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ISSUE 601 | March 26, 2020

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## Frame restoration on a strict timeline

COVER STORY P6



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# We can do it! Forest products play key role in our construction sector

## AFPA letter to PM urges continuation of industry supply chain

JIM BOWDEN

THE Australian Forest Products Association on Tuesday delivered a letter to the Prime Minister calling for the continuation of the whole forest products supply chain.

For example, the manufacturing of cardboard and food packaging requires the continued harvesting of softwood plantations, and the manufacturing of wooden pallets necessitates the continued harvesting of native hardwood forests.

“Furthermore, these harvesting operations are only commercially viable if high-value timber is also harvested, which is used to produce structural timber for the construction market,” the



**Products that fill the supply chain... Australian Sustainable Hardwoods CEO Vince Hurley (left) takes Labor senator Raff Ciccone and AFPA CEO Ross Hampton on a tour of the Heyfield plant in Victoria.**

letter emphasised.

The United States Department of Homeland Security has added forest products to its list of essential critical infrastructure workers. AFPA is asking Scott Morrison to make a similar declaration in Australia.

“Our industry has been proactive in implementing

mitigation measures to minimise the risk of CoVid-19 across our supply chains, and we will continue to act in accordance with the latest health advice,” the letter explained.

“Most of our industry is highly automated, making it possible for employees to practice social distancing

in accordance with the government’s health guidelines. Furthermore, our member companies have adopted new best practice sanitation and hygiene measures and where possible, retooled workspaces and split and staggered shifts to allow more distance between workers.

“As Australia turns increasingly to home delivery services, and the unprecedented demand on supermarkets driving a huge surge in supermarket stock – and the packaging and pallets that come with it – we urge governments to ensure the continuation of the forest products sector. Without it, the supply of many of these products and services would collapse.

“We urge leaders to adopt a nationally consistent approach, as much of our

Cont P 3

**“LEADERS URGED TO ADOPT A NATIONALLY CONSISTENT APPROACH**



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From P 2

industry operates across state borders – for the movement of wood resource and vital products, freight deliveries and the workforce.

“We stand ready to work constructively with all governments to ensure our industry can continue to supply these vital products and services to all Australia during these difficult times.”

CEO Ross Hampton added: “This is a time for all Australians to work together and the forest products industry will proudly work with all governments to get through this crisis.

“But governments must recognise that what the industry provides is a necessity, not a luxury.”

The Master Builders Association and the CFMEU’s national construction division have joined forces to ensure the construction industry remains a backbone of the Australian economy able to sustain the millions of people dependent upon it throughout the coronavirus crisis.

Both are working cooperatively to keep people safe at work while calling on governments and the banks to support the industry and all its people through the uncertainty of the months ahead.

The construction industry accounts for around 10% of GDP and employs 1.2 million people – 9.1% of the

**“FOREST INDUSTRY PROVIDES A NECESSITY NOT A LUXURY”**



**Commercially viable... high-value harvested timber is used to produce vital structural products for the construction market.**

entire workforce. It provides more full-time jobs than any other sector of the economy and is made up of 395,000 businesses, 388,800 of which are small to medium size.

The industry has capacity through work health and safety mechanisms to enact social distancing policies in workplaces along with heightened safety measures to protect workers and reduce the risk of infection.

“The strong health and safety culture in the construction workforce means our industry can maintain operations,” a joint media report said.

“A comprehensive package of stimulus measures must be delivered to underpin building activity, the industry’s massive contribution to the economy and protect the livelihoods of construction workers, builders and tradies around the country.”

On the transport and freight issue, the Australian Trucking Association says its sector is an essential industry in any plans for further business shutdowns.

“Governments have started to shut down non-essential services, with stage one focusing on businesses like pubs, gyms, movies

and nightclubs,” chair Geoff Crouch said.

“As the national cabinet considers whether further shutdowns are necessary, the Prime Minister, premiers and chief ministers must ensure that trucking and its related industries continue to be regarded as essential,” he said.

Adding to positive news this week, the New Zealand government is providing new funding for wood processing facilities in the Gisborne region, expected to create more work for businesses outside the industry.

A regional support package for the region, along with a \$12.1 million loan from the provincial growth fund for Wood Engineering Technology, is part of a joint venture to build advanced manufacturing facilities.

In addition, a \$2.98 million loan to the Wood Cluster Centre of Excellence, a hub for wood processing, products, marketing and distribution, has been drawn from a \$19.5 million investment put aside for the cluster.

# The united voice for Australia's forest industries

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# We build, we innovate and together as an industry we will get through this ...

A LOT of people in our industry are waiting in the 'green room' ... watching for how the next performance of the COVID-19 crisis will play out.

But we've seen non-virus positive stories capture people's attention, because good things happen, especially in our industry, which without hesitation continues to build and innovate in the face of adversity.

The forests-forest products supply chain is taking proactive steps now to ensure building and construction remains safe and strong, helping our whole community in a positive and renewable way.



