

DELIVERED
WEEKLY TO
15,200
GLOBAL
READERS*

Like and
follow us on 

ISSUE 604 | April 16, 2020

timber & FORESTRY *e*news

timberandforestryenews.com



Prepared and ready as restrictions start to lift

COVER STORY P5 & P16

Responsible
Wood 



Download
the latest
Bulletin.



**MARGULES
GROOME**

FIRST FOR FORESTRY CONSULTING

www.margulesgroome.com

For all your Timber
Preservation needs.

Innovation
through
formulation



Ph: 07 3293 2651 | 24hrs: 0417 749 481
www.azelis.com

 **Wood
Solutions**
design and build

www.woodsolutions.com.au



The NATIONAL voice for

Timber Merchants • Suppliers • Manufacturers

Contact us on 1800 TABMA1

Bushfires royal commission goes virtual: final report by August 31

THE national bushfires royal commission will hold its first hearing online so it can complete its work amid coronavirus restrictions.

The Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements will hold an online ceremonial sitting today (Thursday).

The submission period has been extended till April 28. The six-month royal commission must deliver a final report by August 31, with the federal government keen for recommendations before the next fire season.

“The e-hearing will be live-streamed to allow a wide audience to watch the proceedings while continuing to observe coronavirus-related social distancing requirements,” the commission said.

“Commissioners remain committed to providing advice

“PM WANTS INQUIRY COMPLETED BY AUGUST



Shane Fitzsimmons

to government ahead of the 2020-21 bushfire season with further hearings planned.”

The royal commission was established on February 20 in response to the extreme bushfire season of 2019-20 which resulted in loss of life, property and wildlife and environmental destruction.

The royal commission and the separate state bushfire inquiries have had to move to digital rather than in-person engagement due to the coronavirus restrictions.

The inquiry recognises Australia must address longer, hotter and drier seasons by developing “adaptation action”

It is also set to look



Mark Binskin

at whether the federal government should have the power to declare a national state of emergency.

The investigation into the bushfire crisis will also consider the potential benefits of “harmonising” aspects of land management like hazard reduction burns across the states and territories.

The technique has been debated heavily during this bushfire season.

NSW Rural Fire Service commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons warned the measure was “not the panacea” some were looking for to mitigate bushfires as the crisis unfolded. But

many members of the Coalition have called for more controlled burns, which have been recommended by previous inquiries but not implemented because of various reasons, including pressures from green groups.

The responsibility for land management currently falls to the states.

Traditional land and fire management practise of indigenous Australians are also expected to be examined, to see if they can improve Australia’s response to natural disasters.

While royal commissions can sometimes run for years, the Prime Minister wants this one completed by the end of August.

He has kept the details undercover, with Labor leader Anthony Albanese arguing the Opposition should have been consulted as a matter of “common courtesy”.

The royal commission will be headed by former chief of the Defence Force Mark Binskin.

• **More than 200 submissions, P 10**



THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

Following the awarding of a Global GreenRate Level A certification, MicroPro Wood Treatment Technology has recently been awarded a GoldHEALTH rating with its recently published Global GreenTag Level A Product Health Declaration™ (PHD™).

The GreenTag PHD is the first health transparency tool in the world to assess human health concerns directly, rating the health impacts of a final product – and not just the hazards of a product’s ingredients.

For more information call us now on 1800 088 809.



MicroPro® is a registered trademark of Koppers Inc. or its subsidiaries. MicroPro® timber products are produced by independently owned and operated wood preserving facilities. © 2019 Koppers Performance Chemicals Australia Pty Ltd. Global GreenRate, GoldHEALTH, Global GreenTag and GreenTag PHD are registered trademarks operated under licence by Global GreenTag Pty Ltd.

Industry 'full on' to give Australians products they need in months ahead

Supply chains busy with no plans to slow down production

THE Australian Forest Products Association has reassured Australians that our renewable forest products industries will continue to provide essential products to the nation during the difficult times ahead and can do even more if supported.

The acting CEO of AFPA Gavin Matthew said: "With many now asking just how resilient and self-sufficient Australia will be in the future, our renewable forest products industries and workers continue to produce a ready supply of locally-made products and services Australia needs, and with further support and investment in these industries Australia can be even more resilient and self-sufficient in the future."

Mr Matthew said the industry, right along its supply chain from growing trees to manufacturing renewable products, was working hard to make sure Australia had what it needs in the months ahead.

"These locally-made products and services include essential requirements like toilet paper, tissues, medical and sanitary products, the cardboard used for food and beverage packaging, and the wooden pallets used for distribution operations," he said.

"Additionally, timber is still needed for building houses

INDUSTRY WILL BE EVEN MORE RESILIENT IN THE FUTURE



1/ Building with the future in mind... locally-made products heed the call.

2/ Gavin Matthew... essential forest products have a more resilient future.

and processing woody residues is an important input into many agricultural processes including livestock and crop production. There's also the kerbside and wastepaper recycling services.

"None of these forest product industries have stopped or slowed down since the crisis began and there are no plans for them to do so.

"If all Australians are prepared to support locally-made products and services during this difficult time and beyond, then that will mean a more resilient future will be secured for all of us."

