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COVER STORY P 3



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Green triangle visit a learning opportunity for French delegates

LEARNING to handle forest management in a drying climate has been a central theme to a recent visit to the Green Triangle region by a French forestry delegation.

The visit has been prompted by the challenges faced by the French forest industry including unprecedented fires during the 2022 northern summer and the impacts of increasing temperatures and low rainfall.

The French delegation including forestry experts, independent foresters, administrators and researchers have been visiting the Green Triangle as part of a broader national tour to seek a greater understanding of forest management including fire management following the 2019–2020 Black Summer bushfire.

The delegation met the Minister for Forest Industries, Clare Scriven.



A delegation of 35 French forestry stakeholders visited the Green Triangle to learn about forest fire management. Picture: via border news

Minister Scriven told Border News the visit went well and the group was interested in fire protection.

“They’ve been keen to see what we’ve been doing in terms of fire protection,” the Minister said.

“We talked about the commitment our government has made in terms of upgrading the fire towers, including camera technology.”

“It is important to share ideas of mutual interest for

the growth and development of forest industries in both Australia and France,” Ms Scriven said.

Discussion included the State Government’s recently announced \$2 million upgrade of the Green Triangle’s fire

“IMPORTANT TO SHARE IDEAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST”

observation towers and the \$15 million 10-year investment towards the Forestry Centre of Excellence at Mount Gambier.

The Centre will be a central hub that focuses on innovation, sustainability, and the creation of new market opportunities from Australia and across the globe.

With the similarities in management approaches and risk profiles in the forest industries of France and Australia, the study tour presents opportunities for future collaborative learning.

The delegation comprised 35 representatives from government and non-government bodies dealing with wide-ranging forestry matters in France, including policymaking, research and community engagement.

The delegation was led by Pascal Mayer, General Director GROUPAMA Forêts Assurances.

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\$4.5 million awards to Wesbeam for Accelerate of Wood Processing Innovation Program grant

WESBEAM, WA has announced the Federal Government has awarded the company an Accelerate of Wood Processing Innovation Program Grant for \$4.5 million. This contribution will assist to fund an \$11.5 million total Capital Expenditure Investment of the manufacturing facility located in Neerabup, Perth.

With a world-class Australian factory that operates 24/7, Wesbeam is Australia's only manufacturer of Laminated Veneer Lumber (LVL) beams and I-joists.

Wesbeam controls every step of production and supply; from sustainable wood sourcing, managed under strict Government guidelines, through to the manufacture, design and engineering support, and Australia-wide distribution.

The Wesbeam facility was constructed in 2004, developing a new forest industry for Western Australia with a near \$100 million Greenfields investment.

As a Western Australian-owned and operated company, it has invested in and continues to build and operate a world-scale, State of the Art, LVL and I-Joist plant supplying products for the construction of residential houses included in the roof, walls and floors.

Supported by a 25-year plus 25-year WA State Government Agreement, the proposed significant capital investment will ensure Wesbeam's plant

continues to be one of the most efficient LVL processing plants in the world. It will also continue to provide direct employment at the Neerabup facility of nearly 200 people, with many hundreds more indirectly employed.

Further to this, Wesbeam has an additional 100 employees across Sales, Distribution and Engineering located in Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne and Adelaide.

"Wesbeam would like to thank the Federal Government, and in particular the Minister for Agriculture and Forestry, the Honourable Senator Murray Watt for the implementation of the program" CEO of Wesbeam, James Malone said.

"We believe it to be an important initiative to ensure Australian wood processing facilities increase output and efficiencies that will enhance Australia's resilience in wood supply to the construction industry, and to the residential housing market.

The need for local manufactured products was never more clearly seen than during the Covid pandemic when Australian wood supply was critical to ensure residential housing



Wesbeam's manufacturing has been critical for many builders.

construction was able to continue in the face of a world supply chain gridlock.

"As Australia's only LVL manufacturer and leading supplier, Wesbeam's local Australian manufacturing was critical for many major Australian builders during this period. The importance of our supply to the residential construction industry continues today as builders seek to complete houses quickly" Mr Malone continued.

"The proposed investment will significantly enhance Wesbeam's efficiency and provide an important increase in production output (both through wood yield improvements and debottlenecking) which will further reinforce Australia's LVL and I-Joist supply.