**Resilient... forestry will find a way.**  
Photo: VicForests

As AFPA CEO Ross Hampton says in this issue: "This is a time for all Australians to work together and the forest

products industry will work with all governments to get through this crisis." But he adds: "Governments must recognise that what the industry provides is a necessity, not a luxury."

Timber Queensland CEO Mick Stephens contributes: "We are here to help and assist the industry in weathering the immediate and near-term impacts of the virus, as well as positioning the industry to contribute positively to the economic recovery once the pandemic is brought under control."

Timber&Forestrynews stands committed as a news and information megaphone to report the effects of COVID-19 on our industry in these difficult times. Our job, as always, is to inform our readers every week about critical issues and events as people seek clarity and guidance during times of crisis.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison says Australians have faced no time like this since World War 2, which was a critical turning point

and a cornerstone in how the public and its elite perceived the future.

This was the moment of utmost importance which brought people belonging to all classes – the home front – together.

**“ POSITIVE STORIES CAPTURE PEOPLE'S ATTENTION ”**

In the London Blitz, more than 40,000 civilians were killed by Luftwaffe bombing, almost half of them in the capital, where more than a million houses were destroyed or damaged.

["There is no panic, no fear, no despair in London Town ... London can take it," said American columnist Quentin Reynolds in The Spirit of the Blitz, published in Colliers Weekly Magazine].

The answer today, quite simply, is to fight on. We fight on and work hard to



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# Gottstein course, AFPA dinner postponed

TWO major industry events – the AFPA Parliament House dinner in Canberra listed for June 24, and the JW Gottstein wood science course from June 21 and 26, have been postponed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

CEO Ross Hampton says it's regrettable the AFPA awards are on hold, but they will be back in 2021, which will be the 10th anniversary of AFPA.

The industry awards recognise the leaders in forestry innovation, business and training and provide an incentive to young and emerging leaders in the forestry industry.

The Gottstein Understanding Wood Science course will be moved to March next year.

"We assure those people

looking forward to the course that their bookings are able to transfer across to 2021," the chair of trustees John Simon said.

"The trustees sincerely appreciate the support of Gottstein patron donors Sustainable Timber Tasmania, HVP, Timberlink and Forico who had committed staff to the course program.

"A stand out has been the great support for young people with sponsored places provided by the Steve Stevenson Memorial Trust Fund, the Institute of Foresters of Australia and Midway."

All of the sponsored places will be transferred to 2021, although it is possible some individuals may not be able to participate.

The trust's management



**John Simon... great support for young people in the industry.**

team at Kurrumbene Projects & Advocacy will prioritise working through these changes with all involved in the coming days.

Mr Simon said the delivery of a Gottstein course was a truly collective effort.

"Amid the present uncertainty and gloom we especially wish to publicly

thank all the speakers and the operations who were very kindly hosting the course for field visits and Professor Peter Kanowski, Associate Professor Cris Brack and senior lecturer Dr Matt Brookhouse for all they have done in our course delivery partnership with the ANU Fenner School."

John Simon also advised the resignation of trustee Jason Wilson.

"On behalf of the trustees I thank Jason for his commitment to the trust over the past few years and wish him every success in his new role in New Zealand," Mr Simon said.

Current trustees are John Simon, Suzette Weeding, Nils Gunnersen, Brian Farmer, James Malone and Carlie Porteous.

From P 4

continue moving forward. We become resilient.

The very worst times have little in terms of comfort and when there is a lacking in comfort we must toughen up.

Since its emergence, there have been millions of tweets and retweets about the virus around the globe. We are seeing a COVID-19 related tweet every 45 milliseconds and #Coronavirus is now the second most used hashtag of 2020. These volumes

reflect the huge appetite for seeing and sharing news and information as events unfold.

Consider this digital online enews as a conduit for industry opinion, a way to keep thousands of our global readers informed – to receive and also to send useful and

reliable information that might help people navigate the uncertainty, or keep them calm. Please share this communication with us. Together we will get through this.

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# Museum's frame restoration pays homage to Renaissance paintings

## Studio draws on a selection of Australian native specialty timbers

JIM BOWDEN

VENETIAN artist Jacopo Tintoretto, born 500 years ago, was one of the most famous painters of the late Renaissance.

One of his oil paintings was sold at auction in the US last year for more than \$4 million. Another of the Italian master's works hangs at the Queensland Art Gallery in South Brisbane and the frame that secures this treasured painting, and many of those by other European and Australian artists between the 16th and 21st century, have been restored or replicated by a small band of experts at the gallery's Conservation Frames and Furniture Studio.

Oils, a palette, brushes and imagination were the only creative tools Tintoretto needed. But for the studio's staff of three – Robert Zilli, Alex Forrest and Damian Buckley – a remarkable collection of precision machinery has been carefully selected for the multiple restoration tasks at the studio ... machines from Stegherr and Otto Martin in Germany, Centauro in Italy, Cassese in France and Marunaka in Japan.

