

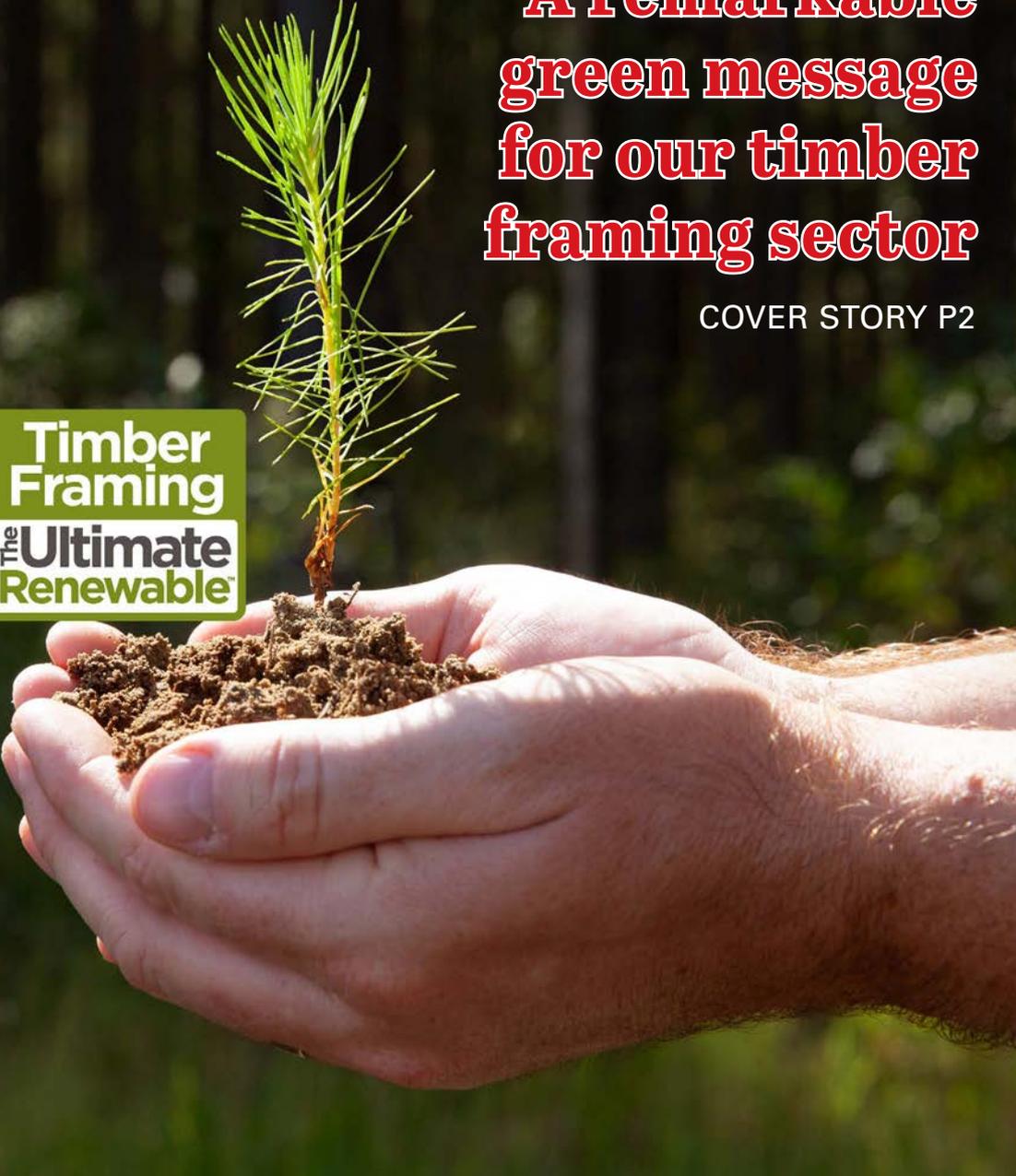
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ISSUE 721 | August 25, 2022

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A remarkable green message for our timber framing sector

COVER STORY P2

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A better, sustainable world: creative resources tell a remarkable green story for timber framing sector

THE Timber Framing Collective is introducing a suite of easy-to-use creative resources to help share the remarkable green story of 'Timber Framing – The Ultimate Renewable' – one of the only building materials that's 100% renewable and sustainable, with each timber-framed house roughly offsetting the yearly CO2 emissions of three family cars.

Through these new resources, the Timber Framing Collective aims to empower the entire supply chain, from growers to consumers, to proudly stand up for timber and their craft.

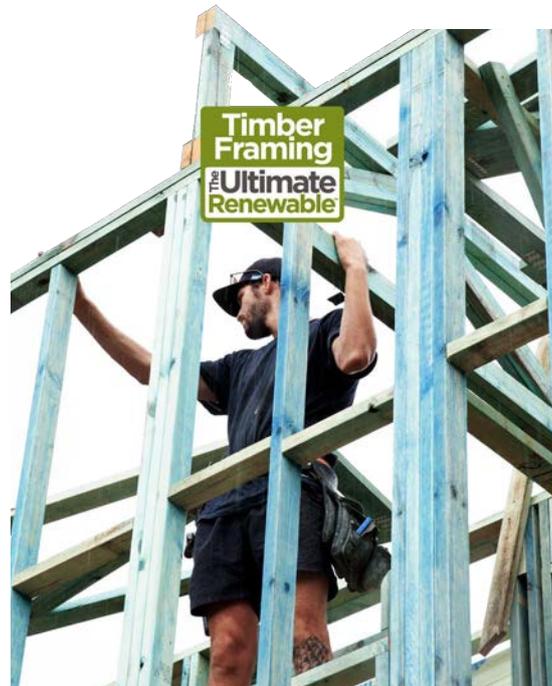
Spokesperson Richard Hyett, said by equipping everyone involved, these videos and assets provided the tools and knowledge needed to guide people back to a deep-seated love of timber framing.

