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Global writers get up close with Malaysia's dynamic forest sector

Inspection tour follows coverage of big wood expo in KL

ENVIRONMENTAL and trade media journalists from around the world will join a three-day inspection of Malaysia's dynamic forest industry next month following attendance at the Malaysian Wood Expo in Kuala Lumpur from November 19 to 21.

Editor Jim Bowden will join the Malaysian Timber Council's 'in-field' media familiarisation program from November 20 to 24, which starts in Kuala Lumpur, visiting wood processors, forest operations and research centres in eastern Malaysia.

The program will focus on the sustainable management of Malaysia's forest resource including the implementation of forest and CoC certification under PEFC/MTCS schemes plus the range of timber products manufactured and exported from the country.

Field visits include the Forest Research Institute Malaysia, one of the world's leading institutions in tropical forestry research;



1/ Sustainability ... officers in the Perak state forest, Peninsular Malaysia, demonstrate how trees are measured and selected for harvesting during a writers' mission there last year.
2/ Jim Bowden... getting familiar with Malaysian forests.



the Department of Industrial Development and Research, formed in 1977 by a state cabinet directive with the responsibility of promoting and coordinating industrial development in Sabah; and

the Ulu Segama Forest Reserve, which is managing forest regeneration for sustainable yield.

A large proportion of the economy in Sabah in east Malaysia is derived from selective harvesting of dipterocarp forests, which

are among the tallest and most diverse rainforests in the world. High densities of natural forest stands in Sabah allow extraction rates of up to 120 cub m/ha.

The Malaysian Wood Expo 2019 is promoted as one of the leading international wood and woodworking machinery events in southeast Asia.

The expo at the Putra World Trade Centre in KL is a joint

“VISITS TO RESEARCH AND FOREST OPERATIONS”

Cont P 3



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From P 2

project between MTC and the Panels & Furniture Group.

The exhibition over 7000 sq m will showcase a wide range of products including tropical hardwoods, temperate softwoods, wooden flooring, sawn timber, wooden pallets, door and door frames, cutting tools, abrasives, adhesives, coatings, combined machines, dust collecting equipment, edge banding materials and machines, handling equipment as well as timber, woodworking and furniture production software.

Some of the big names in the woodworking machinery industry such as HOMAG,

“MWE 2019 BIGGEST EVENT FOR SE ASIA



Welcome... preparing for the big Malaysian Wood Expo in Kuala Lumpur are Andrew Kong, manager, MTC corporate communications, Malaysian Timber Council, and Alexis Chan, market promotion director.

SCM and M.Weinig will be there together with exhibitors from Germany, Italy, Australia, France, Belgium, China, Gabon, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Ukraine and Singapore.

Early pre-registered visitors are from France, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, Singapore, Maldives

and Tajikistan.

Several programs lined-up for MWE2019 include an Incoming Buying Mission (IBM) and the Overseas Suppliers-Malaysian Importers, Manufacturers Exchange Program.

There will also be a seminar

entitled Wood: Insight & Technology (WIT)@MWE 2019 and a grading rule workshop by the National Hardwood Lumber Association and the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB).

The Malaysian Timber Council was established in January 1992 to promote the development and growth of the Malaysian timber industry globally. This includes development of the industry by upgrading the manufacturing technology base to augment the supply of raw materials, provide information services and to protect and improve the Malaysian timber industry's global image.

MTC's central vision is to be the lead organisation in developing the Malaysian timber industry as a world leader in the manufacture and trade of timber products.

Visit www.mtc.com.my

Timber design goes centre stage

THE wait is over.

Tonight (Thursday) industry stakeholders, built environment professionals and architectural students will gather for the gala 20th Australian Timber Design Awards dinner and presentations at the River Room, Crown Melbourne.

All category winners including the Grand Prix winner will be announced by MC Peter Maddison, founding director of Maddison Architects.



National marketing and communications manager Eileen Newbury presents the FWPA-sponsored Grand Prix prize at last year's Australian Timber Design Awards in Sydney to representatives of Francis-Jones Morehen Architects for Bunjil Place, a glulam project in the arts hub of Melbourne's southeast.

Mr Maddison has contributed to the Royal Australian Institute of Architects continuously for the last three decades and is currently a member of the honours committee. He took on the hosting of Grand Designs Australia in 2009.

• A report and pictorial coverage will appear in Timber&Forestry enews next week.

The united voice for Australia's forest industries



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Pre-fabricating a house in a day

Fletcher's \$15m plant cuts on-site built time by 60pc

AUCKLAND-based Fletcher Building this week opened its long-awaited giant new high-tech pre-fabricated house-building factory, aiming to cut a 22-week lead time down to six weeks.

The company, one of the largest listed companies in New Zealand with a market capitalisation of more than \$4 billion, announced that Clever Core, New Zealand's largest purpose-designed, offsite home manufacturing facility, is now up-and-running.

The Clever Core NZ plant is a 5000 sq m or half-hectare leased warehouse at Wiri, an industrial-commercial Auckland suburb.

Prefabrication of a house can be done in one day,



Ross Taylor... a \$15 million investment and a significant advancement in housing development.

transport to a site on a second day and it could take only about six weeks to do all the finishing.

Fletcher said its new factory would attempt to accelerate house-building by producing core structural components in as little as a day.

"Manufactured wall, floor and roof components, which contain locally sourced insulation, double-glazed windows and allowances for wiring and plumbing, are then transferred to build sites and constructed into the weathertight core of a house by specially trained builders," the company said.

"This reduces on-site build times by 60%, or from 22 weeks to around six to 10 weeks."

Fletcher chief executive Ross Taylor said the factory was a \$15 million investment

and a significant advancement in housing development capability.