Each machine has a set

**PRECISION MACHINERY SELECTED FOR MULTIPLE RESTORATION TASKS**



*A fine collection... Robert Zilli with his shelves of specialty timbers used for framing and restoration work.*

task; they include a double mitre saw, sliding table saw, surface planer-jointer, thicknesser and spindle moulder. The studio also uses a custom-designed overhead collection system to minimise dust, the bugbear of frame renovation.

Adhesives and screws that in time could have damaged a work of art have made way for the ancient Japanese craft of seamless interlocking joints to connect wood.

The studio staff led the writer through the workshop to spotlessly clean areas used for conservation and restoration, traditional frame making and assembly and an office that houses reference books and meticulously kept records of completed work.

The studio adheres to strict

restored with all treatments adhering to the Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Materials (AICCM) code of ethics and practice. If the painting's existing frame is not original to the artwork or not from the same historical period, a replica will be made.

When making replica frames, decisions are not based on personal tastes but are relative to the historical context of the artworks they hold.

In-depth research is undertaken to determine the most suitable style of frame in consultation with gallery curators. The same traditional techniques and materials used centuries ago



*Precision... Alex Forrest prepares to work on a Stegherr saw machine.*

timelines set by the gallery's exhibition and loans program. Both paintings and frames are treated at the same time. While the painting conservators undertake the delicate and exacting task of restoring the painting. The frame, if original, is also

are employed in creating the replicas, including carving, applied ornament composition, gilding and painted finishes.

"Here are some of the

Cont P 8

**MAY**

**20: Australian Timber Importers Board meeting** – *Stora Enso Australia, Derrimut, Melbourne, Vic, Australia.* Enquiries to John Halkett: john.halkett@bigpond.com or 0417 421 187.

**JUNE**

**11: Innovation in Action Conference** – *Wellington, NZ.* Showcasing latest trends and innovations in the offsite sector in New Zealand and internationally, covering residential, commercial and

infrastructure. Speakers will present an overview of the economic, regulatory, skills and sustainability landscape shaping the sector. Contact Jessica on jessica@prefabnz.com

**SEPTEMBER**

**1-3: DANA New Zealand Forest Industry Status and Outlook Conference and field trip** – *Emerald Hotel, Gisborne, New Zealand.* For further information see: <https://danaevents.co.nz/2020gisborne/> or

contact Julie Bell admin@dana.co.nz

**OCTOBER**

**21st Australian Timber Design Awards** – *Sydney, NSW, Australia (date and venue to be advised).* Entries close June 1. Voting for the People’s Choice Award is open from August to September. Visit the new awards website for information and registration instructions. [www.timberdesignawards.com.au](http://www.timberdesignawards.com.au)

**NOVEMBER**

**4-7: AusTimber 2020** – *HVP plantation site, Traralgon, Gippsland region, Vic, Australia.* Event and dinner ticket sales now live – and limited. Welcome dinner with guest speaker Dr Karl Kruszelnicki AM, Australian science communicator. Make sure you commemorate the event with some AUSTimber merchandise. Contact Dionne Olsen on +61 429 202 929 or email [austimber2020@afca.asn.au](mailto:austimber2020@afca.asn.au) Follow AUSTimber on [www.austimber.org.au](http://www.austimber.org.au)

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## 2020 International Day of Forests theme a timely reminder

THIS year’s theme for the International Day of Forests on March 21– ‘Manage Forests and protect Biodiversity – is a timely reminder after the catastrophic bushfires and the importance of regeneration and multiple-use management of renewable forests.

AFPA CEO Ross Hampton

says the task now is even more important.

“Our forest industries have embraced internationally recognised independent certification schemes (such as FSC and PEFC/ Responsible Wood), which ensure the highest standards for biodiversity and environmental management while still sustainably

producing timber products that everyone loves,” he said.

“We are facing a significant recovery and regeneration task in fire-impacted areas, so it’s important we do it quickly and well. It’s a challenge we’re prepared to embrace but we can’t do this alone. All levels of government need to play a role, including the current bushfire royal

commission looking at fuel reduction strategies across the whole landscape.”

Mr Hampton said the industry, like all parts of society, was dealing with the impact of Covid-19. “It means we have to ensure those working in our industry, in any capacity are safe and well, and stay that way as they help with forest recovery.”

