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New storage area optimises salvage strategy at Eden

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New log storage facility at Eden will optimise pine log salvage operations

SINCE the devastating 2020 bushfires, vital revenue from softwood export log sales together with woodchip sales from interim woodchip operations has allowed Allied Natural Wood Exports to retain employment during the rebuild of the Eden wood processing and export facility.

Post the bushfires, log deliveries to the Eden export terminal recommenced in February last year with the operation receiving about 12,000 tonnes of pine a week from the fire affected forests in Bombala, an average of 80 haulage trucks through the gate each day. At times this has led to the export log yard reaching full capacity and being unable to accept additional deliveries from growers.

The development of a four-hectare site into a suitable pine log storage area will

BUSHFIRE RECOVERY PACKAGE SAVES JOBS



1/ Log deliveries to the Eden export terminal recommenced in February last year.

2/ Malcolm McComb... recovery package highlights the state government's commitment to the forest and forest products industry.

allow for an additional 60,000 tonnes of burnt-logs to be handled and stored at the Eden facility.

ANWE director Malcolm McComb said that the pine log yard development was possible due to funding secured under the NSW government's \$140 million Bushfire Industry Recovery Package.

"We are grateful for the tremendous support that



we have received from the NSW government following the 2019-20 bushfires," Mr McComb said.

"The recovery package highlights the state government's commitment to support the forest and forest products industry

thereby retaining and creating regional jobs, and generating economic activity," he said.

The Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW John Barilaro said regional NSW had experienced a tough year with drought, Covid-19 and the devastating bushfires.

Mr McComb said creating the new log storage area would provide ANWE and its partner Pentarch Forestry with the opportunity to secure additional sales and allows for salvage operations to be optimised and tree replanting to occur, providing long-term stability to the Eden operation and to a large network of contractors across Eden, Bombala, Batemans Bay and East Gippsland.

"The additional value to the regional economy from ANWE's ability to store and export the additional pine log volume is estimated to be \$7.9 million," Mr McComb added.

On the cover: ANWE's new pine log storage yard will allow for an additional 60,000 tonnes of burnt logs.



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Inaugural CEO of VFPA is up to the challenges ahead for forest industries

Deb Kerr to help ‘turbo-charge’ representation and policy in the sector

THE newly-appointed inaugural CEO of the Victorian Forest Products Association brings extensive experience in the primary industries sector to a challenging role that will involve resource security in the state.

Deb Kerr has worked in various industry representative roles across the sector, most recently as a senior executive with Australian Pork Ltd.

The chair of the newly-formed VFPA Tony Price said Ms Kerr’s appointment marked a new beginning for Victoria’s forest industries as the single united voice for timber growers, harvesters, processors and manufacturers, including pulp and paper, with the backing and support of a national body.

“Deb brings a wealth of experience and she has the skills and experience needed to represent our industry with the state government and in the wider Victorian community, and we’re glad to have her on board,” Mr Price said.

Ms Kerr, who takes up her new position on February 1, said she is excited about the new role: “Victoria’s sustainably forest industries produce the ultimate renewable that is used by



Deb Kerr... Victoria’s sustainable forest industries produce the ultimate renewable.

Australians every day in more ways than they probably realise.”

She said the state’s native forests and plantations integrate environmental, commercial and community values while contributing around \$730 million to the Victorian economy and directly employing more than 21,000 people, many of whom live and work in regional communities.

“It’s an honour and privilege to lead this new organisation,” she said.

Tony Price paid a special tribute to Tim Johnston, the outgoing chief executive of the Victorian Association of Forest Industries, which is being replaced by the VFPA.

“I want to thank Tim and acknowledge his many years of service to the industry,” Mr Price said.

VFPA has announced 23 foundation members and elected its interim governing council. The eight members of the interim governing council are Sarah Harvie, Opal Group; Ross Hescocock, Hancock Victorian Plantations; Paul Heubner, Allied Natural Wood

Exports; Mike Lawson, SFM Environmental Solutions; Phil Mason, New Forests; Darren Sheldon, Australian Bluegum Plantations; Tony Price, Midway Ltd; and Owen Trumper, AKD Softwoods.

Australian Forest Products

Association CEO Ross Hampton said the forest industries employed thousands of men and women in Victoria.

“At a time when so many jobs are being lost, our industries can play a big role in Victoria’s post-pandemic economic recovery if they are enabled to do so.

“The new body will turbo-charge representation for all our industries and help make

Cont P 8

The united voice for Australia's forest industries



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“A NEW BEGINNING AS UNITED VOICE FOR INDUSTRY”

Where are they now? Trust makes call to Gottstein fellows for 50th anniversary

Fund appeal underpins educational opportunities for forest industry

THIS year is a significant birthday for the JW Gottstein Memorial Trust Fund – marking 50 years since its creation.

A call is out for past Gottstein fellows to put their hands up and make contact with the trust so they can be added to current contact lists and included in the 50th celebrations.

A sub-committee is working on plans for a celebration, expected to be held in Canberra mid-year. The committee comprises trust chair Suzette Weeding, John Simon, Brian Farmer and Helen Murray. Some online gatherings are being



considered to include people unable to attend in person.