Mr Hyett said the new assets were a part of a new campaign, 'Let's Build

a Better World for Timber Framing – The Ultimate Renewable', designed to celebrate the contribution our industry was making to help our planet as well as the rational benefits of timber framing – durable, reliable, workable, and so on – the innovation of our industry and the people involved throughout production and supply.

The campaign and assets were developed after research showed that despite timber framing being one of the most eco-friendly building materials, many people still think cutting down trees is a bad thing. And despite most builders and fabricators preferring to work with timber, many have been steered to other materials due to consumer demand.

Richard Hyett added: "Our research also showed that 78% of consumers would like an eco-friendly building material option from their



wherever best suits each organisation.

The resources include videos, brochures, fact sheets, social assets and more.

"These assets enable anyone in the supply chain to learn more about timber framing, and give their clients access to engaging and educational content to help them make a more informed decision – which is exactly what consumers are asking for,"

Mr Hyett said.

"Join the Timber Framing Collective and the ever-growing group of people sharing these resources far and wide, putting timber in the frame and building a better world for the next generation."

Download the resources from the updated Timber Framing – The Ultimate Renewable™ website: renewabletimberframing.com.au

builder or supplier. But less than half of builders and suppliers are likely to discuss sustainable materials with their clients."

He says anyone in the entire industry has unlimited access to all the assets that can be shared across social and digital platforms, presented to prospective clients, displayed in offices and display suites, and used to proudly share the message across every touchpoint – whenever and

“SUPPLY CHAIN HAS UNLIMITED ACCESS TO ALL THE ASSETS”



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Malaysian timber and furniture industries put in the spotlight during Australia marketing mission

September visit further strengthens close ties and mutually beneficial trade relationships

THE Malaysian timber and furniture industries will be under the spotlight next month with a marketing mission by a high-level Malaysian Timber Council trade delegation of leading timber and manufacturing business executives.

The visit from September 26 to 30 will be held in collaboration with the Consulate-General of Malaysia in Australia Mazita Marzuki, and MATRADE and Australian trade entities that underscore the commitment of the Malaysian timber and its downstream industries to strengthen the already close ties and mutually beneficial economic and trade relationships with Australian companies.

Malaysia is among the world's biggest exporters of timber, supplying to more than 170 countries.

Timber and related industries in Malaysia are a key sector of the country's economy. The industry's contribution to the country's GDP amounted to 1.52% in 2021. According to research, the sector has a goal of



1/ The Malaysian forestry and timber sector has major export markets in Japan, USA, India, Taiwan, Korea, the UK, China and Australia.

2 MTC CEO Muhtar Suhaili... confident Malaysian trade mission to Australia is a timely and important event for mutual trade opportunities.

transforming the industry into a high value-added products manufacturer and exporter, with latest export statistic of 1.69% of 2021 world total export of wood and wood-based products.

Notably, the Malaysian forestry and timber sector provides employment

opportunities to more than 50,000 people. The major export markets for Malaysian timber products are Japan, USA, India, Taiwan, Korea, the UK, China and Australia. Timber and related product exports to Australia amounted to more than \$200 million in 2021.

Major items imported into the country include wooden furniture, mouldings, joinery,

sawn timber, panel products and engineered wood products.

MTC's CEO Muhtar Suhaili is confident the timely and important event will help step up its promotional efforts into Australia given the positive outlook within the next several years.

"It is my hope that both governments and business communities will continue to work together for the mutual benefit of both countries," he said.

"Malaysia is poised to become a strategic business partner especially in the wood-based industry post-Covid 19."

Mr Suhaili said Malaysia had 55.3% of its land area or 18.2 million ha under natural forest cover.

About 10.92 million ha of the total forested area had been gazetted as 'permanent reserved forest' managed under sustainable forest management principles.

Meanwhile, MTC's director of International Business Development Khairul Anwar said he was confident the

Cont P 14



Australian Forest Products Association

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NZ minister: boosting innovation and investment will unlock future of forestry and wood processing

INCREASING New Zealand's onshore wood processing capability and investing in developing the domestic woody biomass industry are two target areas that will drive sector growth, create jobs, and reduce emissions across the economy, Forestry Minister Stuart Nash says.

The Minister of Forestry launched the draft Forestry and Wood Processing Industry Transformation Plan at the Canterbury West Coast Wood Council Awards in Christchurch last week.

"This plan is an important part of the government's work to build a high-wage, low-emissions economy," Mr Nash said.

"Through partnering with



1/ Transformation plan... increasing onshore wood processing capability in New Zealand.

2/ Stuart Nash... exploring how government can co-invest in new sawmills to process lower grades of logs.

industry, Maori and unions, we can add significant value to the sector by processing

pharmaceuticals, were also produced from forests."

The ITP is the first strategy dedicated to boosting the forestry and wood processing sector in over a decade. It responds to some long-standing challenges by seeking to increase domestic wood processing and diversify production forests and exports.

Mr Nash says this will drive the production of new low emissions products and energy sources to underpin and support our transition to net zero emissions by 2050.

The plan proposes a range of actions, including the Crown leading the way in researching and supporting alternative species including helping nurseries increase supply and lower costs, exploring how government can co-invest in new sawmills to process lower grades of logs, and establishing a presence in key overseas markets to increase demand for wood products.

"We have the expertise, skills and knowledge here in New Zealand to transform the sector, maximise the potential of our forest estate to reduce emissions, create new wood products and biofuels, and to build a strong exporting economy and environmental suitability for future generations," Mr Nash said.