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**MAY**

**13-14: Quebec Forest Industry Council 2018 Convention – Quebec City, Canada.** Covering the interests of softwood and hardwood sawing, peeling, pulp, paper, cardboard and panels and manufacturers of engineered wood products. For additional information visit [www.cifq.qc.ca](http://www.cifq.qc.ca)

**19-20: FastMarkets – RISI-DANA 7th annual Forest Investment Conference – Convene Conference Centre, New York City.** Register at [www.risiinfo.com/events/](http://www.risiinfo.com/events/) or contact [conferences@risi.com](mailto:conferences@risi.com)

**JUNE**

**1-3: International Forest Business Conference and Tour – Sopot, Poland.** A two-day conference on megatrends that shape forest and wood industry sectors. The event will highlight the transformation of forest-related businesses towards a low-carbon bioeconomy, discuss tensions between sustainability and cost competitiveness, and call attention to new green

innovations. Field trip on June 3 to IKEA and Egger mills. The event will welcome institutional investors from across the globe to discuss investment opportunities in timber to diversify their portfolios and achieve healthy returns. Register at [www.fba-events.com](http://www.fba-events.com) or contact [karolina@forest-analytics.com](mailto:karolina@forest-analytics.com)

**AUGUST**

**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/](http://www.wcte2020.com/)

**SEPTEMBER**

**27-30: Council on Forest Engineering Annual Meeting – Corvallis, Oregon, USA.** Following a successful 2019 meeting in Hungary and Austria, this conference will be the second part

of the two-year joint annual meeting collaboration. For additional information see: [www.cofe.org](http://www.cofe.org)

**OCTOBER**

**21-23: Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Annual Conference – Vancouver, BC, Canada.** The 2020 SFI Annual Conference will be focused on how forests can make a difference when it comes to so many of the most important sustainability challenges faced in the forest sector and communities. For additional information see: [sficonference.org](http://sficonference.org)

**NOVEMBER**

**1-5: 3rd DANA African Forest Industry Investment Conference and field trip – Durban, South Africa.** Planning under way. Two day optional field trip (November 19-20). Register interest with Julie Bell [admin@dana.co.nz](mailto:admin@dana.co.nz)

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

From P 6

specialty timbers used for our restoration work," said studio manager Robert Zilli, pointing to stacks of native Australian species in the workshop, including red cedar, white beech, Queensland maple, blackwood and hoop and bunya pine.

Western red cedar from North America is also kept for use in stretcher bar manufacturing and the studio is trialling lightweight balsa-like paulownia wood, descended from native Asia and now an Australian



**Damian Buckley demonstrates the ancient craft of seamless interlocking joints to connect wood.**

at the National Gallery in London.

Damian Buckley is a conservation framing technician, cabinetmaker and accomplished visual artist with an education degree, majoring in painting and sculpture.

Conservation workshop technician Alex Forrest has a degree majoring in jewellery and small objects and is responsible for the manufacture of standard and custom works on paper frames and stretcher bars for works on canvas. He also assists with preventative conservation on historical frames.

Bellissimo. The Italian masters would be proud.

**“EACH FRAME IS RELATIVE TO THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF THE ARTWORKS THEY HOLD**

plantation timber, as an alternative.

A conservation framer and cabinetmaker, Robert Zilli came to the gallery as a volunteer in 1993, after completing two years' study in furniture restoration in

Italy. He was awarded an International Specialised Skills Institute fellowship to research heritage skills deficiencies in conservation gilding and was the recipient of a Churchill Fellowship, studying traditional framing

**On the cover: In the frame at the Queensland Art Gallery conservation studio... Damian Buckley, Alex Forrest and Robert Zilli.**

# Hyne 'shifts' to high gear at Tumbarumba

HYNE Timber Tumbarumba is in the process of adding a third shift as bushfire recovery salvage operations continue.

The site already employs about 230 people and is actively recruiting to a range of new opportunities and vacancies.

Site manager Marcus Fenske said the third shift was essential as the company did its part in bushfire recovery and increased locally-grown, plantation softwood timber supply to customers,

"Demand for our plantation softwood framing is very strong with one in four new homes across NSW constructed from product manufactured at Tumbarumba," he said.



**Judy Kelso... long-term Tumbarumba employee and resident.**

"The race is on to process as much salvaged, fire impacted pine logs as possible. Once we get the burnt bark off, the processed timber is great quality and continues to be delivered to around 400 different customer sites across NSW, Victoria and ACT.

The company has already

recruited eight people, 50% of whom are women, as it continues a commitment to gender diversity at the mill. Training in multi machine operating skills has commenced.

Hyne Timber continues to work with all levels of government on the medium to long term challenges

ahead given more than 50,000 ha of pine plantation is fire impacted in NSW alone.

"Until plantations are re-established in 20-30 years' time, interim solutions for viable log supply requires government support," Marcus Fenske said.

This includes prioritising all pine plantation for domestic processing over export, freight subsidies for Australian processors, and dedicated recovery coordination covering the longer-term issues of replanting and wood flow management.

About 7500 harvested plantation pine logs are processed each day resulting in daily structural framing volumes which would stretch from Tumbarumba to Sydney.

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# China log traders getting ‘very rich’ as NZ deems forestry non-essential

THE first lecture that a young [now an old TFN director) Dennis Neilson attended at Canterbury University in 1968 (exactly 52 years ago) was on economics delivered by then renowned economist Dr Wolfgang Rosenberg.