"I am particularly pleased that we have been joined by our new local Federal Member, Ms Tracey Roberts who was the Mayor of the City of Wanneroo prior to her election

to the federal seat of Pearce. Under her leadership the City of Wanneroo and in particular the Neerabup Industrial Area (in which our plant is sited) has grown to be an important employment region within the City.

"This program is extremely valuable in increasing Australia's wood supply capability and resilience" he concluded.

Wesbeam is Australia's only LVL manufacturer and distributor - with a world class factory in Perth and direct delivery from Wesbeam distribution centres.

Using state-of-the-art equipment from New Zealand, Japan, Finland and Germany, we manufacture high-quality laminated veneer lumber beams and other LVL products.

Our LVL is a high-value engineered wood product made from renewable, sustainably sourced timbers under a 50-year agreement between Wesbeam and the Western Australian State Government.

Our growing range of LVL products is designed to span further, carry greater loads and withstand the tough Australian climate.

On the cover: Wesbeam CEO James Malone has welcomed the government funding.

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New session speakers confirmed for NTHA conference

WITH just two weeks left for ticket sales for the 2023 NTHA National Conference, two new session speakers have been announced for the May event.

Organisers have announced Melissa Langton, HR coach, advisor, strategist and director of Exeler8 will be leading the session: People Paracetamol: A prescription for your current HR Headaches.

Referred to by her clients as 'the people paracetamol', Melissa helps business owners say 'goodbye' to HR headaches and 'hello' to the perfect people formula to support their business.

"If you lead people or are charged with developing the



1/ **Melissa Langton will host the session 'People Paracetamol' at the 2023 conference.** Image: via LinkedIn

2/ **Alan Girle is a specialist workplace and employment lawyer with focus on work health and safety (WHS) and other regulatory law.**



right HR strategy, don't miss this session," NTHA said in a statement.

"This is your opportunity to learn the best practices and create an action plan you can apply immediately."

The building blocks attendees will take away include:

- A reality check of what is really happening in the Australian building and manufacturing market, including generational data that will tell you what the different generations really want from their workplace... the answer may surprise you.
- Have the formula to assess what the retention risk of your top talent is; developed from over 10,000 employee stay interviews.
- Understand why certain people are so easy to work with (others not so much) and how you can use this to build your team's capability.
- Do a management selfie to find the leaks and plug them before they get out of hand.

Additionally, highly experienced Lawyer, Alan Girle and Naomi Kemp,

managing director of Safe Expectations will join the breakout session: Psychosocial Obligations.

"Psychosocial hazards and the obligations that arise from them are one of the most talked about topics in the WHS sector at the moment," Alan Girle said.

"Those obligations are backed up by new laws in most states and territories, and so there is no room for ignoring them. However, actually implementing a system to satisfy legal obligations is very difficult in practice.

"Come and hear about the basics of a management system for psychosocial hazards that will provide you with the solid ground with most regulators."

The NTHA National Conference will take place on Thursday 25 and Friday 26 May 2023 at the stunning Crowne Plaza - Hunter Valley and will bring together industry leaders from across the nation. The event will be held from 25-26th May.

The theme Connect, Lead, Succeed, puts 'people' at the centre of the agenda, and will provide you with the chance to gain new skills, share ways to attract and retain employees, as well as keep them safe

As part of the conference, NTHA will be hosting the National Awards Dinner on Friday 26 May. The Awards recognise the outstanding achievements of individuals and organisations who are delivering or producing high-quality products and services.

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“ THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN THE BEST PRACTICES

First state highway timber bridge for New Zealand in 50 years

NEW Zealand is set to receive its first state highway timber bridge in 50 years with the upcoming replacement of the Onetai Bridge.

Situated about halfway between Paeroa and Kōpū on State Highway 26 the bridge might reach just 9m over a tiny stream, but its upcoming replacement marks a giant leap in bridge design for Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency the NZ Herald reported.

It will be the first state highway bridge built from timber in 50 years, representing an exciting move towards using climate-friendly materials.

It's the timber elements of the new design that make the project more than just a run-of-the-mill replacement, says Waka Kotahi regional manager of maintenance and operations, Rob Campbell told the Herald.

"Road bridges in Aotearoa New Zealand are generally built with concrete or steel. Onetai will be the first to mark a return to more sustainable design, with timber beams and a deck," says Campbell.



