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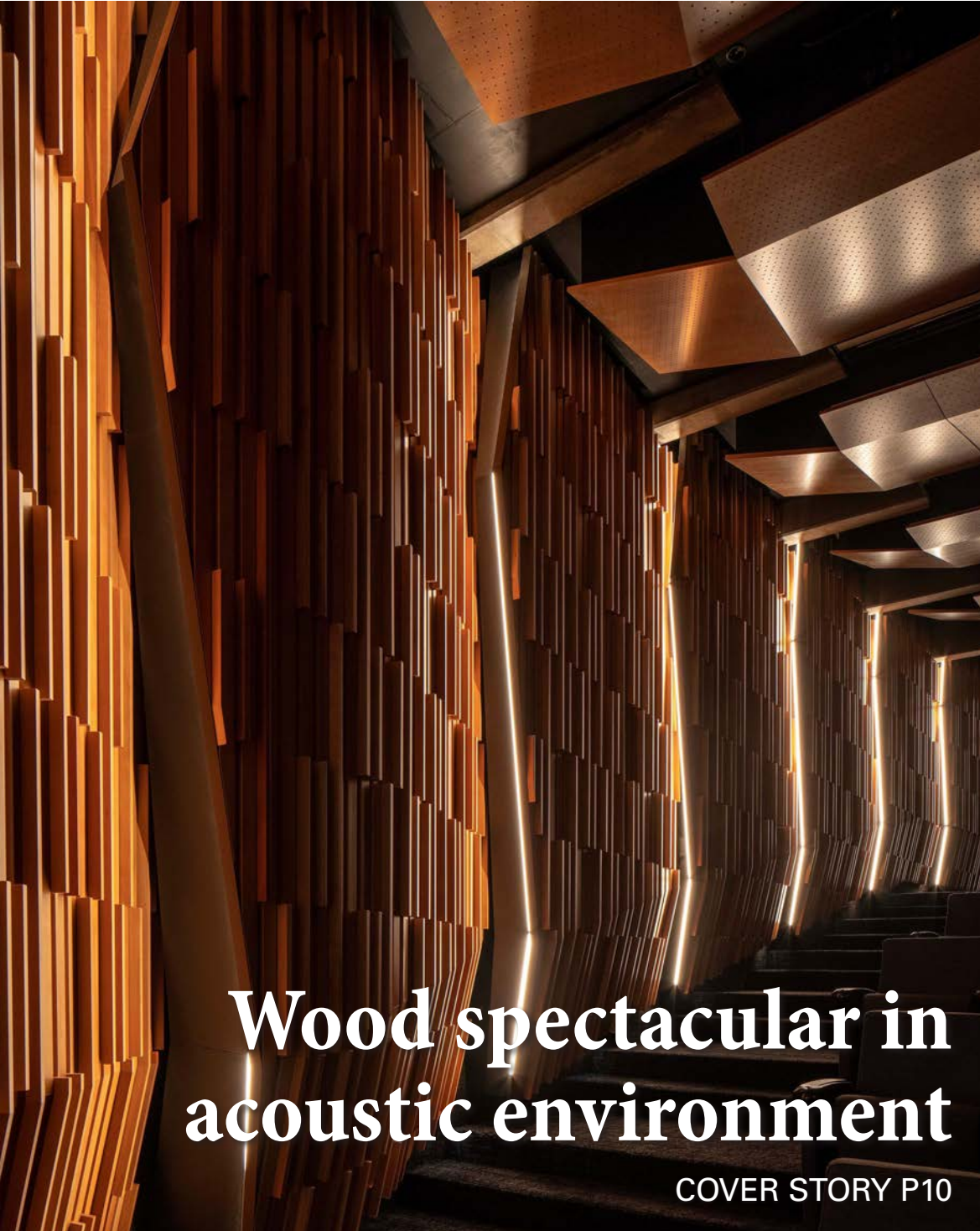


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COVER STORY P10

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\$1.9bn value put on sale of NSW commercial softwood plantations

Scoping study to consider a long-term lease option

JIM BOWDEN

THE NSW government is considering the viability of a long-term lease of the state's commercial softwood plantation estate.

State-owned Forestry Corporation of NSW manages 2,186,893 ha of land, which is primarily state forests, with small areas of freehold and private land managed through joint investment partnerships.

The profitable softwood division has been valued at \$1.9 billion. Regional NSW – mainly the central-west, south and north of the state – has 400,000 ha of plantation forests, mostly radiata pine, which is more than one-third of Australia's softwood timber resource.

Annual reports show this area has been expanding in recent years with revenue



On the table... long-term lease of NSW commercial softwood plantation estate.

of \$262 million in 2018, and earnings before interest and tax of \$64 million.

Big industry super funds are expected to cast an eye over the plantation business as well as US company Hancock which bought the Queensland government's

forestry assets for \$603 million in 2010.

With infrastructure advocates keen for the Berejiklian government to undertake another round of asset sales following March's state election, Treasurer Dominic Perrottet

has announced a scoping study into the long-term lease of Forestry Corporation's softwood division.

The move has been backed by the Nationals on the promise that no jobs would

Cont P 3

“NATIONALS SUPPORT IF NO FORESTRY JOBS ARE LOST”



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From P 2

be lost.

Mr Perrottet said New South Wales was the only state still running a softwood plantation of a significant scale so it was worth exploring whether it was worth keeping it in government ownership.