Thanks to Dr Rosenberg, for the next half century Dennis thought he understood economic logic. But this week he fears the good doctor will be rolling in his grave – and Dennis himself will have to return to Canterbury to start again.

Why all the confusion?

The collapse of Chinese imported log demand and prices since late January has been well documented, but two events this week defy (conventional) economy logic.

The first is that it appears China log usage is now well on its way to a full recovery. Some reports suggest Chinese softwood sawmills

are using 80-100,000 cub m a day, up from only 20-30,000 cub m a few weeks ago.

Log stocks are still very high and will take a month or two to correct, even at this very high offtake (which could still be a temporary aberration?)

“CHINA LOG USAGE WELL ON ITS WAY TO RECOVERY”

The February price collapse stopped most log exports from New Zealand, except for the volume required to fill previously contracted long-term charter vessels. These contracts are now almost completed.

In addition, huge increases in container freight from Europe, which has doubled in the last few months at up to \$US65-70 a cub m, and increased domestic costs in Europe, have about

almost totally stalled the large volumes being shipped from Europe to China in late 2019-early 2020. This means by far the largest two log suppliers to China stopped, or are about to stop deliveries

So now, CFR A grade log prices, which fell from \$US123 cub m in early January to \$100 in early March, are rising fast and the latest deal may have been for \$113 cub m. In addition, both shipping costs and New Zealand’s currency against the Greenback have plummeted. Now the New Zealand industry is expecting large increases in \$NZ AWG (at wharf gate) prices for March, possibly to \$120-\$125 (up around \$15), and some calculate as high as \$130.

In another senior moment, Dennis remembers that the last shipment of pine logs



Logged on... Dennis Neilson inspects rail freight operations.

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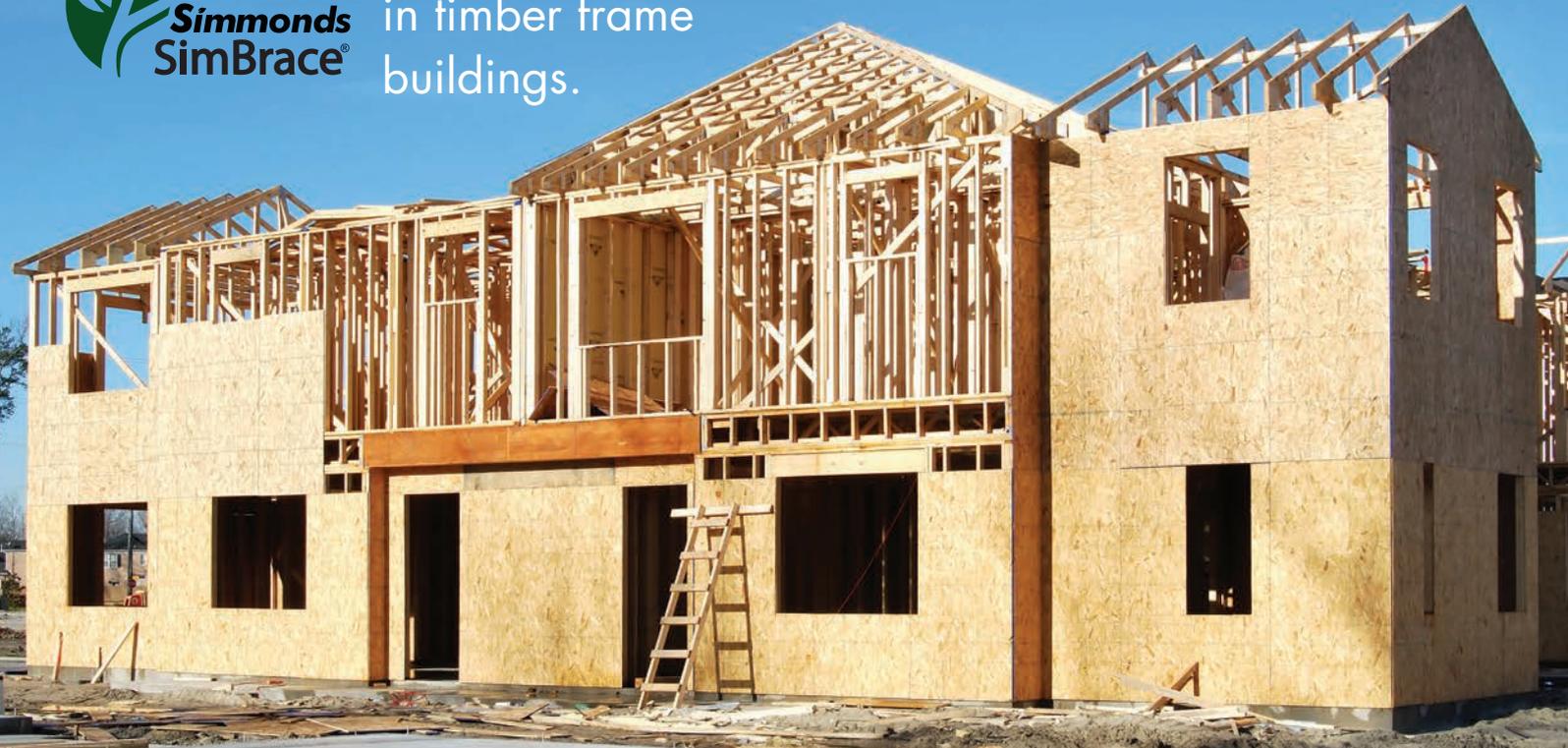
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# Managing nation's forests ... better and recognising some core elements

THE summer season saw bushfires on an unprecedented scale in the forests of eastern and southern Australia.