Onetai Bridge is about halfway between Paeroa and Kopu on State Highway 26. Image: Waka Kotahi via NZ Herald

"We're hoping to make this the new norm, so while it might seem like a minor project, it marks a ground-breaking shift in design for bridge replacements on state highways."

It all comes down to the magic of layering – using an engineered timber product called glulam, which is made from layers (laminates) of wood glued together. As Campbell explains, glulam has twice the strength per kilogram compared with steel and is specially designed to be hard-wearing and durable.

"The new Onetai Bridge is designed to last at least 100 years, linking the greater

Waikato region with the Coromandel Peninsula, and providing a small but vital part of our state highway network," he says.

"The replacement will add to the resilience and safety of this route, as the new design will be stronger and wider than the old bridge."

"The first and most obvious benefit is that glulam's main component, pine wood, is grown right here in Aotearoa and therefore does not need to be mined or go through the high-energy manufacturing processes needed to make steel and concrete," Campbell says.

"New Zealand glulam

is made from responsibly sourced radiata pine and actually has a negative carbon footprint during the production phase. This is because the trees have absorbed carbon dioxide from the atmosphere during the 30 to 40 years they take to reach maturity, and new growth starts that process all over again."

Glulam will last for decades with a minimum of maintenance, and can absorb energy effectively from earthquakes; it also has good fire resistance.

"It might seem that wood would pose a fire risk, but large-section timber in fact performs very well in fires because timber chars at a known rate and does not deform like steel," Campbell says.

"One of the key benefits of a timber structure is its light weight. This means we can significantly reduce the size of foundations which in turn cuts down on carbon, material costs and construction time."

Source: NZ Herald

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40 years of Woodhouse Timber Company

A focus on quality and relationships underpins the company's growth from its Brisbane roots.

BACK in 1983, Chris Woodhouse, who had originally trained as a bricklayer, saw an opportunity.

"I was working for a famous old Queensland company called Wilkinson Timber Industries," says Chris. "I was a sales manager when they decided not to service the reseller market anymore; they wanted to stick with builders. I knew they were missing a market.

"Over a short period of time, I found some willing suppliers in New Zealand and set up in business. Those original suppliers were three brothers and their father. Only one of those brothers survives, now we're dealing with the kids.

It's 40 years we've been with that firm. They're like family."

Chris's wife Kay came on board to manage everything for the new company that wasn't sales or delivery. "I saw a lot of opportunity in the resale market with all these little hardware stores around the place," Chris says.

It was the start of a family business that has now spanned two generations and 40 years.



From left, Mark, Chris and Drew Woodhouse: generational management at Woodhouse Timber Company.

Environmentally, we knew that was going to be the bee's knees down the track, and so it's proved to be."

Of course, now they were no longer using hardwoods, the timbers needed to be finger jointed, and the technology was still in its infancy. Chris says, "You'd watch someone with a brush painting glue onto a joint in those days. Our suppliers have heavily invested in machinery improvements over time, now it happens within a split second but

Woodhouse's first products were dressed timbers, mainly interior mouldings, similar to what had been sold at Wilkinson's. "There, we had been concerned, because it was meranti rainforest timber," says Chris. "One of the benefits of joining up with the Kiwis was we immediately switched to plantation timber.

with perfect accuracy – it's incredible."

Woodhouse quickly developed its own distinctive products. The first and still the most famous was Weatherproof, an H3-treated range of exterior FSC-certified

Cont P 8



Develop our future workforce

ForestWorks is an industry-owned not-for-profit organisation offering services to support the skills development of the forest, wood, paper, timber and furnishing industries.

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MAY

15-18: Ligna trade show – Hannover, Germany. The world's leading trade fair for the woodworking and wood processing industry is jointly organized by Deutsche Messe and VDMA Woodworking Machinery. It showcases the entire range of products and services for the primary and secondary industries – tools, machines and systems for custom and mass production, surface technology, wood-based panel production, sawmill technology, energy from wood, machine components and automation technology, as well as machines and systems for forestry, round wood and sawn wood production.