“This scoping study will enable us to assess who is best placed to manage this commercial softwood business going forward – the government or the private sector,” Mr Perrottet said.

The previous biggest state timber plantation asset sale occurred in 2010 when the Bligh Labor government sold a 99-year licence for \$603 million to Hancock Queensland Plantations, a company managed by forest investor Hancock Timber Resource Group, based in Boston, USA. The group’s clients, located in Australia, Canada, Chile, New Zealand and the USA, have managed assets of about \$10.8 billion.

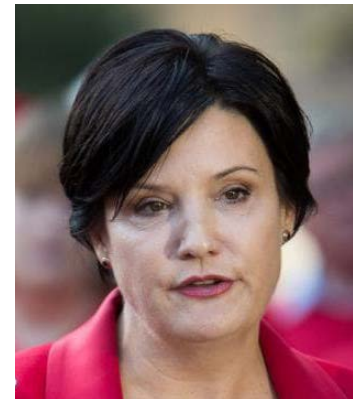
There was considerable controversy at the time that the 44,000 ha of native hoop pine and 138,000 ha of introduced American pines was a ‘gift’, after the auditor general assessed the asset value at more than \$1.2 billion.



Dominic Perrottet... scoping study to assess who best to manage softwood estate.



John Barilaro... focus throughout is the protection of NSW regional jobs.



Jodi McKay... concern about steps to privatise NSW Forestry Corporation.

The sale also included about 35,000 ha of freehold land, about 10% of the total estate. Then Treasurer Andrew Fraser said the sale price was well in excess of the \$500 million that had been anticipated, telling state parliament the price of \$603 million “is great news for Queensland taxpayers”.

NSW Deputy Premier John Barilaro assured the industry that any lease of the state’s softwood plantations would only proceed on the basis that it posed no risk to the regional jobs involved.

“My focus throughout this process is the protection of

“ FOCUS WILL BE ON PROTECTION OF REGIONAL JOBS

regional jobs,” he said.

“I can assure Forestry Corporation workers that as the Minister for Forestry I am determined to grow the harvestable forestry estate across the state, increasing timber supplies and creating more jobs and better opportunities in the sector.

“We support the decision to assess our options on the softwood business but want to reassure those people working in the plantations, they will not be left out in the cold.

“This is all about what’s best for the people in NSW and that starts with the people employed on site.”

The NSW Labor Opposition is deeply concerned that the Berejiklian-Barilaro government has taken a step closer towards the

privatisation of the Forestry Corporation, saying such a move would put hundreds of regional and rural jobs at risk and undermine the good work of public servants in the management of the state’s forests.

NSW Labor Leader Jodi McKay said: “The Liberals and Nationals cannot be trusted when it comes to the state’s assets. Their business model is to sell off the state’s assets which they have done to the tune of \$70 billion since coming to office in 2011.”

She said the decision by the NSW Treasurer to conduct a scoping study into a long-term sale of Forestry Corporation’s softwood assets also broke Premier Gladys Berejiklian’s election promise not to sell any more assets.



8 wheels done right...

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Key survey message: build public support, challenge misconceptions

‘Let’s tell our story about the renewable forest sector’

RESPONDENTS to a national survey among the ‘grassroots’ of the forestry industry overwhelmingly want concerted and effective community engagement that builds public support, challenges misconceptions and promotes “what we do and why.”

The survey undertaken by forest ecologist Dr Michelle Freeman was presented at the Australian and New Zealand Institutes of Foresters (ANZIF) conference in Christchurch last month.

All states and territories were represented in the survey and were from a



Dr Michelle Freeman... challenges facing forestry represent significant opportunities.

diverse range of fields in the sector.

At a plenary session on the future of forestry in Australia,

Dr Freeman said challenges from the survey – “which aimed to capture the mood of the industry at this time” – included working to achieve broad recognition of the importance of managed forests and forest products to society and the environment

through education and promotional campaigns.

“The forestry sector has known this need for some time; the sense of frustration about our continuing failure to tell our story well was apparent in the survey,” Dr Freeman, an IFA member, said.

She said The Ultimate Renewable brand developed and rolled out by FWPA after extensive market research already addressed much of this required action.

“However, the enduring success of that campaign will rely on complementary action at the local and regional level by our forestry organisations to build respect and trust among communities,” she said.

Respondents wanted to

see a price for carbon and access to carbon markets, and a long-term forest policy backed up by adequate investment. Thirdly, they wanted truly sustainable forest management.

Dr Freeman said this was best summarised by one respondent who said there was a need for “lowered industry targets to reduce market strain on resource and allow for more flexibility in harvest planning, with a focus on value management.”

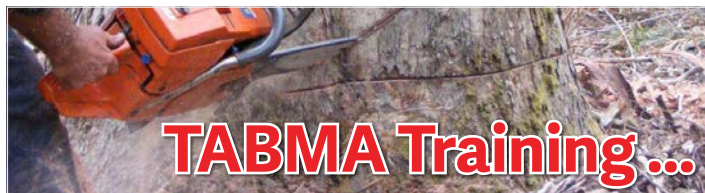
This indicated a strong desire to see a rethink about current operating models to achieve holistic, rather than profit-based management.

“Overall, respondents were either on the fence or relatively positive about the future of forestry in Australia,” Dr Freeman said.

“Queenslanders generally felt the future for forestry was bleak, driven mainly by perceived resource uncertainty and extreme green politics. Respondents in Canberra, the Northern Territory, or who work in jobs that have a national focus, were substantially more positive.