The more risky and more extreme fire seasons and conditions are driven by the warming and drying climate of southern Australia under climate change, and so – as many scientists and reports to government have been arguing for decades – we can expect more rather than less of these challenges in the future.

One of the big questions is how managers of forested land should respond to best mitigate and minimise these risks.

The answer is not straightforward, for a number of reasons. The first is tenure and management responsibility. The forests most affected were largely public land (primarily national park and state forest), but there are also substantial areas of privately-owned native forest in most states (36% in NSW and 17% in Victoria). Most of our landscapes are a mosaic of forests, farms and rural towns and communities, so bushfire risk reduction depends on what everyone does.

The second is that the



As the coronavirus dominates the headlines, another disaster, the summer bushfires, hasn't escape our thoughts – and fears. In a background to the forest fires, respected forester PETER KANOWSKI, in the first of two articles, focuses on managing our forests ... better.



**Most of our current knowledge of traditional burning comes from the experience of the past few decades in the very different savannah landscapes of northern Australia.**

management of our public forests has been strongly contested for some 50 years, since the publication of the Routley's 'The Fight for the Forests' in 1972. In the intervening years, a series of public policy processes and decisions have reserved progressively more of our public forests in conservation reserves – increases over the past 20 years of 81% in NSW and 21% in Victoria. Now, in all states, most public forest is dedicated to conservation.

So debates about managing bushfires have

become proxy arguments about managing forests more generally.

The third is our limited knowledge of the extent to which traditional Indigenous burning practices might moderate the fire risk in southern Australia, where the long-standing dispossession of Aboriginal

“LANDSCAPES ARE A MOSAIC OF FORESTS, FARMS AND RURAL TOWNS

peoples and associated loss of traditional knowledge means that cultural burning has been practices only on a small scale in the ACT, NSW and Victoria.

Most of our current knowledge of the use of traditional burning comes from the experience of the past few decades in the very different savannah

landscapes of northern Australia, and is not directly transferable to southern Australia's forests.

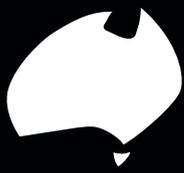
The fourth reflects how these factors interact, and with a changing climate under which severe fire conditions will become more frequent.

These conditions will make it harder to manage

our rural landscapes for their environmental and productive values, as well as mitigating bushfire risk to those values, and to life, property and infrastructure.

Where does this leave us? As the fire season subsides, we should have a national conversation that recognises some core elements.

• Peter Kanowski is Professor of Forestry in the Fenner School of Environment and Society at ANU. He was a member of the 2003-4 COAG National Bushfire Inquiry, and of the 2011 Australia State of Environment Committee.



# AUSTimber 2020

04-07 November

## Important announcement

### We have rescheduled... to November

The response and recovery efforts to the bushfire crisis are significant and many people from our timber industry have been directly affected or are working tirelessly to support impacted communities across Australia.

The decision to reschedule the show was the best way to support our timber industry and communities to continue the bushfire response, recovery and salvage efforts.

### If you have already purchased tickets

All tickets will be honoured for November, the program remains unchanged. Remember to update any accommodation bookings.

