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## 'Hexbox' canopy: the power of collaboration

COVER STORY P2



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# Students design and assemble box plywood canopy at Sydney campus

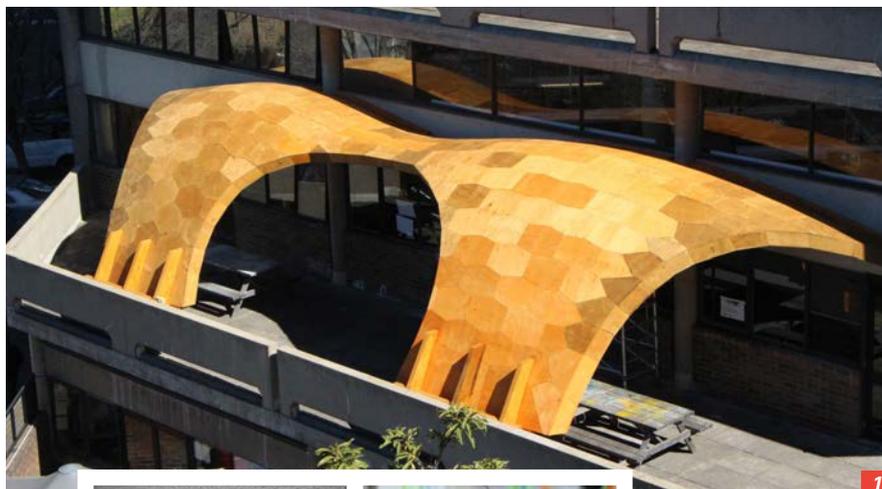
## Project demonstrates power of collaboration between universities

STUDENTS from Australia's top-ranked school of architecture, design and planning at the University of Sydney and Germany's Technical University of Kaiserslautern have collaborated in the assembly and construction of an innovative 'hexbox' roof canopy on the Sydney campus.

The canopy, erected over 64 sq m on the second-floor terrace of the Wilkinson Building, consists of 204 timber boxes and 508 timber connectors.

The lightweight plywood structure demonstrates a new 'plug-and-play system' for rapid on-site assembly and disassembly of complex timber plate shells with no mechanical fixings.

Each timber box consists of eight plates – a top and bottom face and six sides glued together. Totalling 1531 plates, these were nested over 125 19 mm plywood



- 1/ **New 'plug-and-play system'... the innovative HexBox roof canopy designed by students and erected at the University of Sydney campus.**
- 2/ **Eduardo de Oliveira Barata**
- 3/ **Christopher Robeller**

sheets provided at cost by Carter Holt Harvey. As each box contains a varying offset edge and all side plates containing mitered joints with individual dihedral angles, the fabrication required more than the average 3-axis milling machine.

Fabrication was completed on the school's Kuka KR120 6-axis robot fitted with a spindle and cutting tool.

Cutting was carried out over a four-week period leading up to a seven-day workshop for the students.

All mitered joints were connected with the Lamello Tenso P14 system, provided by Lamello, for quick and easy assembly.

Planned over an eight-month period, the project brought together current timber and robotic fabrication research by Christopher Robeller, junior professor at TU Kaiserslautern, and Eduardo de Oliveira Barata, associate lecturer at the University of Sydney.

Christopher's research students Valentino Tagliaboschi and Felix Schmidt-

Kleespies were integral to the design development and assembly while Rodney Watt and Lynn Masuda from DMAf (design modelling and fabrication lab) provided essential programming and fabrication strategies.

Cont P 3



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# Indonesia ramps up timber trade on Australian mission

AN Indonesian mission to ramp up trade in timber products between the southeast Asian country and Australia was completed in Sydney this week.

A visit by the chair of the Association of Indonesian Forest Concessionaries Indroyono Soesilo included discussions with Indonesian Embassy officials and the Australian Timber Importers Federation.

Indonesia remains Australia's leading supplier of hardwood timber products. Merbau decking immediately springs to mind, but there is also a wide range of other hardwood species, specifications and products.

Mr Soesilo said the Indonesian industry was keen to further expand its product range in the Australia market, and to that end was working with the PNORS Technology Group in the roll-

**“EXPANDING RANGE OF PRODUCTS**

From P 2

Eduardo said the project neatly demonstrated the power of collaboration between two universities using cutting edge parametric software and fabrication techniques with the support of industry to produce ultra-precise timber elements forming a large-scale canopy.

The structure will remain in place until the end of the 2019 semester with plans to secure a longer-term solution.

The project team comprised Valentino Tagliaboschi, Felix



*Talking Indonesian timber trade in Sydney... PNORS Technology Group's Nicholas Smith and Indroyono Soesilo, chair, Association of Indonesian Forest Concessionaries.*

out of the recently developed Indonesian Timber Exchange (ITE).

“This robust online marketplace has been created for the Indonesian timber industry with the intention of connecting suppliers with buyers in Australia and elsewhere,” said Nicholas Smith of the PNORS group.

He said ITE was created in 2018 and launched in 2019 through a collaboration between PNORS and the Indonesia Forest

Business Association.