"This is a significant step forward for forestry and wood processing in New Zealand; the plan recognises how pivotal the sector will be in our future."

Consultation runs until September 30.

• Dennis Neilson's view, Page 5



logs domestically rather than sending them off-shore for other countries to extract the value.

"We need to move from a commodity resource producer to creating high-value, low-carbon products and jobs for Kiwis – all of which are vital to our ongoing economic recovery."

Mr Nash said this roadmap would lead to a future where high-rise buildings were built with engineered wood, where planes, trains and boats were powered with fuel derived from wood, and a range of products, such as

“ PLAN WILL CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE SPECIES ”



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Long-awaited New Zealand forest transformation plan released after years of consultation and advice

Designed to take industry forward to 2050, much of the report is actually ‘work-in-progress’

AFTER more than five years in gestation, multi-year consultations with industry and input by a 15-person advisory group, the draft NZ Forest Industry Transformation Plan has been released by the NZ Forest Service.

The long-awaited plan also comes after assessment by a team of NZ Forest Service executives in Wellington and Rotorua commissioned a number of major international consultants to assist its thinking.

Designed to take the industry forward to 2050, much of this transformation is actually defining existing “work-in-progress” and most of the focus is on predictable changes sought by the industry.

The plan calls for a major increase in domestic processing to replace much of the 20 million cub m of logs currently being exported each year. Its target is also to increase the 3.5 million cub m of logs processed each year by 25%, and the use of 1.4



The apparent disdain by the NZ government for radiata pine remains a disappointing feature of the report.

million cub m of construction timber used today by 25% each year.

It also calls for a return to earlier decades when annual radiata pine plantings were much smaller than they are today. The plan’s target is to reduce that percentage from 96% to only 80%. This seems more ideological than practical.

The government seems to want to turn its back on the ‘wonder species’ that has built the New Zealand plantation, processing and export industries to date. Although

MY VIEW

DENNIS NEILSON

had Greens had their way, radiata plantings would be reduced to zero.

In all, the plan calls for the increase in annual “added

value” exports from \$2.5 billion to \$3.1 billion by 2040.

As expected, the plan leans heavily towards innovation and to the circular bio-economy. It calls for 14 million cub m of “innovative” construction material to be provided by 2050; for 16.4 million cub m of tree biomass coal replacement biomass; and a whopping 49.3 million cub m of tree biomass oil fuel replacement to be provided by 2050.

The apparent disdain by the NZ government for radiata pine remains a disappointing feature of the report.

Also apparently missing is any comment about the looming major reduction in annual harvest levels from the late 2020s for more than a decade. This will be a result of government policy decisions, which have strongly discouraged new land planting from 2000 to 2020.

Also, the annual harvest could reduce from 35 million cub m a year to only 25 million cub m.

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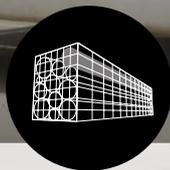
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SEPTEMBER

11-16: Gottstein Trust Understanding Wood Science Course – Sunday evening, September 11, 2022, in Albury, NSW, for the field trip component, ending on Friday, September 16, 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 program can be downloaded at www.gottsteintrust.org

14: AFPA's gala dinner – Great Hall, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT. Time: 6 pm-10 pm. Dress code business attire. To take advantage of the 15% discount, guests can visit their web sites directly and follow the links to make a reservation. Enquiries 0408 404 764 or email enquiries@ausfpa.com.au

26-29: Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) Marketing Mission – Sydney and Melbourne. Executives from MTC will be visiting to liaise with timber supply chain representatives, including hosting meetings and visiting wholesale and manufacturing facilities. Further information to follow. Enquiries to John Halkett on 0417 421 187 or email: john.halkett@atif.asn.au

OCTOBER

12: Australian Timber Importers Federation Board meeting – Brisbane, QLD. For further information contact John Halkett on 0417 421 187 or email: john.halkett@atif.asn.au

20-22: Forestry Australia Symposium – Mantra Hotel, Albury, NSW, and online. Theme: Leading, Adapting and Reimagining the Future for Forestry. Closing keynote

address by corporate speaker James O'Loughlin, one of Australia's most respected, entertaining and experienced corporate speakers. Early bird registrations close August 10. Take advantage of discounted fees for in person and virtual registration and register early. Contact Forestry Australia on +61 3 7065 4252 or email: conference@forestry.org.au Visit www.forestry.org.au

26-28: DANA-Gingko Global Woodchip and Biomass Trade Conference – Marriott Singapore Tang Plaza Hotel, Singapore. Includes post-conference field trip to inspect chip and wood pellet mills in Vietnam. Field trip places are limited and preference will be given to those registering for the conference. Information on the conference and field trip is on danaevents.co.nz/2022singapore/ or contact Mariela Ferrari at

marielaFerrari.e@gmail.com

28: TABMA Australia NSW awards gala evening – Le Montage Lilyfield NSW. Nominations and ticket sales open later this month, so look out for further information. Contact Alicia Oelkers on 0418 449 031 or free phone 1300 693 483.

NOVEMBER

18-19: Fast & Forward Forestry Expo – Rotorua, New Zealand. New Zealand's first event of its kind, Fast & Forward Forestry brings the forestry industry together, showcasing the contribution the sector makes to the New Zealand economy. Visit: www.fica.org.nz/fast-and-forward-expo or contact the Forest Industry Contractors Association Email: office@fica.org.au or phone (New Zealand only) 0800 342 269.

Opportunity again to celebrate AFCA's Hall of Fame awards

TICKETS are on sale now for AFCA's Hall of Fame dinner in the Gippsland town of Trarlgon on November 10.

