. The conference will bring a more practitioner focus that will complement the World Conference on Timber Engineering (WCTE) in 2020.

Call for abstracts. Inquiries to conference secretariat, School of Civil Engineering, The University of Queensland. Tel: +61 7 344 31360. Email: ptec2019@civil.uq.edu.au Visit www.civil.uq.edu.au/ptec-2019

22-23: 2019 DANA Australian Forest Industry Conference and Field Trip – Pullman King Georges Square, Brisbane, Australia.

To include one and a half day conference on Monday July 22 and the morning of Tuesday July 23 with 20 international and Australasian speakers confirmed, to be followed by half day field trip on the afternoon of July 23. For further information and to register see: www.danaevents.co.nz/2019brisbane

OCTOBER

18: 2019 TABMA National Awards Dinner – Doltone House, Hyde Park, Sydney, Australia. Hosted by TABMA Australiaw, 6:30 - 11:30 pm. Dress formal.

The 20th Australian Timber Design Awards presentation dinner – Melbourne, Australia. Entries open February 11 and close June 28. Peoples' Choice voting August to September. Sponsorship options available. Contact 0420 232 253 or email inbox@timberdesignawards.com.au

26: 2019 Queensland Timber Industry Gala Evening (Casino Night) – The Tote Room, Eagle Farm Racecourse, Ascot, QLD Australia. 6:30pm. Hosted by TABMA Queensland. For

bookings contact (07) 3456 7065. Mob: 0418 449 031. Email: Alicia@tabma.com.au Visit: www.tabma.com.au

NOVEMBER

1: Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards 2019 – Mt Gambier, South Australia, Australia. The second GTTIA forestry awards for the region will recognise and celebrate outstanding foresters, companies, service providers and forest managers. Nominations open June 17 and close August 16. Gala dinner November 1. Further information and sponsorship opportunities visit www.gttia.com or contact Prue Younger +64 21 2765 484. Email: prue@publicimpressions.co.nz



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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: www.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: www.waset.org/conference/2019/09/zurich/ICATEA

17-18: NordGen Forest Conference 2019: Future Forest Health – Early detection and mitigation of invasive pests and diseases in Nordic forests

– *Hotel*

SEPT/OCT

30 SEPT-4 OCT: Second World Congress on Mid- and High-rise Wood Buildings Woodrise 2019

– *Québec City Convention Centre, Québec City, Canada.* Theme: Building our cities for future generations jointly organized by FPIInnovations (Canada) and Institut technologique FCBA (France) will bring together wood construction stakeholders, decision-makers, and professionals to share their knowledge and strengths in order to position wood as a leading construction material for tomorrow's sustainable cities. For further information: Ann Cantin, Director, Communications and Marketing, Québec City Convention Centre, acantin@convention.qc.ca, 418 564-1312; Marjolaine Dugas, Director of Communications, FPIInnovations, marjolaine.dugas@fpinnovations.ca, 514 782-4595

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

OCTOBER

6-9: 52nd International Symposium on Forestry Mechanization (FORMEC) and 42nd Council on Forest Engineering (COFE) Annual Meeting – *Sopron, Hungary.* For further information see: www.formec2019.com

8-10: Timber Expo Birmingham – *Birmingham, UK.* Annual trade show covering a breadth of timber applications from timber frame, sawmills, merchants, glulam, SIPs, CLT, fixings and fastenings, timber cladding, doors/windows, mouldings, skirtings and flooring. For further information contact: +44 (0)7956 173351 or www.timber-expo.co.uk

8-10: AUSTROFOMA (Austrian forestry machine and device demonstration) – *Forchtenstein, Austria.* For further information see: www.austrofoma.at/en

21-25: 2019 DANA Japan Forest Industry Tour – *Japan.* A unique five-day Forest Industry Tour of several forest,

wood processing and wood importing and expecting port facilities on Kyushu and Honshu Islands. For further information and to register see: www.danaevents.co.nz/2019japan/

23: Woodflow Logistix Conference – *Vancouver, Canada.* For further information see: www.woodflowlogistix.events

NOVEMBER

19-21: Malaysian Wood Expo 2019 – *Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur.* Email: info@malaysianwoodexpo.com.my or visit www.malaysianwoodexpo.com.my

APRIL 2020

3-5: FORESTlive, Forestry trade fair – *Offenburg, Germany.* Leading fair covering forestry technology, wood energy and biomass for decision makers in the forestry and agriculture, construction and municipal economy, timber crafts and energy industry. For further information contact: +49 (0)781 922604 or www.messeoffenburg.de

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

Certification: ‘peace in the forests’ at all levels

“FOREST certification is more than just sustainable forest management. It’s about collaboration of people to enable ongoing dialogue, conflict resolution and problem solving at all levels for peace.”