“There are some exciting things happening at the national level, including the Ultimate Renewable campaign and support from the federal government to establish regional hubs and forest innovations centres.

“Further, there is new research funding to develop forestry in northern Australia,



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“NEED FOR GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN FOREST PLANNING

From P 4

all of which seemed to be driving this trend towards greater positivity from survey respondents.

“People working in plantations were slightly more positive than those in native/natural forests and agroforestry, but not by much. There was no difference in the survey’s ‘bleak/bright ratings’ between career levels.”

Dr Freeman said the majority of respondents expressed broadly positive or hopeful sentiments. The second most dominant feeling was that forestry was being threatened by politics and emotions rather than factual or rational, decision-making. Thirdly, respondents reflected on forestry as being the “ultimate renewable” – a sustainable, ethical and renewable resource that was essential to helping the world tackle future climate and societal challenges.

Negative sentiments included that forest resources were over-committed, management was too driven by short-term thinking and financial imperatives and that, therefore, we are the orchestrators of our own uncertain future through lack of foresight.

Interestingly, regardless of



Survey... respondents positive about the future of forestry, and, in particular the plantation sector. Photo: Forestry Corporation NSW

which sector of forestry the respondents worked in, there was a common passion for native forestry coupled with despair that its future was bleak.

Many felt the decline of native forestry was past the point of no return with one respondent calling it “the albatross around the forest sector’s neck.”

Dr Freeman said this represented somewhat of an ethical dilemma for the forest sector moving forward – should we continue to fight what appears to be, among many of us, an unwinnable battle?

Despite the bleak outlook for native forest timber harvesting, respondents strongly felt that having truly integrated, multiple-value

management of our forests, rather than under-managed preservation reserves, was essential.

That forestry is “politically isolated and vulnerable” was a common concern.

“The lack of meaningful political support for forestry, despite our environmental credentials and firm scientific basis for what we do and why was frustrating and reflects the forest sector’s failure to engage the hearts and minds of the community,” was a survey assessment by Dr Freeman.

“FORESTRY THREATENED BY POLITICS AND EMOTIONS

There was also some discordance between public forestry and private forestry, summarised by one respondent who said: “Private forestry has huge potential if only the government forestry agencies would stop competing in the market place with private enterprise. The government sells timber at give-away prices.”

Survey respondents were on the whole very positive about the future of forestry, and, in particular the plantation sector.

There was a strong theme of unrealised potential. For some, they felt that community sentiments were actually shifting towards support for forestry based on the importance of forests for meeting human needs and tackling climate change. Respondents could also sense a positive shift towards increased resilience and innovation that are a cause for optimism.

There were clear opinions that the significant challenges facing forestry represent significant opportunities, which will rely on us being innovative and diversifying – our approach, our products and our land base.

A clichéd, but apt response from one recipient was that “The future is ours to make.”

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Nursing ‘winter babies’ as they grow

MORE than 3000 ha of pine seedlings has been planted across Forestry Corporation of NSW plantations in the South West Slopes during the annual winter planting program.

Operations scheduler Teresa Baker said around 100 contract staff had been brought on board for planting season, which runs from June to August.

“Each winter we re-establish around 8000 ha of pine plantations across the state. About 70% of these are in the South West,” Ms Baker said.

“This year we planted over 3.2 million radiata pine seedlings across an area roughly equivalent to 6000 football fields to restock plantations that have been harvested for timber in



Winter planting... best time for survival of seedlings.

recent years.

“The seedlings were predominantly grown in the Forestry Corporation’s production nursery at Tumut and planted throughout the Tumut and Tumbarumba region, including a large part of Buccleuch state forest, as well as in plantations in Green Hills, Bagot and Carabost state forests.

“We plant in winter when

pine seedlings are dormant, which makes them hardier and more resilient to stress giving them the best chance of survival.

“Each seedling is planted

“3.2 MILLION SEEDLINGS PLANTED BY HAND IN NSW”

by hand and an experienced planter can plant around 2000 seedlings in a day.”

Ms Baker said the ground in each plantation had been carefully prepared, cultivated and treated for weed control to give seedlings the best start possible. But like any crop, the seedlings were still susceptible to extreme weather such as snow and wind damage ... “so we’ll need to keep an eye on them to monitor how they are growing.”

Ms Baker added: “This season has proven to be quite dry, which has been a challenge because the more rain we receive the better the seedling survival rates.

“If the seedlings survive the next 12 months, they are likely to make it to harvest in 20 to 30 years’ time.”

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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 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

17: Institute of Foresters of Australia, Innovation in Forestry Seminar – Library at the Dock, Docklands, Melbourne, Australia. Seminar will cover: latest developments in drone use and mobile data collection in native and plantation forests; adaptive harvesting and regeneration practices in native forests; harvesting performance monitoring in plantation forests, and innovation in log measurement and payment systems. To register to attend see: www.forestry.org.au/Forestry/Events/Innovation_in_the_Forestry_Sector

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

18: 2019 TABMA National Awards Dinner – Doltone House, Hyde Park, Sydney,

Australia. Hosted by TABMA Australia, 6:30 - 11:30 pm. Dress formal.

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 30. 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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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/

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 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

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, 418 564-1312; Marjolaine Dugas, Director of Communications, FPInnovations, 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 exporting

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

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/

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

Rob de Fégely's service to forestry earns Jolly Medal

RESPECTED forester and industry leader Rob de Fégely has received the N.W. Jolly Medal for outstanding services to forestry, the Institute of Foresters of Australia's most prestigious award.