It has been a number of years since AFCA members have had the opportunity to get together and celebrate industry achievers, including new accolades for emerging industry leaders, safety innovation and women of excellence in industry.

"The Hall of Fame is designed to recognise those

in the industry that have contributed and continue to contribute to this wonderful, renewable industry," AFCA general manager Carlie Porteous said.

"But, as we look to the future, we also want to encourage and celebrate our emerging leaders, industry diversity and continual safety focus," she said.

Carlie added: "We are delighted that the awards for these new categories will be

chosen from local Victorian hardwood and softwood members by a local Victorian.

"We need to continually showcase the beauty of our Australian timbers and what better way than to bring this together by celebrating the elite in our industry."

"Dinner will be served on the upper level of the Gippsland Performing Arts Centre among a canopy of architectural branches and lights where we will enjoy

laughs from comedian and MC Rodney Marks as well as the opportunity to mingle with key industry guests."

AFCA will also provide members with a series of educational workshops before the dinner, touching on contemporary topics and looking forward to the future of forest contracting. The following day will also kick off the inaugural AFCA mentoring program.

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Forest industries champion Greg McCormack to retire as AFPA chair: 'role was enormous honour'

LONG-STANDING Australian forest industries leader Greg McCormack will step down as chair of the Australian Forest Products Association following the forest industries gala dinner at Parliament House in Canberra on September 14.

He will retire from the AFPA board at the AGM in November.

Greg McCormack is the second chair of AFPA and has served in the role for more than a decade, since November 2011.

The AFPA board has unanimously elected sitting AFPA director, Wagga Wagga-based agro-economist Diana Gibbs, to replace Mr McCormack as chair.

"It has been an enormous honour to fill this leadership

role and advance, with the AFPA staff, the mission of ensuring our sustainable, renewable forest industries take their rightful place in the mainstream of Australia's thinking," Mr McCormack said.

"Twelve years ago we set out to unite the industry under one banner, to take our message into the corridors of power more effectively and explain to politicians and the broader community just how vital it is for Australia to have strong, growing forest industries," he said.

"Although the journey is far from over, I am delighted that we secured \$300 million in new funding commitments from the federal government at the last election, have bipartisan support for planting



United in industry's progress... incoming AFPA chair Diane Gibbs and retiring Greg McCormack.

goals."

Mr McCormack said he was so very proud of the continued support AFPA had provided Australia's native forestry industries, including telling the story of how critical native hardwood timber products were in our lives and homes.

"We must keep arguing the climate and economic benefits of keeping

our native industries strong into the future," he said.

Incoming AFPA chair Diana Gibbs has a long association

one billion additional timber production trees, a newly announced \$100 million forest industries research centre and recognition in policies that our industry is vital if we are to meet more ambitious climate

Cont P 11



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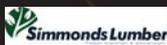












one billion additional timber production trees, a newly announced \$100 million forest industries research centre and recognition in policies that our industry is vital if we are to meet more ambitious climate

Timber Design Centre: disseminating advice about wood design and construction across New Zealand

Supporting efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions and achieve net carbon-zero by 2050

THE Timber Design Centre in Rotorua, recently-established to encourage the greater use of timber in the construction sector, supports New Zealand's efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions and achieve net carbon-zero by 2050.

Timber & Forestry enews talked to the centre's director Dr Robert Finch about the skills he brings to the position and the centre's initial aims.

Dr Finch has extensive experience in engineering and materials engineering. He has been involved in research and technology development and delivering industry solutions for more than 25 years across New Zealand, Australia and elsewhere.

He was previously chief executive of the Structural Timber Innovation Company (STIC), which undertook contracted research and delivered a number of detailed design guides.

"The work concentrated on the development and application of engineered timber products in the building and construction industry, and included technologies such as post-tensioned timber and long-span portal frame systems, Dr Finch said.

Numerous industry workshops were held across New Zealand and Australia, aimed at raising awareness

and transferring technology and know-how to building designers, specifiers and contractors. Some 16 new buildings were designed and built using STIC-developed technologies and engineered wood products throughout Australasia during the course of the research program.

More recently, Dr Finch was director of the Quake Centre, set up in 2013 by the University of Canterbury as one of several initiatives following the 2010-2011 earthquakes. Its primary purpose was to identify industry needs in relation to earthquake engineering and develop and deliver solutions to address those needs in an industry-ready format.

The Timber Design Centre is funded by the Ministry for Primary Industries for an establishment period through to the end of June 2023. The centre is supported by way of a formal collaboration between a number of industry-related parties, and is hosted by Scion.

"One of the important challenges for the centre during the establishment period is to identify and develop an ongoing funding model that will enable it to



Dr Robert Finch... bringing extensive experience in engineering to his role as director of the Timber Design Centre.

documents and other tools," he said.

"As appropriate, the centre will also plan and conduct workshops and seminars, introduce an electronic newsletter, and participate in relevant trade shows."

Dr Finch acknowledges the absence of the Timber Design Awards (last held in 2020) has been keenly felt. "It's a fantastic event that has attracted many historical showcase entries for beautifully designed and

functional timber buildings. The staging of the event was impacted by the emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic and associated restrictions."

He said one of the centre's objectives was to review the awards and reintroduce them sometime in 2023, so they might continue to demonstrate the endless possibilities of timber.

Engineered timber projects are often perceived as infrequent showcases of the technology's possibilities – and much background work needs to happen before they become commonplace in construction.

Dr Finch notes there is a lack of hard data for early costings of mass timber in the non-residential building sector when compared with steel and reinforced concrete.

ACROSS THE DITCH



With MICHAEL SMITH

continue with its fundamental mission of assisting the uptake and application of timber in the built environment," Dr Finch said.

