

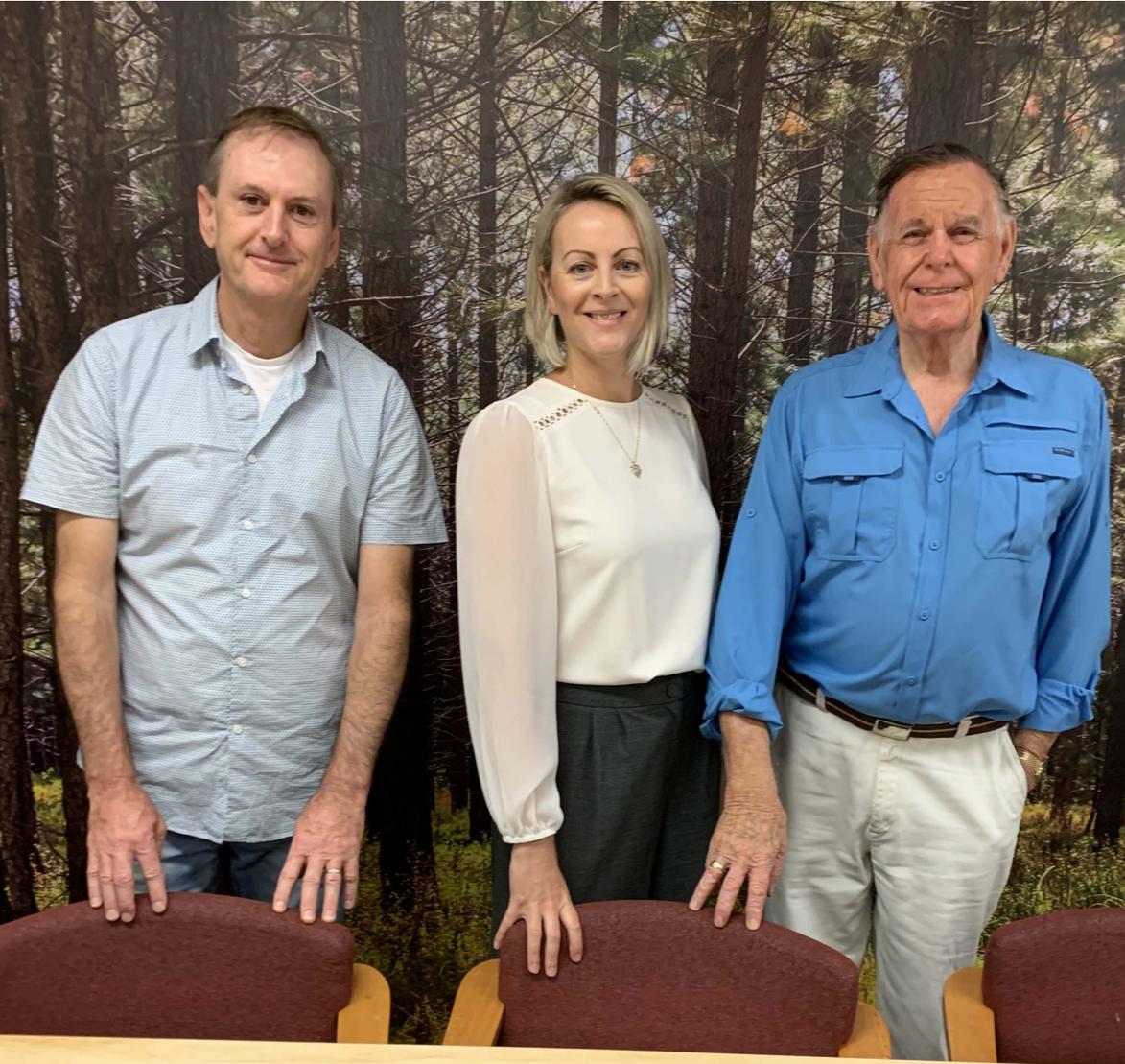
DELIVERED
WEEKLY TO
15,200
GLOBAL
READERS*

Like and
follow us on 

ISSUE **689** | January 13, 2022

timber & FORESTRY *e*news

timberandforestrynews.com



Strength through growth:
**AFCA GEARS FOR AN
ACTIVE YEAR IN 2022**



**Responsible
Wood** RW/1-10-1

New AS/NZS 4708
Sustainable Forest
Management
Standard now
released...
Click here.



**MARGULES
GROOME**

FIRST FOR FORESTRY CONSULTING

www.margulesgroome.com



TIMBER NSW

Action, not words.

Follow us on Facebook for
up to date news and features 



**SWEETMAN
Renewable
Timbers**

**QUALITY AUSTRALIAN
HARDWOODS**

www.srltd.com.au/renewable-timbers



Building a strong industry for you
CAREERS / TRAINING / SAFETY / SERVICE

Contact us on
1800 822 621



Global search ends in Australia as FWPA appoints Andrew Leighton chief executive

AFTER a global search and recruitment process for a new chief executive officer that unearthed a number of highly-qualified candidates, Forest and Wood Products Australia has appointed Andrew Leighton to the role.

“We were impressed by the calibre of people shortlisted for the job,” chair of the FWPA board Craig Taylor said. “And behalf of the board members I would like to thank them all for their time and energy in applying.”

Andrew Leighton brings a wealth of technical, management and leadership experience relevant to his FWPA position.

His senior executive roles have included seven years as managing director of Norske Skog Australasia, time as vice-chair of the Australian Forest Products Association and a diversity of other positions that relate to the many areas in which FWPA is active.

Mr Leighton succeeds Ric Sinclair who announced his resignation in September last

year after 13 years in the role.

“Ric has left the company in a strong position following the recent independent review that strongly endorsed our performance, the signing of a new 10-year funding agreement with the commonwealth government and the development of a new strategic plan,” Mr Taylor said.

“Andrew is the ideal person to continue the great work of FWPA, finalise and implement our new strategic plan, and lead the company into new areas of service to the Australian forest and wood products industry,”

Mr Leighton said he saw a huge potential for increasing the applications for, and use of, forest and wood products as the world adapted to a



Andrew Leighton brings a wealth of technical, management and leadership experience relevant to his FWPA position.

carbon-constrained economy.

“I have a long-standing passion for the forest products industry and a strong belief in its ability to play an important part in supporting environmental sustainability and driving the

bioeconomy,” he said.

“I very much appreciate the importance of R&D investment and innovation and have a strong track record of championing this throughout my career.

“As an observer, I have been impressed with the range and quality of FWPA’s achievements throughout the supply chain and I look forward to building on that solid foundation, and one of my first objectives will be to meet with FWPA members and I encourage them to contact me at FWPA.”

While with Norske Skog, based in Sydney, Mr Leighton oversaw the manufacture and sale of publication paper from three large industrial sites employing 900 people and generating \$800 million in annual sales.

He delivered substantial operational and cost performance improvement in the paper business and led Norske Skog’s strategic diversification into renewable energy, biofuels and biochemicals.

“LONG-STANDING PASSION FOR THE FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY”



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.

Election sooner than later: AFPA is ready whenever the ship of state begins to tack!

‘The arguments we make must make sense both for our industry and the politicians’

ROSS HAMPTON

BEFORE mid-2022 we will all head to the booths to cast our vote in a federal election which will decide if Scott Morrison remains Prime Minister or if he is to be succeeded by Anthony Albanese.

This makes it a very big year for the Australian Forest Products Association. Our raison d'être is, of course, to strive to enhance the national policy and political operating environment for all our members - and there is no better time to do that than during an election campaign.