"Our Clever Core facility will produce core components for at least 500 new homes each year, including 100 by the end of this calendar year," he said. "It uses design for manufacture and assembly principles to streamline the design, consenting and manufacturing process."

The roots of Fletcher Building were planted in 1909 when James Fletcher built his first house with Albert Morris in Dunedin. From those humble beginnings, Fletcher today employs more than 16,000 people in New Zealand, Australia, and the South Pacific.

In New Zealand, the company employs 10,000 people across almost every region of the country and makes a significant contribution to both the national economy and many regional economies.

In Australia, Fletcher has significant operations in the manufacture and distribution of building products, employing more than 5000 and some 800 people working on construction in the South Pacific.

(With extracts from NZ Herald)



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“CLEVER CORE TO PRODUCE COMPONENTS FOR 500 NEW HOUSES A YEAR”

Home loan deposit guarantee

HOUSING is a national priority and Housing Industry Association the Senate passing legislation that will facilitate the next step in making the First Home Loan Deposit Scheme a reality.

HIA managing director

Graham Wolfe says the Bill's passage means that the National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation will be able to offer the deposit guarantees that underpin the First Home Loan Deposit Scheme.

Legal eagles and bean counters join NSW forestry scoping study

NSW Treasury has mandated law firm MinterEllison and KPMG to help with a scoping study for the state's commercial softwood plantations.

The two firms join investment bank UBS in helping the state consider options for the assets, including a potential sale.

The commercial softwood plantations are housed inside the state's Forestry Corporation.

NSW Treasurer Dominic Perrottet announced the scoping study in August and said it would seek to determine whether the commercial softwood business was best managed by the government or a private operator.

The scoping study is expected to include talks with potential buyers, including specialty forestry funds and domestic and offshore pension funds which already have significant investments in the sector.

The scoping study is expected to be submitted to the NSW government early



1/ On a promise... support for sale from Nationals provided no jobs are lost.

2/ Dominic Perrottet... asking is the commercial softwood business best managed by the government or a private operator?

next year. Forestry Corporation of NSW manages 2.2 million ha of land which is primarily state forests with small areas of freehold and private land managed through joint-investment partnerships.

The scoping study will focus on the Forestry Corporation's profitable softwood division, which consists of about 230,000 ha of radiata pine forests, primarily producing timber for use in house construction.

The plantations, located in



the central west, south and north of the state, employ about 190 staff.

The NSW government is looking to reap up to \$1 billion from the sale of its commercial softwood plantation business, as the next stage of its asset recycling strategy.

Infrastructure advocates are keen for the Berjikian

government to undertake another round of asset sales following March's state election,

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

"It's our responsibility as a government to continually check we are managing the state's assets as efficiently as possible, to give taxpayers the best outcome."

Victoria sold its softwood plantations in 1998, while Queensland 'under-sold' its estate for \$603 million to Forestry Plantations Queensland in 2010.

(With extracts from The Australian)

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US hardwood exports fall by 40pc as Trump, China reach verbal agreement

PRESIDENT Trump says a "phase one" trade agreement has been reached with China. That means the scheduled October 15 tariff hikes – which would have seen them raised from 25% to 30% – will no longer occur.

In return, Trump says China has agreed to buy up to \$50 billion in US agricultural goods. Reports also indicate China will buy some intellectual property provisions that would allow American finance companies more access to China's market.

Data from the US Department of Agriculture shows exports of hardwood lumber to China have fallen



40%. The drop appears to have begun soon after China placed retaliatory 25% tariffs on imports of lumber and other wood products.

US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said both parties had a "fundamental agreement on key issues." Anonymous sources told Bloomberg however, that

the \$50 billion worth of agriculture products touted by Trump is unlikely to be met.

Both sides are working on a deal for next month's Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Chile. If a deal still can't be reached, Mr Mnuchin said the planned December 15 tariff hike would happen.

American Hardwood Export Council. In June of this year alone, when the full tariff rate went into effect, trade volume to China was half what it was a year ago.

The American hardwood industry is facing a watershed moment in China. "As political and commercial ties between our two countries continue to deteriorate, our industry is caught in the middle of a fight with a country which has been our largest market for a decade," says American Hardwood Export Council international program manager Tripp Pryor.

"The real long-term danger here is that we are losing market share that will not easily be won back," he said.

China's exports fell for the second month in a row in September, as the trade war with the US continued to hit the world's second-largest economy.

Shipments fell by 3.2% during the month compared to a year earlier, after dropping

1% in August. In dollar terms, this was worse than the 2.8% decline expected by analysts. It was also the biggest fall in exports since February, when they fell 20.7%.

In addition, imports during the month fell by 8.5%, well below the 6% decline expected, showcasing weaker domestic demand.

Imports have declined in every month this year apart from one – April. (With extracts from Woodworking Industry News)

“ BOTH SIDES WORKING ON A DEAL ”

Many US hardwood lumber firms have seen reduced demand, and have had to make cutbacks and eliminate jobs. Still the tariffs remain polarising. Many see them as a necessary long-term approach.

China used to account for about half of all US hardwood lumber exports, about \$2 billion annually. The Trump administration's 25% tariff cut through that demand.