AFPA last week sent a brief to the Prime Minister, premiers and chief ministers outlining why forest product industries must be recognised as essential service providers if further restrictions are put in place to contain COVID-19.

Australia's forest products industries manufacture and deliver a range of essential services and products, many of which are experiencing record demand as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

products is contingent on the continuation of the whole forest products supply chain.

Also, timber used for construction, including for temporary field hospitals built from timber panels, are planned and ready should the

pandemic worsen and hospitals are unable to cope.

Countries including the US, Canada, South Africa, Finland and Scotland have defined forest products as

essential services which will continue throughout nationwide shutdowns.



The integrated nature of the industry means the continued supply of these vital

The united voice for Australia's forest industries



(02) 6285 3833
enquiries@ausfpa.com.au
www.ausfpa.com.au

AUSTRALIAN
FOREST PRODUCTS
ASSOCIATION
afpa
TREES | WOOD | PAPER

Walking together in COVID-19 crisis

IT'S reassuring to know that among all the current fake news spreading around COVID-19 that Aussies are not hanging out in a basement with tinned foods and a pallet-load of toilet rolls waiting for the End of the World.

Instead, among a raft of isolated and family activities, they're showing a mounting interest in and spending more time than ever before on their computers using digital media as their key news informant.

With strict stay-at-home rules for many to prevent virus spread, Timber&Forestry enews has witnessed a spike in page visits, taking it beyond its weekly audience of 15,500-plus.

Notably, our ability to 'track' the viewing patterns of traditional and consistent industry readers shows they



are devoting extra 'viewing time' on almost every page. These include foresters, merchants, manufacturers, processors, builders and architects, educational and training facilities and

politicians at all levels of government ... and a growing number of global visitors.

In the first week of lockdown, Australians spent more than four hours every day on social and news media – an 87% increase from a week before lockdown.

During this critical time of change in the aftermath of bushfires and floods and now the coronavirus pandemic, it is imperative we continue to keep our readers informed while defending the industry in all its forms against detractors who turn a blind eye to science.

One thing that won't change is that we will continue to publish – and inform – as we have done for more than 40 years in the industry reporting business. And we don't anticipate that changing anytime soon.

Like many others, we have had to cut costs and adjust budgets. Typically out and about covering multiple events, meetings and interviews, we must temporarily transition to reporting remotely whenever possible. For a time, there

will be more interviews conducted by phone or using other technology rather than meeting in person, and there will be more submitted photography in place of photos taken by our staff.

When we must be on location to effectively cover a story, we will keep a respectful distance, decline to shake hands and take other measures as necessary.

HOME-STAY SPIKE IN READERSHIP

We appreciate all of our loyal readers and advertisers (our life's blood) who are walking with us through these unprecedented times.

Take care. And we look forward to emerging on the other side of this crisis a stronger industry news source and part of what will assuredly be a stronger timber and forest community.

We're all friends here.

Send media and other material to the editor Jim Bowden: cancon@bigpond.net.au



TABMA Training...

providing innovative training solutions

TABMA Training (previously FITEC - RTO 5343) offers a full range of nationally recognised forest and timber industry qualifications ranging from forest operations, sawmilling, frame and truss design and manufacture, to timber merchandising, and business sales.

PLUS our dynamic short courses are designed to achieve bottom line results for your business!

Short courses include forklift training, chainsaw training, how to deal with customers in person and on the telephone, performance management, timber knowledge, timber take offs, and visual stress grading.

These short courses can be conducted at your premises (5+) or in a group at our facilities.



**Contact us now for further information.
1300 693 483**

www.tabmatraining.edu.au

Building and construction will be first to jump from COVID barrier

Forest products well-equipped and prepared when restrictions lift

THE 'essential' forest and wood products industry in Australia is well equipped and prepared for a ramp up of business as the federal Department of Health says a lifting of restrictions brought on by COVID-19 may be sooner than later.

Australians may be able to escape the 'lock-down' within weeks with restrictions on public gatherings likely to be the first lifted if community transmission continues to drop.

High-value, low-risk industries such as manufacturing, building and construction and agriculture will be the priority for lifting restrictions and rebooting the economy.

But any move is still "many weeks" away, says Prime Minister Scott Morrison.

The National Cabinet is set to be briefed today (Thursday) on scenarios relating to lifting restrictions.

The number of COVID-19 cases rose by 46 across the



Greg Hunt... we are not immune to the iron laws of the disease.

country to 6359 (on Tuesday), meaning the average daily increase in Australia over the past three days was just 0.19%.

Health Minister Greg Hunt says Australia's case fatality rate is "one of the lowest in the world" but cautioned "we are not immune from the iron laws of the disease".

The federal government says it is "actively planning the road out" of COVID-19 restrictions. Easter travel was at only 13% of its usual levels across the country, which helped contribute to reduced



Fiona Ewing... the priority and starting point is health & wellbeing.

rates of new infections – the so-called flattening of the curve.

The strict social restrictions are designed to slow down the virus's spread, rather than totally eliminating it.

Social distancing and restrictions on gatherings have had a serious, positive effect on case numbers, while the halt on international travel – and therefore imported cases of COVID-19 – is also being reflected in the lessening case numbers.