“The Indonesian Timber Exchange provides manufacturers, merchants, importers and exporters, as well as buyers and other timber-related companies with an efficient, cost-effective solution for conducting business transactions,” Mr Smith said.

Details of the scope, benefits and operating mechanism of the ITE will be featured in next week's Timber&Forestry enews.

Schmidt Kleespies, Dominik Diehl, Philip Becker, Benedikt Blumenröder, Florian Lapport, Sarah Lutgen, Manuel Scheib, Jan Neklapil, Anna Specchio, Albert Marhoffer, Iridia Xanthou, Christopher Robeller, Jian Howe Lee, William Stephenson, Geun Mo Kim, Liezl Pajarin, Khoa Nguyen, Haochen Sun, Minh Au, Joseph Emmi, Wenxi Shi, Ernest Sun, Alvin Hui, Guobin Dai, Nazgol Asadi, Ziyun Gao, Prudence Tang, Jingwei Li, Chaoran Ni, Satoshi Hoshino, Muneeb Ahmed, Victoria Vuong, Carla Alkhoury, Michael Calarco, Christian

Tsitsos, Michael Connolly, Lynn Masuda, Rodney Watt, Eduardo De Oliveira Barata

The HexBox canopy project was generously supported by sponsors Lamello SA, PMI Engineers (Thomas Williams) and Carter Holt Harvey Plywood.

*On the cover: Collaborators, from left, Rodney Watt, Lynn Masuda, and Eduardo de Oliveira Barata part of the six-person core team on the Hexbox plywood project which also included Christopher Robeller, Felix Schmidt Kleespies and Valentino Tagliaboschi.*



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# Gottstein: valued educational trust again encourages industry support

THE call is out to encourage companies, industry groups and individuals to get behind the annual Joseph William Gottstein Memorial Fund appeal, the forest sector's valued educational trust.

"The annual donations are very important to keep up the strong investment in Gottstein fellowships, scholarships and industry skill awards made every year," national secretary Helen Murray said.

The appeal was launched by Gottstein chair of trustees John Simon at the AFPA member gathering in Canberra in June.

Patron donation commitments received to date are from Forest and



**1/ Gathering in Canberra... participants in last year's successful Gottstein wood science course at the ANU Fenner School of Ecology and Society in Canberra.**

**2/ Helen Murray... annual donations important to keep up strong investment in fellowships.**

Wood Products Australia, Forest Products Commission

to consider donations – patron (\$2000) and supporter (\$1000). Donors also receive a significant discount on the Gottstein courses for their Australia-based personnel.

"Donations from individuals, of any amount, are valued too," Helen Murray said.

The trust has operated for nearly half a century, honouring esteemed CSIRO forest scientist Bill Gottstein.

As well as the fund donors, presenters at each of the annual Gottstein courses in forest science or wood science donate their time, while the ANU Fenner School of Ecology and Society donates the venue.

Gottstein trustees also donate their time to trust meetings and events.

Applications for the Gottstein Awards (fellowships, scholarships and industry skill awards) close on September 16 and are welcome from any individual involved in the forest and timber products supply chain.

The next Gottstein course – Understanding Wood Science – will be held in Canberra in February 2020.

For further information on donations: <https://gottsteintrust.org/sponsors/> or contact Helen Murray on 0419 991 424.



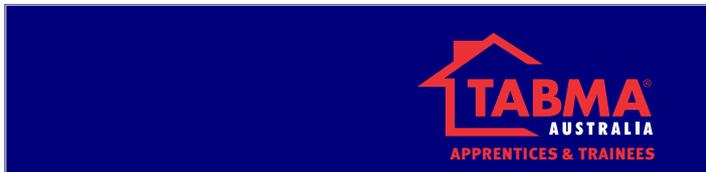
WA, ForestCorp NSW, Forico, Hurford Hardwood, Hyne Timber, Midway, Pentarch, Sustainable Timber Tasmania, Timberlink Australia, Victorian Association of Forest Industries, VicForests and Wesbeam.

"The trustees sincerely appreciate these donations," Ms Murray said.

"It's our hope that all previous donors will continue and it's terrific to have some new donors already come forward this year."

Contact will continue to be made with industry stakeholders asking them

**“TRUST HAS OPERATED FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS**



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# Forest practices amendments confirm Tassie's lead in resource management

PASSAGE of the Forest Practices Amendment Bill in Tasmania on August 15 will result in further improvements to the efficiency and effectiveness of the state's forest management system.

"This will ensure Tasmanians continue to benefit from this well managed resource for generations to come," Deputy Premier and then Acting Minister for Primary Industries and Water Jeremy Rockliff said.

"A strong industry requires a strong regulatory system, and the passage of amendments to the Forest Practices Act 1985, through the Legislative Council will improve governance, administration, and clarify the intent of the Act."

Amendments include provision for the recovery of unpaid or partially paid fees to the Forest Practices Authority, a widening of the scope of membership of the Forest Practices Advisory Council, development of a code of conduct for Forest Practices officers, and an ability to direct the rehabilitation and



1/ **Jeremy Rockliff... a strong industry requires a strong regulatory system.**



2/ **Peter Volker... Tasmania a leader in sustainable forest management.**

revegetation of land where the Act has been contravened including the recovery of costs.