In the 12 months since tariffs on US hardwood were announced in July last year, lumber exports to China were down \$615 million compared with the previous year, according to the



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OCTOBER

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

31: Rural Press Club of Queensland: A conversation on the future of agriculture and activism – Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Cnr Merivale and Glenelg Streets, South Brisbane. Club members \$125 p.p. (gst inclusive) or \$1200 for table of 10. Non-members \$135 p.p. (gst inclusive) or \$1300 for table of 10. Speakers: David McNamee,

Lemontree Feedlot and Rowan McMonnies, managing director, Australian Eggs, in conversation with ABC Radio's Craig Zonca. Wide relevance to Australia's forest industry. In March 2017, the McNamee family made headlines when more than 100 animal activists illegally entered their feedlot near Millmerran. The flow-on effect has been unprecedented scrutiny of the interface between activism and primary production and a suite of proposed new measures to clamp down on unlawful entry to agricultural land. Contact: Rural Press Club on (07) 3221 9222 | or email admin@ruralpressclub.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

15: Victorian Association of Forest Industries annual industry dinner – Melbourne Cricket Ground, Melbourne, Vic, Australia. Tickets available at www.vafi.org.au

27-28: Hyne Timber and Xlam CLT and mill tour – Tumarumba sawmill and plantation pine forestry operation. Conducted by Timber Development Association. Tour limited to approved building design professionals: architects, developers, engineers, certifiers, cost planners. Commences in Sydney. Coach from Albury visits XLam's Wodonga CLT plant. Travel to Tumarumba for overnight stay and dinner at Courabyra Wines. Morning visit to

pine forestry operation then continue to Tumarumba sawmill. Tour cost includes return flights Albury-Sydney accommodation on Monday night, breakfast, two lunches, dinner and luxury bus travel. Reduced rate where accommodation is not required. CPD certificates of attendance available for all professionals. Contact Mariela at TDA on 0420 232 253 or email info@tdansw.asn.au

MARCH/APRIL 2020

30 MAR/4 APRIL: AusTimber 2020 – Traralgon, Vic, Australia. Largest timber industry show in Australasia with in-forest show demonstrates the latest developments in log harvesting, processing and hauling equipment in action and up close. Also field trips to industry sites, a wood chop competition and forwarder competition. For more information see: www.afca.asn.au/www-austimber-org-au



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OCTOBER

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

28-30: Fastmarkets RISI 34th annual North American Conference – Seaport Hotel, Boston, USA.

Forum covers all aspects of the forest products industry. Industry experts will discuss latest trends, challenges and opportunities. For further information see: www.events.risiinfo.com/north-american-conference/

NOVEMBER

5: Wood Solutions Conference – Vancouver Convention Centre, Canada Place (new location).

Dedicated to design and construction with wood products and building systems, including mass timber. Showcasing wood use in commercial, institutional, industrial and multi-unit residential construction through specifically designed seminar streams, featuring new and current topics and an interactive trade show. Keynote lunchtime speaker

and an evening networking reception. Event tailored for architects, engineers, builders, contractors, building officials, technologists, planners and developers. More than 800 design and building professionals will gather to listen and learn; connect and collaborate. Time: 7 am. Registration 1 7:45 am-3:45 pm. Exhibit Hall open 8 am-4.45 pm. Seminars sessions 5-7 pm. Cost: \$60. Evening reception \$20. Inquiries 1-877-929-9663 (ext. 2). Updates on Twitter @ WoodWORKSBC_CWC

11-12: 8th International Conference on Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Management – Tokyo, Japan.

For further information see: www.biodiversity.conferenceseries.com/events-list/forestry

11-15: PEFC Forest Certification Week 2019 – Würzburg, Germany.

For further information see: www.pefc.org/events-training/pefc-forest-certification-week-2019

18-30: CLEM2019, IV Latin American Conference on Timber Structure – Montevideo, Uruguay, LATU, Latitud, the Architecture faculty of Universidad ORT Uruguay, and the Engineering faculty of UDELAR.

For further information about the event see: www.clem2019.uy/ or contact Stephany Arrejuría De Giuda: sarrejuria@latitud.org.uy

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/

DECEMBER

3-4: Climate change and new challenges in the production of high quality and well adapted forest reproductive material – Jastrebarsko, Croatia.

A European Forestry Institute event in collaboration with the Croatian Forest Research Institute (CFRI) celebrates the 60th anniversary of organised forest seed science in Croatia. The conference will provide a valuable contribution to the multidisciplinary look at seed science and connection of wide circle of scientists from the field of biotechnical sciences. For additional information see: www.efi.int/events/climate-change-and-new-challenges-production-high-quality-and-well-adapted-forest

16-17: Forest Landscape Restoration and the Bonn Challenge in Eastern and South-East Europe –

Belgrade, Serbia. Informing on the Bonn Challenge (launched in 2011 and extended by the 2014 New York Declaration on Forests, a global effort to bring 150 million ha of deforested and degraded land into restoration by 2020 and 350 million ha by 2030), and to gather input for a study on forest landscape restoration.

For further information see: www.unece.org/

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

AUGUST 2020

24-27 : World Conference on Timber Engineering (WCTE Santiago 2020) – Santiago, Chile.

Topics include Sustainable Forests for timber production; wood products, connections: timber engineering' timber architecture; building and environmental impacts; policies, education and future trends. For further information see: www.wcte2020.com/

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

Brewer's paper bottle soaks up a fine Danish ale

DANISH brewer Carlsberg Group has updated on its journey to create the world's first 'paper' beer bottle made from sustainably-sourced wood fibres that is both 100% bio-based and fully recyclable.

Carlsberg has unveiled two new research prototypes of its Green Fibre Bottle, which are the first 'paper bottles' to

contain beer. Carlsberg also announced it has been joined by other leading global companies who are united in their vision of developing sustainable packaging



through the advancement of paper bottle technology.

These developments are a continuation of Carlsberg's sustainable packaging innovation journey and a key part of its sustainability program – Together Towards ZERO – including its commitment to zero carbon emissions at its breweries and a 30% reduction in its full value-chain carbon footprint by 2030.