Welcoming delegates to Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2019 in South Korea last month – one the largest and most important forestry gatherings in the region – PEFC International CEO Ben Gunneberg joined speakers to discuss how forest certification has contributed to sustainability

and the facilitation of trade. They highlighted the many advantages of certification, such as improving market access and its positive impact on sustainable development goals.

“Certification is not just about trade, but about people and the next generation,” emphasised Yong Tang Koon, CEO, Malaysian Timber Certification Council.

“Managing forests sustainably, inclusively of local communities’ interests, is vital for their business to survive.”

David Syme, accreditation



Ben Gunneberg...
forest certification about collaboration of people.

and certification specialist, added: “There is a change of culture within companies seeing certification as an integral benefit to ensure robust internal systems.”

The forestry week also introduced the Forests for Fashion initiative, highlighting the value of forests for a sustainable fashion industry

and showcasing garments made from sustainable forest fibres.

Other sessions included a customer event and networking lunch, inviting Korean companies to learn about PEFC and forest certification, including a demand growth perspective from European retailer Tesco.

The Korea Forest Certification Council, PEFC national member that achieved PEFC endorsement in 2018, was partner for the event.

• More coverage next issue.

Approvals arrest housing downturn

AN arrest in the decline of dwelling approvals is a welcome reprieve for the housing industry after the persistent declines measured throughout 2018.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics this week released its monthly building approvals data covering all states and territories.

Approvals in May 2019 were up by 0.7% from the previous month. The improvement was led by multi-unit approvals (+2.1% with detached house approvals down marginally (-0.2%).

“INTEREST AT HISTORIC LOW GOOD NEWS FOR HOME BUYERS”

And the Reserve Bank's further cut in interest rates this week to an historic low of 1% is good news for new home buyers

“Recent positive news relating to house prices and new home sales has started filtering through,” HIA chief economist Tim Reardon said.

“Even if this isn't the bottom of the cycle, the pick-up in new home sales in May suggests the pace of decline is slowing,” he said.

“We're hopeful market confidence has improved following the federal election and retention of current property taxation arrangements.

“Back-to-back interest rate cuts from the RBA and the pending reforms to APRA's mortgage lending guidelines



Tim Reardon... positive news on house prices and sales.

should act to minimise any further contraction in residential building.”

Meanwhile, the passing of the government's income tax cuts by the House of Representatives will be welcomed by Master Builders 32,000 members around the country,” says CEO Denita Wawn.

“They strongly support this measure as a key ingredient in the recipe for economic growth along with company tax cuts, fast tracking construction of infrastructure projects and backing small business by cutting red tape and investing in skills,” Mrs Wawn said.

“Income tax cuts reward our members' hard work and provide an incentive for their aspirations to build more business success, and as the Reserve Bank governor has noted, putting more money in people's pockets will grow household incomes and support household spending.”

Mrs Wawn said that in every city, town and region builders and tradies would be looking to the senate to pass the tax cuts in full and without delay.



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PEFC certification is a life-long commitment for Matilda Veneer

TAKE a walk through Matilda Veneer at Molendinar on Queensland's Gold Coast and it's easy to get lost in the impressive variety of products on offer.

Indeed, Matilda Veneer stocks more than 100 different species of timbers making it Australia's largest manufacturer of timber veneers.

And for Matilda Veneer, supporting responsible forest practices by its very nature is critical for its long-term survival and prosperity.

Talking to Responsible Wood's Jason Ross, Matilda Veneer's Anthony Wardrop and Craig Graham emphasised the importance of responsible sourcing, manufacturing and stocktaking – all important for protecting forests for current and future generations.

"We are in this business for the long term; in some ways we are part of a new generation of manufacturers, and with this we have an underlying responsibility to support our forest resource for the next generation," Anthony said.