Mr Rockliff said the amendments were developed in consultation with the industry, and he commended the Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association and the Forest Industries Association of Tasmania for their role in developing the amendments.

Chief Forest Practices officer and Forest Practices Authority director Dr Peter Volker said FPA had been working with industry on the amendments for the past five years.

"The Bill passed both

houses of the Tasmanian parliament with unanimous support," he said. "All speakers in both houses strongly support the work of the Forest Practices Authority and the forest practices system in Tasmania."

Dr Volker said the amendments reinforced the contemporary nature of the forest practices system in Tasmania.

At the same time, a draft revision of the Forest Practices Code is out for public comment. Once again the revision has been developed by a number of special purpose working groups drawn

from industry, government, forest practices officers, academics and NGOs.

"Putting together these two key elements of the Tasmanian forest practices system, I am convinced Tasmania continues to lead the way in Australia and internationally to implement a broadly supported system for sustainable forest management, regardless of land tenure," Dr Volker said.

The Forest Practices Authority is an independent statutory body that administers the Tasmanian forest practices system on both public and private land. Its primary responsibility is regulating the management of forest and threatened non-forest vegetation.

There are about 5000 private forest owners in Tasmania. The state's forests cover about 50% of the total area of the state, with private forests making up about 33% of the forest area – the highest proportion of any state.

In total Tasmania's private forests cover more than 1 million ha, about 15% of the state's landmass.

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# Yvette Nash new GM at ForestWorks

A SKILLED communicator with a background of stakeholder engagement and working with governments and government agencies has been appointed general manager of ForestWorks, based in Melbourne.

Yvette Nash has been responsible for major improvements to Australia's anti-dumping system and significant reforms to employment services.

She replaces Diana Lloyd who resigned in January this year after more than two years in the role.

ForestWorks is an industry-owned non-profit organisation offering skills development services for industry.

"We are incredibly pleased Yvette is joining ForestWorks, chair Tony Price said. "Her



1



2

- 1/ **Yvette Nash... strong background in stakeholder engagement.**
- 2/ **Tony Price... workplace training important for future of industry.**

energy and enthusiasm for this job, and the opportunities in it, are exciting."

Mr Price said the board was committed to supporting Yvette and the team at ForestWorks to deliver the best advice to industry.

"Workplace training was important for the future of our industry and everyone who works in it," he said. "ForestWorks' role is pivotal in that and we know Yvette can assist the industry to ensure

we have the skills needed for the future."

Ms Nash has commenced her position and is organising a round of meetings with industry stakeholders and representatives.

Welcoming the appointment, Australian Forest Products Association CEO Ross Hampton said ForestWorks had a critical role in industry skills and safety development which was important for businesses right across the full

value chain of forest industries.

"Skills and training are fundamental to delivering the government's goal of seeing one billion new production trees in the right place at the right scale over the coming decade," he said. "ForestWorks has a vital role in assisting in this area."

Current board of directors at ForestWorks are Tony Price, CEO and managing director, Midway Ltd (chair), Michael O'Connor, national secretary, CFMEU (deputy chair), Denise Campbell-Burns, a safety professional engaged in the pulp and paper sector with over 18 years' experience in the forestry industry, and Alex Millar, national assistant secretary, CFMEU forestry, furnishing, building products and manufacturing division and a director of First Super.

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**SEPTEMBER**

**7-9: Kununurra Consultation Forum** – Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development Conference Room, 1 Durack Drive, Kununurra, WA, Australia. 10 am-12 noon. Free event. Identify and explore the growth potential of the forest and forest products industry in Northern Australia and develop longer term relationships with key industry and community representatives. RSVP by August 29 to sarah@timberqueensland.com.au or call (07) 3358 7900.

**17: Timber Floors & Decks: Reducing Risk seminar** – Ballroom, Victoria Park Golf Club, Herston Road, Herston, Brisbane, Australia. 2.30 pm-5.30 pm. In collaboration with the Australasian Timber Flooring Association this Timber Queensland event

is an opportunity to hear engineering, technical and legal experts give practical advice for delivering both compliant and attractive flooring and decking outcomes. This half-day seminar is a 'must attend' for building and design professionals who want to learn how to maximise both client satisfaction and service life. Program includes practical considerations for flooring installation; the latest innovations in timber flooring and decking connectors; how to identify flooring problems and offer client solutions; how to design and build attached decking under the new NCC provisions; the importance of fit for purpose timber product selection; and how to avoid legal disputes in cases of failure. Register at [www.timberqueensland.com.au/events/TQ](http://www.timberqueensland.com.au/events/TQ) and ATFA member free, non-members \$50.