The medal was presented at this year's joint Australia and New Zealand Institutes of Foresters Conference in Christchurch

Mr de Fégely, who has close to 40 years' experience in the forest industry, has made an outstanding contribution to forestry and the forestry profession since his graduation with a B.Sc. (Forestry) from the

Australian National University in 1978 and an M.Sc. (Forest Business Management) from Aberdeen University UK in 1989.

Starting with softwood plantation establishment in Bombala his career has spanned a very diverse range of roles within the public and private sector, both nationally and internationally, with significant strategic



Medal winner... Rob de Fégely (right) receives the N.W. Jolly medal from Dr Hans Drielsma Drielsma, chair of the NW Jolly committee and medal winner in 2015, and IFA national president Bob Gordon (centre).

and leadership roles

He is chairman of Sustainable Timber Tasmania, co-chair of the Forest Industry Advisory Council and a founding director of consulting firm

Margules Groome.

A former IFA national president, Mr de Fégely is a committed conservationist and sits on the Victorian advisory board of Greening Australia. He is also a member of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services' regional advisory council for the Far South Coast and devotes time to the Australian Rural Leadership Program

Brought up on a farm in Victoria, Mr de Fégely's other love is agriculture. With wife Sarah, he runs a beef, prime lamb and forestry enterprise on the NSW far south coast.

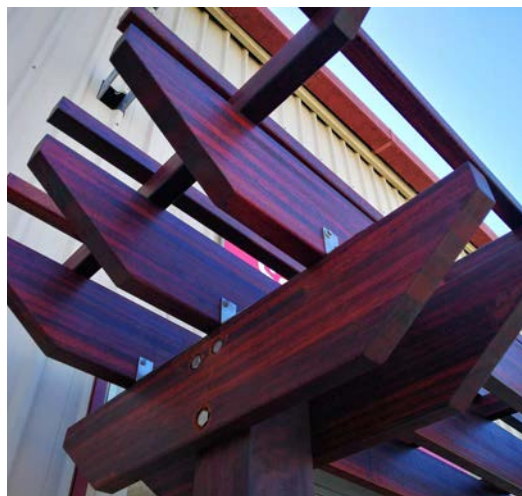


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45 buildings nationwide shortlist for 2019 NZ architecture awards

MICHAEL SMITH

FORTY-FIVE buildings nationwide have been shortlisted as finalists in the 2019 New Zealand Architecture Awards organised by the New Zealand Institute of Architects.

The awards jury compiled the selections from 187 projects that received local architecture awards earlier this year through the institute's eight constituent branches.

Award winners will be announced at the Queenstown Events Centre on Saturday, November 9.

The award categories this year encompass everything from heritage and public architecture to education and hospitality. Among the projects in which wood



Pinwheel House... a family retreat that sits unobtrusively in a coastal environment.
Photo: Jackie Meiring.

played a prominent structural and decorative role is the Auckland Zoo Administration Building, a winner in the commercial architecture category.

Designed by Ignite Services – in association with TimberLab Solutions Ltd and BGT engineers – the building was described by the jury as “a bright new home for the zoo staff that handles the demands of

hot-desking and lockers with a superb use of colour and clarity”.

Cost efficiencies were to the forefront, due in no small part to the efforts of TimberLab Solutions, an Auckland company that specialises in all aspects of engineered timber construction, including glulam and LVL solutions.

Office administrator Dale Dobson says the company's

production team worked on the glulam and CNC detailing and prefabricated all components before delivery to the site where NZ Strong completed construction.

Ms Dobson adds that the light and open interior features glulam portal frames to the gables and saw-tooth roof line. Other timber highlights include CLT stairs, the mezzanine

“FROM HERITAGE AND PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE TO EDUCATION AND HOSPITALITY

Cont P 11



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From P 10

floors, decorative plywood linings and exterior timber fins, which provide shading on the glazed north-eastern side.

TomberLab Solutions Ltd (previously McIntosh Timber Laminates) is a New Zealand leader in engineered timber design and manufacturing company with a workforce of 30 operating from a 3500 sq m plant in East Tamaki, Auckland.

Another Auckland Architecture Awards winner (in the housing category) is Pinwheel House by Architecture Plus, a family retreat on relatively remote and off-grid Great Barrier Island.

A permissible site coverage of 15% persuaded the architects to create a two-level dwelling with four separate, sheltered courtyards in a pinwheel style on each side of the structure.

The jury praised the house's "calm ambience," achieved through careful



1/ **Auckland Zoo administration building... timber highlights include the exterior fins, glulam portal frames, the mezzanine floors and decorative plywood linings.**
Photo: Simon Devitt.

2/ **Dale Dobson... light and open interior featured glulam portal frames to the gables and saw-tooth roof line.**

planning, and well-chosen materials and detailing – notably in the use of Douglas fir joists; cedar cladding, screens and shutters; and American white ash floors, walls and ceilings.

Meanwhile, the Wellington Architecture Awards included the impressive National Library Auditorium by Warren and Mahoney, winner of the interior architecture



category. The firm is the only third-generation architectural practice in New Zealand.

The 168-seat venue is used for speech and multimedia presentations and can also function as a cinematic/musical performance space.

Its wall and ceiling panels – made from sustainably harvested, wind-felled

Southland beech – help to create a spectacular acoustic environment. The panels allude to another intimate timber interior within the same complex – the He Tohu Document Room, winner of the supreme award at last year's NZ Wood-Resene Timber Design Awards.