18: WoodSolutions Walking Tour & Networking Event – Barangaroo Reserve, Hickson Road, Sydney. Join your fellow timber design professionals, 1.00 pm to 7.00pm, for a walking tour of some of Sydney's timber buildings, followed by WoodSolutions networking. Starting in Walsh Bay, visit some of Sydney's recent dynamic projects showcasing various applications of timber, followed by a WoodSolutions Networking Event at Northrop's CBD offices. Book at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/woodsolutions-walking-tour-networking-event-tickets-618826254987>

18-19: The Forest Industry Engineering Association – Melbourne. Woodtech would be showcasing new innovations, new products and

new equipment to improve local sawmilling, wood manufacturing and wood panel company's operating efficiencies - and profitability. For bookings: <https://www.eventalways.com/woodtech>

25-26: TABMA National Conference and Awards – Crowne Plaza - Hunter Valley, NSW. TABMA Australia and Hardware Australia will be joining forces and hosting a national conference and awards program in 2023. TABMA and Hardware Australia are proud to announce the 2023 Timber & Hardware National Conference to be held in the Hunter Valley. Offering members and industry representatives an opportunity to connect as industry leaders and come away with information and tools to take back to your business to help you today and succeed in the future. As part of the National Conference, TABMA Australia and Hardware Australia will be hosting the National Awards program for the industry to participate in. The awards recognise the outstanding achievements of individuals and organisations in delivering or producing high quality products and services. For any queries contact events@tamba.com.au. For bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/993638>

28-2 June: International Research Group (IRG) on Wood Protection – Cairns, QLD. The IRG is the world's peak world body on timber durability research and

will be hosting more than 250 researchers from 30-40 countries to discuss new developments in the field. Information about the conference and registration is available at: www.irg-wp.com/IRG54/index.html

31-1 Doing Timber Business in Queensland Symposium & Field Tour – Brisbane. The 4th Biennial symposium Doing Timber Business in Queensland 2023: Preparation, Opportunity, Success will delve into where growth potential for Queensland's forest and timber industry is most likely to occur. This special event will commence with an industry research and development tour on 31 May, followed by a symposium and networking event on 1 June. For more information admin@timberqueensland.com.au

JUNE

11-17: WoodSolutions 2023 six-day Study Tour – Falkenberg, Sweden, to Oslo, Norway (by luxury coach). WoodSolutions will be hosting a select group of architects, engineers, developers and building professionals on Timber Construction Study Tour to Sweden and Norway. The tour is scheduled to take place ahead of the World Conference of Timber. Get ready for six days and six nights of outstanding inspiration, information and fun as you travel from Falkenberg, Sweden to Oslo, Norway. Your tour leaders are Andrew Dunn, timber engineer and CEO of the Timber Development Association and

Eileen Newbury, Head of the WoodSolutions Program. For more information visit <https://www.woodsolutions.com.au/events/woodsolutions-2023-study-tour-sweden-and-norway>

18-20: Malaysian Wood Expo – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Malaysian Timber Council, International Wood & Woodworking Expo. For further information see: www.malaysianwoodexpo.com.my or email: info@malaysianwoodexpo.com.my

AUGUST

29-30: Timber & Forestry enews Australian Timber Supply Summit – Melbourne. Early warning alert. For any queries relating to the conference, please contact CORP COMM. Email: info@corp-comm.com.au Phone: +61 3 5977 0244

SEPTEMBER

11-12: Timber Off-Site Construction Conference – Crown Promenade Melbourne. The theme for 2023 is "Timber & Technology – The Zero Carbon Future". For more information visit www.timberoffsiteconstruction.com

OCTOBER

15-19: ANZIF Conference: Embracing our natural capital: The science, technology, and art of managing forests for all values – Twin Towns Conference Centre, Coolangatta, Queensland. Further details from Forestry Australia at: <https://www.forestry.org.au/>

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From P 6

radiata pine timbers, all pre-primed in eye-catching pink Weatherproof paint.

“There’s a simple story behind the pink,” says Chris. “Back then, if you wanted to use a piece of timber externally, you had to prime it and the primer was pink. It was just known as external timber. I thought, let’s paint our timber pink, because that’s what it is: external timber.”

The LOSP treatment is done by the manufacturers to Australian standards, with regular testing by Woodhouse. Treatment is done to H3 levels rather than the more commonplace H2: “We decided on the higher rating to get a better product,” says Chris, “and because there are areas of the country where users need it.”

Weatherproof readily found its audience. The boards were lighter than the hardwood that then dominated the market, straight, ready to be painted and highly durable. The feedback from their customers’ builder clients was enthusiastic, though the hardware stores themselves had different reasons for liking it.