**OCTOBER**

**3: Australian Timber Importers Federation board meeting** – Brisbane Airport Conference Centre, Brisbane Australia. Contact John Halkett (02) 9356 3826 or mobile 0417 421 187. Email: [john.halkett@bigpond.com](mailto:john.halkett@bigpond.com)

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

**17: 20th Australian Timber Design Awards presentation dinner** – The River Room, Crown Melbourne, Australia. Peoples' Choice voting open August to September. Contact 0420 232 253 or email [inbox@timberdesignawards.com.au](mailto: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](mailto:Alicia@tabma.com.au) Visit: [www.tabma.com.au](http://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 30. Gala dinner November 1. Further information and sponsorship opportunities visit [www.gttia.com](http://www.gttia.com) or contact Prue Younger +64 21 2765 484. Email: [prue@publicimpressions.co.nz](mailto:prue@publicimpressions.co.nz)

**15: Victorian Association of Forest Industries annual industry dinner** – Melbourne Cricket Ground, Melbourne, Vic, Australia. Tickets available at [www.vafi.org.au](http://www.vafi.org.au)



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**SEPTEMBER**

**7-9: China Global Wood Trade Conference – Chongqing, China.** Annual event for global wood traders providing an opportunity to learn about trends in global wood markets and to network. Visit: [www.gwtchina.org/](http://www.gwtchina.org/)

**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](http://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 Örk, Hveragerði, South Iceland.** Conference will focus on threats posed to Nordic forestry and forest plant production by invasive pest species. For further information contact: [forest@nordgen.org](mailto:forest@nordgen.org)

**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 FPInnovations (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](mailto:acantin@convention.qc.ca), 418 564-1312; Marjolaine Dugas, Director of Communications, FPInnovations, [marjolaine.dugas@fpinnovations.ca](mailto:marjolaine.dugas@fpinnovations.ca), 514 782-4595

**29 SEPT-25 OCT: XXV IUFRO World Congress – Curitiba, Brazil.** For further information see: [www.iufro2019.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.timber-expo.co.uk)

**8-10: AUSTROFOMA (Austrian forestry machine and device demonstration) – Forchtenstein, Austria.** For further information see: [www.austrofoma.at/en](http://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 exporting port facilities on Kyushu and Honshu Islands. For further information and to register see: [www.danaevents.co.nz/2019japan/](http://www.danaevents.co.nz/2019japan/)

**23: Woodflow Logistix Conference – Vancouver, Canada.** For further information see: [www.woodflowlogistix.events](http://www.woodflowlogistix.events)

**NOVEMBER**

**19-21: Malaysian Wood Expo 2019 – Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur.** Email: [info@malaysianwoodexpo.com.my](mailto:info@malaysianwoodexpo.com.my) or visit [www.malaysianwoodexpo.com.my](http://www.malaysianwoodexpo.com.my)

**20: Exploring pathways to verified sustainable tropical timber Conference – Berlin, Germany.** The 2019 European Sustainable Tropical Timber Coalition (STTC) Conference centred around the two themes of tropical timber promotion and verified sustainable forest management. Visit [www.europeansttc.com/20-november-2019-conference-exploring-pathways-to-verified-sustainable-tropical-timber/](http://www.europeansttc.com/20-november-2019-conference-exploring-pathways-to-verified-sustainable-tropical-timber/)

**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](http://www.messeoffenburg.de)

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

## Amazon fires now spreading across Bolivia

WHILE all eyes are on Brazil, Bolivia in western-central South America is battling its own vast Amazon fires

Global attention has been focused on fires burning across the Brazilian Amazon, but reports this week say at least 20,000 fires are burning across Bolivia with a total 950,000 ha scorched so far this year – most of that in weeks.

The College of Biologists in the capital La Paz has estimated the fires have destroyed \$US1.1 billion worth of timber.

Fires are common in Brazil in the annual dry season, but they are much more widespread this year. Brazilian state experts reported nearly 77,000 wildfires across the country so far this year, up 85% over the same period in 2018.

The wildfires can occur naturally during the dry season, but they're also sparked by illegally deforest



land for cattle ranching.

Environment Minister Carlos Ortuno says these practices come from many years back ... "what we want is that there are controlled burns, but lamentably 90% are illegal."

The Brazilian government last week contracted the

world's largest firefighting tanker plane from the US, and officials say it has helped control expansion of the fires, but hot, dry and windy conditions have kept the blazes burning.

Amazon Environmental Research Institute science director Ane Alencar has linked the wildfires in the region to an increase in deforestation.

"There is no natural fire in the Amazon; there are people who practice burning, which can worsen and turn into big fires in the dry season," he said.