### Thank you

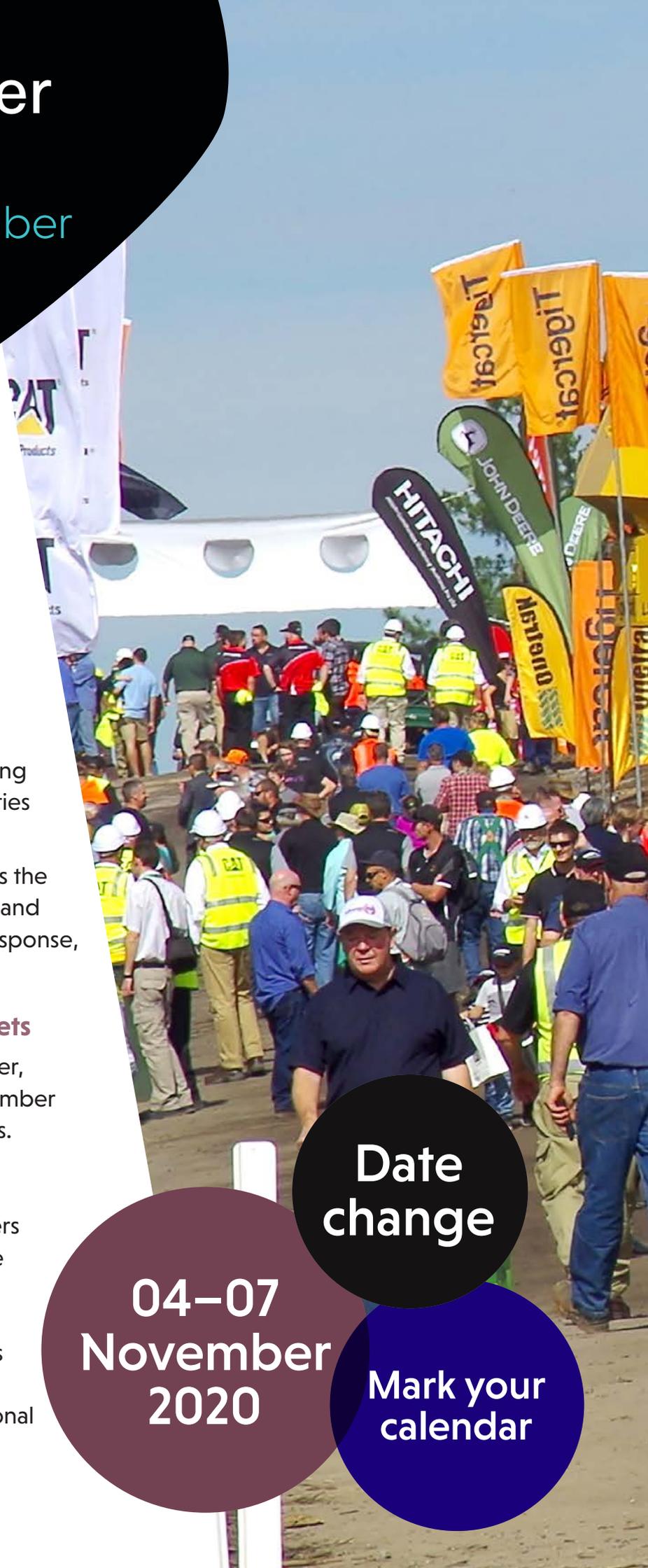
To our supporters, exhibitors and partners for their positive and proactive response to the decision to reschedule the show. It is their commitment to the success of the show that means our communities will still have the opportunity to benefit from over 10,000 national and international attendees visiting Gippsland.

[www.austimber.org.au](http://www.austimber.org.au)

04-07  
November  
2020

Date  
change

Mark your  
calendar



# APVMA approval of preservatives applies to wood treated in Australia

ALL preservative formulations in Australia must be approved for use by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

There are two important features of an APVMA approval. Firstly, the approval only applies to wood actually treated in this country.

Secondly, the APVMA approves a label which sets out how the preservative may be used: In effect, this means that members of the public will not be able to buy the actual preservative.

Wood preservatives may be dissolved in water, oil, or a light organic solvent such as mineral turpentine. This allows a preservative to be classified into one of these three main groups.

Water based preservatives (correct term is 'water-borne'): Timber treated with this group of preservatives has a wide variety of

**“THE PUBLIC CANNOT BUY THE ACTUAL PRESERVATIVE”**



**Timber treatment... APVMA-approved label sets out how a wood preservative may be used.**  
(Fishers Timber Preservation)

applications, both indoors and outdoors, for residential, commercial and industrial uses. The most common water-based preservatives are copper chrome arsenate (CCA), copper quaternary (ACQ) and copper azole (CuAz).

CCA, ACQ and CuAz react chemically with the wood so treated wood may be exposed to the weather and wetting. These preservatives protect wood from attack by borers, termites and decay.

Boron preservatives do not react chemically with the wood so treated wood must not get wet e.g. flooring, furniture and moulding. Protection is against insects/borers only.

Oil-borne preservatives: Timber treated with oil-borne preservatives is mainly used for heavy duty



construction and in the marine environment. The oil-borne preservatives used in Australia are creosote and pigment emulsified creosote (PEC). Oil-borne treated products include utility poles, rail sleepers and marine piles

Light organic solvent preservatives (LOSP): LOSP systems are used for products treated in

their final shape and form e.g. balustrades, fascias, weatherboards etc. LOSP treatments are only suitable for products used out of ground contact, and are often sold with a primer coat of paint. LOSPs include:

- Copper naphthenate or CuN. This product is a green fungicide and must be used with an insecticide.

- Tebuconazole/propiconazole or teb/prop. This is a colourless fungicide and must also be used with an insecticide.

- The synthetic pyrethroids, permethrin, deltamethrin, bifenthrin, and cypermethrin, are used for termite and insect control and have no ability to stop decay. These preservatives are colourless and often have a dye or pigment added e.g. blue framing.