Election campaigns are like the moment a large sailing ship tacks to set a new course. It's when the markers and goals for the next three or more years are laid out. It's when beliefs about the sort of Australia we all want to live in come to the fore for debate and decision. It's a time of policy desires – not programs and pro formas.

That's why it's such an important time for AFPA.

It's when we get to do two things with a megaphone. The first is to ensure that the political parties and the candidates understand just how important we are to the fabric of our nation ... and indeed, the future of the globe.

The second is when we help them make the best choices to capitalise on that strength by spelling out the measures which they can sign up to, which will

help our forest industries prosper.

That might seem a little bold to some, but the truth is that political measures which do not arise from industry advice, drawn from where the rubber hits the road, can go terribly wrong. Remember the pink batts disaster? Politicians and public officials know this, which is why they are regularly asking AFPA for advice about the sorts of policy prescriptions which will make the most difference. They always want to know – and this is especially the case during an election campaign – what are the levers which can be pulled to unlock potential but don't distort our open traded market economy or have perverse side effects?

“IT'S TIME FOR POLICY DESIRES NOT PROGRAMS AND PRO FORMAS

The arguments we make must make sense both for our industry and the politicians. While there will always be announcements of grants for individual companies during an election (especially those in electorates with slender



Ross Hampton... 2022 election year an important time for AFPA.

margins), this is not AFPA's bailiwick. We will be focusing on those marginal electorates as it is where we gain the most attention, but we will be looking for the biggest breakthrough ideas which will set us all up for the longest run of positive growth.

Going back to the sailing analogy, we look for the sail and trim settings which will take us all forward the fastest and furthest.

We will lay out the campaign specifics over the coming months but there

Cont P 8

The united voice for Australia's forest industries



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

Australian Forest Products Association

AFCA: strength through growth and ticking all the boxes to meet the challenges in 2022

Implementing a positive and relevant communications strategy in the first quarter

THE newly-appointed general manager of the Australian Forest Contractors Association has 2022 in her sights “as a year for getting back to basics, adding value and creating strength through numbers.”

Carlie Porteous, who moved into her office at the ‘Timber Hub’ in Brisbane last week, says the last few years have been challenging for the forest contracting industry.

“Law-fare, injunctions, poor state government decisions on native forestry and bushfires have tested the industry like never before,” Ms Porteous said.

“However, forestry contractors are resilient,



Forestry contractors are resilient, salt-of-the earth people who continue to rise to the challenges as an integral part of the Australian wood products value chain.
Photo: HVP plantations

salt-of-the earth people who continue to rise to the challenges as an integral part of the Australian wood products value chain.

“The AFCA team and board of directors have recognised

this and with borders opening up there needs to be a focus on our members, our sponsors and showcasing Australia’s forest communities and the great work of our industry.

It’s back to basics, says Carlie, as the AFCA board looks forward to holding its meetings throughout key forest regions across Australia and meeting members face to face.

“These forestry regions are key economic hubs and contribute greatly to the states socio-economic figures, especially regional employment,” Carlie said.

“We aim to hold a number of regional networking opportunities and field days to showcase the latest in technology and equipment.

“A timely, positive and relevant communications strategy will be implemented during the first quarter of the year. We have listened to what the members and sponsors are asking and we aim to communicate with transparent, relevant and timely information.

“We also want to showcase the absolute professionalism

of our members and this will be a large part of the communications strategy.

“AFCA will continue to work tirelessly representing the needs of the industry, helping to add value to the sector.

“This will be especially ramped up in 2022 with the upcoming federal election, likely to be held in May, followed by the contentious Victorian election, rumoured to be held in November.”

Carlie will be speaking with members throughout the year to underline the challenges faced by industry ahead of these elections.

“We want to be the organisation that the sector calls on when needed, recognising that through growth there is strength,” she said.

“If AFCA can tick these boxes through 2022 we can grow the membership and deliver on our strength goals.”

• Carlie Porteous brings more than 10 years’ experience in the forestry industry to her new role having previously worked with all aspects of the value chain – contractors, growers, processors and government agencies.

On the cover: General manager Carlie Porteous settles into AFCA HQ in Brisbane this week. Welcoming her to the ‘Timber Hub’ are Mick Stephens, CEO, Timber Queensland, and Jim Bowden, Timber&Forestry enews. Photo Tony Lonza-Volpe.



TABMA TRAINING

- ✓ Customised training solutions
- ✓ Flexible training delivery
- ✓ Highly skilled trainers
- ✓ NEW: Online WH&S eLearning

MEMBER ONLY OFFER: SAVE \$450
 1 FREE TRAINING MODULE





Call us and upskill your team today!!

Call 1300 693 483

tabmatraining.edu.au

Timber shortages, wood supply agreements and jobs among challenges for NSW industry

Mainstream media's public profile on the native forests debate has been far from the truth

TIMBER shortages, wood supply agreements, employment and the unresolved issue of the Koala SEPP and private native forests are among challenges for the sector in 2022, says Timber NSW CEO Maree McCaskill in this industry outlook.

Supply: The legacy issues from the 2019-20 bushfires on the north and south coast prevail and have not yet been resolved in the continuing disagreement between the NSW EPA and Forestry Corporation NSW.

Supply issues and shortfalls occurred right up to Christmas, exacerbated by the significant wet

“ RED GUM REVIEW WILL NEED TO BE RESOLVED QUICKLY



- 1/ **Most employers are reporting major difficulty in securing staff to work in the industry.**
- 2 **Maree McCaskill... big challenges for the sector in 2022.**

Similarly, the frame and truss industry has continued to demand product from the softwood industry which also faces shortages – and there is no slowdown in sight for 2022.

Wood supply agreements: The north coast wood supply agreements (WSA) are due to terminate at the end of 2023. The NSW government goes to an election in March 2023.

weather which made harvest and haulage increasingly difficult or impossible with crews shut down in many areas. At the same time, construction demands from the building industry continue to increase.

Since 2014, Timber NSW has been advocating for an extension of those agreements to bring them into line with the then new contract provided to Boral Timber which extended their contract period to 2028.

Boral Timber in 2021 was purchased by Pentarch, a member of Timber NSW, which supports the extension of the other agreement holder to 2028.

In the week before Christmas a letter was sent to WSA holders indicating that negotiations would occur commencing in January 2022 to extend the contracts to 2028.

South Coast wood supply will require renegotiation as the contracts had run out in 2020. However, with new owners, the developments in Eden for keeping more of the product for use in Australia are exciting along with the potential for more employment.

Cont P 18



Beautiful. Natural. Sustainable.

responsiblewood.org.au

Responsible Wood would like to announce the release of the new AS/NZS 4708 Sustainable Forest Management Standard.

Responsible Wood 

RW/1-10-1

Timber Queensland will continue to push for a strong, vibrant future for native hardwoods

Key task to work with the state government and stakeholders on a simple message

THE outlook for the forest and timber industry in Queensland remains positive in 2022 and will be influenced by the ongoing impacts of Covid on the economy as well as key policies.

Timber Queensland CEO Mick Stephens said the Queensland industry was able to pivot effectively in 2021 to the spike in building demand through investments in technology and extra shifts to keep the mills running at high capacity.