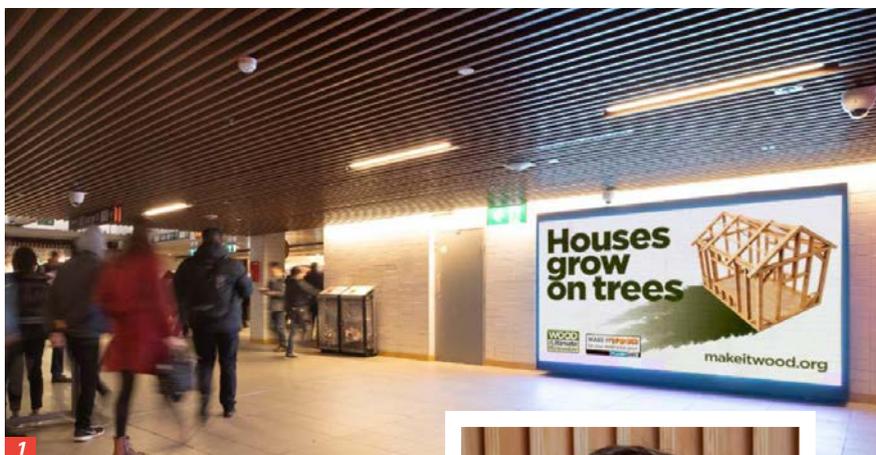
# Millions connecting to wood as Ultimate Renewable gains pace

WITH still another one and a half months to go, The Ultimate Renewable consumer campaign by Forest and Wood Product Australia has reached millions of people across Australia since it was launched on July 1.

Advertisements featuring host of Grand Designs Australia Peter Maddison and content explaining the renewable attributes and environmental advantages of responsibly sourced wood, have featured across a range of channels. The campaign spans traditional mediums such as television and billboards to online, social media and some print including the Qantas Magazine.

Managing director of FWPA Ric Sinclair said the organisation was very pleased with the success of the

**“ POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM THE INDUSTRY ”**



**1/ Wide exposure... The Ultimate Renewable is reinforcing the association between wood and the word 'renewable.'**  
**2/ Ric Sinclair... consumer campaign an important first step.**

campaign.

“The message is all about reinforcing the association between wood and the word ‘renewable,’” he said.

“It’s critical we get this message out to the community, so everyone better understands the forestry and wood sector and how using more responsibly sourced wood can benefit our planet.

“We have also received overwhelmingly positive



feedback from the industry with more than 100 companies downloading the new Ultimate Renewable logo, banner ads and TV commercial for their own use.

“These logos and videos will be used on their company collateral including letterheads, invoices, business cards, websites, signage, truck

curtains, packaging and other areas.”

Metro television advertising has successfully pushed out the renewable message, with people in the target age group of 25-54 years exposed to the advertisement seven times on average.

Of the top 10 metro programs during July, the ad ran in five of them including Australian Survivor, the Masterchef finale, Ninja Warrior, Have You Been Paying Attention and Nine News.

The reach continued online, as more than two million Australians watched the video in full across Catch Up TV, Premium Video and YouTube and thousands clicked on the ad through search engines such as Google.

Online articles highlighting the advantages of forest and wood products have received more than 40,000 views.

Next week an innovative

*Cont P 10*

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Gottstein Awards

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Full details and online application forms are available at [www.gottsteintrust.org](http://www.gottsteintrust.org)

No set prerequisites – each application will be evaluated.

**Applications close on Monday, 16th September 2019.**

Further information: [gottsteinsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:gottsteinsecretary@gmail.com) or Helen Murray +61 (0) 419-991-424.



# Women's network raises more than \$5000 to help stem domestic and family violence

MORE than 60, women and men, from the forest and timber industries and beyond came together for the Women in Forests and Timber Network charity cocktail fundraiser last Saturday.

The network's Queensland chapter has a proud history of community outreach and charity support and this year's event raised \$5000 for Friends with Dignity Australia – a national non-profit organisation helping survivors of domestic and family violence rebuild their lives "with dignity, purpose and hope".

Friends with Dignity grants coordinator Peggy Vlismas spoke passionately about building 'sanctuaries' for those displaced and in need of a home, and fulfilling



**The WFTN executive committee, past and present, Radmila Desic, DESBT, Jenni Day, Versace Timbers, Alicia Oelkers, TABMA, Tammy Crawford, Wilson Timbers, Clarissa Brandt, Timber Queensland, Jacinta Colley, Vida Wood, and Sarah Porter Timber Queensland.**

urgent requests for those in immediate need of anything – from a new identity to a new bike for their son to ride to school.

Peggy told many stories – both heartbreaking and uplifting – of the women and

children she has encountered and the \$100,000 raised so far for the cause.

Raffles and auctions at the network charity event raised close to \$2000 with more than \$5000 overall donated to Friends with Dignity by

sponsors, donors, delegates and ticket holders.

The event signalled a changing of the guard as long-term coordinators Clarissa Brandt, Timber Queensland, Jenni Day, Versace Timbers, Alicia Oelkers, TABMA, and Jacinta Colley, Vida Wood, handed over to new executive committee Sarah Porter, Timber Queensland, Tammy Crawford, Wilson Timber and Radmila Desic, DESBT.

WFTN thanked the generosity of sponsors that included MEGT and Wilson Timbers (platinum), AKD Softwoods (gold) and TABMA (silver) and supporting organisations Timber Queensland and Stairway Solutions.

From P 9

3D cover wrap-a-round using the Viewa phone app will be launched in the National Geographic magazine, as well as in next month's edition of the Grand Designs Australia magazine.

In the social space, The Ultimate Renewable

has reached a further 1.76 million people through Facebook and Instagram. The video has appealed most strongly to a younger audience, with 25-34-year-olds accounting for almost half of all views. Outdoor billboards in traditional and digital formats have appeared along roadsides, landmarks, in

office lobbies, lifts, on public transport shelters, telephone boxes and Wi-Fi hubs across metro and regional cities nationwide.