‘GreenRush’: has New Zealand media gone bonkers over trees?

DENNIS NEILSON

AFTER languishing in the New Zealand political wilderness for almost a decade until 2017, the Coalition government elevated the Forest Minister from hiding in an office behind the bike-sheds (where it was under the previous government) to a full Cabinet position, and has resurrected a new NZ Forest Service, called Te Uru Rakau or Forestry New Zealand.

It is allocating a large part of an annual \$3 billion ‘provincial growth fund’ to forestry projects, is offering attractive terms on tree planting in a joint venture, and is fast-tracking overseas investment into planting trees (while banning overseas investment in farms for farming).

However, this has left the influential lobbyist NZ Federated Farmers organisation, the National Party in Opposition – and much of the media – frothing at the mouth.

After dozens of articles in the media – often full of half-truths and misleading statements about the actual tree planting program – and the intentions of the government, the latest effort is a series of articles by the ‘impartial’ Radio New Zealand (RNZ) under the



Imagine a world without investigative journalism...

title ‘GreenRush’. Rapid-fire GreenRush program/articles (so far) have included headlines such as:

- **Foreign forestry companies NZ's biggest landowners.** Written after a RNZ ‘investigation’ discovered that the four largest landowners in New Zealand are all foreign-owned forestry companies.

This has been wide public knowledge for decades, and nothing of any note has changed in foreign ownership since the sale of NZ government forests and those of two major companies in the 1990s (25-30 years back), apart

“WAITING WITH TREPIDATION FOR MORE MEDIA ANTI-TREE HYPE”

from some rearrangement of foreign ownership deckchairs. However, RNZ seems to suggest that there is some new foreign conspiracy afoot (see story below).

- **Will pines really save the planet?** A piece of media nonsense. Of course no-one in their right mind would ever suggest planting trees in New Zealand will save the planet – from anything – and never will.

- **The Detail: Forestry companies buying vast amounts of New Zealand's land.** The facts are more benign. According to official records, they are likely to be planting less than 12,000 new land hectares in 2019 (0.05% of the NZ land area, and compared with 100,000 ha in 1994). Much of the actual planting is on Maori land which has been in the same ownership for several hundred

years. RNZ's definition of ‘vast’ is, maybe, a tad exaggerated?

- **Austrian countess fined over NZ land purchase.** This was entirely about a (very) minor technical breach of foreign investment regulations by an Austrian countess wanting to plant a few trees, but was blown up to look like the entire Austrian army had invaded New Zealand – illegally.

- **A recent effort headed foreign forestry companies could face ‘oil and gas’ style ban.** Described by one industry specialist as “full of contradictions” and by another as a “random shotgun scatter”, this quotes the Forest Minister wanting foreign tree owners to get more involved in the vertical integration wood processing chain. The minister has not changed his views on this since his first day in office in 2017 (and never will), but suddenly RNZ claims it to be headline news.

The NZ industry waits with trepidation for more media anti-tree hype – while the Australian government would possibly give its right arm for the positive momentum that Minister Jones has inspired with new land tree planting in New Zealand.

NZ's four largest private landowners are foreign companies

AN investigation by Radio New Zealand has found that the four largest private landowners are all foreign-owned forestry companies. The report says that this has occurred despite a

clampdown on overseas investment.

Since the government was formed, the Overseas Investment Office has approved more than \$2.3 billion of forestry-related land

sales. About half has been sold by way of a streamlined ‘special forestry test’ introduced by the government a year ago.

Overall, nearly \$NZ5 billion of sensitive land has changed

hands through the OIO since the government was formed.

The information comes from an RNZ investigation into land ownership in New Zealand, using Land Information New Zealand data.

Wanted: 5500 people to plant trees in BC

IT'S been a tough few years for the forest industry in British Columbia.

During the 2018 fiscal year, the Canadian province experienced 2117 wildfires that collectively burned 1.4 million ha. The year before, there were 1353 wildfires and 1.2 million ha lost.

Both 2017 and 2018 set records for hectares burned by significant margins. The 10-year average is just 269,702.

Hoping to help forests make a comeback, the Western Forestry Contractors Association has increased its annual goals for trees-planted and issued a call for more tree planters.

"Going from this year's 270 million seedlings to estimates as high as 318-million seedlings next year may be one of the largest volume leaps in the industry's 50-year history," the association says.

"Contractors are working now on recruiting, retaining,



Tough years... now the replanting. (BC Wildfire Service)

"It's going to be a challenge for sure," Timo Scheiber, CEO of Brinkman Reforestation, said quoted by CBC News. "A lot more trees are coming to market this year than past years."

Meanwhile, the Trump administration has proposed allowing logging on more than half of Alaska's 6.8 million ha Tongass national forest, the largest intact temperate rainforest in North America.

President Trump instructed federal officials to reverse long-standing limits on tree cutting

The Forest Service had initially planned to make more-modest changes to nearly 4 million ha where roads are prohibited.

Under the administration's "preferred alternative," that entire area would be open for development. Congress has designated another 2 million ha of the forest as wilderness, which must remain off limits to such activities under any circumstances.

and training enough safe and competent workers for next year."

The jump in how many seeds the industry hopes to drop into the ground this year is in response to the provincial government's plan to integrate tree planting to mitigate the effects of climate change.

"The reforestation sector cannot risk losing the public's confidence by failing to meet all their reforestation expectations next year and beyond. That's going to take some cooperation, innovation, and flexibility by everyone." say contractors.

Tree planting is no breeze. A recent CBC News story describes demanding requirements and tough working conditions. That article also discusses the industry's higher goals for trees planted this year. It states that British Columbia will require 500 to 1000 new hires in addition to the roughly 4500 people who plant trees each year.