Meanwhile, in New Zealand, organisations

representing forest growers, transport, processing and contractors have set up a working group to develop risk assessment protocols in readiness for start-up of the industry sector.

The national director of the Forest Industry Safety Council Fiona Ewing says the aim is to assure government that the sector will be able to comply with the epidemic management conditions of COVID-19.

"The priority and starting point is health and wellbeing," Ms Ewing said.

"There is the complex technical side of start-ups that will be a 'whole-of-industry' scan of the value chain. That starts in the forest and moves through transport, processing and export through to the work at the ports. The group will be working with our stakeholders to get the start-up protocol proposal right."

• **Phased industry restarts in New Zealand, Page 16.**



Beautiful. Natural.
Sustainable. Australian.

responsiblewood.org.au

You can be assured that wood carrying the Responsible Wood mark has come from certified Australian forests that are sustainably managed to the highest global standards.

Responsible
Enabling
Sustainability
Wood



Stringybark good tucker for koalas

Seedling donations to support Bega Valley planting program

FORESTRY Corporation of NSW has donated 1000 blue-leaved stringybark seedlings (*Eucalyptus agglomerata*) to south coast landowners to help rebuild koala habitat in the area.

Included are 500 seedlings to members of the Far South Coast Landcare Association to help build local koala habitat. The seedlings will be planted on private property adjacent to known koala populations.

The connection between Forestry Corporation and the Landcare Association was initiated by Bridge House Nursery owner Don Firth.

“During the bushfires, I met and worked with many Forestry Corporation staff at the Bega fire headquarters,” Mr Firth said.

“This connection has seen us work with the Far South Coast Landcare Association to deliver seedlings to local farmers and help offset lost seedlings.

“Unfortunately, the Landcare Association had lost a significant stock of seedlings in the bushfire, which were being prepared for the community planting program.

“It’s great to see Forestry Corporation help replace these losses and keep the koala habitat program continuing.

“In these uncertain times, the cooperation between everyone has been fantastic.”

Forestry Corporation’s protection supervisor Julian



1/ Koala care... the Forestry Corporation’s Julian Armstrong with Bridge House Nursery owner Don Firth and Landcare Coordinator Chris Post.

2/ Top of the menu... a koala tucks into a meal of stringybark leaves.

Armstrong was pleased to deliver the seedlings last week.

“We’re happy to support post-fire rebuilding through the donation,” Mr Armstrong said.

“These seedlings will support replanting efforts and provide a food source for surviving koalas for years to come.”

The Bega seedlings come from Forestry Corporation’s Grafton nursery, and are part of a larger program to help rebuild koala habitat on private land.

Forestry Corporation is currently delivering more than 50,000 donated seedlings to community organisations, farmers and land managers in NSW’s coastal areas.

Koalas eat a variety of eucalypt leaves and a few other related tree species, including lophostemon,

melaleuca and corymbia species (such as brush box, paperbark and bloodwood trees). They consume around 500 grams of leaves each day (about the size of a small lettuce) and obtain most of their water requirements from the leaves, which can contain up to 50% water.

This removes the need for a koala to climb down a tree for a drink, except during very hot or dry periods. The leaves are also very low in energy comprising only 5% sugars and starches on average.

Eucalypt leaves contain many toxic compounds similar to that of cyanide, which most animals cannot eat. This unique diet is shared only with possum and gliders, and provides koalas with access to a relatively untapped food resource.

“SEEDLINGS WILL PROVIDE KOALAS FOOD SOURCE FOR MANY YEARS”

JUNE

11: Innovation in Action Conference – Wellington, NZ. Virtual conference online. Register interest at www.colabprefabnz.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: www.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

30: Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards – Barn Palais, Mount Gambier, SA, Australia. Nominations open 1 June 2020 and close 14 August 2020. For more information visit:

www.gttia.com/

MARCH 2021

17-19: Doing Timber Business in Queensland – Hotel Marriott and Howard Smith Wharves, Brisbane, QLD, Australia. State conference, workshops, innovation tour and gala dinner organised by Timber Queensland. Visit www.doingtimberbusinessinql.com

EVENTS LISTS MAY HAVE BEEN, OR ARE LIKELY TO BE CANCELLED OR POSTPONED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS TRAVEL, SOCIAL DISTANCING AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS. PLEASE CHECK THE RELEVANT WEBSITES.

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

19-20: FastMarkets – RISI-DANA 7th annual Forest Investment Conference – POSTPONED. Visit www.risiinfo.com/events/ for update.

SEPTEMBER

27-30: Council on Forest Engineering Annual Meeting – POSTPONED. Visit www.cofe.org for update.

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

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

DECEMBER

7-9: 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 December 7 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 or contact karolina@forest-analytics.com

JANUARY 2021

11-14 : 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



Our Scope of Supply:

- Mobile and stationary chainsaws
- Timber crosscut stations
- Log cutting stations
- Circular saws
- Mechanisation
- Sorting lines
- Scanning and optimising systems
- Special systems

Do you crosscut timber packs at ±1mm accuracy

OR cut structural timber, panel products (MDF & LVL), paper rolls

OR produce pallet dimensions or studs on fixed lengths

HOLTEC has a solution for you

For more information contact:

Ph: +64 9 416 8294
 Fax: +64 9 416 8296
 Email: sales@holtec.org
 Web: www.holtec.org




Aussie builders are open for business

BUILDERS and tradies remain open for business and are complying with the social distancing and hygiene rules, in line with the latest advice from government, Master Builders Australia CEO Denita Wawn says.