The trust would like to know “where you are now” and to hear about how fellowships have contributed to opening new opportunities and resolving challenges



- 1/ **Gottstein Trust fellowships... acquiring knowledge and new skills.**
- 2/ **Suzette Weeding... tremendous support appreciated by trustees.**

donor the Victorian Forest Industry Association must be especially thanked and acknowledged as it reaches its final stages of operation parallel with this 50th Gottstein year.”

[The newly formed Victorian Forest Products Association announced 23 foundation members in September last year and has elected its interim governing council].

Prominent industry stakeholders coming on as new patron donors include Margules Groome, Weathertex and Gondwana Genomics.

New sponsor donors include Neville Smith Forest Products and the Tasmanian Forest Products Association, an arm of AFPA.

The trustees look forward to the opportunity to personally acknowledge the valuable support of all donors at the anniversary celebration. Current and intending donors are

in various segments of the forest and timber products value chain.

Gottstein fellow in 1990 Braden Jenkin has spoken about the ongoing impact the fellowship has provided throughout his career on YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCAIocfOBs2SCNcITz9C7XHA

There was firm industry support of the Gottstein Trust appeal in 2020 with ongoing commitments from many existing donors.

“The support was tremendous and much appreciated by trustees,” chair Suzette Weeding said.

“These donations underpin the educational opportunities available to individuals associated with the industry,” she said.

“Long-standing patron



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Cont P 5

From P 4

encouraged to take up the opportunity afforded by the generous discounts available for company personnel attending Gottstein courses.

Announcements about the timing to submit 2021 scholarships and fellowships applications is expected in February-March. Each year the Gottstein Trust invites applications for its fellowships, scholarships and industry awards which focus on the acquisition of knowledge and skills, in order to benefit individuals, their employers and the forest and wood industry as a whole.

The trust looks forward to some innovative applications this year given the breadth of opportunities for timber products in the 21st century.

Recent fellowship reports are available at www.gottstein.org from:



Trust opportunities... resolving challenges along the forest and timber products value chain.

- Gavin Matthew, who studied genetic modification research and deployment in plantation forestry with lessons from Australian agriculture, New Zealand, and forest industries in south-east USA.

- Dr Harry Mills who explored the potential for sustainable design that incorporates under-utilised timber.

Covid-19 and intermittent border closures continue to pose challenges for organisers to pin down and announce a firm date for

the Gottstein Understanding Wood Science course. The course was postponed last year due to pandemic restrictions. However, as states continue to adapt to dealing with Covid clusters the organisers look forward to proceeding in 2021.

The next Understanding Forest Science course will run in 2022 and the trust management team is keeping

WOOD SCIENCE COURSE SET FOR RETURN IN 2021

a list of interested people who want to take part.

To be included on that list contact the team at email gottsteinsecretary@gmail.com or through the inquiry form at www.gottstein.org

Gottstein trustees in this special 50th anniversary year are Suzette Weeding (chair), John Simon, Nils Gunnensen, Brian Farmer, James Malone, Carlie Porteous and Cara Pearson who are supported by the Kurrumbene Projects & Advocacy team – Helen Murray, Jocelyn Carpenter and Judy Pearce.

Finance whiz Adrian Williams appointed CFO at New Forests

SYDNEY-based investment management firm New Forests has appointed Adrian Williams as chief financial officer.

Mr Williams has more than 30 years' experience in finance and accounting in both Australian and

international organisations. He was most recently acting chief financial officer and chief operating officer of AMP Capital, where he oversaw \$200 billion of real assets and listed investment portfolios.

As CFO of New Forests, Mr Williams will oversee funds



Adrian Williams

management accounting, corporate accounting,

strategic planning, and business management.

New Forests manages about \$6.6 billion in funds across Australia, New Zealand, southeast Asia, and the US on behalf of a range of institutional investment clients.



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New export tax would cripple PNG's forestry industry, says industry body

NEW taxes imposed on Papua New Guinea's forestry sector are an "economic disaster," warns the local industry association.

Introduced in the government's 2020 Budget, the new taxes came into effect this month, including a new export levy on logs.

PNG Forest Industries Association executive officer Bob Tate said there had been no consultation with the industry ahead of the decision.

Years back, industry talks with the government resulted in broad agreement of an export tax applied to the industry of 28.5% on sales," Mr Tate said.

"But forestry companies will struggle to survive since the new government of James Marape has more than doubled that rate. When other government charges and taxes are put on that, effectively just over 70% of sales value goes to the government.

"Well, that might be fine

“FOREST COMPANIES WILL STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE



1

1/ New taxes came into effect this month, including a new export levy on PNG logs.

2/ Bob Tate... no government consultation with forestry sector.

from a government revenue point of view, but it leaves the industry in a state of bankruptcy or insolvency," Mr Tate said.

PNG's political leaders have been signalling their intent to raise tax revenues from logging for several years.

Mr Tate is disappointed in what he says is a total lack of genuine consultations with stakeholders over a change that was an "economic disaster for the industry and for PNG".