“WE CAN'T RISK LOSING PUBLIC'S CONFIDENCE”



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Canfor-Vida decision strengthens Australia-Canada trade relationship

Opening for additional volumes of structural softwoods

THE relationship between Australia and the Canadian timber industry has taken another major step forward with the acquisition of a majority ownership share of the Swedish Vida Group by Canadian heavyweight Canfor.

The Australia-Canada timber relationship stretches back to the early days of European settlement in Sydney when Oregon and western red cedar timber were substantial imports into the rapidly-expanding colony. Today, it is softwood structural timber such as



Canadian timber in Australia... good opportunity with strong housing construction, population growth and an expansive infrastructure program.

Cont P 12



Some standards enforced in Australia originate from international certifying bodies

Think Global (not just Local)

Always purchase appropriately certified imported timber products



Australian Timber Importers Federation Inc
www.atif.asn.au

From P 11

lodgepole pine, imported to support Australian frame and truss manufacturing industry that has been the stand-out mover.

This has in part been a result of the inability of domestic producers of structural pine products to keep up with market demand. It has also been assisted by the introduction of the Trans-Pacific Trade Agreement, effective from December 31 last year that saw the existing 5% tariff on Canadian timber imports removed.

British Columbia's largest integrated forestry company, based in Vancouver, Canfor completed the majority acquisition of Vida Group in February making Canfor-Vida a significant global supplier of timber products from sustainably-managed Canadian and Swedish forests.

VIDA is Sweden's largest privately-owned sawmill company, operating nine sawmills in southern Sweden with an annual production capacity of 1.1 billion board feet. All of the sawmills produce spruce and pine products, and are strategically located in high quality and sustainable fibre regions of Sweden.

The collaborative arrangement between Canfor and Vida is represented in Australia by Vida Wood Australia, headquartered in Queensland.

"This has resulted in substantial additional volumes of Canadian structural and other softwood products being imported into Australia at competitive rates," Vida Wood Australia managing director Kurt Schrammel said.

He says Canfor can certainly relay and leverage



1/ Canfor at the Global Buyers Mission in Canada... Theo Middleton, Mark Lee and Shikai Xu.

2/ Kurt Schrammel... Canadian structural and other softwood products now imported in substantial additional volumes at competitive rates.



on the well-established Vida Australia sales and distribution network to drive efficiencies while providing customers with exceptional service for high quality product.

"This means that the combined product ranges from our Swedish and Canadian productions offer a superb product range to customers," he said. "Mainly and traditionally structural, we can also offer 19 mm dressed boards, weatherboards, battens, while other new product innovations will be investigated for supply opportunities."

Canfor is pleased to have a presence in Australia says offshore sales executive Mark Lee.

"We see this as a good opportunity with strong housing construction, population growth and an expansive infrastructure program," he said. "So, yes,

we want to be part of this opportunity and to be able to supply a reliable, high quality, compliant softwood timber products into the Australian market."

Canfor traces its roots back to the late 1930s when brothers-in-law John G. Prentice and L.L.G. 'Poldi' Bentley and their families left their native Austria as the clouds of war gathered over Europe.

Canfor is now one of the world's largest producers of sustainable timber, pulp and paper.

"We've built our reputation on the quality of our products, the reliability of our supply and our superior customer service," Kurt

“PREFERRED LIGHTWEIGHT CHOICE FOR FRAMING”

Schrammel said.

Canfor's kiln-dried Spruce-Pine-Fir (SPF) and Southern Yellow Pine (SYP) timber products are ideal for a wide range of residential, commercial and industrial construction. The consistent, high-quality timber provides many benefits for builders, including less waste and fewer construction delays, which translate to higher profits.

In Australia, Canfor's kiln-dried lodgepole pine is the one of the preferred choices of framing manufacturers because it is stable, less prone to crook or bow, is straighter than other species, and is lightweight and easy to cut, nail and screw.

For additional information about the Vida Wood-Canfor collaboration and related timber products contact Jacinta Colley on (07) 3147 8790

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Exclusively for VIDA Wood Australia, Canfor produces structural timber products from Canadian Spruce-Pine-Fir (SPF) and Douglas Fir-Larch (DFL) which complement our Swedish product line.

With Swedish and Canadian products now available, VIDA Wood Australia can offer a superb product range to our customers. These include structural framing products, 19mm dressed boards, weather boards and battens. Supply opportunities exist for other new innovative products.



CANFOR MADE IN CANADA



VIDA MADE IN SWEDEN



For more information contact:
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HVP safety award presented to Gippsland harvesting contractor

GIPPSLAND plantation harvesting company Mountain Logging has won the 2019 HVP Plantations Chairman's Safety Award, announced at an annual dinner last week.

Mountain Logging provides harvest services in Victoria's Gippsland region, and received the honour in recognition of its outstanding contributions to safety management on steep plantation sites.

Mountain Logging's four crews harvest more than 300,000 tonnes of plantation wood each year across Gippsland.

In presenting the award, HVP Plantations recognised the valuable safety work by the harvesting company



through the introduction of a winch-assist harvesting system on steep slopes; a grapple camera system to provide operators with full visibility and improved accuracy; and a six-wheel-drive super forwarder to move logs to safer loading sites.

As well as operational improvements, Mountain



1/ Proud win... the Mountain Logging team.
2/ Presentation... Adrian Kloeden, HVP Plantations chairman, Andrew Mahnken, head of Mountain Logging, and Sam Gatt, HVP general manager, Gippsland region.

Logging has introduced new technology for its staff including apps that provide remote access to all documentation, monitor employees working alone and monitor equipment start-up, inspections and maintenance.