Chris says, “Some of our customers saw the sustainability aspect, but most were more interested in the



stock control side, as the way we sold meant they had much less waste. It would have been about three or four years into it, that the sustainability aspect caught on, and it’s been on a roll since then.”

GROWTH AND CHANGE

Within a few years, Woodhouse grew into a larger Brisbane location, then expanded into Sydney, then Melbourne and beyond.

Now the team fluctuates between 90 and 100 staff members and Chris’ son Mark Woodhouse has stepped into the role of CEO. “Succession is always going to be complex,” says Chris, “But it’s a fact I’ve faced. I’m 72 now; when I was 60, I started thinking about the future.”

A couple of Chris’ children who were already working for Woodhouse opted for



Weatherproof, Edgeline and more Woodhouse products ready to ship out.

management roles. “Over the past 10 years, I’ve transitioned out and they’ve moved in,” Chris says. “In the last five years I’ve not been involved with a lot of the major decisions, which was a part of the process. It’s been pretty seamless.”

Accordingly, Drew Woodhouse is now the chief operating officer alongside Mark as CEO.

“I think to say that I was drawn towards timber probably wouldn’t be accurate, but I was

definitely drawn towards business,” Mark says. “And you don’t get too many opportunities to go into an established family business. So a few things fell in place.

“I was very fortunate, I’ve been running it for about seven years now. And Dad’s always been there as a sounding board who let me make decisions – whether they be wrong, right or indifferent. From my point of view, the succession has been really, really good.”

In the early days, as Mark learned the timber business, he relied on the expertise of the Woodhouse staff, some who had been there for over 15 years.

“We have really good people at Woodhouse that have a lot of experience and understand products extremely well,” Mark says. “They shared their knowledge and I shared their willingness to learn. The big thing for me, now, is to push the boundaries a little bit in

Cont P 9

Investing in people ... advancing the industry

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Woodhouse team members readying Edgeline pre-primed mouldings for packing.

From P 8

a sector that can be slow to evolve."

That institutional knowledge is still a vital part of the company, as is the expertise of and close relationship with suppliers. "Our timber suppliers have put a lot of effort into their equipment," says Chris. "They've researched quality glues with better outcomes for both the product and health. Our coatings suppliers, including Dulux and Intergrain have developed top-of-the-range products in conjunction with us."

This has been built up over time. "Some of these businesses have been working with us since Dad started the company," says Mark. "Others for 15 or 20 years. It made it easy for us to weather the pandemic disruptions, and it means we can sit down and talk with them regularly about what we can improve and about new technologies and processes."

The other keys to success have been quality and understanding the market. "I'd hate to add up how much timber we've sold, but it would be hundreds of millions of metres," Chris says. "And our callback rate is low enough for me to call it zero. We don't spend a lot of our time

going out on calls to fix up jobs, because we don't get callbacks."

Real-world experience gives Woodhouse a major advantage in understanding the needs of builders. "It helped us with our product development," says Chris. "We delivered benefits like Weatherproof being easy to lift on site and Edgeline, our interior mouldings range, being easy to paint. Builders immediately appreciated these qualities."

The majority of market research still comes the way it has for decades: by talking to customers and their customers. "I've been down this morning to a furniture building company down the road, chatting to them about some new products," says Chris. "That's how I do most of my information gathering."

Mark has overseen the company's move onto social media, with its Instagram a mix of news and inspiration, and managed the up-to-date website, which is now a comprehensive catalogue of the Woodhouse range. "But I agree with Dad: there are times where by physically going and seeing someone and talking to them, you're going to get a lot more out of that than out of an email or phone call."

For more, visit www.woodhouse.com.au

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Sustainable future: timber v steel

AS we look to build a more sustainable future, it's no surprise that consumers and builders alike are increasingly turning to environmentally friendly building materials. And when it comes to sustainability, timber framing is looking brighter than ever.

Recent research from the Timber Framing Collective shows that people continue to choose timber framing over steel due to its low cost, fast assembly, flexibility and ease of renovation. But it's the incredible environmental benefits that are really resonating in a world that is increasingly looking to reduce its impact.



Timber Framing – The Ultimate Renewable™ is the leading choice for building Australian homes, and our future.

The research shows that steel is beginning to lose its shine among people building new homes, with an 11% decrease over the last two years in consumers who rate steel as superior.