He says the centre intends to disseminate guidance and advice about design and construction in timber through several channels.

"It's looking to develop an online portal that will act as a 'gateway' to access timber-related design guidance

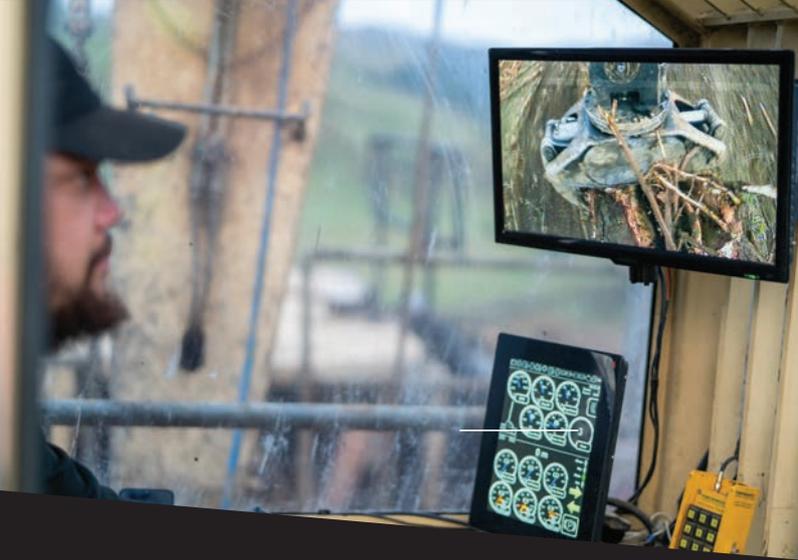
“GATEWAY TO ACCESS DESIGN DOCUMENTS AND OTHER TOOLS

Cont P 11



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From P 9

“A further complicating factor is the critical need to undertake cost comparisons on a ‘full out-turn cost’ basis – not just an element for element direct cost comparison,” he said.

“Mass timber designs and constructions often



Scion Innovation Hub... engineered timber technology contributing to a carbon-zero future. Photo Scion Innovation Hub

“LACK OF HARD DATA ON EARLY COSTINGS OF MASS TIMBER

have savings in planning, erection and other associated construction costs.”

He adds that over the past decade, “a significant number of design guides have been developed and published – but there are still some gaps. Probably the greatest immediate obstacle is a lack of awareness of the existence of these tools, or how or where to access them. The need to review and update standards, both NZ and joint AS/NZS relevant to timber and wood processing, is an ongoing requirement.”

From P 8

with Australia’s forest industries and other regional industries, while bringing extensive director and chair experience to the role.

Ms Gibbs said, “It’s extremely humbling to step into the shoes of an industry statesman like Greg McCormack. He has played such an enormous role in forest industries in this nation. He has done so much good, it is impossible to do full justice to his achievements.

“For my part, I will continue, as Greg has done, to vigorously prosecute the role of forest industries as a crucial part of a carbon-constrained future and a sustainable driver of regional economies.

“I look forward to working with the Albanese government to deliver regional growth and a real contribution to the path to net zero, via a strong forest sector.”

“This is a ‘win, win, win’ for our country if it is done correctly. Planting many more production trees will help meet carbon goals, grow more timber to house our children and supply essentials such as food packaging and toilet paper, and at the same time continue to support jobs in regional communities.”



Fighter for forest industry... Greg McCormack (right) with AFPA CEO Ross Hampton and Shadow Minister for Forestry Jonno Duniam.

everyone from prime ministers, premiers, ministers and shadow ministers and other commodity leaders,” Mr Hampton said.

“Greg has been a voice of reason and never shied from the difficult issues, overseeing the growth of

AFPA CEO AFPA Ross Hampton said Greg McCormack had been a globally-respected forest industry leader for decades.

“For the last 11 years he has been the clear, strong voice for our industries and taken our cause up before

AFPA from a very modest organisation to a formidable advocacy body with 17 staff around the nation.

“Under Greg, the vision of ‘one voice’ has been growing ever more real.”



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TIMBER & FORESTRY E-NEWS | ISSUE 721 | August 25, 2022

11

Grants to harvest big ideas from young innovators

APPLICATIONS are now open for the 2023 Science and Innovation Awards for Young People in forestry, agriculture and fisheries.

This competitive annual grants program supports young Australians aged 18 to 35 by funding projects that will benefit Australia's rural industries.

In partnership with Australia's leading research and development corporations and industry associations, there are 12 industry categories each worth up to \$22,000 (gst inclusive) that will provide applicants with outstanding ideas, who will

“ 12 INDUSTRY CATEGORIES EACH WORTH \$22,000 ”

bring knowledge and innovation to deliver results including increased economic, social and environmental benefits to stakeholders and the wider community

Applications are eligible if entrants are:

- Working or studying in a forestry, agriculture or fisheries related industry.
- Between 18 and 35 years of age.
- An Australian citizen or permanent resident.
- If you have an original research project idea that addresses a significant, long-standing or emerging agricultural issue.



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of previous award winners and add the prestigious award to your CV.

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For more information and the full list of eligibility and funding criteria, visit the website www.agriculture.gov.au

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Hoop pine plywood plays a sustainability role in construction of new Gold Coast emergency centre

SHOVELS have hit the ground on the Gold Coast Disaster and Emergency Management Centre at Ashmore, a new dedicated facility for the city's emergency services during times of natural disaster or emergency.