- Glueline additives: This type of preservative does not neatly fit into the three groups of preservative just described. This is because the preservative is added to the glue when products such as plywood or laminated veneer lumber or chipboard are being prepared for gluing. Preservatives in this group currently include two synthetic pyrethroids, imidacloprid and zinc borate.

# Safe forests bubble to the surface of survey

A WORKPLACE study by The New York Times lists forestry and forest harvesting as the safest occupations from COVID-19.

As the virus continues to spread, people with jobs that put them in physical contact with many others are at the greatest risk.

In the study, the risk levels of various jobs were calculated using O\*NET, a database maintained by the US Department of Labour that describes various physical aspects of different occupations. Each bubble on the study monitor represents an occupation. The bigger the bubble, the more people do that job.

Forest harvesting is at the lowest risk level – between 0 and 5% – compared with health care workers,



**Forest 'bathing'... stopping to appreciate the world around us – among the trees.**

particularly dentists and paramedics, at 90-100% risk, who work in close proximity to one another and their patients. Many are already under quarantine because of exposure to the virus.

The database assigns dozens of scores to each occupation for things like how often a telephone is used to how often a job requires you to bend your body. (Housekeepers rank highest in

this metric).

Studies show scents and smells also have a powerful effect on health and emotions. It seems that smells are closely tied to the emotional centre in

our brain. This is why certain scents and sounds in the forest can have a calming effect and arouse a sense of nostalgia or other emotions relating to our past.

In a wide range of roles, foresters work directly in the management and conservation of trees in a role that is largely manual and labour-based. Arborists are engaged in the coppicing, pollarding, planting

and moving of trees for healthy growth and management, while forest workers are charged with ensuring harmony within the landscape.

Nearly a million doctors, nurses, teachers, cleaners and carers are among workers who are regularly exposed to disease or infections while they do their jobs, amid calls for greater protections for those on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, "very close, near touching" physical proximity is required in at least 15% of roles in which the majority of Australians are employed, an analysis of the characteristics of more than 120 different jobs found.

The majority of workers in 77% of jobs said their roles involved "constant contact with others".

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From P 10

he contracted from New Zealand to China (in March 1992) was at US\$ 31 per cubic m, which in 2020 inflation-adjusted terms would be \$54. This compares with some shipping costs this week (for bigger log ships) at just \$20.

So far so good? No.

On Monday, the New Zealand government raised its virus alert to 'Level 4', with only "essential" industries allowed to operate from Tuesday, March 24.

Forestry, including harvesting, log processing, log transport and shipping; as well as almost all wood processing is deemed a "non-essential" industry, in spite of vigorous lobbying by forest owners and wood processors.

There will not be a single tree cut down in New Zealand for at least four weeks. But all clouds have a silver lining.

If the Australian government is more 'rational' it will deem forestry to be



**Port of call... Dennis Neilson inspects logs at a checkpoint in China.**

an 'essential' industry for on-going construction (which uses a lot of sawn timber) and foreign exchange earning reasons. If it does, that will allow Australian pine log exporters to take advantage of a new windfall, as well as allowing owners affected by

forest fires to rapidly clear damaged log stocks.

How will smart Chinese owners of New Zealand logs in stockpile in China respond? They will likely not sell or use now, but will hold.

One this week said, "If I just hold on to my NZ pine logs, in two months I will be very rich."

Dennis says he can hear Dr Rosenberg's grave rumble loudly as he writes this article.

Note: The DANA-Gingko 185-page 2020 Asia-Pacific Woodchip Trade Review is now available.

In 14 chapters, the review profiles 21 Asia-Pacific woodchip-importing pulpmill companies in six countries/regions; 83 Asia-Pacific woodchip exporters, operating from 48 ports in 16 countries; details of all 141 woodchip carriers and 27 expected new-builds 2020-2022; chapters on Asia-Pacific woodchip biomass trade to North Asia and to Europe, and woodchip trade from Asia-Pacific to Europe; supply country export and pulp mill import country volume predictions each year for five years (from 2020 to 2024) with supply balances for softwood and hardwood wood chips; FOB price predictions for eight major country/species in 2024; a 150 supplier-trading company, shipping company and pulp/MDF mill end-user contacts registry.

The review can be ordered for immediate delivery. See notice, Page 16.

**“NOT A SINGLE TREE WILL BE CUT DOWN IN NZ FOR 4 WEEKS”**

## NZ wood industry prepares for impact of coronavirus shut-down

NZ Forestry Minister Shane Jones has clarified that the bar for essential services over the next four weeks had been set deliberately high as the coronavirus

continues to spread.

Non-essential services include sawmills and all other producers of wood products including but not limited

to particleboard, plywood, MDF and LVL; all secondary processors of wood products except those explicitly listed above; logging harvesters.

"Businesses will need to shut down and the key task is working to manage this and supporting your people over the next four weeks," Mr Jones said.

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