HVP Plantations has a safety commitment of zero harm and requires its partners and contractors to demonstrate the same commitment to achieving excellence in health and safety performance.

"The award is driven by peer nominations and recognises individuals, groups and contractors for their outstanding contributions to workplace safety," said HVP Plantations chairman Adrian Kloeden who presented the award.

"Mountain Logging should feel very proud of the work it has done, from introducing the latest technology for remote document access

to its new winch-assist harvesting system, which has resulted in the company being recognised with this award," Mr Kloeden said.

HVP CEO Stephen Ryan said to receive a nomination for the Chairman's Safety Award was an outstanding achievement in itself.

"Mountain Logging can be extremely proud to take home the award this year," Mr Ryan said. "The company has gone above and beyond for its staff by using really new and exciting technology that is helping ensure everyone can come to work and return home safely."

HVP Plantations is a privately-owned plantation forestry company, managing more than 240,000 ha across Victoria. HVP supplies logs for sawn timber, paper manufacturing, treated panel board and other timber uses to domestic and export customers.

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Engaging young minds through ForestLearning schools program

FOREST and Wood Products Australia runs its ForestLearning program to equip teachers to educate young people about the sustainable forestry industry.

We develop quality teaching and learning resources, aligned to the Australian curriculum, that bring a forest and wood context to classroom learning.



at forestlearning.edu.au, which is regularly updated with lesson plans and supporting materials, written by teachers in collaboration with industry partners. During the last financial year, the website attracted more than 20,000 visitors resulting in almost 5000 unique downloads – a 15% increase on the previous year.

Our free teacher packs ordered through the website comprise postcards and wooden bookmarks outlining timber-related facts. The contents of last year's orders were estimated to have reached more than 32,000 Australian students.



- 1/ *An important story to tell... lessons for school children about sustainable forest industry.*
- 2/ *Virtual reality... toolkit helps teachers educate students on the renewable cycle of forests and wood processing in an immersive and engaging way.*

We are committed to thinking outside the box ... developing innovative ways of engaging students. The latest example is the ForestVR Toolkit for Schools: Learn through Immersion.

By embedding virtual reality and 360-deg. immersive tours and

experiences into classroom activities, the toolkit aims to help teachers educate students on the renewable cycle of forests and wood processing in an immersive and engaging way. Currently, ForestVR tells the stories of the seed-to-shelter pine softwood and forest-to-fine-flooring spotted gum hardwood. It has been designed to give students virtual access to otherwise inaccessible forest and wood processing sites.

Through early education, we hope to equip K-12

FORESTLEARNING



With Beth Welden

Forest Learning Program Manager

school children with a broad understanding and appreciation of timber and the sustainable forest and wood products industry.

The ForestVR toolkit is available to view and use

We travel the country, showcasing ForestLearning resources during professional development teacher workshops, conferences and field tours of forest and wood product sites.

As the decision makers, voters and consumers of the future, it is important today's children have an affiliation with wood and awareness of the benefits, including sustainability and renewability. Of course, a positive by-product of this work is the potential to inspire young people to consider a career in the sector.

We have such a special and important story to tell!

“ EDUCATING ON THE RENEWABLE CYCLE OF OUR FOREST SECTOR



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Leading NZ momentum on smart engineered wood product exports

ALREADY an exporter of a multiple of value-added timber products to Australia, Taranakipine is leading the New Zealand momentum to increase wood processing of sophisticated engineered wood products both for domestic use and overseas markets.

This effort supports the international trend towards engineered wood product manufacturing, off-site fabrication and mid-rise wooden building construction.

Imported timber product data confirms that softwood-based structural and engineered wood products are leading expanded softwood-based import volumes into the Australia market. Taranakipine is a key New Zealand participant in this demand-driven reality.

The New Plymouth-based company already produces and supplies a comprehensive range of finger-jointed, laminated and solid timber products into Australian and other international markets from sustainably managed New Zealand-grown radiata plantations.

Chief executive Tom Boon says Taranakipine has evolved over the past 60 years from the small family-owned Tongariro Timber, processing native forest-sourced logs, into Taranakipine, a processor of plantation-grown radiata logs.

Tom adds that the company draws the majority of its logs from the Taranaki region, working closely with local forest owners to ensure



Parallel Laminated Timber (PLT) panels product is an innovative yet simple solution to subfloor, midfloor and roof structure construction needs. PLT mass timber and off-site prefabrication provide a fit-for-purpose, structurally efficient panelised system delivered to site for fast, accurate installation.

Woodspan panels are an engineered mass timber product suitable for prefabricated floor and roof panel systems. Structurally efficient, Woodspan PLT panels are made from finger-jointed or solid timber boards which are laminated into large panels. All grain runs in the direction of the primary span producing a strong, structurally efficient panel. Taranakipine has invested in dedicated machinery enabling a high level of custom detailing for each panel so they can be delivered on-site ready simply to be screwed into place.

Building with mass timber products like PLT can result in significantly lighter construction than concrete or steel. This can reduce foundation sizes and cost, especially with difficult ground conditions, or in high seismic zones.

Woodspan panels have been installed into architecturally designed homes and the architects are already designing the product into other new homes.

"We're interested in using Woodspan panels



the quality of raw material.

"Timber is a renewable product source and all our New Zealand radiata pine logs come from sustainably-managed, renewable plantation forests," he said.

Taranakipine has been an experienced, well

1/ Wood and the environment... the Taranakipine's Woodspan initiative reinforces the reality that people love the natural beauty, look, and feeling that the warmth of wood gives.