The jury noted that "the upgrade to a long-shelved auditorium project brings the theatre space up to the same high standards as the rest of the National Library"

On the cover: The National Library auditorium... red beech wall and ceiling panels create a spectacular acoustic environment in this entry for the 2019 New Zealand Architecture Awards.
Photo: Simon Devitt.

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



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Pushing the envelope for sustainability

ONE of Australasia's largest envelope manufacturers Candida Stationery Ltd has 'stapled' Aussies and Kiwis together in a common cause – corporate social responsibility.

Operations manager Corey Martin says when it comes to CSR, the company – a manufacturer of plain stock, printed and custom envelopes – is leading by example.

"Recycling and reused materials is central to everything we do," he said. "For example, all plastic shrink wrapping on our paper reels and pallets and packaged boxes are recycled and two of our envelope products are specifically designed for re-use."

Sustainability at Candida is not just about demonstrating its wares as good corporate citizens, it underpins its



Paper trail... Simon Dorries, CEO, Responsible Wood (right) discusses chain of custody in Auckland with Corey Martin, operations manager at Candida Stationery.

commercial competitiveness in a rapidly changing environment.

"Adapt or perish, we are a business that believes in the triple bottom line for environmental, social and economic sustainability," Mr Martin said.

But for Responsible Wood, the national governing body for PEFC in Australia, it is Candida's commitment to source paper from sustainably managed forests that draws attention

Speaking about Candida's PEFC chain of custody,

Responsible Wood CEO Simon Dorries expanded on the importance of forest certification in supporting responsible forest practices.

"Candida has PEFC and FSC chain-of-custody forest certification in Auckland and in Sydney and Adelaide, which in itself represents a high watermark in sustainable practice," Mr Dorries said.

"This certification allows Candida to trace the paper in its envelopes back to its source, ensuring that forests are used and managed ethically and responsibly."

PEFC is the world's largest forest certification scheme; with more than 311 million ha of forest certified it provides market access to scheme holders by means of international endorsement and mutual recognition in global markets.

Join us to celebrate the **Awards**

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PRICING: \$180 PP OR \$1,700 TABLE OF 10 **RSVP:** 7TH OCTOBER - [HTTPS://TABMA.COM.AU/EVENTS](https://TABMA.COM.AU/EVENTS)



Timber Exchange makes trade in Indonesian hardwoods a lot easier

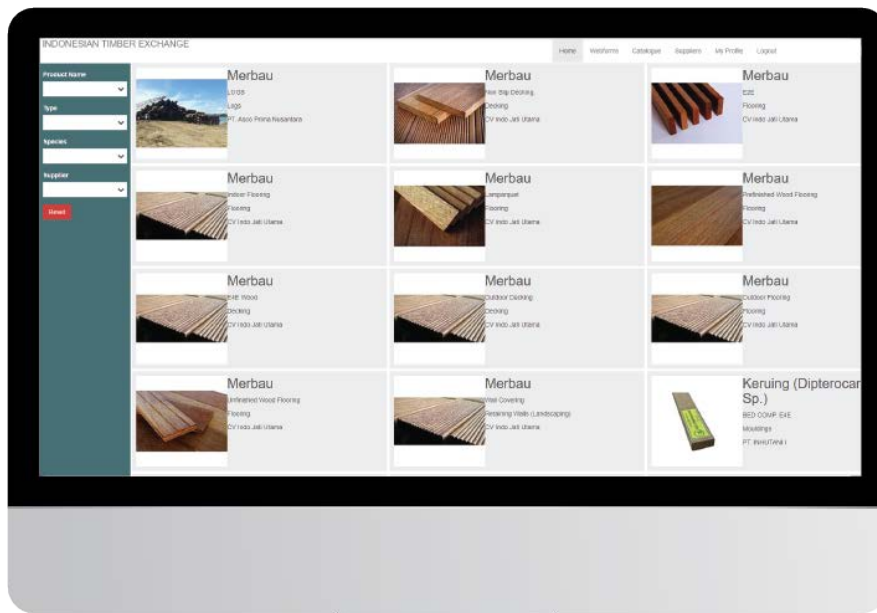
HEAD and shoulders, Indonesia is Australia's leading supplier of hardwood timber products. Merbau decking immediately springs to mind, but there is also a wide range of other hardwood species, specifications and products.

All timber products now exported from Indonesia require SVLK (Sistem Verifikasi Legalitas Kayu) certification. Such legality-verified products pass muster with Australia's illegal logging legislation. This, coupled with declining supplies of many native Australian hardwood species, means that the demand for imported Indonesian hardwood products is certain to grow. This is particularly the case with value-added and sophisticated engineered timber products.

Timber product trading with Indonesian suppliers has been greatly enhanced by the development of the Indonesian Timber Exchange (ITE). This robust online marketplace has been created for the Indonesian timber industry with the intention of connecting suppliers with buyers across the globe.

The ITE was created in 2018 and launched in 2019 through a collaboration between the PNORS Technology Group and the Association of Indonesian Forest Concessionaires

“CONNECTING WITH GLOBAL BUYERS AND SUPPLIERS”



- 1/ **The Indonesian Timber Exchange... providing manufacturers, merchants, importers and exporters with an efficient, cost-effective solution for business transactions.**
- 2/ **Paul Gallo... connecting Indonesian timber merchants, importers and exporters with hundreds of local and international timber buyers and suppliers**

(APHI). PNORS Group CEO and founder Paul Gallo says with the ITE, Indonesian timber merchants, manufacturers and exporters can connect with hundreds of local and international buyers and suppliers in the one online marketplace.