“The Prime Minister has confirmed that building is an essential industry and is being kept open but there is some confusion in the community about how this is applied to the home and we want to clear that up,” Mrs Wawn said.

“Safe Work Australia advice confirms that a workplace includes a private home or dwelling, which means building workers and tradies will do everything to follow social distancing and strict hygiene practices, so any risks are eliminated



Building houses... an essential industry.

or minimised.

“This means that the public can have confidence that they are doing the right thing in helping stop the spread of COVID-19, while still going ahead with their residential building.”

Mrs Wawn said builders and tradies cared

deeply about the safety and wellbeing of their communities and they were complying with the latest government advice so they can provide building services to their communities.

“The survival of these businesses is essential to the livelihoods of builders and their families but also the

economy which is also under huge pressure from the COVID-19 crisis.”

The AWU and Master Builders Australia have jointly called on governments to ensure the building and construction industry continues to operate, because without it the economic knock-on effects would be devastating on a scale that would dwarf what we have seen to date.

The shutdown of the construction industry would jeopardise not just those employed directly, but the whole livelihoods of millions of Australians employed in precarious sectors such as manufacturing. It would devastate nationally important industries in the building supply chain.

MANUFACTURED BY TARANAKIPINE

MASS TIMBER FLOOR AND ROOF SOLUTIONS

email: info@woodspan.co.nz
www.woodspan.co.nz

Enterprising joiner answers call with innovative flatpack

THE COVID-19 pandemic is challenging the way we work and the way we socially interact ... and the kitchen and cabinetry sector is no different.

The Queensland government has put out a call for the state's army of mighty manufacturers to step up production, explore new ideas and go above and beyond in the fight against the virus.

The Minister for Manufacturing Cameron Dick has encouraged manufacturers to take photos or video in front of their workplace, on the shop floor or with their products.

"We want to see all manufacturers big and small – builders on construction sites, meat processors, clothes designers, baristas in cafes showcasing the work they are doing to support the state as it tackles the pandemic.

"I've heard loud and clear that Queenslanders want to know more about what is being produced, created and manufactured in their state," Mr Dick said.

"This is why we have started the #MakingItForQLD campaign, to celebrate all the manufacturers who are leading the way during these uncertain times.

Greg Watter, manager of Brisbane-based Kitchen Gallery, has answered the call supporting frontline health workers with an unconventional new product line.

Working with Responsible



Greg Watter... innovative new flatpack product line.

Wood's Simon Dorries and a consortium of certified wood panel manufacturers and with support from UQ Engineering, Kitchen Gallery has developed an innovative flatpack substitute for the funeral sector which can be assembled in 90 seconds without glue or screws.

More importantly, the design could be adopted by any joiner with a CNC machine to allow production in large numbers at very low cost.

Mr Dick said the government was also reaching out to manufacturers, suppliers and producers to identify supply chain gaps to help keep production lines flowing and protect jobs.

"If you're a manufacturer and need help with supply chain issues, we'll work to connect you as quickly as possible with any new suppliers, producers and networks," Mr Dick said.

Manufacturers or businesses having difficulties accessing supplies should visit qld.gov.au/qld-supplies

HYNE.COM.AU

QUALITY
SERVICE
INNOVATION

HYNE TIMBER

Fuel plays a far greater role in fireline intensity than temperature alone: RFAQ

MORE than 200 submissions have been received by the Bushfires Royal Commission after the commission invited views of community groups based on their respective experiences and background.

Climate change has been touted as the cause, or at least, a contributing factor to the intensity and frequency of the recent bushfires.

One of the first submissions – from the Rural Fires Association of Queensland (RFAQ) – submits that the amount of fuel available during bushfires plays a far greater role in fireline intensity than temperature alone.

The submission concludes that an increase of 2 deg.



Royal commission... bushfires inquiry examines submissions.

C in temperature will result in a 7% increase in fireline intensity, while an increase from 5t/ha to 15t/ha will result in a 10-fold (i.e. 1000%) increase in fireline intensity

The global warming theory considers a rise of 2 deg. C is likely. Thus this figure has been taken and applied as a component of temperature in calculating the McArthur Forest Fire Danger Index (FFDI) and fireline intensity.

As part of this exercise, three levels of forest fuel

were examined – 5 tonne/ha, 15 tonne/ha and 25 tonne/ha, which are broadly equivalent to common southeast Queensland forests and woodlands that have been regularly prescribed burnt and not burnt for some time. The 15t/ha is applicable to the more open forest types and the 25t/ha to the denser

“THREE LEVELS OF FOREST FUEL WERE EXAMINED”

forests.

“The abandonment of fossil fuels, as suggested by some sections of our community as a way to address bushfires, would have a devastating effect on our economy with little or no change to the intensity and frequency of bushfires,” the

RFAQ says in its submission.