He said some of the forestry companies in PNG had already given notice to the government that they would have to close down



2

their local operations.

"Just one example ... up in the Gulf province one company shut down at Christmas time and 1100 people lost their job."

Papua New Guinea Forest Authority managing director Tunou Sabuin says the authority is looking at reviewing the new government tax regime on round log exports.

Sabuin said during

the handover ceremony of the outgoing Forestry Minister Solan Mirisim and incoming Minister Walter Schnaubelt that it wanted the government to consider reducing the tax on round logs from 50.2% back to 28.5%.

A submission would be made for government to consider and would give time to review the new tax regime in consultation with other partners.

Sabuin said the other outstanding agenda was the state purchase option on logs.

Sabuin said the challenge was the PNGFA approved 10-year corporate plan (2020 to 2030).

This includes the approval of a restructure to hire another 300-plus staff on top of the current maximum of 600.

Outgoing Forestry Minister Solan Mirisim said last year had been difficult for the sector with the Covid-19 pandemic affecting world market prices and the log export tax impacting performance.

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Timber and Forestry Enews is on Facebook and would like to increase its reach to a wider community. **Please like and share our page** so we can get the timber and forestry message out to a bigger audience. **If you like our publication, please leave us a review.** Any timber or forestry topics you would like to see covered or want to share timber or forestry related subjects you are passionate about, please let us know.



FEBRUARY

8-12: Future Timber Hub showcase. Looking at research and partners facilities through a series of lunchtime webinars from 12 pm to 1:15 pm (AEST) each day, starting on Day 1 with projects covering prefabrication and digital fabrication strategies for large-scale timber construction; and alternative uses for under-valued sawmill products in innovative timber structures. Details and how to register will be listed on www.futuretimberhub.org More details next issue.

MARCH

15-18: DANA New Zealand Forest Industry Status and Outlook Conference and Field Trip – Napier Conference Centre, Marine Parade, Napier, New Zealand. For further information visit www.danaevents.co.nz/2021napier/ or contact Conference

Organiser Julie Bell admin@dana.co.nz

19: Doing Timber Business in Queensland – Northern Suburbs Bowls Club 175 Edinburgh Castle Rd, Wavell Heights, QLD. Join QLD's full industry supply chain at a one day symposium followed by barefoot bowls & BBQ networking. For more information visit www.timberqueensland.com.au/ events or email admin@timberqueensland.com.au

JUNE

16-18: TABMA National Conference – Oaks Cypress Lakes Resort, Hunter Valley, NSW. Contact Alicia Oelkers at alicia@tabma.com.au

JULY

10: Victorian & Tasmanian Hardware Awards – Showtime Events Centre, Melbourne, VIC. 6:30pm-11:30pm. Contact Natalie Scott at n.scott@hardwareaustralia.com.au

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17: Queensland Hardware Industry Awards – Rydges South Bank, Brisbane, QLD. 6:30pm-11:30pm. Contact Natalie Scott at n.scott@hardwareaustralia.com.au

AUGUST

13: South Australian Hardware Industry Awards – Stamford Grand, Glenelg, SA. 6:30-11:30pm. Contact Natalie Scott at n.scott@hardwareaustralia.com.au

SEPTEMBER

4: TABMA QLD Awards Dinner – Rydges South Bank, Brisbane, QLD. 6.00pm start. Contact Alicia Oelkers at alicia@tabma.com.au

10: New South Wales Hardware Legends and Industry Awards – Doltone House Darling Island, Sydney, NSW. 12:00pm – 4:30pm. Contact Natalie Scott at n.scott@hardwareaustralia.com.au

17: Western Australia Industry Awards – Beaumonde on the Point, Perth, WA. 12:00pm – 3:30pm. Contact Natalie Scott at n.scott@hardwareaustralia.com.au

OCTOBER

TBA: TABMA NSW Awards Dinner – Sydney, NSW. Contact Alicia Oelkers at alicia@tabma.com.au

11-14: IFA/AFG national conference 'Your Forests, Our Future' – Country Club Tasmania, Launceston, TAS, Australia. Open to forest scientists, forestry professionals and forest growers. Call for abstracts and sponsorship opportunities will be released in coming months. Contact Institute of Foresters of Australia. Visit www.forestry.org.au or phone (03) 9695 8940.

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JANUARY 2021

25-29 : B C Wood Global Buyers Mission – VIRTUAL EVENT. Live virtual event to meet and interact with pre-qualified international buyers from around

thew world. The event to find new sources of high quality, competitively priced Canadian wood products, while letting you reconnect with current suppliers. For more information go to:

<https://bcwood.com/events/global-buyers-mission/>

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



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Victor Violante appointed deputy CEO of AFPA ‘at exciting time for industry’

THE Australian Forest Products Association has appointed Victor Violante to the new role of deputy CEO.

Mr Violante has held the position of senior policy manager for the past 4½ years, looking after AFPA’s hardwood processing chamber as well as native forestry policy, bushfire management, and export regulations.

CEO Ross Hampton congratulated Mr Violante on the new role, which comes at an exciting time for AFPA.