2/ Tom Boon... passionate about delivering Woodspan PLT solution on time and to schedule.

credentialed and trusted manufacturer of engineered timber products for almost four decades. Its Woodspan

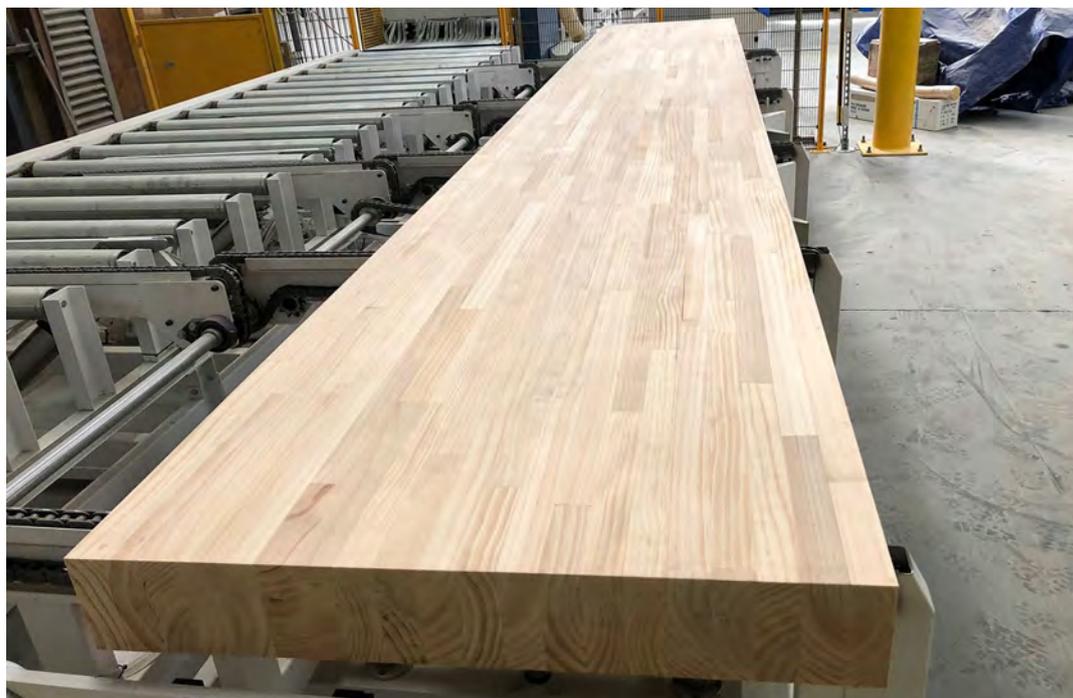
“CHANGING WAY YOUNG PEOPLE LEARN ABOUT OUR FORESTS

From P 16

because with our design technology they allow us to go straight from 3D design to assembly," says Glenn Brebner from BOON Team Architects.

"With every project we will get better at finding those efficiencies and educating the project team in terms of what those benefits are. It's about speed, it's about span, and it's about efficiency of build," he said.

Tom Boon says Taranakipine is passionate about delivering a quality Woodspan PLT solution on time and to schedule, providing a 'best-in-class' level of customer service and



Strong and structurally efficient... Woodspan PLT is made from finger-jointed or solid timber boards that are laminated into large panels.

“IT'S ABOUT SPEED, SPAN AND BUILD EFFICIENCY

project delivery that creates long standing, collaborative relationships.

He asserts that the Woodspan initiative

reinforces the reality that people love the natural beauty, look, and feeling of warmth that wood products bring to the built environment.

Woodspan PLT panels are available in a visual grade finish to help take full advantage of these benefits.

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GREEN TRIANGLE TIMBER INDUSTRY AWARDS

2019 GTTIA AWARD DINNER



With M.C Merrick Watts

To celebrate the industry and the winners of The Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards 2019, it is our pleasure to invite you along to the Awards Dinner.

**Friday November 1, 2019
6.00pm until late**

Full menu with formal awards ceremony.
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Taking Responsible Wood to its grass roots

RESPONSIBLE Wood, Australia's largest forest certification scheme, will hold its annual general meeting next Tuesday at the University of South Australia's Mount Gambier campus.

CEO Simon Dorries spoke of the importance of the Green Triangle to the Australian forest products industry; with the selection of Mount Gambier it gives a nod to the many Responsible Wood and PEFC scheme holders operating within the region.

"The Green Triangle is a major success story for the forest products industry, a major wood producer that touches Victorian and South Australian regional communities," Mr Simon said.

"For Responsible Wood, many of our scheme holders and members, particularly



South Australia's Mount Gambier campus... venue for Responsible Wood's AGM.

forest growers in the Green Triangle carry PEFC certification."

The AGM will be a historic occasion for Responsible Wood – the first hosted in a regional location.

Simon Dorries said the selection of Mount Gambier had been deliberate; this was about taking our certification scheme back to the roots figuratively and actually.

Responsible Wood will be awarding the coveted Richard

Stanton Memorial Award for Excellence in Forest Management or Chain of Custody during the AGM.

Always a highlight, 2019 marks the fifth year of the award, paying tribute to the late Richard Stanton, a previous CEO and national secretary of Australian Forestry Standard Ltd (now Responsible Wood).

The AGM at Mount Gambier from 3 pm to 4 pm will be followed at 4.30 pm until 6.30 pm with drinks and canapes.

Free parking for attendees will be available along Wireless Road, Mount Gambier, adjacent to the campus.

The Mount Gambier campus is among the most connected regional communities in Australia providing students with access to the same curriculum, the same resources and the same academics as those in Adelaide.