“Together, with APHI's knowledge, the ITE allows timber companies in Indonesia to trade seamlessly with domestic and international traders,” Mr Gallo said.

“The ITE is a fully automated, customisable B2B electronic commerce solution for the timber



industry that can achieve this aim with unprecedented efficiency.”

Using an optimum blend of e-commerce technology, knowledge of the timber industry's supply-chain management and off-line management services and support all partners can access a controlled, fully secure ecommerce communication and transaction system specifically tailored to the Indonesian timber industry.

PNORS and its WilldooIT predecessor (formerly known as Disprax) have a deep and detailed understanding and

experience of the timber industry in Australia and around Asia. PNORS has more than 37 years' experience in the development of timber industry software and is one of the most used and trusted suppliers in Australasia.

Paul Gallo says this relationship

with the timber industry started with the development of the timber business management solution, Timber Industry Management and Marketing System (TIMMS).

“This is a solution purpose-built for the timber industry,” he said. “TIMMS is now one of the leading providers of timber industry software in Australasia and represented the early beginnings of the PNORS Technology Group.”

Introduced in 2018 to assist the Indonesian timber industry with exporting and importing timber and timber-related products, the ITE uses international standards for electronic trading connecting buyers and suppliers throughout the supply chain with a highly user-friendly e-commerce platform.

“The automation of these processes, in turn, reduces the number of resources

From P 14

needed to carry out administrative tasks, enabling staff to be redeployed to other tasks with the benefits being passed on in improved processes and reduced internal resources," Mr Gallo said.

"We understand the timber industry and the complexity of hundreds of products with varying sizes and product identification codes, which can disrupt supply chains if errors occur."

The ITE 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.

"With over 37 years of experience, we understand the business processes and supply-chain management



Merbau decking... one of the main hardwood timber product imported from Indonesia.

that takes place in the timber industry, and the development of the ITE has been the outcome of decades of experience and technological advancements," Mr Gallo added.

The PNORS Group has provided technology-related services to a diverse range of customers, including government

departments, universities, ASX-listed companies, the health industry, non-profit organisations and small to large businesses in a vast array of industries.

**“AN EFFICIENT
COST-EFFECTIVE
BUSINESS
SOLUTION**

Each member of the group provides services that are specific to their area of expertise, combined they provide a comprehensive solution to the modern enterprise. These include automated data capture and validation, network and hardware infrastructure support and electronic trading.

Suddenly, purchasing timber from Indonesia is only a click away.

Powered by the PNORS Technology Group, the Indonesian Timber Exchange (ITE) was created to facilitate the trade of timber between Australia and Indonesia.

No longer do you need to search for suppliers of Indonesian timber. The Indonesian Timber Exchange ensures all your Indonesian timber needs are met in one, easy-to-use online platform.

Find out more at indonesiantimberexchange.com



Timber importers partner Sydney Build

THE Australian Timber Importers Federation will be a partner organisation at the Sydney Build 2020 Expo at the International Convention Centre in Darling Harbour on March 19 and 20 next year.

Sydney is experiencing a \$7 billion renaissance with \$4.8 billion worth of construction projects under way in the CBD alone. This is coupled with a further \$3.1 billion of approved projects due for completion by 2025.

Likewise, infrastructure works are booming with the development of WestConnex, NorthConnex, Sydney Metro and two light rail lines, all taking place concurrently.

Last year's Sydney Build Expo was a huge success, with more than 250 exhibitors; 15,000 pre-registered visitors; and 300 speakers. After



Sydney's Lord Mayor Clover Moore addresses participants at the Sydney Build 2019 Expo.

reaching full capacity last year, Sydney Build will be held at the new International Convention Centre in 2020.

Sydney Build is part of Oliver Kinross's Build Series, also taking place in London, Chicago and New York. First launched in 2016, the expo is dedicated entirely to building and construction opportunities in Sydney and

its surrounding regions.

Across the two days, the Sydney Build 2020 Expo will bring together thousands of construction professionals, architects, engineers, designers, developers and government representatives along with more than 350 exhibitors.

Like its counterparts overseas, Sydney Build prides

itself on being content-driven; some 300 top-level speakers from across the industry take part in informative CPD

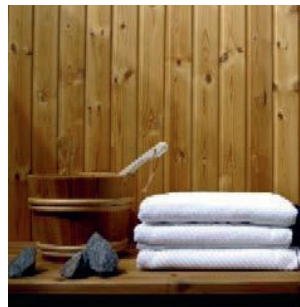
accredited presentations, themed into 20 free-to-attend presentations.

An objective of the expo is to provide an opportunity for professionals to get together to discuss past, present and future projects. The event enables the industry to educate itself and provides the perfect marketing tool for companies looking to stand out within the competitive construction industry.

For more information and to register a complimentary ticket visit <https://tickets.lup.com.au/sydney-build-2020> and www.sydneybuildexpo.com



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DANA 2019 | JAPAN FOREST INDUSTRY TOUR

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 - 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 .

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Balsa wood: from primitive rafts to speedy World War 2 bombers

BALSA (*Ochroma pyramidale*) is the world's lightest hardwood and continues to be widely grown.

A large, fast-growing tree, balsa is native from southern Mexico to southern Brazil, but it can be found in many other countries, including Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Solomon Islands.