“A return to a strict regime of fuel reduction burning is a far better investment in the future safety of our country.”

For tens of thousands of years, aboriginal people used fire as a management tool to reduce the risk of bushfires and to make the land more amenable to their hunting practices. This burning played a pivotal role in creating the ecosystems that existed prior to European settlement.

Cont P 11



Lonza | Wood Protection



Providing solutions to enhance the performance of your Engineered Wood Products.

LVL, plywood and CLT are an essential component of the modern construction industry, Lonza offer a range of solutions to protect engineered wood products.

- ✓ Veneer pre-treatments
- ✓ Glue line additives
- ✓ Finished product protection

www.lonzawoodprotection.com/apac/glue-line-engineered-wood-family/

Looking to enhance your engineered wood products?
Contact Lonza.

AUSTRALIA
+61 3 9339 8915
tanalised.au@lonza.com

NEW ZEALAND
+64 9 276 3646
tanalised.nz@lonza.com

NEW PLYMOUTH
+64 6 755 9324
scott.connor@lonza.com

From P 10

Early settlers endeavoured to stop traditional burning practices but came to understand the importance of this land management practice following many devastating bushfires.

Today, hazard reduction burning remains the primary tool to reduce the intensity of bushfires in Australia, the RFAQ submission says.

“Obfuscation of responsible land and fuel management, and blaming ‘climate change’, or claiming that it’s ‘too hard’, is inexcusable,” says the submission

“There is a critical need to break from the ‘cycle of response’ that has followed every parliamentary committee inquiry, COAG report, coronial inquiry and royal commission into devastating bushfires over the past 100 years. Each



Bushfires inquiry... e-hearing will be live-streamed to allow a wide audience to watch the proceedings.

time, as the flames fade, so does the political will to implement lasting change.”

The RFAQ emphasises: “Let this time be different and actually implement the recommendations. Make the states and territories accountable for bushfires disasters that occur due to their poor land management practices and policies.

“If not, we are destined to keep repeating the mistakes of the past, fuel loads across the country will again build up and more lives, properties and environment will be

“ MAKE THE STATES AND TERRITORIES ACCOUNTABLE

lost to future bushfires that will once again be labelled as ‘unprecedented’.”

The commission is accepting public submissions on preparedness for, and response to, natural disasters drawing on what many Australians experienced during the 2019-20 bushfire season.

Individuals, organisations, community groups and the broader community are invited to make submissions. A submission is a statement to the royal commission which assists the commission in collecting information relevant to the inquiry as set out in the terms of reference.

For further details call 1800 909 826.

**The Weinig Group:
Machines and systems for
solid wood & panel processing**

Innovative state-of-the-art technology, comprehensive services and system solutions through to turnkey production lines: the WEINIG Group is your partner for profitable processing of solid wood and panels. WEINIG quality and profitability give small businesses and industrial operations a decisive edge in the global competition.

www.weinig.com.au
www.holzher.com.au

Michael Weinig Australia Pty Ltd
3 Widemere Road
PO Box 6239
Wetherill Park NSW 2164
Australia

Freecall: 1800 736 460
Email: sales-australia@weinig.com.au

Toilet paper is part of the cure, but are we over-reacting to coronavirus?

SO, paraphrasing the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse ... we have fire, drought, flood and pestilence.

Wow. What have we done to deserve this?

If the coronavirus is the symptom it looks like toilet paper is the cure! But has the country gone completely mad and over-reacted?

This is a really serious challenge for us all – here in Australia and globally. But without understating the gravity of the situation, a former chief medical officer from the Canadian province of Ontario, Richard Schabas, observed that more than 4000 people worldwide have died of the virus in the first three months since it first burst on the scene.

But in the same three months there had been about eight million deaths in China from other causes, and about 14 million deaths worldwide. For instance, during the same three-month period there have been almost 10,000 deaths in Canada from tobacco addiction-related causes, and just one from the coronavirus (but it's now well over 400, so it is getting up there).

You could say that the apparent toilet paper cure is a good outcome for the forest industry with the demand for wood pulp, the



basic ingredient of toilet paper, going through the roof, or down the thunderbox, whichever way you want to look at it.

Coronavirus continues to hit the headlines with the business community and the forestry industry still affected in the aftermath of the summer bushfires. The situation and impacts of the virus slow-down are particularly impacting on New Zealand forest harvesting contractors, and increasingly, as harvest volumes continue to drop, on transport companies, ports and stevedoring operations. Of course, a huge chunk if Kiwi log production is directed at Chinese customers.

A bit of positive news amidst all the despair is that China now looks like getting back to work, if you believe the commentary. Outside of the Hubei province, where coronavirus originated, more than 90% of large-scale



industrial enterprises are reportedly returning to some level of production. This may be true, but Chinese ports remain clogged with logs.

Reports say that ports in China have about 6.5 million cub m of logs stacked up. This is well above usual volumes and stocks are likely to remain high until Chinese manufactures resume taking significant quantities of logs from wharfs.

So, the coronavirus will certainly continue to have impacts on the New Zealand

forest industry and the country's economy more broadly.