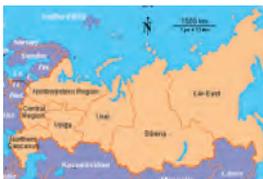
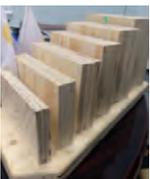
The university has opened a new \$12.5 million learning centre at Mount Gambier as part of a push to improve student learning facilities.

The Green Triangle – which spans the border between Victoria and South Australia, constitutes 17% of Australia's plantations, or 334,000 ha. The industry supports more than 3000 workers directly locally and more than 4000 indirectly.

The Green Triangle supplies \$1.5 billion in forest industry economic output – 7% of the region's total economic output.



2020 RUSSIAN FOREST INDUSTRY SECTOR OUTLOOK CONFERENCE AND FIELD TRIP



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- Pulp and Paper, Woodchips and Wood Pellets
- Outlook and Projections

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- Mills using some of this equipment

Contact Julie Bell admin@dana.co.nz or Igor Novoselov in Moscow igor.novoselov@whatwood.ru

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Victorian parks joint management plan to introduce cultural burning practices

A VICTORIAN parks joint management plan developed for six Dja Dja Wurrung-owned national and state parks in central Victoria has been announced as a finalist in this year's Banksia Sustainability Awards, under the Indigenous Award category.

Produced by the Dhelkunya Dja Land Management board, the plan is a product of four years' collaborative work and advances developments in land management planning by using both science and traditional knowledge to deliver more sustainable parks management.

The plan aims to reintroduce cultural burning practices in partnership with the Victorian government, drawing on traditional owner ecological knowledge to manage fuel loads.

These parks include some of the Dja Dja Wurrung People's most important cultural landscapes, but they are also of enormous significance for all Victorians," chair of the Dhelkunya Dja Land Management Board and Victorian elder Graham Atkinson said.

"The plan provides Dja Dja Wurrung People the



Sustainability... Trent Nelson, Graham Atkinson, John Bradley and Doug Humann celebrate the launch of the Joint Management Plan for the Dja Dja Wurrung Parks in 2018.

opportunity to be actively involved in not only managing these parks in the future, but explaining them and sharing them with all Australians."

The plan was created for the Dhelkunya Dja Land Management Board by CSIRO, drawing on the expertise of the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, Djandak Enterprises, and Conservation Management. In creating the plan, the board consulted widely to balance the needs of diverse interests.

Dja Dja Wurrung traditional owner aspirations are at the heart of the plan, which aims to tap the potential for enhanced visitor experiences for all park users and

economic benefits for regional economies.

"We've been excited to support the development of this plan," CSIRO principal research scientist Ro Hill said.

"We've supported traditional owners to be at the forefront of public consultation, using participatory tools like interactive mapping," he said. "This award nomination recognises the shift towards empowering traditional owner voices."

“USING BOTH SCIENCE AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

Established more than 30 years ago, the Banksia Sustainability Awards are the first and foremost sustainability awards in Australia and recognise and reward those who show excellence and leadership in environmental and social stewardship.

"Being nominated for such a prestigious award demonstrates that the plan has caught people's attention and we are proud that we can represent our culture and aspirations in this way," Mr Atkinson said.

In Dja Dja Wurrung language, the plan is called Manyangurr ngulumbara Dhelkunya Djandak Murrup: 'We meet together to return good health to Country and spirit'.

"The plan puts our language first and gets us used to speaking our language more and more. It's important that I learn my language and pass it on," Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal corporation chair Trent Nelson said.

The winners will be announced at the Banksia Sustainability Awards gala night in Sydney on December. 3.

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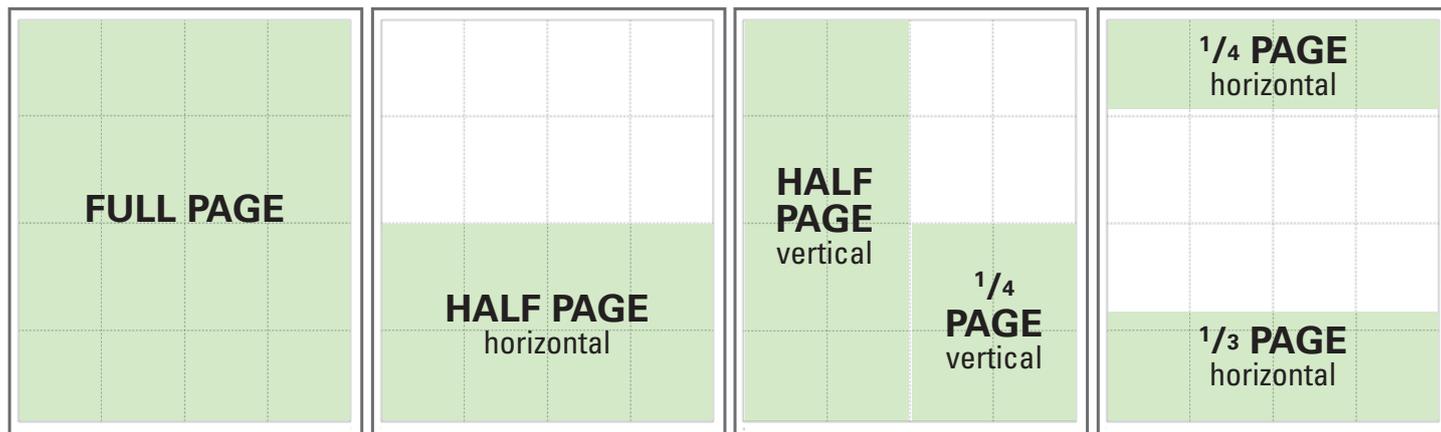
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* Publishers' claim. The publication draws on a new data-base vault of more than 15,200 emails – a number that grows weekly.

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