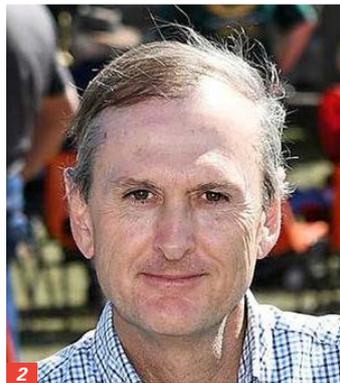
“This includes investments in additional capacity at major softwood processing sites such as AKD in Caboolture and Hyne Timber in Maryborough,” Mr Stephens said.

“We also saw further investments in sawmilling equipment in the native hardwood industry to meet the unprecedented demand.

“While there are expectations of some easing of building activity, this will be from a high-level peak with strong demand to boost the industry through 2022. The only unknown will be the curve ball from any future Covid outbreaks and disruptions to manufacturing and building activity, as well as on international trade and timber imports.”

Timber Queensland is also participating on the Native Timber Advisory Panel, established to provide advice to the state government on native timber supply options into the future.

The panel was announced in November 2017 as part of the Palaszczuk government’s



1/ Within Queensland there are large areas of land that could potentially be used for plantations if given the right market signals, such as more equitable access to carbon markets and new thinking around multiple investment streams from farm forestry.

2 Mick Stephens... another structural issue is the lack of investment in new plantations.

‘Timber Action Plan’ which explicitly recognised the failure of the state’s hardwood plantation program and the need to support jobs and refresh the former South-East Queensland Forest Agreement post-2024.

“Timber Queensland will continue to push for a strong and vibrant future for the native hardwood industry, with long-term resource access absolutely critical to the industry’s future, Mr Stephens said.

“Fortunately, we already know that well-managed native forests can provide multiple climate change, biodiversity and economic and social benefits.

“A key task will be to work with the state government and stakeholders on

communicating this simple message, with significant long-term potential to double or even treble hardwood production from both private and crown-owned forests.”

In addition, Mr Stephens said the Queensland government was establishing a Timber Industry Ministerial Advisory Committee to work more closely with the forest and timber industry as part of a 2020 pre-election promise. This committee would be an opportunity to identify barriers and opportunities for further growth.

“A key challenge for the

“THE ONLY UNKNOWN WILL BE THE CURVE BALL FROM ANY FUTURE COVID OUTBREAKS

industry includes skill and labour shortages, particularly in regional areas,” Mr Stephens said. “In 2022, we will be looking more closely at recruitment and training pathways, which will require greater innovation and thinking outside the box to change the status quo.

“The other structural issue is the lack of investment in new plantations. Within Queensland there are large areas of land that could potentially be used for plantations if given the right market signals, such as more equitable access to carbon markets and new thinking around multiple investment streams from farm forestry.”

Timber Queensland recently partnered with a range of R&D bodies and providers to assess the net benefits to landowners from planted forests integrated with beef grazing. This involves a three-year trial of wider-spaced plantings of pine trees in Far North Queensland with pasture alleys and grazed cattle.

“We hope to be able to demonstrate some of the initial design features and early results from the trials toward the end of 2022,” Mr Stephens said.

“Overall, with strong demand and well-established supply chains, the outlook for the Queensland industry remains positive; it will be dependent on supportive government policies on key issues such as native forest resource security and better training and recruitment pathways.”

JANUARY 2022

28-29: International Conference on Forest Resources Accounting and Economics – Australia World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology, Sydney, NSW. For further information see; <https://waset.org/forest-resources-accounting-and-economics-conference-in-january-2022-in-sydney>

FEBRUARY

9: AFPA industry dinner – Hyatt Hotel, Canberra, ACT. Ticketing closes February 3. In-person dinner and meetings proceeding with hybrid arrangements (not for

the dinner) if unable to travel to Canberra. Covid-19 advice: At present the ACT has no restrictions which would prevent in-person meetings (with the usual precautions). Other jurisdictions may have different rules. Refunds available up to 7 days prior to the event. Inquiries to (02) 6285 3833 or email enquiries@ausfpa.com.au

9-10: Australian Timber Design workshop – two locations, Queensland & Tasmania. Organised by the Centre for Future Timber Structures at UQ St Lucia campus for building design professionals interested in timber construction to

develop skills, confidence and networks in a unique, hands-on environment. The University of Tasmania and the University of Queensland are collaborating to deliver this course with concurrent workshops running on both campuses. Early bird price of \$900 until December 24, then standard fee of \$1100. Contact The Centre for Future Timber Structure k.crews@uq.edu.au

MARCH

11: Green Triangle Timber Industry Awards – The Barn, Mount Gambier, SA. Visit www.gttia.com or email info@gttia.com Tickets available for purchase in the new year.

(See notice, Page 10).

APRIL

NB. REVISED DATE

3-8: Gottstein Trust Understanding Wood Science Course – Sunday evening, April 3, 2022, in Albury, NSW, for the field trip component, ending on Friday, April 8, in Canberra.

The course is fully booked and a wait list is operating on a first-in-first-served basis. Delivered in partnership with the ANU, the course timing prior to next Easter matches up with the semester break. The course program can be downloaded at www.gottsteintrust.org

Happy at the Hub: industry players ‘set up shop’ in Brisbane

“IT’S pleasing to see the facilities at the Timber Hub in Brisbane being used by members and allied organisations as we navigate 2022 together,” Timber Queensland CEO Mick Stephens said.

The Australian Forest Contractors Association is the latest to set up its national office at the hub in the Brisbane suburb of Kedron.

AFCA joins Timber Queensland, Responsible Wood and the Queensland team at Arxada (formerly Lonza) with Ian Clarke, Steve

Koch, Warren Rippey and David Symes making use of their dedicated office space.

Timber&Forestry enews also has access to the hub’s media room for Zoom interviews with industry.

“The ‘hub family’ will help foster greater collaboration and networking across the industry,” Mr Stephens said.



At the official opening of the Timber Hub in Brisbane last year...Mick Stephens, Timber Queensland CEO, and Mark Furner, Minister for Agriculture (pictured left) and Bart Mellish, Assistant Minister to the Premier (far right) admire the board room table provided by DTM Timber, represented by Curly Tatnell and Ian Haines.

at no charge. Bookings can be made via email to the TQ communications officer Sarah Porter Dix at email sarah@timberqueensland.com.au, subject to availability.

The Timber Hub office re-fit in Brisbane was completed through the generous donation of timber products from TQ members and design and trade supporters. The project certification was a specific form of chain of custody which recognised companies using Responsible Wood certified timber in their projects.

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

Our Scope of Supply:

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

From P 3

are four main areas we will be discussing with the parties, all under an overarching umbrella of positioning our industries as crucial partners in climate action.

We need to see even more action to grow the plantation estate. AFPA has moved the conversation significantly over the last two terms. When we began campaigning, the refrain we would hear most often was 'surely we already have enough plantation trees?' Very few politicians say that now.

Our work with Master Builders Australia exposing the 250,000 house frame deficit by 2035 has helped a great deal. We've also succeeded in seeing the 11 regional forestry hubs created and the removal of the artificial regulatory barriers preventing farmers and landowners participating in carbon markets in about half of those hubs.

Sustainable forest management in our native or natural estate needs constant support and we will be pushing the major parties to provide greater certainty for our native hardwood sector, and to pressure the state governments to reverse the very poor



Let the election campaign begin.

decisions taken in Victoria and Western Australia, which make no sense for the climate, environment, economic development or the timber needs of the population.