Back this side of the Tasman, in the so-called Lucky Country, salvaging fire-killed softwood plantations is keeping forest contractors busy for the moment, and will most probably have a short-term impact on timber prices, but there will be dire longer-term consequences for contractors and ongoing log supplies arising from the fires, the extent of damage to forestry assets, and likely future diminished appetite for plantation establishment investment.

As we know all too well, the coronavirus is already seriously affecting plans for events across the country, including a number of big industry activities this year. Still on track is the much-anticipated Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards at Mount Gambier on October 30. However, most unfortunately, AUSTimber 2020, scheduled for November 4-7 in Victoria's Latrobe Valley, has been postponed.

I know this has been a very difficult decision for the organisers, but nonetheless prudent in these uncertain times.

So tough times for the country and for our industry for sure. Hang in there. This will pass, hopefully sooner than later, when we can return to a sense of normality in the months ahead.

Catch up with you again next month.

Cheryl

“SALVAGING FIRE-KILLED PLANTATIONS KEEPING CONTRACTORS BUSY FOR NOW

The MARKET Leader...



Komatsu 875 & 895

Komatsu Forest have maintained a very strong market position with their two most popular forwarders being the Komatsu 875 (16 tonne) which really compliments the 895 (20 tonne).

These two current models have been further refined to meet expectations and to cover all the contractors' extraction requirements with the latest developments in these key areas.

- New transmission system for greater traction and control.
- Improved crane performance with a large bunk area.
- Introducing Maxifleet to provide the ultimate service and production tool.
- New electric engine hood and new access panels for much improved serviceability
- Stylish and modern cab with central locking and remote key.

The latest Komatsu forwarders have been taken to another level in lifting the overall standards for forwarding which make them the best in their class.

Komatsu Forest Pty Ltd.
11/4 Avenue of Americas
Newington NSW 2127 Australia
T: +61 2 9647 3600
E: info.au@komatsuforest.com

WoodSolutions EPDs a great story

THE growing interest in establishing the environmental impact of new projects and gaining environmental accreditation is shown by the number of times the six WoodSolutions Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) have been downloaded.

Invaluable tools in calculating the environmental impact of a project, these declarations are independently verified documents that contain specific environmental data, for improved decision making.

Typically, an EPD includes data on multiple environmental impacts, including contributions to climate change (carbon footprint), air, water and soil pollution and resource depletion.

EPDs are important sources of credible information for specifiers and designers for developing an LCA (life cycle analysis) of a project or structure to understand what needs to be done to quantifiably reduce their project's environmental impact.

The six WoodSolutions EPDs include softwood and hardwood timber, particleboard, MDF, plywood and glue laminated timber (Glulam). These are all available for free download from the WoodSolutions website.

"This level of interest in comprehensive and



1/ **Barbara Nebel...**
beyond expectations.
2/ **Eileen Newbury...**
great environmental story.

independently verified environmental information is extremely encouraging," said Barbara Nebel, CEO of thinkstep-anz, the company that prepared the EPDs. More than 10,000 downloads have been recorded so far.

"It goes well beyond my expectations when we started EPD Australasia five years ago," she said. "It's great to see FWPA through WoodSolutions as an early adopter rewarded for their transparency and leadership in providing robust environmental information in these EPDs."

Users of EPDs include people involved in the building design and construction industry wishing to obtain higher Green Star points from the Green Building Council of Australia or recognition from the Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia.

"Providing EPDs is an important part of our role in supporting the increased use of wood and wood products," said Eileen Newbury, WoodSolutions national program manager.

"Wood products have a great environmental story and EPDs are helping us tell it with independent data."

WoodSolutions EPDs are all available for free download from the WoodSolutions website.

ONLINE ADVERTISING IS HERE!

Advertise jobs, buy/sell your products and services **ONLINE**, with the new timber and forestry website.

With just a few clicks, your business will be seen on the industry's **#1 WEBSITE**.



Visit timberandforestrynews.com/advertising to find out more or email advertising@timberandforestrynews.com





Renewable. Sustainable.

Grown, produced and processed in one place.

VIDA Canfor is a global supplier of refined products from sustainable Swedish and Canadian forest and are a stable supplier of roof trusses, wall elements and finished modules in wood. All raw material from VIDA Canfor sawmills are produced with both the highest quality and the environment considered where we are PEFC and FSC Certified.

VIDA Canfor offer the following products:

- Structural framing – MGP10/MGP12/F5
- Primed weatherboards
- Solid battens
- Decking
- H3 LOSP frame
- Plus DTL facilities for precision docking

Please contact our experienced and motivated staff to find out how we can help your business.

 VIDA MADE IN SWEDEN  CANFOR MADE IN CANADA



For more information contact:
VIDA WOOD AUSTRALIA PTY LTD
100 Potassium Street, Narangba
QLD 4504 Australia
P: 07 3147 8790 E. sales@vidawood.com
W. www.vida.se/en



Government must fully understand forest plan for industry-led recovery

‘Our intention is to take start-up proposal directly to decision makers’

THE national director of New Zealand’s Forest Industry Safety Council Fiona Ewing says the forest industry had reluctantly accepted the government decision two weeks ago that forestry was a non-essential service provider.