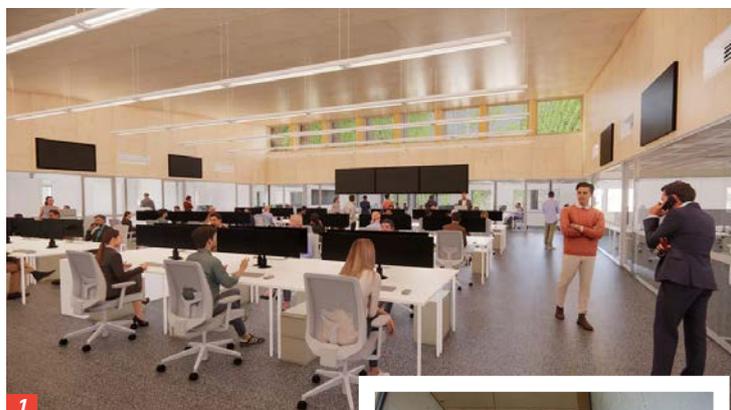
The new hub will act as a command centre for first responders in times of emergency and has been made possible through \$9.81 million from the state government's \$100 million South East Queensland Community Stimulus Program.

Brisbane-based sustainable plywood product manufacturer Austral Plywoods has provided 400 sheets of 9 mm Austral Interior, made from Responsible Wood certified plantation Araucaria hoop pine.

"These sheets will be used as wall and ceiling linings," Austral Plywoods sales manager Victor Calligeros said.

"We are also perforating and clear-finishing the panels so that they are ready to install," he said.

"One of the key



1/ Architectural rendering of the Gold Coast Disaster and Emergency Management Centre now under construction at Ashmore showing plywood wall and ceiling linings.

2/ Austral Plywoods's perforated ply has achieved Group 3 fire rating for the Gold Coast project.

requirements was that the ply had Group 3 fire rating, but this rating is not applicable for a solid panel if the panel is perforated as fire performances may differ. However, Austral Plywoods has conducted extra testing on our specific perforation patterns and has achieved the necessary Group 3 for the perforated ply."

On hand for the start of construction, Environment Minister Meaghan Scanlon said the building reinforced the need for a fit-for-purpose disaster management centre.



"Having a dedicated, central location for our agencies to coordinate and respond to emergency situations in real-time is absolutely critical, especially during times of flood or fire, which we know can quickly escalate," Ms Scanlon said.

"State government agencies and council already work closely to help our community during emergencies, and it's great that we are bringing this project forward.

"The project also creates 53 jobs for the local construction industry as it recovers from Covid-19."

Gold Coast City Mayor Tom Tate said the existing facility had been the mainstay of disaster management response for more than 30 years.

He said a structural assessment of the building several years ago identified it would not withstand a Category 4 or 5 cyclonic event.

"Building for the future is critical as our city will reach a population of one million in the next decade," he added.

A further \$435,500 has also been invested in the project though the Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund, a joint initiative of the federal and Queensland governments.

Construction is expected to be completed by the end of this year.



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From P 3

bilateral trade between Malaysia and Australia would continue to flourish.

“While trading has been the traditional business activity between the timber-based sectors of Malaysia and Australia, I believe that other initiatives, such as potential discussions on joint-ventures in the manufacturing of timber products and tree plantation programs that could all be further developed,” he said.

As a recent example of mutually beneficial business activity, the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation has signed an agreement with Woodsfield Glulam Manufacturing and Australia’s Tilling Timber that will see a feasibility study conducted for a joint venture investment to develop an engineered wood products plant in Sarawak.

The proposed project has



Malaysia wooden furniture... offering Australian importers and manufacturers a wide range of sophisticated, fit-for-purpose timber products.

the potential to attract an investment of about \$40 million and is projected to generate annual earnings of about \$26 million. The Sarawak-Australia agreement will promote ‘green’ engineered wood products development in Malaysia’s housing sector, plus produce high value-added products from acacia forest plantations for export to Australia.

During the MTC marketing

mission, several presentations will be held in Melbourne and Sydney that will provide an opportunity to update the Australian timber industry on latest Malaysia export performance and business development opportunities in Malaysian, and also include presentations on initiatives in Malaysia post Covid-19, product innovation and collaborative marketing.

Australia Timber Importers

Federation general manager John Halkett asserted that Malaysia was now a stand-out leader in tropical timber production, innovation and compliance, with the country increasingly regarded as leading the tropical forestry industry in areas such as third party forest and product certification, building standards compliance and product innovation and sophistication.

“Malaysia recognises the importance of the Australian market and is able to provide strong and ongoing support for the timber supply chain here and is able to offer Australian importers and manufacturers a wide range of sophisticated, fit-for-purpose timber products,” Mr Halkett said.

Inquiries regarding the marketing mission should be directed to Campbell McInnes at 0406 223 007 or campbell@mitimber.com.au

The long awaited MTC Marketing Mission will be held in association and supported by Australian trade entities and MATRADE Melbourne will underscore the commitment to strengthen the already close ties and mutually beneficial relationships with Australia companies.

Face-to-face meetings and factory visits planned by a high-level Malaysian Timber Council delegation of

timber and furniture industries business executives.

Enquiries regarding the upcoming Malaysia Timber Council marketing mission may be directed to **Campbell McInnes** on 0406 223 007 or email campbell@mitimber.com.au or **Ms. Noor Ateeqah**, email noorateeqah@mtc.com.my www.mtc.com.my





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September 2 deadline for Stanton Award entries

NOMINATIONS are coming in thick and fast for this year's Richard Stanton Memorial Award for Excellence in Forest Management or Chain of Custody.

The award is open to individuals who have contributed significantly to either forest management or chain-of-custody certification under the Responsible Wood certification program.

The award nominees will be those who have contributed to sustainable forest management under AS4708 or chain of custody under AS4707.