A third important area of work will be supporting our largest energy users. Within an overarching position of being very positive on the need for climate change action, there are potentially big challenges for these trade-exposed, energy-intensive companies. This is an area which is extremely vulnerable to poorly developed policy. It would make no sense at all for new Australian emissions policies to so overburden our paper and packaging – and even conceivably panel makers and engineered timber product makers – that they reduced or ceased production in Australia, only to see the same products being imported from nations where equivalent companies

have no such climate policies. That would be bad for the environment, bad for the climate and bad for jobs and communities.

The fourth significant area which AFPA will be discussing with the parties will be research and development. That sail has been flapping in the wind to a large extent since CSIRO, shortsightedly, moved away from forest industry related research for the most part some six years ago. Our capacity has been plummeting. From more than 700 forestry-related researchers a decade ago we have perhaps a score left. They are determined and passionate scientists

and make vital contributions to our industry, but where are the career opportunities for our young scientists? They can see a future full of enormous potential as fibre underpins plastic replacement, new generation bio-products emerge, high-rise engineered timber buildings soar into the skies,

even super-advanced forest management takes hold; and in all these areas whole new industries may leap out of their innovations.

But if they want a long-term home they are looking at the likes of SCION in Rotorua or FPIInnovations in Canada. The AFPA vision is for a \$200 million National Institute for Forest Products Innovation (NIFPI), and it has been fantastic to see this supported the length and breadth of Australia by our research community. Our partnership with the University of Tasmania, which would host the centre at its Launceston campus, is critical to realising this vision.

The election might be called for March but certainly before the end of May.

AFPA is ready whenever the ship of state begins to tack.

• Ross Hampton is CEO of the Australian Forest Products Association.

“PUSHING THE MAJOR PARTIES FOR GREATER CERTAINTY FOR OUR NATIVE HARDWOODS”

Have you liked our Facebook page yet?



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.

China palate may have soured for Australian wine, but woodchips continue to make the cut

Expect higher softwood import demand into 2022 as new pulp mills commissioned

DENNIS NEILSON

CHINA'S almost oxymoron 'ban' of Aussie imports has continued into 2022.

The republic's taste for Australian coal, barley, round logs, and of the world-famous Aussie wines, has been sour for some time.

However, unless China-Australian relations deteriorate even further (is that possible?), its liking for massive Australian shipments of iron ore (which keeps much of the Australian economy afloat (to the tune of \$70 billion a year) will continue. China has no choice.

As will imports of two other products China will find hard to substitute – Australian wool and woodchips.

The 2021 year to November woodchip trade figures have just been released. They show that total Chinese hardwood chip imports in 2021 were up 17% on 2020, to 13.7 million bone dry metric tonnes (BDMT).

While Vietnam continues to dominate supply, at 8.2 million BDMT (60% of the total); Australia is the second largest supplier at 2.4 million (17% of the total), which dwarfs the next largest supplier Chile at 6%.

CFR USD landed China

“HARDWOOD, AND SOON SOFTWOOD, CHIPS ARE THE 'IRON ORE' OF THE WOOD WORLD



Chinese cheers to Australian woodchips ... but it's not with an Aussie red.

commissioned with more expected in 2023 and 2024.

It's apparent that hardwood (and soon to be softwood) chips are the 'iron ore' of the wood world when it comes to assigning China-Australian geopolitical considerations to the dustbin – for now at least.

Traditional demand for softwood chip imports to China has been very modest at only a small fraction of hardwood demand.

Cont P 10



Dennis Neilson... Australian woodchip exporters seem safe from political headwinds as Chinese import demand cranks up over the next three years.

prices for Australian hardwood supplies were up almost 20% from January to November.

Negotiations are well advanced, with some completed for Australian suppliers to enjoy an expected higher demand of hardwood chips in China later in 2022 as a number of huge new pulp mill projects are



We are scientists, professionals and growers who manage, study and care for our forests.

Join us today forestry.org.au

From P 9

However, this is changing too.

In January to November 2021, China's imports totalled 775,000 BDMT, up a massive 180% compared to 2020.

Australia was the largest supplier, with imports at 290,000 BDMT.

These were up 49% on last year, and constituted 37% of the total supply – a little higher than USA softwood imports at 35%.

We can expect higher

softwood import demand into 2022 as new pulp mills are commissioned.

China would like to lessen its reliance on Australian iron ore, and has a five-year plan to do just that by diversifying suppliers, increasing domestic iron ore production and increasing recycling.

However, its reliance on



Australian suppliers to enjoy higher demand of hardwood chips.

political headwinds as Chinese import demand cranks up further over the next three years and supplies from previously major exporters like Chile fall away.

• Dennis Neilson is a director of the New Zealand-based international forest industry advisory and publishing firm DANA Ltd and a co-publisher of Timber&Forestry enews.

Australian wool is probably safe for Australian exporters for some time, and we conclude Australian woodchip exporters are even safer from



GREEN TRIANGLE TIMBER INDUSTRY AWARDS



NEW EVENT DATE FOR GALA AWARDS CEREMONY

11 MARCH 2022

The Barn, Mount Gambier

Visit www.gttia.com or email info@gttia.com
for more information

Tickets available for purchase in the new year

Sober New Year's party for New Zealand as log exports fail to roar in the year of the tiger

Reduced freight rates and a lower dollar against the greenback won't ease the pain

DENNIS NEILSON

WHILE domestic demand for sawn timber supplies continues to outstrip demand in New Zealand and price increases are occurring almost every month, the same cannot be said for the vital log trade to China.

Most investors in New Zealand forests consider the industry to be largely a 'China log export play', and value their forests and their bids for new ones accordingly.

This conception is not strictly true; half of the total harvest volume is consumed by domestic sawn wood and pulp and ply mills.

However, the distribution of this is not uniform throughout New Zealand.

In the 'hub' of the industry, the Central North Island and Nelson, some major forest owners sell most of their harvest domestically, with log exports playing a smaller, but still important role.

However, in many provinces with smaller forest resources such as the East Coast, Taranaki and Otago/ Southland most of the forest area is owned by smaller growers, and with less wood processing capacity most of the harvest is directed to the log export market, especially China.



In the 'hub' of the New Zealand timber industry, the Central North Island and Nelson, some major forest owners sell most of their harvest domestically, with log exports playing a smaller, but still important role. Photo: OneFortyOne

Logging and log transport contractors in these (and indeed all regions) have been hard hit by a major downturn in China log demand and prices.

This downturn has been caused by a number of reasons including a slowed economy due to Covid, power shortages, a crisis with over-indebted Chinese construction companies, still large log import volumes from Europe as the spruce pine beetle forest kill continues, and recently increasing log imports from the US South benefitting from ultra-cheap container freight rates.

On the plus side, freight rates have substantially reduced and the NZ dollar has weakened against the greenback, but even combined it's not enough to ease the pain.

The Bay of Plenty Times last week reported that the result has been a reduction on CFR-landed China log prices for A grade logs falling from \$US171 in June to \$108 in late December.

While this is 'very low', it compares with a price of only \$103 in March 2020. So much for the topsy-turvy world of log exporting to China!

In early January most exporters were reportedly still 'in the dark' about what January-February prices will be, as sellers and buyers jostle for position.

A number hope that the

“THE CHINESE MARKET CAN GO UP OR DOWN IN A HEARTBEAT

CFR price may have bottomed and a CFR price of \$130 or more may prevail.

However, as China heads towards the best part of a month's holiday for its Spring Festival in February, demand will seriously reduce. And, this coincides with the Winter Olympics near Beijing, where we expect many factories within hundreds of kilometres radius

may shut down temporarily for air quality.