“However, we now have clear guidelines on Ministry for Primary Industries approved safe practices from other parts of the primary sector that we are working to adapt.”

She said these protocols would provide the guidelines and would still require companies and individuals to adopt safe practices specific to their sector groups.

“Our intention is to take the start-up protocol proposal directly to decision makers in the ministry and to Forestry Minister Shane Jones so that the government is fully aware of the industry-led recovery plan to re-activate the industry.”

Already there is also a fast growing call from New Zealand’s international customers to provide wood-based products that are deemed essential in their own countries.

“We need to act on this now,” Ms Ewing said.

“Even though the industry shut down in two days when lock-down was announced, it will take much longer to get the forestry supply chain



Re-start... from April 14 MDF and other engineered wood products plants in New Zealand will be allowed to restart production on a limited basis to prevent perishable inputs such as resins from compromising the supply chain. (Pinepac Group, Auckland)

organised and moving again and advance planning will ensure a safe and successful restart.”

Like Australia, New Zealand’s case numbers are also falling.

The Ministry of Primary Industries is working on a phased restart of some businesses to ensure essential service supply is maintained.

Businesses will need to register as an essential service and can start this process by emailing info@mpi.govt.nz and request a forestry registration form.

Likely phased restarts:

APRIL 14:

- Sawmills will be able to resume production of essential service products such as sawn timber for pallet manufacture or wood for heating using log stock that already exists at their place of business. Dispatch from sawmills is still restricted to only material required for the provision of domestic

essential services.

- Transporting logs between sawmills and sites will be allowed, to create sufficient scale at some operations rather than running multiple sites for short periods.

- Loading and cartage of existing log stockpiles in the forest, and other points of the supply chain, will be allowed to resume to provide feedstock exclusively for Oji’s Kinleith pulp mill, firewood and solid fuel producers.

- MDF and other engineered wood products plants will be permitted to restart production on a limited basis to prevent perishable inputs e.g. resins from compromising the supply chain and creating significant adverse environment effects. This production will only utilise existing raw materials that are already on site or in the associated supply chain.

APRIL 20:

- Loading and cartage of existing log stockpiles in the forest, and other points

of the supply chain, will be allowed to resume to sawmills to support the domestic production of other essential service inputs e.g. pallet material.

APRIL 23:

- Forestry management and harvesting are not essential services under Alert Level 4.

- MPI will continue to work with industry to determine how harvesting could be undertaken to keep essential services operating, in the event that Alert Level 4 remains in place.

[Information is current at time of publishing].

Financial help is available for the forestry sector that is not part of the restart

A range of government support is available, including a wage subsidy, business finance guarantee, business cash flow and tax measures amongst others. If you’re an employer, contractor, sole trader or are self-employed you may qualify.

The wage subsidy is a lump sum payment for the employer to pass on to employees and covers 12 weeks per employee. The aim is to help keep businesses going, if industry faces laying off staff or reducing their hours because of COVID-19.

More information on support packages is available on covid19.govt.nz

“WE MUST ACT NOW TO RE-ACTIVATE THE INDUSTRY”

On the cover: From whoa to go... New Zealand is working on a phased restart of some businesses to ensure essential service supply is maintained. (Nelson Forests Kaituna sawmill)

Honda's hot hatch Type R turbo uses its racing DNA for a road power punch

THE Bathurst 6 Hour Race Classic traditionally held over the Easter long weekend and dating back to 1938 has been re-scheduled to run in conjunction with the Bathurst International in November, thanks to COVID-19.

Orson and friend Rob "Rogue" Denham, a cattleman and deer farmer, made their first dash to the Mount Panorama circuit in 1962, driving respectively an MG TC (down from Brisbane) and an MG TF (across from Sydney).

Rogue, now in his 80s, was at the circuit last year to witness a Honda Civic Type R set a blistering but unofficial lap record for a road-legal hot hatch, posting a time of 2 minutes 35.207 in the hands of British Formula 1 ace Jenson Button, MBE.

Button, a Formula 1 world champion and Honda Ambassador, had flown in on a secret mission to do the timed run on Easter Monday while the circuit was closed following the previous day's six-hour production car race. Although this was done under the noses of hundreds of car enthusiasts and



Hot hatch... Orson Whiels with his Honda-sponsored racing jacket and the rally-red Honda Civic Type R.

competitors, no-one knew it was Button behind the wheel or that a record attempt was being made.

Last week, just before Easter, Orson was driving (albeit corona-cautious with no pitstops) the 2020 Honda Civic Hatch Type R. It has racing in its DNA with three gripping driving modes – Comfort, Sport and +R mode, which at the touch of a button automatically retune the suspension, throttle and steering settings for maximum performance.

This is the Japanese factory's first go at a turbo-charged 2-litre engine that puts out 228kW and 400Nm – a real power punch in

more agile, responds to acceleration, braking and direction changes more quickly and makes it more engaging for the driver to explore its potential on the track. A lower weight also means its adaptive suspension can respond more quickly to road surface changes for a smoother ride.

Customisable digital meters display boost pressure, G-force, lap times, rev limit and throttle and brake input in real time, so you can maximise track performance.