1/ A masterpiece in veneer... the critically acclaimed Robina Town Square project on the Gold Coast.
2/ Strong on certification... many species of veneer and plywood carry forest certification at Matilda Veneer.

"And with this, forest certification plays an important role in verifying and demonstrating our life-long commitment to responsible forestry."

Craig says for Matilda Veneer, PEFC chain-of-custody certification provides customers with a security, a trust that products used in the home and on building projects support sustainable forestry, sourcing and manufacturing timbers from foresters that are

environmentally conscious and focused on future renewal.

Founded in 1990, Matilda Veneer processes more than 1200 cub m of logs into veneer and between 1800 and 2000 cub m into plywood.

With more than 1.4 million sq m of storage for veneers and plywood at its Gold Coast facility, Matilda Veneer has an extensive species list including Queensland walnut, silky oak, Tasmanian blackwood and

a huge range of Australian hardwoods including spotted gum, blackbutt, ironbark and jarrah to name just a few

When it comes to a stocktake, Matilda Veneer has the largest and most extensive stockpile of veneer in the Australian marketplace.

"Some of our timbers have been in storage for close to 30 years," Anthony said. "We are in the decorative timber business, a business where fashions and trends change regularly and often.

"And this is where Matilda Veneer is unique. We protect and preserve our range of products and are well equipped to cater for changing fashion and trends."

Craig added: "Our business is highly subjective and our timber is a precious commodity, so Matilda Veneer has an obligation to ensure that all timbers stockpiled are protected and preserved for future purchase."

On the cover: From one generation to the next... Robert Filip with Craig Graham and Anthony Wardrop at Matilda Veneer on the Gold Coast.



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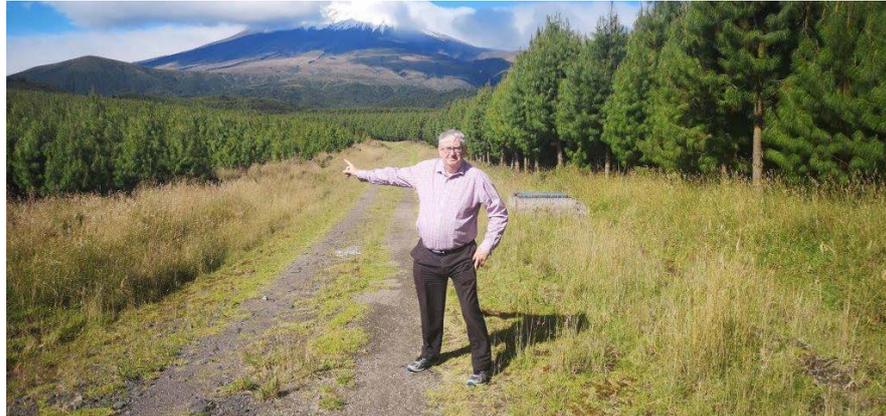
Multi-year review of standards a tortuous process for NZ industry

Envelope-treated LVL has survived the first round of submissions

DENNIS NEILSON

THE final outcome of major rewrites of two critical standards for the New Zealand building sector will not be known for some months ... but hopefully by the end of 2019 three years after this tortuous process began.

In December 2017, the draft standard DZ 3602 Timber and wood-based products for use



Dennis Neilson on one of his many international trade missions.. this time inspecting patua pine and radiata plantations at 3400 m elevation in Ecuador last month.

“CONTENTS OF THESE NZ STANDARDS ARE VERY COMPLEX

in building was released for public consultation. More than 1000 comments were received by the standards committee, which resulted in significant changes

to the standard for further consultation

I only became aware of NZ standards related to 'Timber and wood-based products

for use in building' (NZS 3602) and the 'Chemical preservation of round and sawn timber' (NZS 3640),

Cont P 12

Pacific Timber Engineering Conference (PTEC 2019)

10-12 July 2019

Brisbane | Queensland | Australia

Join some of the world's biggest names in timber construction who will gather in Brisbane in July.

Participants from more than 10 countries including New Zealand, the UK, USA, Canada, China, Finland, Chile, Japan and South Korea will join a large Australian contingent at the conference. PTEC 2019 aims to not only bring new information in the field to participants, but to foster a sense of common cause between different parts of the timber construction industry, from engineers and manufacturers to designers and builders.