Applications close at 5 pm (EST), September 2, and will be assessed by the Responsible Wood marketing committee with the successful applicant announced later this year.

CEO Simon Dorries has been encouraged by the quality of this year's applications for an award that pays tribute to a man who devoted his life to sustainable forest management in Australia and internationally.

The award is open to, but not restricted to, forest owners and managers; chain-of-custody certificate holders; staff of certification bodies; forest scientists and researchers; and designers of products manufactured from sustainable timber.

The award also carries a \$2000 bursary prize.

In 2021, ForestrySA ranger Kieran Gosden was awarded the prize for her work with the local community, businesses, schools, conservation groups and tourists to improve their engagement with the forest sector.



Kieran Gosden... commitment to sustainable forest management and certification standards.

On presenting the award, Mr Dorries reflected on Kieran's commitment to sustainable forest management and certification standards.

"Kieran's involvement with the red-tailed black cockatoo, establishing biodiversity corridors and linking isolated native forest with strips of

revegetation received high acclaim from the judging panel," he said.

Applicants will have demonstrated excellence in the following areas:

- A significant and valuable contribution to sustainability.
 - Innovation, improvement or excellence in forest management or chain-of-custody certification.
 - A strong commitment to the Responsible Wood certification scheme.
 - Innovation and improvement in the promotion and marketing of Responsible Wood certified products.
- Visit www.responsiblewood.org.au
- Nominations can be sent to: Responsible Wood, PO Box 786, New Farm, Qld 4005 or email sdorries@responsiblewood.org.au

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Satellite 'spies' on forests to monitor carbon storage

IN a dust-free cleanroom in Stevenage, a large town in Hertfordshire, England, the European Space Agency's BIOMASS satellite is finally taking shape.

And as science missions go, it's a big one. The spacecraft is several metres high and weighs more than a tonne.

It has to, in order to accommodate a 12-m radar dish that folds up like an umbrella along its side for launch, unfurling once it's in orbit at the end of next year.

"It really will be quite a sight to behold," says engineer Vicki Lonnon at Airbus Defence and Space.

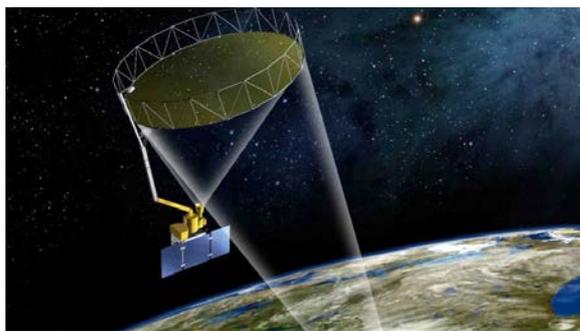
"You can't really simulate what it's going to be like in space fully, on the ground, so it's all essentially modelling at this stage," she said.

The satellite will help

scientists to get a more accurate picture of carbon storage in the world's forests – crucial to its mission to see, from the cold emptiness of space, the humid woody depths of Earth's forests in a completely new way.

BIOMASS is the first satellite to take a technology called P-band radar into space. It's a radar with a long wavelength – 70 cm – and while it requires a big, cumbersome antenna, it will reveal things scientists have never been able to see from space before ... the wood from the trees.

"If you looked at a forest with this wavelength, the



The BIOMASS satellite will reveal things scientists have never been able to see from space before.

leaves and little branches would be totally invisible," says project lead scientist Professor Shaun Quegan of the University of Sheffield.

"It would just look like the framework of a tree. And that's where the biomass is."

Through photosynthesis, forests lock away about a third of the carbon pumped into the atmosphere in biomass. And most of that biomass is in the thickest branches and trunks

of trees.

But they're exactly the bits of trees that have so far proved very hard to measure from space. So knowing how much carbon the world's forests actually contain is based largely on guesswork, extrapolated from a few detailed studies of trees in small patches of forest.

"I've measured tens of thousands of trees across the tropics, in the Amazon, in the Congo basin, but there are only so many trees you can measure by hand," says Professor Simon Lewis at the University College London. "But what this satellite can do is tell us what's happening over enormous areas."



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Green light for world's tallest hybrid timber building

GROUND has broken on what will be the world's tallest hybrid timber tower and the anchor building of a precinct that will establish Sydney as a leader in innovation and technology.

The NSW government last week joined leading tech firm Atlassian, developer Dexus and backpacker accommodation provider YHA to mark the start of the 39-storey Atlassian headquarters building in Sydney.

Set to open in 2027, the building will serve as the focal point of the Tech Central Precinct, which the government hopes will transform the area surrounding Sydney's Central Station into a leading innovation and technology precinct that will accommodate as many as

25,000 workers.

Upon its opening, the 39-storey building – constructed using a combination of mass timber, concrete and steel – is expected to be the world's tallest hybrid timber structure.

Targeting a six-star NABERS rating, the tower will be organised into six discreet but interconnected 'habitats', each a free-standing mass-timber construction which is supported within a steel eco-skeleton. A naturally ventilated zone will be akin to an outdoor garden at each level.

As a result of its timber



Atlassian cofounder and co-CEO Scott Farquhar at the launch of construction of Atlassian Central in Sydney.

and Australian architects BVN.

More than 25,000 workers will be located in the Tech Central precinct, 5000 of them housed in the Atlassian building and 4000 located in the Atlassian headquarters.

NSW Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade Alister Henskens welcomed the start of construction.

"We are incredibly proud to see Atlassian's Australian HQ come to life at Tech Central, progressing our goal of delivering the world's most sustainable, inclusive and creative innovation precinct," Mr Henskens said.

hybrid structure, the building hopes to achieve 50% fewer carbon emissions compared with a conventional construction project. It also aims to achieve 50% less energy consumption and operate on 100% renewable energy.