“AFPA has created the new role of deputy CEO to reflect AFPA’s increasing influence in national policy, and our growth in membership and ties to the newly established industry representative arrangements in Tasmania,

South Australia, Victoria, and soon NSW,” Mr Hampton said.

“During his time as senior policy manager, Mr Violante has been an integral part of several major policy ‘wins’ for our renewable forest industries, including the extension of the regional forest agreements, the recognition of the impact of the Black Summer bushfires on our forest industries, and the participation of forestry plantations in the Climate Solutions Fund.

“I am confident that he will help AFPA continue to grow as a highly effective voice for our renewable industries across the value chain and across the nation.”

Prior to joining AFPA in 2016, Mr Violante held senior



Victor Violante... greater responsibility for AFPA’s strategic direction.

roles as a political adviser in policy and communications, and as a journalist.

“A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE VOICE FOR INDUSTRY”

Mr Violante said he looked forward to taking on more responsibility for AFPA’s strategic direction in partnership with AFPA’s board, membership and state colleagues.

“This is an exciting time for Australia’s forest industries, as the world turns to renewable, carbon-friendly solutions – and AFPA’s advocacy and influence is vital to ensure our industries benefit from this shift,” Mr Violante said.

“I look forward to playing a greater leadership role in AFPA’s important work of ensuring Australia’s decision makers recognise the essential role of our renewable forest industries in our communities, environment, and economic growth.”

From P 3

the case to policy makers that now more than ever our sustainable, renewable forest industries should be backed to deliver vital growth and prosperity.”

The chair of VAFI Craig Dunn said, “We are entering a new era for the Victorian forest products industry.

“VAFI has been the voice of the industry for many years. This new peak body is being formed on the strong foundations laid by VAFI through the perseverance of

“WE ARE ENTERING A NEW ERA FOR INDUSTRY”



Tony Price... a new beginning for Victoria’s forest industries.

its members.”

Mr Dunn said the VFPA would bring a new approach and broader industry representation during these challenging times.

VAFI will continue to operate in parallel until the VFPA is up and running to ensure a seamless transition.

Forestry Corp seeks an easing of post-bushfire logging curbs

THE NSW Forestry Corporation has warned in a letter to the Environment Protection Authority that hundreds of forestry jobs are at imminent risk because of the lack of available timber following last summer’s bushfires.

Acting head of the corporation Anshul Chaudhary said the creation of so-called site-specific operating conditions for hardwood forests affected by fire had been “challenging” and were not providing enough supply to meet industry needs.

“The restricted timber supply means significant impacts on the hardwood

industry are now imminent, with only a few weeks remaining before job losses are expected,” Mr Chaudhary said.

“It is expected that 155 direct jobs are at risk of being lost over the next few months in the South Coast and Eden regions,” the letter said.

“By the end of 2020, a further 460 direct hardwood industry jobs were under threat on the North Coast, [with the impact] expected to be two to three times greater [if] accounting for indirect employment.”

(With extracts from the Sydney Morning Herald).

A digital forest? The future is coming!

Beaming back real-time data to forest managers

ADVANCED technologies being used in Tasmania to monitor wedge-tailed eagle nests could be the first step towards developing a 'fully networked' forest.

But what does this mean, exactly?

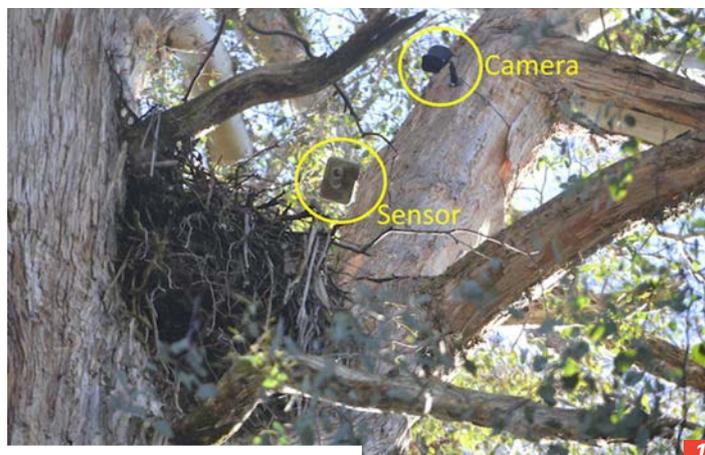
A networked or digital forest is one equipped with permanently installed technologies that continually collect and broadcast real-time data, before beaming it back to forest managers to support better decision making.

The research into the use of technologies to monitor eagle nests contributes to a broader research program being led by the Forest Practices Authority (FPA), which is responsible for regulating Tasmanian forestry. It will monitor industry impacts on four protected Tasmanian species.

Supported by FWPA under the voluntary matched funding program, the initiative will observe the movements and habitat requirements of wedge-tailed eagles, Tasmanian devils, masked owls and giant freshwater crayfish.