Register now

Registration includes lunch, morning and afternoon refreshments, the Welcome Reception (Wednesday, 10 July 2019) and Banquet Dinner (Thursday, 11 July 2019).

Registration Closes Friday, 5 July 2019

Full Rate \$850 AUD per person

Student Rate \$500 AUD or \$350 AUD per person excluding Banquet Dinner

For more information and to register
civil.uq.edu.au/ptec-2019

Emeritus Professor Sritawat Kitipornchaiw The University of Queensland | **Professor Jose Torero** University College London
Toby Hodsdon ARUP | **Professor Frank Lam** University of British Columbia, Canada
Anna Charalambous Lendlease DesignMake | **Professor Minjuan He** Tongji University, China | **Ben Owen** Lendlease Building



From P 11

when with co-author David Buckleigh we researched and wrote the 2018 book 'Rotten to the Core'.

(A full PDF version of this book is available from DANA).

The book canvasses the proud history of the protection of New Zealand timber in houses against fungal decay from 1925 to 1990; then the shameful history from 1991 to 2004 (mostly, but to 2011) and the aftermath of political, industry and government department decisions leading to the \$70 billion 'rotting wood in houses' catastrophe from 1998 and ongoing.

Before this is all over, perhaps 100,000 (or more) of the 400,000 dwellings built from 1995-2011 (when fully or partially untreated radiata pine framing and roof trusses were allowed in houses) have already failed or may fail prematurely.

This sorry episode left a black mark on wood generally, and on the industry; and led to a 2016 decision to completely revise both the NZ 3602 and the intertwined 3640 standards.

Normally this process takes a year, or two at the most; although the 3602 Standard was last updated in 2003 so there was a lot of work to cover – even on the 3640 Standard which was last revised five years or so before the full rewrite process began.

However, this time industry players and others had a lot more to say about the then new draft standards which were initially open for public submissions in late 2017. Indeed, so much so, with hundreds of submissions, that in mid-2019 the two NZ standards committees decided to take an unprecedented step of submitting their now (second)



CLT structure in London... under renovation.

revision of standards to yet another round of public submissions, which close in August this year.

We won't go into much detail here. In fact, we contend that some of the contents of these NZ standards are so complex that no-one without a PhD in both wood preservatives and building could ever fully understand them – even notwithstanding the different levels of legal 'certifications' available to NZ wood suppliers.

However, a few outstanding issues may be of interest to trans-Tasman readers in the wood and building industries.

It appears that the NZS 3640 committee submits that only timber that complies with a full penetration boron treatment may be used as solid framing or roof truss timber, or as lamina for glulam or CLT.

While any species of several can be used (NZS 3602), we contend that only radiata (and maybe some young southern yellow pine) can be full penetration treated.

This is different from

Australia where fungal treatment is voluntary so 'NZ non-complying' solid timber can be imported and used – and it's from eastern and central Europe, and CLT is imported from Europe – made from un-treated or partially treated timbers.

DANA does understand, however, that a major CLT producer in Australasia may have taken a decision to fully boron treat at least some of

“ ENVELOPE TREATMENT CONTINUES TO STIR DEBATE

the lamina used for its CLT production.

And, funnily enough, when I led an inspection of five mid to high-rise CLT mass timber construction buildings in London in May, two were fully scaffolded-up for fixing, replacing European-made CLT which had failed, or which led to the failure of other components of buildings.

These were built as recently as 2014. Charming!

Another still apparently contentious issue in the

rewrites is that 'envelope-treated' LVL has survived the first round of submissions for NZS (3602). While possibly being technically suitable for fungal protection, DANA found that the last time an envelopment treatment was used on solid timber (the infamous T1.2, or 'Agent Orange') in the early 2000s, its use was rejected by industry itself. This use of envelope treatment in the NZS 3602 continues to encourage debate.

There are various other issues that have been raised by DANA contacts; not the least of which is the continued use of some species, where 'old growth' wood may have been resistant to fungal decay, but much young plantation wood of the same species may not be. However, standards committees apparently cannot 'remove' any such species without scientific evidence to do so. This is a very difficult ask.