In the medium term we expect things to improve, including because energy intensive industries such as steel, aluminium and cement will need to reduce their energy intensity.

However, in early January it looks like the New Zealand log export industry may be off to a faltering start into 2022.

Although ...experience over decades with the Chinese market is that it can surprise on the downside, or the upside, in a heartbeat.

• *Dennis Neilson is a director of the New Zealand-based international forest industry advisory and publishing firm DANA Ltd.*

Supply chain collaboration: timber importers front challenges of Covid and supply shortage

ATIF members get behind framing, truss advocacy campaign and research initiatives

ONGOING significant difficulties across the timber supply chain were a disappointing feature of 2021, despite strenuous efforts on the part of importers and wholesalers.

“The sectors is looking forward to a less challenging year in 2022,” the general manager of the Australian Timber Importers Federation John Halkett said.

He was pleased to report a strong level of collaboration between the various sectors of the timber supply chain in 2021.

“This was an encouraging feature of what was a very difficult year,” Mr Halkett said. “Notably, ATIF was pleased to be invited to participate in the timber framing advocacy campaign and other advocacy and research initiatives.

“In this regard, ATIF appreciates the outstanding efforts of people like Christine Briggs from AKD Softwoods in providing some of the intellectual firepower and energy behind the Timber Framing Collaborative and Kersten Gentle of the Frame & Truss Manufacturers Association in on-going support for both domestic and imported structural softwood supply issues.

“Kersten’s efforts in supporting frame and



1/ Sourcing additional supplies, the acquisition of containers, shipping space availability and delays, port congestion, and industrial action all overlaid by ballooning costs and charges collectively contributed to serious difficulties across the whole timber supply chain.

2/ John Halkett... year 2022 should provide an opportunity to interact with others to advance mutually beneficial issues.

serious difficulties across the whole supply chain and for the building and construction industries.”

Mr Halkett said it was fair to say, however, that supply shortages applied to almost all categories of building products during a period of amazingly strong demand.

Ongoing Covid-related issues continued to cause problems for importers and wholesalers, not least of which were difficulties in effectively communicating with, or meeting relevant government officials, to

“ PERIOD OF AMAZINGLY STRONG DEMAND

advance supply chain transport and logistics issues, quarantine and other matters relevant to the timber supply chain.

Along with many trade associations, ATIF has had a second year of predominantly remote communications with its board of directors.

“It is great that a face-to-face board meeting is scheduled for February in Melbourne,” Mr Halkett said.

“This will provide an opportunity to review a number of issues central to the importing and wholesaling sector. More broadly, this year should also provide an opportunity to interact with others to advance mutually beneficial issues.”

ATIF will also continue to explore further avenues of supply, particularly of structural softwoods, including interaction with trade associations through 2022. The trade consultation country list includes Indonesia, Canada and Russia.

Mr Halkett said the timber supply chain and building and construction industries could be assured that importers and wholesalers would employ their best endeavours to supply the timber needs during the year, and to work with others to improve supply chain issues that have been a major feature of concern during the last 12 months.

A POWERFUL LEGACY A BOLD VISION



Ben Gunneberg leaves PEFC after exemplary service

ACCLAIMED globally for his outstanding contribution to forest management and certification Ben Gunneberg is departing PEFC after a long and distinguished career as secretary-general and CEO.

“The PEFC global alliance is grateful for Mr Gunneberg’s outstanding service and commitment to PEFC, as well as his significant accomplishments over his distinguished tenure,” new chair Eduardo Rojas Briales said.

Presently chairman of the Spanish Board of Foresters, Mr Briales said under Mr Gunneberg’s leadership PEFC had made a real and measurable difference in forests around the world and in the lives of people who depended on these forests.”

Mr Gunneberg, a forester by education and training, has been the leading advocate for PEFC and for its common objective of promoting sustainable forest management during his 22 years of service.



1/ Meeting in Germany for PEFC Week in 2019... Peter Latham, (then chair of the board of PEFC International (left), and Ben Gunneberg, (second from right), with Responsible Wood board members Suzette Weeding (Sustainable Timber Tasmania), Dr Hans Drielsma AM, chair, and Katie Fowden (Hyne Timber).

2/ Dr Michael Berger

“We are deeply grateful for his unwavering dedication, loyalty and outstanding service,” Mr Briales said.

This sentiment was shared by Simon Dorries, the CEO of Responsible Wood, the governing body in Australia for PEFC.

“You get to know the



measure of a man observing his gifted high performances on the international stage, and Ben, one of the founders of PEFC as we know it, certainly measured up,” Mr Dorries said.

“I especially thank Ben

for his massive personal contribution to Responsible Wood in both Australia and New Zealand and I was pleased to work alongside him often at high-level international presentations, such as in Geneva, Wurzburg and Tokyo ... and Down Under which he often visited.”

The entire PEFC alliance thanked Mr Gunneberg for his “exemplary enthusiasm, commitment, and persistence in taking the vision of the PEFC founders, and creating, building, and shaping PEFC into an international organisation that enjoys respect globally.”

PEFC is now in the process of recruiting a successor. Meanwhile, during the transition period, Dr Michael Berger, PEFC’s deputy secretary-general and head of the technical unit, has taken over the role of acting secretary-general. He holds a PhD in forestry economics and was recently leading the revision process of the PEFC International standards.

Stability returns to UK’s timber supply chain

THE UK’s leading timber industry representative body says the industry will enter a period of greater stability in 2022 following a year of record imports.

The latest Timber Trade Federation statistics show a 28% growth in timber import volumes between January and October 2021 (compared to a year before) – reaching a total of 10.3 million cub m for the period.

Stats reveal a significant shift in timber import patterns with volumes 16% lower in October 2021 than in the

corresponding month in 2020. It was the first month in 2021 where the volume of timber imported was below its corresponding level from 2020, and the end of 15 months of continual growth in UK imports of timber and panel products.

Softwood import volumes reflected these changes with just 557,000 cub m entering the UK in October 2021 – which is very close to the average volume of softwood imports seen between 2015-18 (559,000 cub m).

The federation says the



Nick Boulton... price pressures reducing as import volumes return to normal.

shift can likely be attributed to a return to more ‘regular’ demand for new housing and social housing seen in Q4 2021.

“As predicted throughout, with stocks having been replenished throughout the supply chain, we are seeing price pressure reduce and import volumes return to

more normal parameters,” the federation’s head of technical and trade policy Nick Boulton said.

“This suggests an end to some of the market disruption we saw last year where our industry was working above and beyond to ensure exceptionally high construction demand was met,” he said.

“However, the market is still some way off ‘normality’ as Brexit, HGV driver shortages and Covid-19 disruption continue to affect supply and demand, as well as labour availability.”

Victor Violante to strengthen voice of AFPA NSW

THE Australian Forest Products Association NSW has appointed Victor Violante as its new CEO.

Mr Violante has been deputy CEO of the Australian Forest Products Association for the past year. He replaces Sue Grau who took on the position in June last year.

AFPA NSW chairman Steve Dadd said Mr Violante had been at the forefront of AFPA's national advocacy for more than five years.

Prior to joining AFPA in 2016, Mr Violante held senior roles as a political adviser in policy and communications, and as a journalist.

"Victor is well known to the industry and all sides of politics, and his track record of delivering for our industry at a national level puts him in good stead to continue

to deliver for AFPA NSW members," Mr Dadd said.

Mr Violante said he was looking forward to the new role.

"This is an exciting time for AFPA NSW and our state's modern, sustainable forest industries which are ideally placed to play a key role in the state's net zero emissions future," he said.