The results will be used to improve our understanding of

“MONITORING IMPACTS ON FOUR PROTECTED SPECIES



- 1/ ***Creating a digital information ecosystem across the Tasmanian landscape ... and beyond.***
- 2/ ***Dr Dean Williams... leading the eagle nest monitoring project.***

TALKING TIMBER



With Eileen Newbury
National Marketing and
Communications Manager,
FWPA

the effectiveness of current protocols that guide forest management practices for the protection of these species. This knowledge will help determine whether new or adapted approaches could better protect the animals and minimise the impact on forestry operations.

The eagle nest monitoring project, funded through the National Institute for Forest Products Innovation (NIFPI), is being led by Dr Dean Williams, manager, Forest Management Services, Sustainable Timber Tasmania, and will utilise

wireless 'Industrial Internet of Things' remote sensing technologies to improve eagle management options for the forestry industry by detecting and reporting on eagle nesting activity.

The project is effectively sowing the seeds for

the 'digital forest' of the future. It's hoped that effectively demonstrating the potential for this kind of technology to support forest management could prompt the establishment of a digital information ecosystem across the Tasmanian landscape, and beyond!

Across Tasmania, there are about 800 wedge-tailed eagle nest sites that can affect forest management activities. However, only 80 to 120 of these nests are used each breeding season (July to January, or February if the season runs late).

Currently, all nests are protected during breeding season via operational exclusion zones, which prohibit many forest management practices from taking place in these zones.

These exclusion zones remain in place until a nest is confirmed to be inactive. However, current processes for checking nest activity are expensive and risky to workers and animals.

The trial involves a sample of 16 nests, complemented by the establishment of a network of gateways (or wireless modems) installed across the landscape. These will also be tested, for effectiveness at collecting and forwarding sensor data from remote locations.



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National awards: a 'maturing' of timber designs in non-residential constructions

Architects achieving the dual benefits of structure and decoration

THE Australian Timber Design Awards is widely recognised as one of Australia's leading building competitions and in December celebrated its 21st year.

Andrew Dunn CEO, Timber Development Association, which organises the annual contest said: "In a strange year where nothing was normal, we were humbled by the continuing interest in the awards; expecting designers to be distracted we were pleased to see a slight increase in entries over 2019.

"We are also seeing a maturing of timber design; initially, timber design was only considered for housing or coverings to other materials. A continued growth in the non-residential categories has again seen this category split the division into two, catering for public buildings in one and commercial in another.

"We are also noticing an increased use of timber used for structural purposes, with designers recognising timber can offer the dual benefit



People's Choice Award winners for Macquarie University Clinical Education Building... Thomas Vonbank, project engineer at Buildcorp, Sam Morris, architect at Architectus, and David Stralow, senior project manager at Buildcorp.

of structure and decoration being achieved together."

The expert judging panel comprised James Fitzpatrick, a partner and founder of fitzpatrick+partners, Perry Forsythe, Professor of Construction Project

"A STRANGE YEAR WHEN NOTHING WAS NORMAL"

Management at the University of Technology, Sydney, Andrew Kirk, director of development, Campus Living Villages, David Rowlinson, manager, Planet Ark's Make It Wood Campaign, and Professor Ken McBryde, a multi-award winning architect.

OVERALL WINNER - Marrickville Library (BVN architect).

Crafted inside and out with

timber which is used for its columns, façade, screening, internal walls, window/door frames, tiered seating, joinery, ceilings and furniture. The use of the timber creates a space which is welcoming, warm and homely, creating a building that the community enjoys and wants to occupy. Elongated timber columns support large sections of the floating roof which appears to grow out of the pitched roof of the existing hospital building.

EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN

Residential Class 1 - New Buildings: Scotland Island House (Sam Crawford Architects).

Dark and muted spotted gum cladding. The underside of the roof is clad entirely in spotted gum ceiling boards with exposed hardwood rafters.

Residential Class 1 - Alteration or Addition: CLT House (FMD Architects).

Cont P 11



From the Team at Lonza Wood Protection Oceania we would like to thank you for your support over the last 12 months, and look forward to your ongoing support in the year ahead.

Wishing you and your families a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year Holiday.



If you would like a copy of our new look Customer and Staff Newsletter go to our website: <https://www.lonzawoodprotection.com/apac/lonza-wood-protection-news-you-connect-dec-2020/>

Click on the link below to subscribe to future editions of our regional newsletter, company and product updates: http://eepurl.com/hlv_OP



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From P 10

CLT is used to form the bridge which serves as a living and workspace, and as a passageway through the building. Interior elements such as bookshelves, desks, pivot doors and bar units are also made from CLT.

Multi-Residential: La Trobe University Bundoora Student Accommodation (JCB Architects).

Two separate six-storey radial buildings envelope a central courtyard which is shaped to respect the existing gum trees. Structure entirely made from cross-laminated timber and glulam.

Interior Fitout - Public or Commercial: Phoenix Central Park (Dubach Block Architects).

The performance space is entirely lined with timber, forming a singular bell-shaped space. It is made by stepped and contoured



Tom Watts, XLAM principal structural engineer at XLAM, sponsor, presents Andre Callan, BVN, with the award for Public Buildings - Marrickville Library.