"The brand aims to generate ongoing approval and acceptance of forest and wood products by the broader community, with industry

collaboration. This consumer campaign is an important first step," Mr Sinclair added.

The campaign is set to continue through to September with a focus on digital content.

To download logos and promotional materials, go to [fwpa.com.au](http://fwpa.com.au).



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# Field day tells both sides of the story

## 'Born-and-bred greenie' gains her chainsaw ticket, helps fell trees

STAFF from the Forest Practices Authority and Department of State Growth were able to see first-hand the physical, environmental and economic constraints of cable harvesting in wet eucalypt forests on steep slopes on a visit to a cable harvest operation in the southern forests of Tasmania.

Logging contractor TP Bennett and Sons is a proud fourth-generation family business based in Huonville and run by siblings Neil, Adrian, Gerrard and Tammy, and closely supported by



*Learning first-hand... Forest Practices Authority staff and state government officers discuss 'harvesting and the habitat' at the cable logging field day.*

roles in the operation so that each can upskill on the job.

Dion Robertson of Sustainable Timber Tasmania explained the coupe planning process including the special values that were considered such as biodiversity habitat, visual landscape and soil and water protection. Considerations included that the coupe, partly visible from the town of Dover, retain a row of trees, and the sighting of an eagle's nest meant a change in road design to allow logs to be carted in a different direction to avoid nest disturbance.

Adrian Bennett explained how he interacted with a forest practices officer

*Cont P 12*

“ VALUING HABITAT AND LANDSCAPE

their mother Carol.

The family ethos, which was developed by their father the late Tony Bennett, is obvious on the site where all

employees are treated as part of the family. They employ staff without gender, age or background biases and rotate everyone through different

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*Time for a snag... in charge of lunch operations are FPA staff Perpetua Turner, Shavawn Donoghue, and Dydee Mann.*

From P 11

while the coupe was being planned. The coupe shape, location of landings and roads is critical to the economic viability of a cable harvesting operation.

The Bennetts have had many experiences with forest protesters over the years. FPA staff were surprised that their standard response was to invite protestors to view operations.

In 2013, they invited film-maker Maddie Parry, a self-declared “born and bred greenie” to join their crew. She took up their offer and under their guidance, gained her chainsaw ticket, felled trees and learnt to drive the machinery.

There were some robust discussions about logging Tasmania’s forests, but Maddie came away with knowledge and respect for the Bennetts and their team. The episode was aired nationally on ABC television as part of the ‘Maddie Parry: Tough Jobs’ series.

At times, the Forest Practices Authority has asked for harvesting operations to pause where biodiversity matters need further investigation. This can include eagle nest discoveries or suspected swift parrot

nesting activity within an active harvesting coupe.

Occasionally protests, vandalism, weather and high fire risk can also cause an operation to temporarily shut down. It was valuable for FPA staff to learn about the cost of these shut-downs and the logistical challenges with emergency evacuation. For example the cable yarding machine weighs 73 tonnes and requires a police escort on public roads. There is a fine balance of economic considerations in this type of harvesting and shut-downs can be expensive and stressful for all concerned.

“ CONTRIBUTING TO RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING

The FPA personnel came away from the field day with a deeper understanding of the implications of their advice and instructions in terms of on-ground action; and for the Bennetts it was a better understanding of the FPA’s priorities as a regulator.

Field days like these are of enormous benefit to both parties and contribute to a better two-way communication, understanding and respect.

# Don't deal from the bottom of the deck

## Brisbane seminar an update on residential building practices

MARKING the time of year when Queenslanders are encouraged to check the structural integrity of their decks and balconies before a summer of outdoor entertaining, Timber Queensland will announce updates to the recommended practices for building residential timber decks at a seminar in Brisbane on September 17.

The seminar, Timber Floors and Decks: Reducing Risk, at Victoria Park Golf Club, Herston, will focus on regular and effective maintenance and the need for annual inspections to help ensure long-term safety

"If installed properly and well-maintained, timber floors and decks can provide

decades of enjoyment in our great Australian outdoors and inside our homes with the natural appeal of timber," Timber Queensland CEO Mick Stephens said.

"Savvy building practitioners should ensure they are up to date with correct building standards and practices when they build and inspect timber floors and decks to protect themselves against legal disputes," he said.

A lawyer experienced in construction law will address concerns and answer questions on liability and how to avoid legal disputes.

"Decks are part of the Queensland lifestyle so it's imperative designers, builders and certifiers understand



**Colin MacKenzie... simple steps for building practitioners.**

new National Construction Code provisions regarding designing and building attached decking," Mr Stephens said.

Updates to Timber Queensland's Technical Data Sheet 4 Residential Timber Decks and Technical Data Sheet 13 Residential Timber Decks Close to or on the Ground will be presented at the seminar and copies made available to all attendees.

Timber Queensland is regularly called to inspect

issues with timber decks and floors related to poor building practice.