The final outcome of these major rewrites of two critical standards for the New Zealand building sector will not be known for some months.

DANA caveats that this summary is its opinion and interpretation only. Inquiries should be directed to the NZ Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) at www.mbie.govt.nz/

• *New Zealand-based Dennis Neilson established DANA Ltd in Rotorua in 1993 after a career spanning the full gambit of forestry activities with Fletcher Challenge from 1972 to 1992. In 20 years, Neilson has authored, co-authored or published more than 50 multi-client reviews and has made more than 130 presentations at international conferences on a variety of topics. He is excited about the DANA Forest Industry Innovation Conference to be held in Brisbane from July 22 to 23. (See notice Page 17).*



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**Thursday, August 9
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The Hyne Timber story began in 1882, when Richard Matthews Hyne opened the National Sawmill on the banks of the Mary River in Queensland. The business would grow through the adversity of nature and economics to prosper, with Hyne becoming Australia's largest privately owned and operated timber manufacturing company.



Fourth generation family member CHRIS HYNE is a welcome guest speaker at the Queensland timber industry's annual Pioneers Luncheon on August 9.

Join many timber and forestry friends to recognise and salute our industry's pioneers (and sons and daughters of the pioneers).

Meals, drinks from hotel's servery at your cost and selection. No other charges.

Big raffle to aid special children's charity.

RSVP by July 27, 2019

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Free pre-lunch drinks and refreshments have been sponsored.

Bill Leggate joins DAF as research team leader

A FOREST products scientist with international experience in research, technical, commercial and management roles has been appointed manager and team leader of DAF's forest products innovation division, based at Salisbury, Brisbane.

Bill Leggate, who previously worked with the DAF forest products innovations program as principal research scientist with involvement in international projects in PNG, Solomon Islands, Laos and Vietnam, will also be responsible for biosciences and horticulture and forestry sciences in his new role.

Mr Leggate worked for seven years with the Queensland Forestry Research Institute as a research scientist and manager in wood products research, mainly wood quality, timber drying, processing, durability, preservation and utilisation.

Until his new appointment he was product development manager at Koppers Performance Chemicals (Australia - wood preservation).

**“ WIDE EXPERIENCE
 IN OVERSEAS
 RESEARCH**

His experience also includes technical, commercial and management roles in the timber industry in South and Central America – for Arch Wood Protection (now Lonza) in Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay; Forestadora Tapebicua in Argentina, then the world's



Bill Leggate... new appointment at DAF Salisbury Research Centre.

largest plantation eucalyptus processing plant (sawn timber and plywood); and Inter-American Woods, a major pine wood processor based in Honduras and the US.

As a research scientist, Mr Leggate worked with the Centre for Sustainable Architecture with Wood (CSAW) in Tasmania.

Mr Leggate, a 2017 Gottstein fellow (improving the durability performance of engineered wood products study tour of Europe and North America) replaces Dr Henri Bailleres, who has joined Hyne as product development manager.

The Salisbury Research Facility houses more than 3100 sq m of laboratories, processing equipment and office space. In partnership with the Forest Products Innovation Team, the centre is equipped to undertake forest products research and development on semi-commercial, pilot and laboratory scales. At a single location, DAF Salisbury remains Australia's largest forest science and technical expertise facility.



GREEN TRIANGLE TIMBER INDUSTRY AWARDS



NOMINATIONS OPEN

2019 Sponsors

Take the opportunity once again to nominate an industry person or company that deserves to be recognised for their contribution to the forestry industry.

We are seeking suitable candidates that reflect all sectors and work within the Green Triangle region and with this inaugural event, let's make it the success it should be and provide the chance to celebrate the high achievers and players that hold credible status within the industry.

It is important to get involved again this year as the awards are now an annual event following on from the success of last year. The value proposition for nominees to be finalists and winners will generate industry opportunities and will grow the profile of the region to benefit businesses and industry.

Get involved, nominate today and step up.

Check out our website for nomination category criteria and details www.gttia.com

Key Dates 2019

17 June
16 August
September
1 November

Nominations Open
Nominations Close
Judging Process
**GREEN TRIANGLE
TIMBER INDUSTRY AWARDS**



Plan sets vision for WA forestry industry

WESTERN Australia Forestry Minister Dave Kelly this week launched a plan for the strategic future direction of the state's forestry industry "to support healthy forests and support jobs."