Sustainability Award for Balgowlah CLT Passivehouse by Betti & Knut Architecture, accepted by Knut Menden and Bettina Steffens.

cross-laminated timber ribs, fabricated from digital templates in the factory, and assembled on site. The contoured CLT is supported by a system of glulam beams.

Interior Fitout - Residential: Breezeway House (David Boyle Architect).

The building presents a robust exterior of charred timber cladding and recycled timber windows with the interior crafted from a mix of Australian hardwoods and built-in furniture.

Public or Commercial: Damaru House, Barangaroo (TZANNES and Lendlease).

Exposed timber boasting a flexible structural grid of 9 m x 9 m. All timber elements are exposed internally. Lift shafts and egress stairs are entirely CLT above ground level with prefabricated flights overlaid with recycled hardwood treads and risers, balustrades

Cont P 12

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Congratulations.

Wildlife Retreat at Taronga.

Winner of the Australian Certified Timber Award at the 2020 Australian Timber Design Awards. Designed by Cox Architecture.

(Photo by Mike Chorley Photography and Ethan Rohloff)

responsiblewood.org.au



Jason Ross presents the 2020 Responsible Wood Australian Certified Timber Award to Nick Tyrell, Director, from Cox Architecture.



Kevin Berry, director TTW, with the Multi-Residential Award for La Trobe University Bundoora Student Accommodation Stage by JCB Architects, Multiplex Constructions and TTW.

From P 11

and walls. Solid recycled ironbark columns support the double-height external rooms at either end of the building.

Furniture and Joinery - The Magic Box (Liminal Objects + Van Tuil).

A transformative, pop-up whisky tasting piece of furniture, celebrating Tasmanian timber, design, craft and whisky. Made from Tasmanian oak, the charred finish protects and contrasts with the warmth of the oak inside.

Landscaping - Olivine, Gumnut Park (MDG Landscape Architects).

Australian hardwood enhances both the environmental and sustainability credentials of the new Greenfield development site. The design elements showcase timber's figure and texture and provide close tactile contact with expansive repetitive battens.

Stand-alone Structure - Chadstone Link (Make Architects).

A pedestrian walkway that stretches 110 m, with the superstructure made entirely from visible Larch glulam and covered by Polytetrafluoroethylene. The glulam sections are typically 1050 x 200 mm in the upper arch.

Australian Designed

International Projects - Kutubu Convention Centre (Grimshaw Architect).

The main feature is a timber entrance portico to a convention centre in Port Moresby. The sweeping canopy roof echoes the traditional Papuan longhouse roof design. Glulam portals, purlins and connections were all produced in New Zealand and form the 30 m x 103 m structure.

Peoples' Choice - Macquarie University Clinical Education Building (Architectus + Buildcorp + Arup)

Prefabricated timbers were meticulously crafted off-site to facilitate rapid onsite assembly. The building incorporates glue-laminated Victorian ash hardwood for the external columns, spruce glue-laminated timber for the internal columns and beams, and spruce cross-laminated timber for internal floors, lift core and shear walls. W-shaped hardwood glulam columns at the entrance are a defining feature.

Sustainability - Balgowlah CLT Passivehouse (Betti & Knut Architecture).

The project is the first certified Passivhaus building constructed in cross-laminated timber in NSW. Interior of the building features fully exposed timber

Cont P 16

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Totara in Northland: key issues related to managing this ‘new’ resource in NZ

Ongoing need to engage with the community as the industry develops

MICHAEL SMITH

IN the second part of our story confirming the financial viability of a farm-totara industry in Northland, New Zealand, we conclude our analysis of the Totara Industry Pilot (TIP) project report with a look at the remaining gaps, issues and risks related to managing the resource.

Although the report says “there is sufficient farm-totara to sustain a small industry for the first 10 years” – some uncertainty remains in estimations of the resource.

Paul Quinlan from Tane’s Tree Trust (a TIP project partner) says over the next 18 months the trust will be remeasuring its network of 60 permanent sample plots in totara stands.

“This will help to improve our data on growth rates in Northland and our response to various thinning treatments,” he says

“In the past, the Ministry for Primary Industries [Te Uru Rakau] has approved allowable harvest rates based on growth models of totara from the Nelson and Wellington areas. These are very conservative compared with rates we observe in Northland.

“Refining the Northland totara growth models should give the ministry the confidence to approve more appropriate allowable harvest rates in sustainable forest management [SFM] plans.”



1

The fledgling industry operates under the Forests Act and Mr Quinlan confirms the report’s findings that “the permitting and planning processes are difficult, time-consuming and very expensive to apply. We fully support the intents and purposes of the act, and hope to keep working with Te Uru Rakau to improve its application. The act is far from ideal ... but even in its present form, it won’t stop the show.”

The report notes that the industry’s prospects “are vulnerable to changes in legislation and regulation by government and local



2

1/ **The mighty totara: there is an estimated 26,500 ha of totara-dominant stands in Northland.**

2/ **A number of operational logistics need to be addressed and refined following the TIP project’s two trial harvests.**

authorities.” It suggests that totara plantations could supplement supply in the future ... thereby avoiding some of the current constraints.