Timber Queensland's timber engineering expert Colin MacKenzie will explain the simple steps building practitioners can take to prevent frequently encountered deck issues. He will be joined by ATFA's technical manager David Hayward who will explain how to identify timber flooring problems and offer solutions to achieve client satisfaction.

For seminar details phone (07) 3358 7900 or email [sarah@timberqueensland.com.au](mailto:sarah@timberqueensland.com.au).

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# There's no real mystery about this 'triangle' of forest operations

## Business booms for a special region in southern Australia

THE year 1907 has special significance in forestry in southern Australia. That's the year large areas of radiata pine were first planted in the Green Triangle.

The 'triangle', estimated to cover 6 million ha, is now synonymous with forestry in Australia and is the workplace for almost 5500 people.

It's no wonder, then, that this area has been under the



**1/ Komatsu 895... one of 500 forest machines working in the Green Triangle.**

**2/ Innovation... stump spraying system that Onetrak developed together with Tigercat is now used by contractors in South Australia, Queensland and Western Australia.**



watchful eyes of some of the major forestry machine manufacturers for many years.

Komatsu Forest (formerly Valmet Logging) established its Australian office in Sydney during 1991 to meet the growing demands for mechanisation in the Australian softwood plantations. It was quickly established that the Green Triangle was very suitable for the Scandinavian style of rubber tyre machines due to the easy terrain, sandy soils, good quality tree form and the drive for more economical and consistent supply of product to the various mills.

Valmet had the foresight to become the first specialised forest machine supplier to set up in the Green Triangle

region. The strong growth in sales over the following years resulted in several moves to larger premises and increased staff to meet the increasing demand from the softwood contractors.

During the period after 2000 the local branch demands were further increased as the blue gum plantations came on stream.

Today, Komatsu Forest offers a wide range of forestry equipment including the Komatsu rubber-tyred machines from Sweden, Komatsu specialised forestry hydraulic excavators from Japan, Peterson flail/chippers and Timberpro purpose-built track machines from USA.

Komatsu Forest has almost 500 forest machines working

in the triangle.

Randalls Forestry Equipment, one of Australia's longest serving forestry equipment companies (52 years now notched up) was another to see the immense importance of the Green Triangle region.

"Our decision to build the Mount Gambier facility was made in January 2016 with the purchase of land in the CALULA industrial estate," said Randalls managing director Peter Randalls.

"We then came up with a building design and engaged a local builder in March 2017,

Cont P 16

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From P 15

with building completion in December 2017.”

Since 2012, Randalls has undergone a vast transformation with the addition of distribution and service for SP harvesting heads, SANY excavators, Clark Tracks and of course Ponsse in Australia. These brands have helped to propel the business forward and have led to the opening of additional branches in Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania along with the appointment of service agents in Queensland, New South Wales, Tasmania and New Zealand.

Onetrak had a large customer base in the Mount Gambier region and pre-empted a boom in the industry which led to the decision to invest in a local branch presence in the area in 2013.

“We see a trend with



**Onetrak's Mount Gambier facility... servicing a large customer base across the Green Triangle.**

contractors focusing more on innovation and efficiencies,” said David Hazell, managing director.

One example is a stump spraying system that Onetrak developed together with Tigercat and a few key customers last year. The system is now used by contractors not only in South Australia but also Queensland and Western Australia.

Mr Hazell said the Tigercat feller bunchers were very

popular in the triangle.

“The design of the shear head services the blue gum industry best,” he said. “Harvesters, forwarders and skidders are also in high demand.”

David Hazell believes the industry will continue

**“ CONTRACTORS FOCUSING MORE ON EFFICIENCIES AND INNOVATION ”**

to be strong.

He said one noticeable fact was that due to the growth of the industry there was a shortage of all skillsets. However, his business was playing a crucial role in overcoming this problem.

“Onetrak has invested in bringing in people from external regions, and we continue to employ and train local technicians and apprentices,” he said.

“Cameron Curtis won the first-year Apprentice of the Year Award earlier this year which is a testament to the great work of the Onetrak Mount Gambier team.”

Onetrak is proud to again sponsor and support the Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards.

“It’s a fantastic initiative to recognise what people are doing within the industry and to get the community together,” Mr Hazell said.



Some standards enforced in Australia originate from international certifying bodies

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# Timber traders alerted on laws governing consumer compliance

TIMBER importers, wholesalers, distributors and retailers need to ensure that products supplied do not breach trade or consumer laws or industry-specific requirements for safety or performance.

They should also be able to supply the conformance information, including any limitations for each product sold.

General manager of the Australian Timber Importers Federation John Halkett said care was required when using conformance information from others or overseas suppliers. Standards for manufacturer and safety varied around the world, and Australian consumer law considers the importer of the goods liable for these claims of conformance.

ATIF, in association with the Timber Development Association, has prepared a structural softwood compliance guide.

The guide, *Structural Timber Used in Construction*, has been distributed in both hard copy and ecopy forms to ATIF members, TABMA members and some timber product export organisations.