The Djarlma Plan was developed under the guidance of an independent panel, and with extensive industry and community consultation. The plan was inspired by the Noongar concept of Djarlma that reflects the interconnected relationship of people, forests and woodlands, and aims to build new job opportunities in the forestry industry.



It sets out a framework for action for the next decade to support the transformation of the industry to deliver better economic benefits through the implementation of ecologically sustainable strategies, building on the foundations of the Forest Management Plan 2014-2023.

The plan identifies opportunities to secure investment and foster innovation in the forestry sector. These include optimising the use of harvested wood fibre



Dave Kelly... plan drives innovation to secure industry's future.

to produce a range of environmentally sustainable products such as engineered timbers and bioplastics.

A key action item from the plan, a Wood Encouragement Policy for Western Australia, has already been developed by the Forest Products Commission. This policy

aims to support the forestry industry by encouraging the use of responsibly sourced wood in the construction and fitout of buildings.

Dave Kelly said the Djarlma Plan prioritised healthy forests and woodlands, while driving innovative practices to secure the industry into the future.

"The Wood Encouragement Policy highlights the benefits of building with wood, which is natural, renewable and stores carbon making it one of the best tools we have for fighting climate change," he said.

"An increase in the use of locally grown wood will support Western Australia's vibrant timber industry which employs more than 6000 people and generates \$1.4 billion for the economy."

FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION IN NEXT DECADE

 **21 - 25 October 2019 | Kyushu & Honshu Islands | JAPAN**



DANA 2019 | JAPAN FOREST INDUSTRY TOUR

- **Four day tour of Kyushu Island.**
 - Forest operations, log export port, woodchip import port, laminated post plant, Post & Beam and 2*4 sawmills, Decorative Wood Products factory, CLT mill.
- **One day tour of Tokyo region.**
 - Huge sawmill using imported logs, Thermally Modified Timber (TMT) Kiln and automated house building component factory.
- Cost includes return flights from Tokyo to Miyasaki on Kyushu Island, four nights accommodation and all meals on the tour.

TO REGISTER [CLICK HERE](#) **OR CONTACT JULIE BELL AT** admin@dana.co.nz

New Zealand forestry and rail: a strong partnership in the making

MICHAEL SMITH

FROM the 1870s, New Zealand’s railway network played a pivotal role in the country’s economic development. But since the 1950s, deregulation of the transport industry has seen rail’s share of freight traffic steadily decline ... while an increasingly affluent workforce came to prefer driving or flying.

In the last 50 years, branch lines have been gradually



At the reopening of the Napier-Wairoa line... Greg Miller, KiwiRail’s CEO (left), with Shane Jones, New Zealand’s Regional Economic Development Minister.

line north of Whangarei was also shut when KiwiRail’s main customer in the area – woodchip exporter Marusumi – was told its contract would not be renewed because of “life-expired wagons” and poor commercial returns.

Incredible to think that the last rail line built in New Zealand (a spur line to the Glenbrook steel mill just south of Auckland) was completed in the late 1960s. And in high on 20 years up to 2010, when KiwiRail was established, successive governments tinkered with the rail ownership model, which effectively resulted in

“INDUSTRY WILL BE A MAJOR BENEFACTOR OF RAIL POLICY”

closed, with some ripped up and others mothballed. The downsizing has continued in more recent times with

the ‘temporary’ closure of the Napier to Gisborne line in 2012, following four major washouts. And the

Cont P 18

2019 DANA INNOVATIONS IN THE AUSTRALIAN Forest Industry Sector Conference & Field Trip

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- Wood processing and new add value wood products
- Innovations in Association projects in 2019-2020
- ½ day Field Trip – busy afternoon visiting operations and innovative stops and projects



[CLICK HERE](#) For Website Or contact Julie Bell at admin@dana.co.nz

From P 17

underfunding and a 'managed decline' of much of the network.

And now – in the form of a billion-dollar budgetary shot-in-the-arm from the coalition government – there is belated recognition of the role that rail could play in moving freight and people, cutting congestion and the number of trucks on our roads, and reducing carbon emissions. A further \$300 million from the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) was allocated for investment in regional rail initiatives.