More consumers are being inspired by timber framing's environmental and emotive proof points, such as:

- Australia's plantation forestry is 100% sustainable as they are replanted after harvest
- Each year Australian Forest Industries replant more than 70 million trees
- Plantation trees are necessary to fight climate change and move towards

net-zero by 2050

- Choosing timber is helping build a better world

The research also highlights that 48% of builders value green credentials as one of the most important factors in the choice of materials. That's an increase of 27% since 2021. And 72% feel positive about timber framing's environmental impact, an

increase of 21% since 2021. More and more builders are aligning with timber framing's key environmental messages—that it's renewable, responsibly sourced and removes greenhouse gases from the

Cont P 11



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From P 10

atmosphere. This is a space where steel simply cannot compete.

Whilst the steel framing industry is working to reduce its impact (which is great news for our planet), there's a long way to go and timber framing will continue to come out on top for the foreseeable future.

Right now green steel is simply a concept. The intent is that it will be produced using low-carbon energy sources, which will significantly reduce carbon emissions compared to traditional steel production. It can also be made from recycled scrap metal, further reducing waste and environmental impact. However, the production of green steel still requires significant amounts of



More builders are aligning with timber framing values

energy and resources, which releases greenhouse gases into the air.

On the other hand, timber is a renewable resource

“72% OF BUILDERS FEEL POSITIVE ABOUT TIMBER FRAMING'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

that is grown and harvested sustainably with careful management. Trees grow for around 30 years before they are harvested, allowing them to capture large amounts of carbon dioxide from our atmosphere. This carbon is locked up and stored for the life of the timber. And the timber in framing is actually carbon positive, meaning the entire production process

removes more carbon dioxide than it emits.

"We must all continue to take responsibility for the impact our choices have on the environment, and choosing timber framing is a positive step towards building a sustainable future," a spokesperson for Timber Framing Collective said.

"Get involved, share the resources, collaborate and let's build a better world."

The research was collected through anonymous surveys among consumers and builders from December 2022 to January 2023. Findings were compared to research conducted in 2021. The sample size included 220 consumers who have built their home in past 2 years or plan to build in next 18 months, as well as 182 carpenters/builders.

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\$57 million to support onshore wood processing in NZ

UNLOCKING the potential of the wood processing sector, growing the economy and contributing to New Zealand's climate change response is the aim of a new fund announced by Forestry Minister Peeni Henare last week.

Speaking at the Wood Processors and Manufacturers Association conference in Rotorua, Peeni Henare said the new NZ\$57 million fund would enable the Government to partner with wood processors



1/ The funding will create products like sawn structural timber and engineered wood.
2/ Peeni Henare said the new NZ\$57 million fund would enable the Government to partner with wood processors.

to co-invest in the wood processing capacity to create products like sawn structural timber and engineered wood.



2

In 2021 wood product manufacturing plus pulp and paper contributed around NZ\$3.8 billion to New Zealand's GDP and wood processing manufacturing alone makes up around 40%

of this figure. It is estimated that this funding support will see NZ\$500 to \$650 million of additional GDP over the life of the fund's investments.

"The forestry and wood processing sector is central to many of our regional economies and it is past time we capitalised on the opportunities available," Peeni Henare said. "Over the last two decades, New Zealand's overall wood processing capacity has remained relatively stable while log volumes available to be processed have doubled.

"Investment in wood processing infrastructure has declined and we are missing out on the potential benefits that processing wood here in New Zealand offers. This fund will support feasibility projects through a 'catalyst fund' and provide capital support through an 'accelerator fund' to turn this around.

This fund will also help achieve the objectives of the Forestry and Wood Processing Industry Transformation Plan and support the Government's Economic Plan to build a high-value, high-wage, low-emissions economy.

Source: Friday Offcuts

The united voice for Australia's forest industries



IT IS PAST TIME WE CAPITALISED ON THE OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsors announced for timber summit.

WE are pleased to confirm two early sponsors for the Australian Timber Supply Summit to be held in Melbourne on 29-30 August 2023.



Please contact sponsorship@corpcomm.com.au for information on sponsorship this event.

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Canadian Wood Council launches the Woodworks Innovation Network in Canada

THE Canadian Wood Council (CWC), an industry association committed to promoting the benefits of using wood in construction and expanding market demand for Canadian wood products, announces the launch the Woodworks Innovation Network (WIN) in Canada.