Mr Quinlan says that, initially, a viable farm-totara industry should be based on domestic demand.

“No one would want to see totara logs being exported,” he said. “However, at present the prohibition in the Forests Act is being interpreted in such a way that not even processed timber products can be exported if they require any cutting or fitting on site.”

He said this severely limited the opportunities to access

high-value markets and for the industry to achieve optimal returns. Without the chance to export some high-value products, the total value of the regional industry would be artificially depressed.

The report also highlights the need to engage with landowners throughout the north to ensure the success of future operations ... especially given that the collective resource is spread over many hundreds of properties.

Further, it says “there is potential value to be gained from the seeds, fruit, bark and other non-timber materials of the removed trees” (and from bio-extracts contained in the waste heartwood). Supply chain and revenue streams weren’t explored under this project, but further investigations are highly recommended.

And there are a number

“IMPROVING DATA ON GROWTH RATES IN THE REGION”

From P 6

of operational logistics to be addressed and refined following the project's two trial harvests using continuous cover forest management principles – most notably the specialist machinery required, harvest windows and conditions, and processing plans.

TIP project manager Elizabeth Dunningham adds that Scion (the project's contracting entity) has started durability testing of farm-



1/ **More people are open to the possibility of sustainably managing native tree species.**
 2/ **Paul Quinlan... network of 60 permanent sample plots in totara stands.**



tests are outdoor field tests that run for many years."

The report says there will be an ongoing need to engage with the community as the industry develops.

Paul Quinlan is heartened by the shift in attitudes towards native forests – "to the point where many people are now

more open-minded about the possibility of sustainably managing our native tree species".

(Reference: Totara Industry Pilot project, final summary report, V2.1 August 2020)

HEARTED BY THE SHIFT IN ATTITUDES TO NATIVE FORESTS

totara heartwood and so far conducted lab and accelerated screening tests.

"These indicate that the heartwood is likely to be suitable for above-ground

and interior applications," she said.

"However, the definitive durability

New home sales went through the roof in December

NEW home sales in Australia reached remarkable heights in December, nearly doubling compared to the number of sales recorded in November.

HIA economist Angela Lillicrap says a monthly HIA survey of the largest volume home builders in the five largest states is a leading indicator of future detached home construction.

"This is the second

strongest month of new home sales in the 20-year history of the survey, only exceeded by March 2001," M Lillicrap said.

"This surge in sales can be attributed to HomeBuilder as households finalised contracts to build a new home before the December 31 deadline to access the \$25,000 grant.

New home sales in 2020 increased by 32.5% compared to 2019. This is an exceptional

result given the nature of the pandemic and the effect that it has had on the broader economy.

"But it is not expected this remarkable volume of sales will continue into January," HIA says.

The extension of HomeBuilder to allow contracts to be signed before March 2021 with a grant of \$15,000 will support the sales

of new homes into 2021, but not at this elevated level.

Low interest rates, improved lending assessment and growth in the price of established homes will also support demand for new homes in 2021.

The monthly increase in sales has been broad-based across the states with the exception of Western Australia which declined by 9.5%.



8 wheels done right...

Komatsu 931XC

Sustainability in space: first wooden satellite

A JOINT venture between Kyoto University and Japanese logging company Sumitomo Forestry aims to have the world's first wooden satellites orbiting the Earth by 2023.

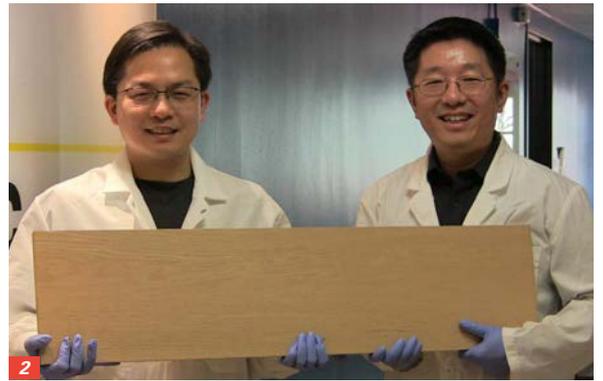
There are an estimated 6000 satellites now orbiting the Earth, and most of them are non-functional. Apparently, each time a dead satellite re-enters our atmosphere, it produces alumina particles as it burns up, and these micro-bits remain in the stratosphere for years, eating away at the protective ozone layer.

When wood burns it does not produce alumina or any dangerous pollution. Plus, if one of these satellites should break up in space, wood chips are way less dangerous to the International Space Station than the myriad nuts, bolts and metal shards floating around up there.



1/ Wood safe in space.

2/ Dr Liangbing Hu (left), and Teng Li, engineers at the University of Maryland, have found a way to make wood more than 10 times stronger and tougher than before.



The engineers at Kyoto University aren't using plywood or OSB board, obviously. Researchers from the University of Maryland, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and other institutions have found various ways to make wood super-strong and amazingly light and thin.

The University of Maryland's 'super wood' as they call it is equal to steel in strength, yet lighter than aluminium.