Greg Miller, former chair of KiwiRail and now its CEO, is understandably enthusiastic in his praise for the injection.

"When we invest in mission-critical infrastructure, we unlock value in the community," he said. "We've seen it happen right through the Waikato and Bay of Plenty to the port of Tauranga – and look how that is prospering for the region, our GDP



KiwiRail's budgetary shot-in-the-arm... more logs transported by rail to New Zealand's ports.
Photos: Kiwi Rail.

and our exporters." [49% of freight coming through Tauranga does so by rail].

The forestry industry will undoubtedly be a major benefactor of the coalition government's commitment to rail – most notably in the form of log hubs. In the Wairarapa is the already-successful Waingawa hub, from which KiwiRail delivers logs to CentrePort, Wellington. Just recently, KiwiRail announced plans to increase its log capacity out of the Wairarapa by a third to cater for the increased harvests and to reduce the number of trucks

travelling into the capital.

Meanwhile, a study is under way near Dannevirke into developing a hub that would be used to transfer logs by train to the port of Napier. KiwiRail's deputy chief executive Todd Moyle says there is the genuine prospect of rail transporting 200,000 tonnes of logs annually to the port.

Further north, KiwiRail has

reopened the Napier-Wairoa line (funded by the PGF) and is looking to establish a log hub at the latter location – in anticipation of a quadrupling of harvests in the region over the next four years.

And as Regional Economic Development Minister Shane Jones is at pains to point out, the development is less about logging trucks disappearing and more about the trucks playing a role where they make economic sense – moving logs from the bush to the rail and by rail to the mills and the ports.

“ UNLOCKING VALUE IN THE COMMUNITY ”

The Ultimate Renewable: Keep an eye on the telly

FOREST and Wood Products Australia's consumer advertising campaign – The Ultimate Renewable – has commenced and industry is reminded to maximise the opportunities offered by the new brand.

Featuring award-winning architect and host of Grand Designs Australia Peter Maddison, the advertisements will appear on television for four weeks from June 30, as well as on social media, billboards and

displays at train stations, and print mediums until mid-September.

The large-scale, multi-channel campaign covers all major and regional Australian cities and directs audiences to Planet Ark's

Make It Wood website.

FWPA national marketing and communications manager Eileen Newbury urges industry members to work together to share the positive message behind the brand.

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Koppers Performance Chemicals (KPC) is a global leader in timber preservative technology and the supply of products to the timber preservative industry. We are a dedicated team providing wood preservatives, engineering services, and marketing services to our customers.

Providing market leading service, products, and quality, we are seeking a talented professional to head our product development efforts.

This position is responsible for the development and introduction of both new and improved products and processes to the market. The successful candidate should possess the following attributes:

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- Must be hands-on in conducting laboratory and field testing.
- Be creative, independent and motivated.

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Koppers Performance Chemicals Australia

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- Assist project team members to develop, plan and implement strategic projects and develop scientific questions in relation to wood conversion and engineered wood product design, manufacture and performance evaluation.
- Interpretation of research project results, preparation of reports for clients and scientific papers.
- Manage research project activities including management

of budgets to deliver agreed milestones.

- Demonstrate well developed communication skills, both verbally and written to both internal and external stakeholders.
- Adhere to the Department's Code of Conduct, including the principles and practices of employment equity, ethical conduct and workplace health and safety.

Salary per annum: \$89,042 to \$96,739 per annum excluding superannuation.

For further information about this position and details on how to apply, please visit the Queensland Government Smart Jobs and Careers website **www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au** and use **reference QLD/315413/19.**

Applications close Monday, 29 July 2019



TIMBER TECHNICIAN SALISBURY, QLD AUSTRALIA TEMPORARY FULL TIME UNTIL 1 JUNE 2021

You will be involved in the area of timber processing techniques, seasoning methods, forest product utilization practices and general wood science. More specifically the role will include forest resource processing evaluations; wood properties and grade quality studies; and manufacturing methods for engineered wood products.

Salary per annum: \$71,197 to \$76,832 per annum excluding superannuation.

For further information about this position and details on how to apply, please visit the Queensland Government Smart Jobs

and Careers website **www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au** and use **reference QLD/315390/19**

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