"Forest industries are a vital industry in NSW, employing 21,000 people across the value chain and adding \$8 billion of economic activity annually. Our timber plantations replant more than 20 million trees every year, and our sustainably managed native forests are continuously regenerated to deliver the best climate change mitigation outcomes.

"From the top of the state



Victor Violante... forest industries in NSW a key part of the community.

in Lismore and Kyogle down to Narooma and Eden, and everywhere in between in towns such as Tumut, Tumbarumba, Oberon and Bathurst, our forest industries are a key part of our community.

"AFPA NSW is there to ensure its voice is heard in the NSW parliament and

that the sector's vital role is recognised and supported."

Mr Dadd thanked outgoing CEO Sue Grau for helping get AFPA NSW established.

"Sue recently decided that, due to Covid-related issues, she would prioritise family matters and vacate the position," Mr Dadd said. "She departs with the thanks and best wishes of all AFPA NSW members."

AFPA NSW, a policy development and advocacy group, represents all elements of the value chain from the sustainable harvesting of plantations and multiple-use natural forest resource including forest establishment and management, harvesting and haulage, processing of timber resources and manufacture of pulp, paper and bio-products.



BUILD BETTER WITH ATS

At ATS Building Products, we understand that everything has to line up. Great projects – no matter the size – require a mix of quality, timeliness, & competitive pricing.

You can count on our team to make sure your projects run efficiently and deliver value from start to finish. We are driven to help you do your best work.

Right products. Right time. Right price.

Visit us in person or online at www.ATSBP.com to learn more about how we can help you build better.

NSW	NSW	NSW	QLD	VIC	SA
157 Briens Road Northmead, 2152 t. 1800 577 551	17-23 Longfeld Street Lansvale, 2166 t. 1800 577 551	4B/400 Moorebank Ave Moorebank, 2170 t. 1800 577 551	Unit 3 / 153 Rossmanns Rd Stapylton, 4207 t. (07) 3667 8217	372 Lower Dandenong Rd Braeside, 3195 t. (03) 9034 3994	48 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, 5015 t. (03) 9034 3994

Floods stall sawmill operations at Maryborough but customers assured their wood is on the way!

JIM BOWDEN

QUEENSLAND'S "timber capital" Maryborough has suffered extensive flooding in the wake of Cyclone Tiffany which has impacted on the sawmilling and forestry operations of Hyne Timber and Dale & Meyers.

The weather event comes at a critical time for both operations with distribution to a hungry building industry across Australia interrupted by cuts in power and road access.

"However, we'll be on top of this sooner than later," assured both James Hyne, stakeholder engagement manager at Hyne, and Ian Haines, general manager, DTM Timber.

"We knew it was coming and we were prepared," said James Hyne.

"Our Kent street offices experienced low-level flooding and this has been cleaned up. The flood waters came close to power lines at the sawmill so timber processing and kilns were shut down, temporarily. There is still significant



Communities this week are still reeling from flood damage at Maryborough.

flooding in the town, but we hope to be fully operational by Saturday."

He said road access to Hyne's Tuan mill was difficult but was expected to be accessible in a few days.

Ian Haines said the DTM mill was located at flood level ... "but we were able to get most plant and equipment to higher ground. But a lack of power is still a big issue."

He said three generators has restored IT and air-con for office workers and main power was likely to be turned on this Friday.

DTM's green mill, pole yard and cross-arm facility at Tiaro, about 30 km from Maryborough, is also experiencing power cuts and many staff have been isolated away from their jobs by flooded roads.

"However, we are still cutting timber at Tiaro with limited staff which is a good thing," Mr Haines said.

"We are hoping to book

“LACK OF POWER STILL A BIG ISSUE

transport by next Monday so our customers can be assured, when possible, the wood will be on the way."

Communities this week are still reeling from flood damage as Maryborough, three hours north of Brisbane, remains under water. Queensland Fire and Emergency Services issued emergency warnings with residents urged to seek higher ground or evacuate as the Mary River reached 10 m, breaking a flood levy.

The river was expected to peak at 10.3 m, which is below the 2013 peak of 10.7 m.

Queensland Police's Michael Sawrey said while several residents attempted to clean their properties and businesses, looting has been a huge problem.

Heavy rainfall and flash flooding in parts of the state are expected to continue, with the crossing of tropical cyclone Tiffany in the state's north triggering drenching rains and multiple flood warnings over coming days.

Detached home building boom to continue through 2022-23

APPROVALS for detached homes across Australia in November were the strongest since February 2000, excluding the HomeBuilder surge in 2020-21, ABS figures show this week.

Detached approvals remain elevated in all jurisdictions.

"This boom in detached home building is set to be sustained well into 2023," says HIA.

"Multi-unit approvals have been recovering from the

adverse impact of Covid-19 and continued to increase in November with a 7.5% increase in the month. This leaves multi-unit approvals for the three months to November also 7.5% higher than for the same period the previous year."

HIA says this is an encouraging sign that apartment construction will return prior to the return of overseas migration.

The value of renovations



All indications demonstrate that demand for building services and materials will remain elevated in all regions throughout 2022 and well into 2023.

approved also remains elevated. The last 12 months

has seen the value of renovations approved increase by 35.7% on the previous year.

"All indications continue to demonstrate that demand for building services and materials will remain elevated in all regions throughout 2022 and well into 2023," says the HIA.

In seasonally adjusted terms, total residential building approvals increased in November 2021 compared to the previous month in most states.



UNRIVALLED PRODUCT SUPPORT

Tigercat customers are backed by a national network of sales, service, parts and technical support resources. Contact Onetrak today to learn more about the Tigercat forestry equipment range.

- ▶ 7 branch locations
- ▶ 40 factory trained technicians
- ▶ 4 Tigercat factory representatives based in Australia
- ▶ National parts inventory

 **Onetrak**

www.onetrak.com.au

Tigercat
Tough • Reliable • Productive

www.tigercat.com

From P 5

Redgum volume review:

The redgum review has been stalled for a few years and will need to be resolved quickly for the industry to continue to invest and expand. This is again another issue with the NSW EPA and FCNSW unable to agree on

volumes and then handing it over to the chief scientist to adjudicate.

Again there is a reasonable expectation of improved employment outcomes if this can be resolved quickly.

Cypress: The cypress industry outlook will improve as the Baradine sawmill comes back on line after a few years of closure and Grants Sawmilling takes over the significant contracts for both the northern and southern cypress. This, too, will improve employment prospects for the areas around Baradine.

Employment: A major challenge for the industry is people. Most employers are reporting major difficulty in securing staff to work in the industry. Offers of above-award wages and employment packages have not been enough to attract people, even on the north coast.

Most of these companies have ageing workforces and have been established for more than 50 years – some



1/ *The redgum review has been stalled for a few years and will need to be resolved quickly for the industry to continue to invest and expand.*

2/ *Dugald Saunders... short on forest science advice.*

for nearly 100 years. They are sustainable and generally have little staff turnover.

Some of the issues are the public profile created by the media of the native industry in the debate on forest harvesting and the image of the industry being largely poorly educated and without skills and career paths.

Nothing is further from the truth.

There are skills shortages in careers that require trade qualifications and with increasing technology being used better skills and qualifications are required.

Koalas and private native forestry: The issue of the Koala SEPP and

delays, major conflicts and the capacity to push back in negotiations with the EPA – a result of not having a forest science qualified person in the upper echelons of the minister’s office or in the upper levels of departmental management.