The guide has been prepared to assist importers and resellers to ensure that structural softwood products imported and sold comply with the requirements of the Australian building code and related standards.

"It is essentially a compliance check list for treated and untreated imported structural



softwoods that provides information for compliance with Australian regulations and explains the consequences of providing non-conforming or non-complying products," Mr Halkett said.

He said the National Construction Code used to regulate building and construction within Australia was given legal effect by relevant legislation in each state and territory. The legislation 'calls up' the NCC to fulfil any technical requirements that are required to be satisfied when undertaking building work.

"For stress graded timber, AS 1684 is the primary design standard for

the NCC's two primary referenced standards, AS 1684 and AS 1720.1, used for the design of timber elements do have durability requirements contained within them. In most parts, natural durability or preservative treatment levels are specified.

Mr Halkett said non-conforming building products were those claiming to be something they were not, did not meet the required standards for their intended use or were marketed or supplied with the intention to deceive those who used them.

"A manufacturer may be defined as a company that makes or assembles the goods; imports the product; uses its own brand name in relation to the product; promotes itself as the manufacturer of the goods, or permits another person to promote the goods as having been manufactured by the company," he said.

He added that the liability provisions of the Australian Consumer Law generally applied to a manufacturer that supplied consumer goods in trade or commerce.

Mr Halkett confirmed that the issue of timber product compliance had assumed added significance with the identification of widespread multi-storey building failures, notably in Sydney.

He said a copy of the ATIF structural softwood compliance guide had been forwarded to the recently appointed NSW Building Commissioner David Chandler.

**1/ Structural softwood products... guide will assist importers and resellers to ensure they comply with the requirements of the Australian building code and related standards.**

**2/ John Halkett... timber product compliance had assumed added significance with the identification of widespread multi-storey building failures.**

house construction and AS 1720 Part 1 is the timber engineering design standard used for all building types," Mr Halkett said.

"Both require all structural timber used in conjunction with the standard to be stress graded and the timber element to have its stress grade identified in accordance with the relevant Australian standard."

Preservative timber treatment is not directly regulated under the NCC, as it does not have mandatory durability requirements, except for termite susceptibility. However,

**“SOFTWOOD COMPLIANCE GUIDE”**



# GREEN TRIANGLE TIMBER INDUSTRY AWARDS



# NOMINATIONS OPEN

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](http://www.gttia.com)

## Key Dates 2019

17 June **Nominations Open**

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September **Judging Process**

1 November **GREEN TRIANGLE  
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# Kia! The art of graceful motoring with the adaptable Cerato 'hatch'

"GOLF is not yet the national sport of Korea, eh?" says villain Auric Goldfinger addressing henchman Oddjob, his caddy on that famous fairway duel at Stoke Park in the Bond flick.

But the martial art of Taekwon-do is. And the thick-set Korean was its champion in the 60s. And for the information-you-must have file, the yell shouted when practicing Taekwon-do is ... Kia!

Seoul-based Kia Motor Corporation is a major sponsor of the sport along with horse racing (gold sponsor of the Australian Turf Club), the Australian Open Grand Slam tennis tournament, and the American PGA classic among many others.

Martial arts enthusiasts say compared to grasshoppers and bees, Taekwon-do is more like a butterfly because of the grace involved in each move. I might go so far as to say the 2019 Honda Cerato GT hatch performed some graceful moves.

The big turnaround for Kia was an increased focus on Europe and the poaching of



**On the right track... the sporty Kia Cerato GT hatchback pulls in at Brisbane's Eagle Farm Racecourse.**

ex-Audi wunderkind Peter Schreyer as Kia design boss. This led to Kia's 'tiger-nose' design philosophy that resulted in a massive increase in world-wide sales.

The Cerato (Italian for oil wax!), was a cheap small sedan and hatch when it first appeared in 2003, until 10 years later when Kia underwent a huge shift in the way it designed and marketed its cars.

This has flowed through to the 2019 five-door GT hatchback, and four-door sedan, which bring subtle sporty upgrades inside and out. Power comes from 1.6-litre turbocharged four-cylinder petrol engine, making 150 kW of power

18-in.alloy wheels, side skirts, and a diffuser-style rear bumper insert with dual tailpipes. The cabin gets a graceful overhaul with perforated leather sports seats and red pin striping, GT branding, a flat-bottomed GT steering wheel, red top-stitching throughout and configurable ambient interior lighting in a dot pattern on the front door trims.

Versions fitted with the seven-speed dual-clutch automatic also get steering-mounted paddle-shifters. A six-speed manual is also available.

The GT has a five-star ANCAP rating and safety features include autonomous emergency braking, driver attention monitoring, lane-keep assist, and high-beam assist.

Fuel consumption is rated at 8.2L/100km on the Korean combined testing cycle for both the manual and auto versions.

Available in both hatchback and sedan, the Cerato GT drives away at a competitive \$31,990, but that includes a generous kit of standard equipment.

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at 6000 rpm, and 265Nm between 1500 and 4500rpm, sending drive to the front wheels via a six-speed manual or seven-speed dual-clutch automatic.

All GT models have a sportier front grille with red accents, black mirror caps,

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