The iconic red H-badge, a symbol of Honda's racing legacy, is exclusive to the Civic Type R. Together with the aggressive front bumper and LED headlights with auto-on/off, the front end connects with Honda's heritage.

Seating three adults in the rear is definitely possible, if a little tight. But who's rubbing shoulders right now?

Starting from \$51,990 (manufacturer's retail price) with a 6.4L/100km consumption on open road running, it sets a new standard for front-wheel drive hot hatches under \$60,000.

MOTORING



With ORSON WHIELS

the mid-rev range. Honda's legendary VTEC system means the engine is geared to rev all the way to the 7000 rpm redline.

The Civic Type R is the lightest car in its class; less weight means the car feels

Timber & Forestry enews is the most authoritative and quickest deliverer of news and special features to the forest and forest products industries in Australia, New Zealand and internationally. Enews is delivered weekly, every Thursday, 48 weeks of the year. Advertising rates are competitive with any industry magazine. Timber&Forestry e-news hits your target market – every week, every Thursday!

HEAD OFFICE

Timber & Forestry enews
PO Box 69, Potts Point, NSW 1335,
Australia
Phone | +61 (0) 417 421 187

PUBLISHERS

John Halkett | +61 (0) 417 421 187
johnh@timberandforestryenews.com
Dennis Neilson | +64 (0) 7 349 2764
dennisn@timberandforestryenews.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Jim Bowden | +61 (0) 401 312 087

ADVERTISING

John Halkett | +61 (0) 417 421 187
johnh@timberandforestryenews.com
advertising@timberandforestryenews.com

The information contained in this publication has been obtained from sources assumed to be reliable. However, the publishers disclaim all warranties as to the accuracy, completeness, reliability or adequacy of the information displayed. Opinions expressed in Timber & Forestry e news are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or staff. We do not accept responsibility for any damage resulting from inaccuracies in editorial or advertising. The publishers are therefore indemnified against all actions, suits, claims or damages resulting from content in this enews.

DELIVERED
WEEKLY TO
15,200
GLOBAL
READERS*

ADVERTISING RATES

timber
& FORESTRY *e*NEWS

Now in its 12th year, Timber & Forestry eNews has grown to be the Number 1 online weekly news journal for the forest and forest products industries – across Australia, New Zealand and internationally.

AD FORMATS



DISPLAY AD RATES

FULL PAGE: \$485

297mmH x 210mmW

HALF PAGE: \$290

Vertical • 254mmH x 93mmW

Horizontal • 125mmH x 190mmW

QUARTER PAGE: \$180

Vertical • 125mmH x 93mmW

Horizontal • 63mmH x 190mmW

THIRD PAGE: \$215

Horizontal • 73mmH x 190mmW

PAGE 1 Front cover strip: Contract booking

Horizontal • 30mmH x 190mmW

PAGE 1 Front cover module: Contract booking

Horizontal • 45mmH x 49.5mmW

PAGE 2 below story: Contract booking

Horizontal • 73mmH x 190mmW

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

JOB ADS: ONLINE BOOKINGS ONLY

BUY & SELL ADS: ONLINE BOOKINGS ONLY

744pxH x 720pxW

BANNER ADVERTISING

• **FEATURE PACKAGE: INCLUDES**

PAGE 3 strip below story / top email strip / top website banner strip

Horizontal strip • 30mmH x 190mmW

Email strip • 395pxH x 1500pxW

Top website banner strip • 120pxH x 1000pxW

• **STANDARD PACKAGE: INCLUDES**

PAGE 8 module / email module / website module on advertising page

Module • 45mmH x 44.5mmW

Email module • 336pxH x 336pxW

Website module • 260pxH x 260pxW

TERM DISCOUNTS

12 WEEKS: 7.5%

24 WEEKS: 10%

48 WEEKS: 15%

Timber & Forestry eNews is published by Timber & Forestry eNews PO Box 69, Potts Point, NSW 1335, Australia. Phone: 0417 421 187.

Delivered every Thursday, 48 weeks of the year to industry decision makers in Australia, New Zealand, the Asia-Pacific, North America, UK and Europe. Ad rates shown are based on a weekly booking.

DEADLINES

Display ads: Book by 9am Tuesday prior to publication

Supplied artwork: Wednesday 12 noon prior to publication. Supply quality jpg or pdf to our specifications. NO crop marks or bleed required.

WHO TO CONTACT

Media releases: Jim Bowden e: cancon@bigpond.net.au | **Display ad bookings:** e: advertising@timberandforestryenews.com

Accounts: e: johnh@timberandforestryenews.com | **Subscribe:** www.timberandforestryenews.com

Classified advertising: JOB ADS ARE COMPLETELY ONLINE.

Go to www.timberandforestryenews.com/post-a-job/ to place a job vacancy. Book by 12noon Wednesday prior to publication. Job ads are for individual positions. If more than one position is to be advertised, separate ads will need to be created and advertised accordingly.

BUY & SELL ADS ARE COMPLETELY ONLINE. Go to www.timberandforestryenews.com/product/buy-sell-advertisement/ to place an ad. Book by 5.00pm Tuesday prior to publication.

TERMS

New clients invoiced on booking. Existing clients 14 days.