The only forestry qualified person in the senior levels of the Department of Agriculture is Dr Jacqueline Tracey at Local Land Services.

Federal: NSW remains exposed to the capacity for ENGOs to take court action to try and bring down the joint Regional Forest Agreement between the state and federal government.

Despite the senate committee recommending the Timber NSW amendment to the EPBC Act to resolve vexatious litigations, the federal government has moved no amendments.

The situation created by the Western Australia government and the Victorian government to close the industry and seek to expand the plantation industry demonstrates the lack of knowledge and capacity to understand the time frames for transition and that plantations are not the complete answer to building requirements.

private native forestry is still unresolved. The NSW government made major statements in early 2021 that the issue of having a PNF plan and not requiring a DA to be lodged with council – called dual consent – would be resolved quickly. It is still unresolved.

New minister: In the political sphere, our challenge is the new Agriculture Minister Dugald Saunders whose portfolio incorporates forestry. Each minister since I started with Timber NSW in 2013 has not had a qualified forestry adviser. This is essential and must be addressed as the forest industry confronts

“SHORTFALL IN FOREST SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE PORTFOLIO”



SOMETHING TO SAY?

You can now talk to us more easily with a new dedicated email address - feedback@timberandforestrynews.com

Share observations, opinions, comment by email and, subject to normal editorial rules, your feedback will be published.



Contact Jim Bowden today... feedback@timberandforestrynews.com

‘The symbolism is very strong ... we have a forest, we have a building, we have a purpose’

Scion research innovation hub wins certified timber award at World Architecture Festival

CROWN research institute Scion’s new innovation hub in Rotorua is the culmination of a vision for an innovative timber structure and the teamwork of a client, engineers, designers and builders who weren’t afraid of a challenge.

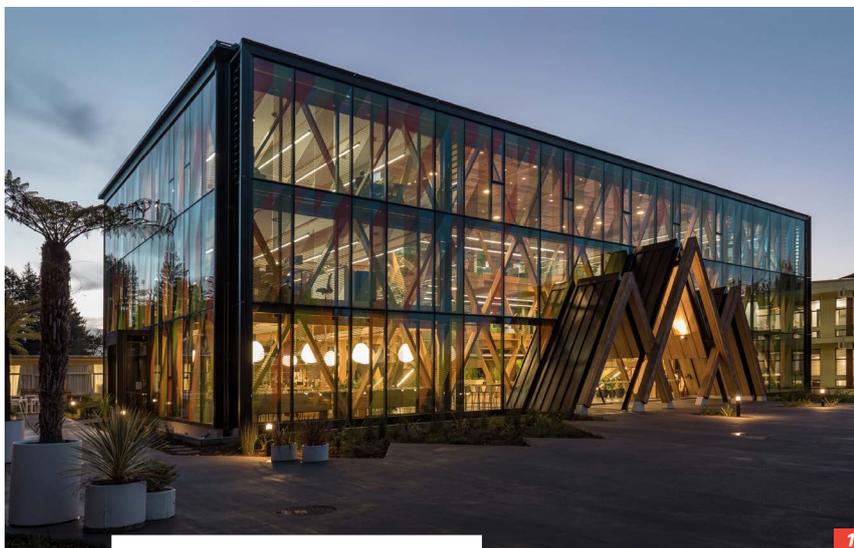
And that challenge rewarded architect RTA Studio + Irving Smith the Best Use of Certified Timber Award supported by PEFC at the World Architecture Festival in Lisbon, Portugal, in December.

The Scion institute specialises in research, science and technology development for the forestry, wood product, wood-derived materials, and other biomaterial sectors. Its innovation hub won 14 domestic and international awards in 2021 making it an international timber architectural icon.

Brisbane sustainability architect Mark Thomson chaired the festival’s judging panel which included experienced representatives from Australia, England and South Africa.

“The panel was especially impressed by the project design which featured the unique use of diagrid wall frames,” Mr Thomson said.

“In addition, the project used local laminated veneer



1/ Scion’s innovation hub in Rotorua... the culmination of teamwork and a vision for an innovative timber structure and teamwork.

2/ Mark Thomson... the unique use of diagrid wall frames.

use of wood products and the opportunities for de-carbonising that this building showcases,” Mr Stocchero said.

“If you look from the outside, you see a simple building with fascinating colours that match the forest, and at the entrance Māori carvings which tell the story of mana whenua (the power, authority and glory) that can come from the land.

But, architecturally, it is when you walk inside that magic happens ... the contrast between the simple aesthetic outside and the shock of entering a huge void. You see striking timber

“THE DESIRE WAS TO INSPIRE PEOPLE TO USE TIMBER

structure, architectural lines and natural materials in harmony with each other – that is what is so impactful.”

Andrea Stocchero said the indoor architecture was a combination of engineering, the wood material and an essential, but organic design.

“This combination is speaking the truth somehow,” he said.

At the entrance, a trio of ‘peaks’ in glulam timber stand proud, representing the three hapu in the region. Visitors pass beneath these portals to a triple-height atrium where a curated exhibition of wood-fibre technology and a café welcomes the public with views to collaboration spaces above.

Immediately present is the structural diagrid which rises three storeys to form the building’s skeleton. These structural elements are made of high-performing LVL supplied by XLam, who are PEFC-certified via Responsible Wood, and feature dovetail node joints which slot and glue together.

Hyne Timber strategic relations manager Katie Fowden congratulated RTA Studio and Irving Smith Architects on their world stage recognition.

“This is certainly a landmark project for New Zealand and something the architects should be proud of. To go on to secure this recognition on the world stage is well deserved.”

Australia leads international forest collaboration on illegal logging to protect domestic producers

AUSTRALIA has facilitated international forest leadership, collaborating with the US and New Zealand to deliver the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade's (EGILAT) two-year policy theme, to advance the trade and distribution of legally harvested forest products.

Assistant Minister for Forestry Jonno Duniam said the bilateral engagement was a great example of Australia being a world-leader in international forestry policy.

"The Morrison Government has a strong commitment to combatting illegal logging through laws that protect the market from illegally-logged timber while managing the burden on our timber importers and processors," Senator Duniam said.

“AN EXAMPLE OF WORLD LEADERSHIP IN FOREST POLICY”

Illegal logging was a major global problem, he said. It had extremely harmful impacts on forest ecosystems, communities and economies.

"We do not want illegal timber coming into this country and undercutting our domestic producers when they are working hard to produce sustainable, high-quality timber products right here in Australia.

"That is one of the reasons why the decisions by the Victorian and Western Australian governments to shut down our native forest industries are so disappointing; they only serve to increase our importation of timber from countries where they do not care about the environment," Senator Duniam said.

"This experts group provided key stakeholders, including importers and exporters of regulated timber products, with a forum to communicate the challenges they face in dealing with timber legality, and shape solutions to overcome them.

"Australia is a leader on forest matters in the APEC



Jonno Duniam... *"we do not want illegal timber coming into this country and undercutting our domestic producers"*

region and has developed stronger relations with APEC members, particularly the US and New Zealand, by jointly progressing this work."

He said through a series of stakeholder workshops, participants expressed their interest and encouragement for the continued engagement between EGILAT and the private sector into the future.

The final APEC report delivers eight recommendations to help shape EGILAT's future priorities.

"Our participation and leadership in APEC EGILAT backs our illegal logging laws and further enhances Australia's global reputation as a source of sustainable, legally harvested timber products," Senator Duniam added.