Balsa trees can establish themselves in forest clearings or on abandoned agricultural fields and grow extremely rapidly. Their speed of growth accounts for the lightness of the wood, which has a lower density than cork. Trees generally do not live beyond 30 to 40 years.

Balsa is widely cultivated in the tropics where trees can grow to 25 m with a diameter of half a metre within seven years, reaching maturity in 12-15 years.

The wood of living trees has large cells filled with water that gives the wood a spongy texture. It also makes the wood of living trees not much lighter than water and barely able to float. When the wood is kiln-dried the cells become hollow and empty. The large volume-to-surface ratio of the



resulting thin-walled, empty cells gives the dried wood a high strength-to-weight ratio. The remaining cell structure is rigid, making seasoned balsa surprisingly stiff for its absurdly light weight. The density of dry balsa is typically around 160 kg/cub m.

Balsa wood exhibits an unusually high degree of buoyancy and provides very efficient insulation against heat and sound. The wood can be adapted to a great number of special end-uses; it glues well, stains and polishes satisfactorily but is very absorbent.

Balsa wood is often used as a core material in composites



such as the blades of wind turbines. In table tennis bats, a balsa layer is typically sandwiched between two pieces of thin plywood. Balsa is also used in laminates together with glass-enforced plastic (fibreglass) for making high-quality balsa surfboards and for the decks and topsides of many types of boats.

Because it is low in density,

1/ *Light as...* Swinburne University PhD student Nathan Kotlarewski has developed a acoustic and thermal insulation wall panel with "big triple-bottom-line sustainability benefits" fabricated from balsa wood grown by former cocoa farmers in Papua New Guinea.
2/ *The 'Balsa Bomber'...* the World War 2 aircraft was one of the world's fastest operational aircraft. The fuselage was made from sheets of balsa glued between layers of birch.

but high in strength, balsa is a popular material for light, stiff structures in model buildings and construction of model aircraft. However, it also is valued as a component of full-sized light aeroplanes.

Balsa has been indispensable to pioneers of the sea. Such light wood has often been used by raft builders, and indeed the Spanish word for a raft is balsa. Christopher Columbus and early Spanish explorers and navigators to the Americas first encountered 'Indians' off-shore on rafts made from balsa.

During World War 2, Britain was short of aluminium but had plenty of woodworkers, and the de Havilland aircraft company turned to timber for its nimble Mosquito warplane with a speed of more than 650 km/hour. The 'Balsa Bomber' was one of the world's fastest operational aircraft, the fuselage made from sheets of balsa glued between layers of birch.



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Veneer buy valuable asset for Britton

Strategy to produce decorative timbers for the furniture and joinery industries

LONG-established Tasmanian timber processing business Britton Timbers has acquired the Specialty Veneers (incorporating Corinna Timbers) panel processing facility at Somerset in northwest Tasmania.

Britton Timbers general manager Shawn Britton says the acquisition aligns perfectly with the company's ongoing strategies to produce quality decorative timber and timber products for the furniture and joinery industries, including meeting the increasing demand for natural timber products in commercial applications.

Britton Timbers is a family-owned company that for 112 years has operated a Tasmanian oak and blackwood timber processing business at Smithton and timber distribution centres in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane.

Acquiring Specialty Veneers means the company now employs more than 180 people in permanent positions of which 105 are in regional Tasmania, as well as a significant number of local contractors to support its businesses operations.



Shawn Britton... purchase signifies a strong and prosperous future for Tasmanian veneers.

"When the opportunity to purchase the veneer processing facility presented itself, we jumped at it," Shawn Britton said.

"The veneer and panel business is a very important asset to the entire Tasmanian forestry industry and the purchase signifies a strong and prosperous future for Tasmanian veneers."

The Somerset facility produces decorative veneers and veneered panels, primarily in Tasmanian oak and Tasmanian blackwood as well as small volumes of myrtle, huon pine, celery top pine and sassafras.

Mr Britton said the cooperation of public forestry manager Sustainable Timbers

Tasmania had been highly significant, particularly the transfer of existing supply contracts. The ongoing availability of resource from Tasmania's sustainably managed native forests was pivotal to the success of the businesses going forward. The business will continue to be a proud processor and supporter of certified timber products in association with the Responsible Wood and Tasmanian Timber brands

Britton Timbers is renowned nationally for

“DEMAND FOR NATURAL TIMBER PRODUCTS



Tassie timbers... providing exceptional timber solutions to interior designers, joiners and furniture makers.

providing exceptional timber solutions to architects, interior designers, joiners, furniture makers and builders for high-end residential and commercial projects. Offering Tasmanian veneers to the product mix allows their expert team to supply a high-quality decorative veneer product alongside solid timber applications in Australian architecture and design.

Britton Timbers International imports and exports specialty timbers worldwide. One of Australia's largest importers of quality hardwoods from the US, Europe, Asia and the Pacific, the company also supplies international customers with premium PEFC-certified Australian species such as Tasmanian oak, Tasmanian blackwood and Tasmanian myrtle.

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Students receive \$22,500 in NZIF awards

THE New Zealand Institute of Forestry has announced education and research awards this year totalling \$22,500.

“In 2012, the first year of the foundation’s operation, we had four awards worth a total of \$6500,” foundation chair Dr Andrew McEwen said.