Matt's Place Foundation is a charity that seeks to provide housing and support to those burdened with ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.) It is an innovative demonstration of pushing the boundaries of universal design.

The expansion of the WIN into Canada is made possible through a partnership with U.S. Woodworks and financial support from Natural Resources Canada.

WIN is a professional online community that provides resources for design and construction professionals looking to incorporate sustainable wood products into their projects. The expansion into Canada provides an opportunity to showcase

“THE WOODWORKS INNOVATION NETWORK IS COMPRISED OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONALS

Canadian leadership and innovation in wood building design and construction, as well as engineered wood products and systems.

"We are thrilled to partner with U.S. Woodworks to launch WIN in Canada," said Martin Richard, VP of communications and marketing at the Canadian Wood Council.

"This strategic partnership supports our mission to provide resources and connections that help design and construction professionals achieve excellence in wood design and construction, accelerating market demand for wood products."

The platform hosts a network of design and construction professionals who have worked

with innovative wood technologies such as mass timber, offering a wealth of shared knowledge, expertise, and opportunities

for growth. The network enables developers to connect with architects, engineers, and other industry professionals, facilitating collaboration and providing a platform to learn from each other's experiences and projects.

CWC will launch a nationwide campaign to create awareness for the wood-building community inviting Canadian design and construction professionals to join the network.

For more information about the Woodworks Innovation Network, please visit: <https://www.woodworksinnovationnetwork.ca/>

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Onetrack Dig Days hits Sydney this May

ONETRAK, new and used machine company, is holding its first Dig Days in NSW, at Kemps Creek on the 2nd- 6th May 2023.

"This is a great opportunity for attendees to view a range of equipment and get in the operator's seat and test some of these new machines out," a spokesperson said.

You will have the chance to demo a selection of machines from Hidromek, Dressta and Anaconda. The demonstration units will include Hidromek excavators, a grader, roller and backhoe loader. An Anaconda



A number of machines will be on display for the event.

screen and a Dressta dozer will also be part of the demonstrations.

A Terex Fuchs material handler and Tigercat mulcher

“ GET IN THE SEAT AND TEST THE MACHINES ”


will form part of a static display. The Onetrak team will be on-site to assist with any technical questions and to give advice on how to get the most out of your equipment.

Onetrak is a heavy equipment supplier with a national footprint. Sales and service outlets are located in Victoria, New South Wales,

Queensland, Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia. Home to large brands within the earthmoving, forestry, material handling and extractive industries, the business offering includes new and used machine sales, rental equipment, service and parts.

Join the Onetrak team in Sydney for a fun day out, including demonstrations, the opportunity to trial new machines as well as competitions and prizes.

To find out more or to register your interest visit www.onetrak.com.au/events.



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- How bad can it get?
- Where to from here?

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- 29 & 30 August, 2023 - Melbourne, VIC Australia

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- Timber supply forecasting authorities
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- Australian housing and construction demand forecasting experts
- Australian Federal and State politicians
- Australian timber suppliers
- Australian timber traders

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Mass timber stands out in NYC Net-zero climate exchange

CHICAGO-BASED architectural firm SOM has revealed its groundbreaking design for the New York Climate Exchange, a mass-timber structure situated on Governors Island. As reported in *ArchDaily*, the net-zero campus is envisioned as a cornerstone institution for promoting innovative climate solutions. "The Climate Exchange" is also set to become a regional hub for the green economy.

Nestled in New York Harbour between Brooklyn and Manhattan, the Climate Exchange aims to facilitate discussions and training focused on sustainability. Collaborating with Stony Brook University in New York, SOM has crafted a design featuring a series of mass-timber structures beneath a sloping canopy of varying heights. The design embodies "a compelling new public realm for all New Yorkers" and a glimpse into a post-carbon world.

Spanning 120,000 square metres (or 400,000 square feet), the New York Climate Exchange will accommodate eco-friendly spaces, such as research labs, classrooms, exhibits, greenhouses, mitigation technologies, and housing facilities. All newly constructed and renovated buildings will comply with



A mass-timber build will be constructed in New York harbour.

Photo: © Miysis, courtesy SOM

Living Building Challenge standards, making them the first buildings in New York City to attain this certification.