Meanwhile, Burmese teak, a tropical hardwood favoured by luxury yacht builders, is continuing to find its way to US timber yards despite sanctions that civil society groups say should make its import illegal.

In April last year, US officials sanctioned Myanmar Timber Enterprise, describing the state-owned company as a "key generator of government revenue" for the military, which had taken power in a coup two months earlier. MTE enjoys a legal monopoly over Myanmar's timber trade, leading activists to conclude that any import of wood from the country would constitute a sanctions violation.

That view is shared by many in the European Union, which placed MTE under its own sanctions in June.

WA government 'vague, unhelpful' on native forest volumes

WESTERN Australia's peak forest industry body has taken another swipe at the government for its "vague" and "unhelpful" prediction of how much of the state's forests will be cleared when a native logging ban comes into effect in two years.

The McGowan government has released its Indicative Scale of Annual Timber Volumes report for 2024 to 2033, which shows roughly 15,000 cub m jarrah sawlogs will be available for mine-site clearing while

around 25,000 cub m of jarrah and marri can be thinned in regrowth forests. It comes after Mark McGowan last year announced a total ban on native logging in the state from 2024, while pledging to help workers in the timber sector transition to other industries.

Forest Industries Federation WA chief executive Adele Farina said the statistics provided by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions were "of little assistance" as the transition



Adele Farina... *without meaningful indicative volumes and details it will be impossible to develop a transition plan for the native forest industry.*

process moved forward.

"The indicative volumes provided by DBCA are vague and so heavily qualified that they are of little assistance in progressing the work of the Native Forest Transition Group," Ms Farina said.

"Indeed, the information provided by the department clearly states more work is needed to determine volumes with respect to ecological thinning of jarrah regrowth forests and that this work will be undertaken as part of the preparation of the new Forest Management Plan."

Ms Farina said without any concrete data regarding future timber volumes it would be "impossible" for any potential transition plan for workers to go ahead.

Cask shortage more than a hiccup for USA distillers as dreams fade for a White Oak Christmas this year

AMERICAN white oak, often used for whiskey and bourbon casks, is facing challenges after struggling to regenerate across eastern USA.

The issue is due to shifting land management practices and changes in forest ecology which have made it difficult for white oak seedlings and saplings to take root and grow into mature trees.

According to a new study, climate change and invasive insects have also played a role in slowing down the oak plantations and, without intervention, the American white oak will begin to significantly decline in the next decade.

Report authors of the White Oak Initiative study represent a coalition of industries, conservation groups, government agencies and universities that are all working together to preserve the trees and the use of American white oak for biodiversity and business.

Jeff Stringer, chair of Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at the University of Kentucky and co-founder of the White Oak Initiative, said the species



American white oak (*Quercus alba*) is far and away the most common type of wood used for making whiskey.

was valuable for a number of wildlife species, for economic use and as a big part of the forest component.

“It anchors a lot of what is going on in our forests and the resources we get from it,” Mr Stringer said.

American white oak trees currently grow on more than 40 million ha of forest across the eastern and central US.

Surveyors taking part in the assessment warned that 75% of all white oak in US forests is classified as mature while about 60% of those forests had no white oak seedlings present, and 87% of the same forests had no white oak saplings present.

The assessment illustrated that there are extensive regions of the US where other species will grow up in the place of the white oaks that die or are harvested and, as such, the forests are evolving to create a loss for the drinks industry – especially traditional bourbon.

“And that goes on forever,” Mr Stringer said, “unless something happens.”

He added: “What we are

“IT ANCHORS A LOT OF WHAT IS GOING ON IN OUR FORESTS

seeing here in the loss of our oaks and white oaks, which is related to that – the natural evolution of the forest under different conditions than when they started out.”

Several bourbon distillers have joined the White Oak initiative, including Brown Forman, which planned to purchase 50% of its logs from sustainably managed forests by 2035.

The distiller asks: “How do we find a way to incentivise landowners to care for their forests in a manner that allows white oaks to continue to thrive,”

Jeff Stringer reiterated: “The White Oak Initiative helps to ensure that policy-makers know that white oak is important, that money needs to be there from the federal government to provide farmers and woodland owners with money to help do [sustainable] practices.”

Editor’s note: Oak wood has a density of about 0.75 g/cm creating great strength and hardness. The wood is very resistant to insect and fungal attack because of its high tannin content. It also has very appealing grain markings, particularly when quarter sawn.

Timber & Forestry e-news 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 e-news
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
dennison@timberandforestryenews.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Jim Bowden | +61 (0) 401 312 087
cancon@bigpond.net.au
PO Box 330, Hamilton Central QLD
4007, Australia

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 e-news.

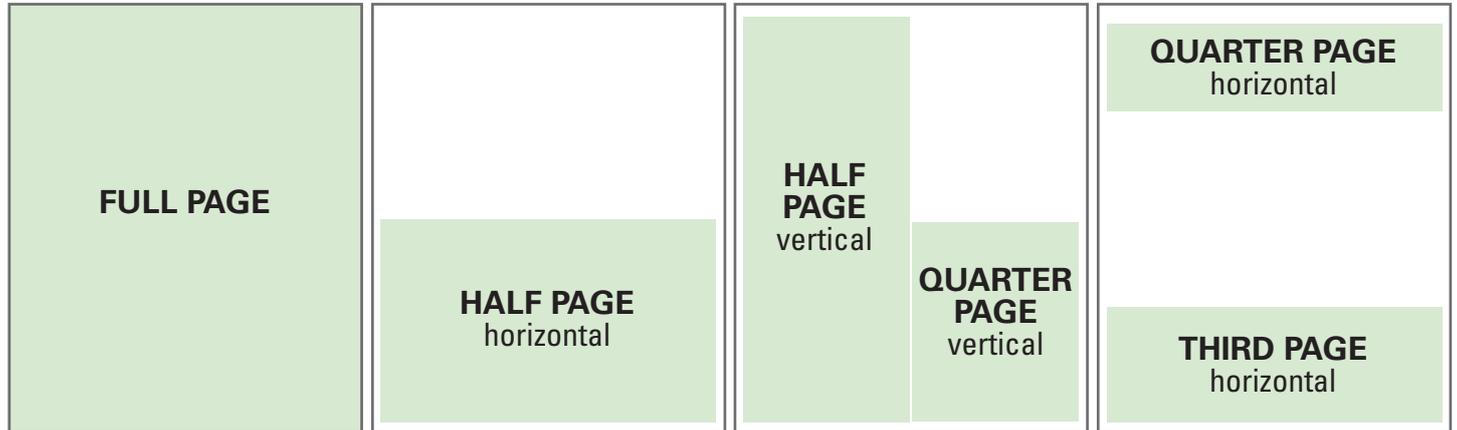
DELIVERED
WEEKLY TO
15,200
GLOBAL
READERS*

ADVERTISING RATES

timber
& FORESTRY *eNEWS*

Now in its 14th year, Timber & Forestry eNews has grown to be the Number ONE 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: \$185

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

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 and are subject to GST being added. Overseas bookings are exempt from GST.

DEADLINES

Display ads: Book by 9am Tuesday prior to publication

Supplied artwork: Wednesday 12 noon prior to publication. Supply hi-res 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: 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 • 63mmH x 61mmW

Email module • 336pxH x 336pxW

Website module • 260pxH x 260pxW

TERM DISCOUNTS

12 WEEKS: 7.5%

24 WEEKS: 10%

48 WEEKS: 15%

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 ONLINE AND IN THE PUBLICATION. 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.