The tower is being developed by Dexus and has been designed by New York-based SHoP Architects

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Gloves are off: Mazda 3 throws down the challenge

"THIS seat fits like a glove," said daughter No. 2.

"And what about the tapestry? Black seats with brown trim. Subtle?"

"As long as the collars and cuffs match, well, it's not a problem," I ventured.

"Huh?" she responded.

The 2022 Mazda 3 G20 Pure Hatch's interior front half certainly puts rivals in the shade and is more than a match for similarly-sized luxury brands.

We were on the Darling Downs early in the morning with outside temps down to 7 deg. Daughter No. 1, a vegan and animal rights supporter, slipped on a pair of neat woollen gloves ... "you can shear 'em, but don't eat 'em," she counselled. Which got me thinking. The last thing you'll find in a glovebox is a glove ... or a women's gauntlet, which describes the extended cuff glove fashion we see at weddings.

Maybe the Japanese manufacturer should consider 'gauntlet' a future brand, i.e. "the Mazda Gauntlet throws down the challenge".

Anyway, if we don't wear gloves that often, they've been around for a long time. They were depicted in an ancient Egyptian tomb dating to the 5th dynasty. And for



Mazda 3 G20 Pure Hatch... real-time traffic sign recognition.

your useless information file, the most expensive glove auctioned belonged to pop king Michael Jackson. It sold for \$619,000 to a resort in Macau.

Small passenger vehicles like the Mazda 3 – a small car that's not an SUV or ute – continue to sell exceptionally well in Australia. In fact, last month it was the small segment that performed the best out of all passenger categories, selling more than 7800 vehicles and bringing in a 9.2% market share.

But it's the Mazda 3's inside that matters; everywhere you look there's attractive, soft-touch plastic or leatherette trim, even in the centre console and at the base of the infotainment screen. Included are Apple CarPlay/Android

Auto, electric parking brake and intuitive control functions.

This front-drive Mazda is available with the choice of two Skyactiv-G four-cylinder petrol engines – a 114kW/200Nm 2-litre and a 138kW/252Nm 2.5-litre or 2-litre 132kW/224Nm mild hybrid. Regular versions offer six-speed manual or auto transmissions. The range includes Pure, Evolve, Touring, GT and Astina spec levels, all equipped with front and rear autonomous emergency braking, pedestrian detection, lane-keep assist and rear cross-traffic alert.

Standard features include keyless entry, 10-way power-adjustable driver's seat with lumbar and memory, side mirrors with memory and reverse tilt-down functions,

auto-dimming driver's side mirror and a 'vision technology package' that incorporates 360-deg. camera, front cross-traffic alert, front parking sensors and driver monitoring.

Comfort equipment brings dual-zone automatic climate control, rear-seat air-vents, rain-sensing windscreen wipers, an 8.8-in. central infotainment screen and a 7 in. digital instrument cluster, plus an eight-speaker stereo and a leather steering wheel and gear shifter.

The Mazda 3 ANCAP safety rating of 5 starts with seven airbags covering both rows of seats, backed up by several semi-autonomous driving systems designed to keep you out of trouble. These detect cars, cyclists and pedestrians and pull you up hard if you don't, in both forward and reverse gears. A real-time traffic sign recognition system has one of the best blind-spot monitors, both projected onto the windscreen in your line of sight via a colour head-up display. Fuel efficiency is given at 6.4L / 100 km and the Mazda 3, for \$30,572 drive away, is backed by a five-year, unlimited kilometre warranty with five years of free roadside assistance.

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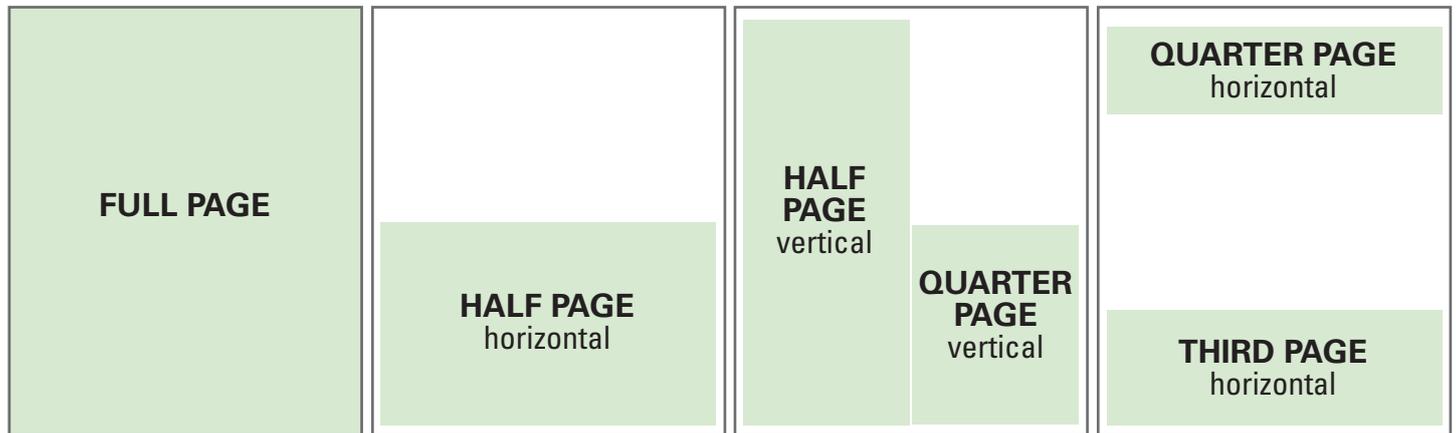
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