“This year we advertised nine award categories plus four student poster competition prizes worth \$40,000 but we were disappointed there were no applicants for some of these. But what is especially pleasing is the applicants came from a range of institutions and forestry interests, with research projects in plantation forest management, export procedures, indigenous forests and urban forests.”

The awards were announced at the joint conference of the New Zealand Institute of Forestry and the Institute of Foresters

of Australia in Christchurch last month.

Daniel Boczniewicz, a PhD student at the University of Canterbury School of Forestry received a \$10,000 Future Forest Scholarship for his research on modelling stem properties for eucalyptus in New Zealand’s dryland environments.

Polish-born Daniel Boczniewicz is from a family “where being a forester is a tradition and an honour”. He is a fourth-generation forester. His great-grandfather worked as a forester in 1920s, followed by his grandfather and father.

Daniel finished his Forestry Bachelor and Masters Degree at Poznan University of Life Science in Poland in 2015.

The Chavasse Study Award for \$3500 was awarded to Bernadette Nanayakkara, a scientist at Scion working on wood formation physiology. Bernadette plans to attend



Dr Andrew McEwen... a career in forestry plays vital role in country's environment, economy and society.

the International Union of Forest Research Institutions conference – Forest Research and Cooperation for Sustainable Development – in Brazil later this year.

Georgia Craig who is in her fourth year of a B.For. Sc. (Hons) degree at the University of Canterbury School of Forestry, received the \$5000 NZ Redwood Company Scholarship. Georgia’s honours project is looking at the effect of debarking logs on air quality emissions at export ports.

The Frank Hutchinson Postgraduate Scholarship of \$1000 went to Monique Hall, an M.Sc. student at the University of Waikato who is studying restored urban

forests. Reihana Fisher a 4th-year Bachelor of Forestry Science (Hons) student at the School of Forestry at the University of Canterbury received the undergraduate award. His dissertation topic is looking at the benefit of pruning.

Four forestry students from Canterbury University received prizes in the student poster competition at the conference. Reihana Fisher received first prize of \$800, Georgia Craig second prize of \$600, Nick Berry third prize of \$400 and Shaun Coles the fourth prize of \$200.

“We congratulate the recipients of the awards and thank all applicants and encourage them to persist with their research and education and to make a career associated with New Zealand’s forests, which have a vital role to play in this country’s environment, economy and society,” Dr McEwen said.

Driving innovation: Standards Australia appoints new CEO

STANDARDS Australia has appointed Adrian O’Connell as new CEO.

He has been deputy CEO since 2014 and acting CEO since March this year.

Standards Australia chair Richard Brooks said Mr O’Connell had been instrumental in driving innovation and change to

deliver greater value for stakeholders and the end users of the organisation.

“Leading departments across the business including stakeholder engagement, standards development, corporate services, and international engagement has given Adrian a deep understanding of all the



Adrian O’Connell... delivering greater value for stakeholders.

functions of the organisation, and importantly how we work with our network of thousands

of stakeholders on a daily basis,” Mr Brooks said.

Mr O’Connell has diverse and extensive experience representing Australia internationally and is widely respected and recognised for his contributions in international governance positions and regional leadership roles.

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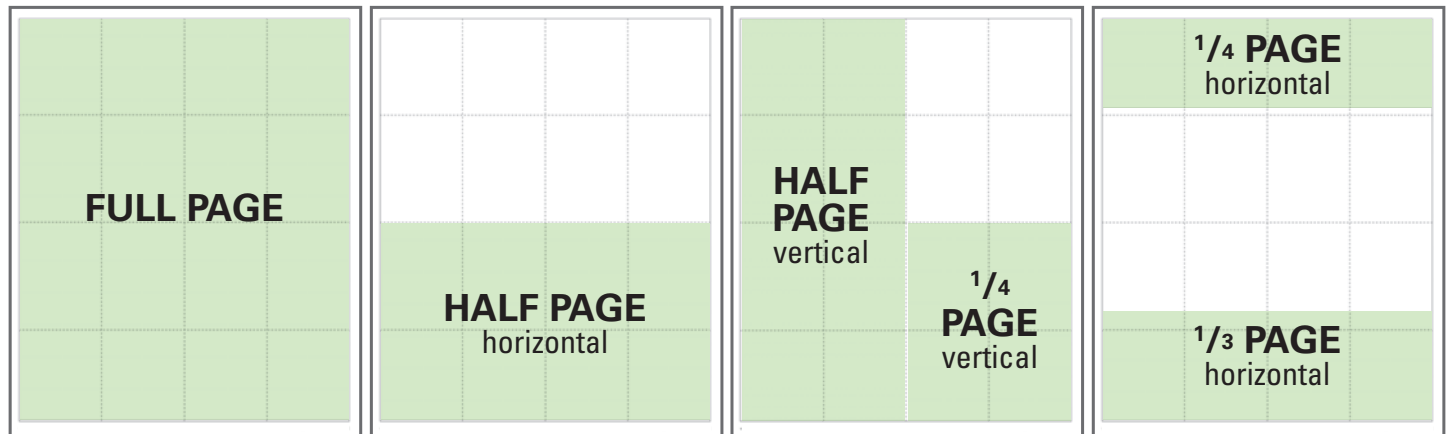
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It is read by timber merchants, wholesalers, sawmillers, wood processors, foresters, contractors, CEOs and members of national and state organisations and associations, builders, specifiers, architects, state and federal government ministers, officials, and regional government.

* Publishers' claim. The publication draws on a new data-base vault of more than 15,200 emails – a number that grows weekly.

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