The Living Building Challenge is widely regarded as one of the most stringent green building certification schemes globally, surpassing traditional sustainability criteria and promoting structures with a positive environmental and human health impact. The program advocates for building projects that function as efficiently, cleanly, and beautifully as nature's designs. To achieve certification, buildings must fulfil performance requirements across six "petal" areas over a 12-month period.

At its highest point, the canopy connects with the mass-timber structure, creating covered outdoor spaces at

ground level as it descends. The building's height varies from eight storeys at its tallest to four at its lowest. Its façade showcases timber beam grids framing the glass, while the section closest to the water features timber walls with smaller windows and garden planters between floors.

The entire roof will be covered with solar panels, generating all the electricity needed for the facility's operations.

SOM design partner Colin Koop expressed that the design "embodies the stewardship essential to solving the climate crisis by interweaving sinuous mass timber pavilions throughout the park's rolling landscape and reusing the historic building fabric of Governors Island."

As mentioned in designboom, Koop also highlighted the potential for advancements in climate research and the development of new technologies that could be implemented across the city and worldwide.

The Exchange will host a Research and Technology Accelerator, focusing on sourcing and nurturing ideas, projects, and new ventures committed to tackling the climate crisis. The campus will offer workforce development opportunities for communities disproportionately affected by climate change, training over 6,000 green job trainees annually once fully operational.

The building will include an outdoor-facing auditorium, serving as a space for lectures and meetings with global leaders and climate experts. Furthermore, SOM's design will incorporate spaces for 'green job training and skills-building programmes', in collaboration with local educational institutions and businesses.

Source: WoodCentral

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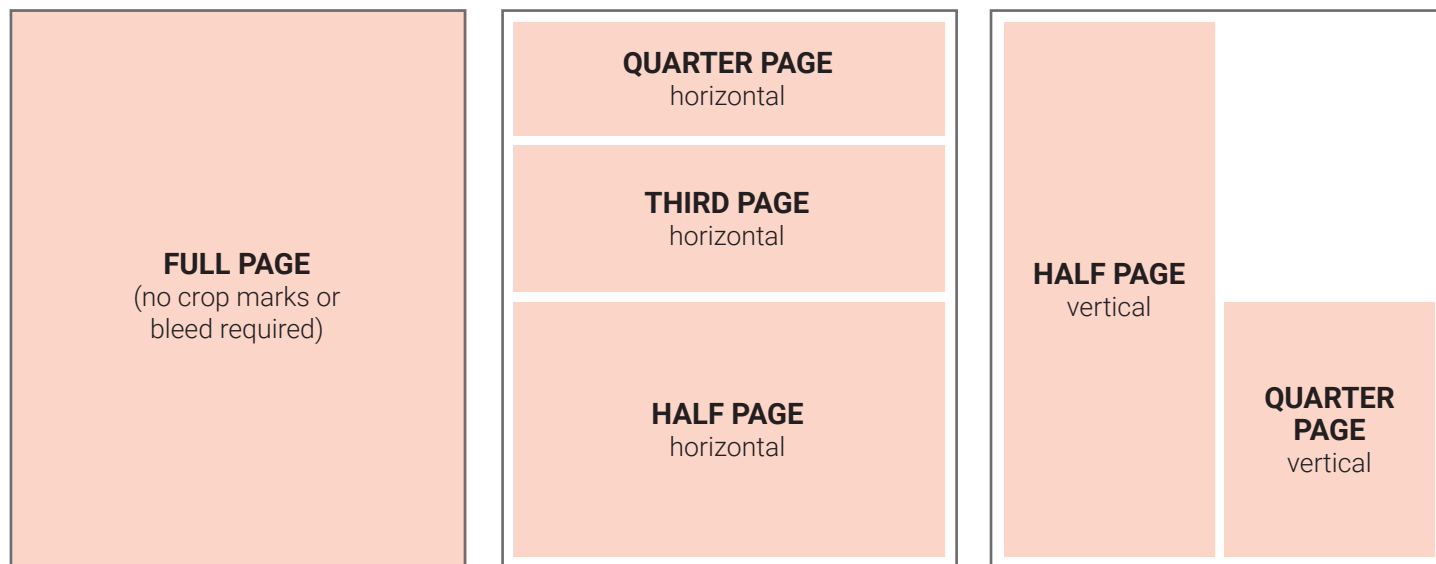
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