Dr Liang Bing Hu, leader of the UM research team, says their low-cost innovation will

rival steel and titanium alloys in construction uses, and is much cheaper. Hu expects it to be used in cars and planes in the future.

Scientists at the National Institute of Standards and Technology have combined wood fibre with, of all things, a marine worm to create a product which is comparable to super wood, but is more flexible. Similar work is being

done in many other countries, including France and Sweden, where engineers have focused on transparent wood for shatter-proof windows.

Wood has been moving into unexpected areas for some time now. A very cool example is San Francisco-based Allbird, which since 2014 has been making soft, comfortable wood-fibre running shoes.

Made from sustainably grown eucalyptus trees, the sneakers are said to be unusually light, cool and comfortable, and especially good for hot climates.

“WOODCHIPS
MUCH SAFER
THAN METAL

From P 6

walls, floors and ceilings. The external facade is clad in local untreated blackbutt timber battens left to naturally grey over time.

Rising Star - Coppin Street Studio (Pitch Architecture + Design).

Interior is finished exclusively in birch plywood. The malleable properties of the birch allow the same material to be used on the floor and walls formed into continuous shelving and even curved surfaces.

Small Budget - ANZAC Walk (Pelle Architects).

Joinery utilises Tasmanian

oak cut into a simple profile in the vertical cladding surfaces, pelmet and memorial plaque display holders. The durability of the timber ensures uniformity in the machining process to expose the minor colour differences in the wood.

Australian Certified Timber (Responsible Wood) - Wildlife Retreat at Taronga (Cox Architecture).

The scope of the certified timber covered a significant proportion of the total project and providing valid PEFC chain of custody certificates the project features high conservation values, sustainability and public

access which are critical components of sustainable forest management standards.

Recycled Timber - Mon Repos Turtle Centre (Richard Kirk Architect).

The structure of timber glulam diagrid, spotted gum Class 1 hardwood sourced from central Queensland, was used for the roof and walls. Recycled tallowwood is used extensively for the exterior rain screen and internal wall panelling.

Sliced Timber and Prefinished Veneers - State Library Victoria Children's Castle (Architectus + Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects).

Tasmanian oak runs through the three-level structure, a combination of sliced veneers and solid timber edgings.

Timber Veneers - Springvale Library (Lyons Architects).

The building is structured around red gum trees at the centre of the site. More than 3500 stained Victorian ash veneered panels are used through the building.

Tasmanian Timber - Y House (Andrew Simpson Architects).

Timber is used to emphasise the distinct critical experiences of the surrounding landscape. The building features Tasmanian oak T&G flooring, joinery, windows and doors.

Jaguar 'creates' the largest engineered timber roof in UK using glulam, CLT

JAGUAR Land Rover's advanced product creation centre has the largest engineered timber roof in the UK, reflecting the design quality and company values associated with one of Britain's most iconic automotive businesses.

Encompassing 1512 cub m of PEFC-certified glulam beams and 2674 cub m of CLT manufactured by Austrian manufacturer Binderholz, the roof makes a huge design statement covering an area of more than 50,000 sq m.

In fact, this award-winning roof structure with outstanding green credentials has already achieved two prestigious structural timber Awards for Commercial Project of the Year and Solid Wood Project of the Year.

Construction partner B&K Structures, a British manufacturer of hybrid frame systems, designed, engineered and installed the



Jaguar's award-winning roof structure covers more than 50,000 sq m.
Photo: Bennetts Associates/B&K Structures

Only a small sawmill operation 60 years ago, the family operation of Binderholz has become a leading European company, equipped with cutting-edge technologies and production methods, with a corresponding reputation on the

timber roof to encompass a diverse range of spaces and facilities.

The CLT and glulam structure was designed to deliver permanent quality and long-term energy efficiency, requiring little or no maintenance to meet the sustainability objectives.

The engineered timber industrial system was specified as it allows for rapid assembly and offers excellent airtightness through robust CLT panels.

The solid wood structure met the natural look and feel that Jaguar Land Rover required, together with the low thermal resistance and airtightness that the structure demanded.

The roof will require only minimal maintenance during the building's lifetime as the solid timber sections prevent dust getting trapped as it would with steel sections.

The timber structure is designed for 90 minutes of fire resistance.

The project represented the largest PEFC-certified CLT roof deck constructed by B&K Structures. The design of the steel-to-glulam connections were a primary factor in the accuracy of the frame.

Adopting a hybrid approach, the structure is designed to be as lean and efficient as possible. Maximising performance in this way has resulted in a roof with the lowest possible amount of embodied carbon.

timber market.

The company has 12 sites and a workforce of 2750 in Austria, Germany and Finland.

The range of solid wood products includes lumber, profiled timber, single-ply and multi-ply edge-glued solid wood panels, glulam beams and Binderholz CLT BBS. Any waste timber, resulting as a by-product from production, is processed as densified biofuels, green electricity, multi-purpose panels, moulded pallet blocks and moulded wood pallets.

Binderholz produces efficiently on a sustainable basis in accordance with the no-waste principle and recovers 100% of the resource of timber.

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