

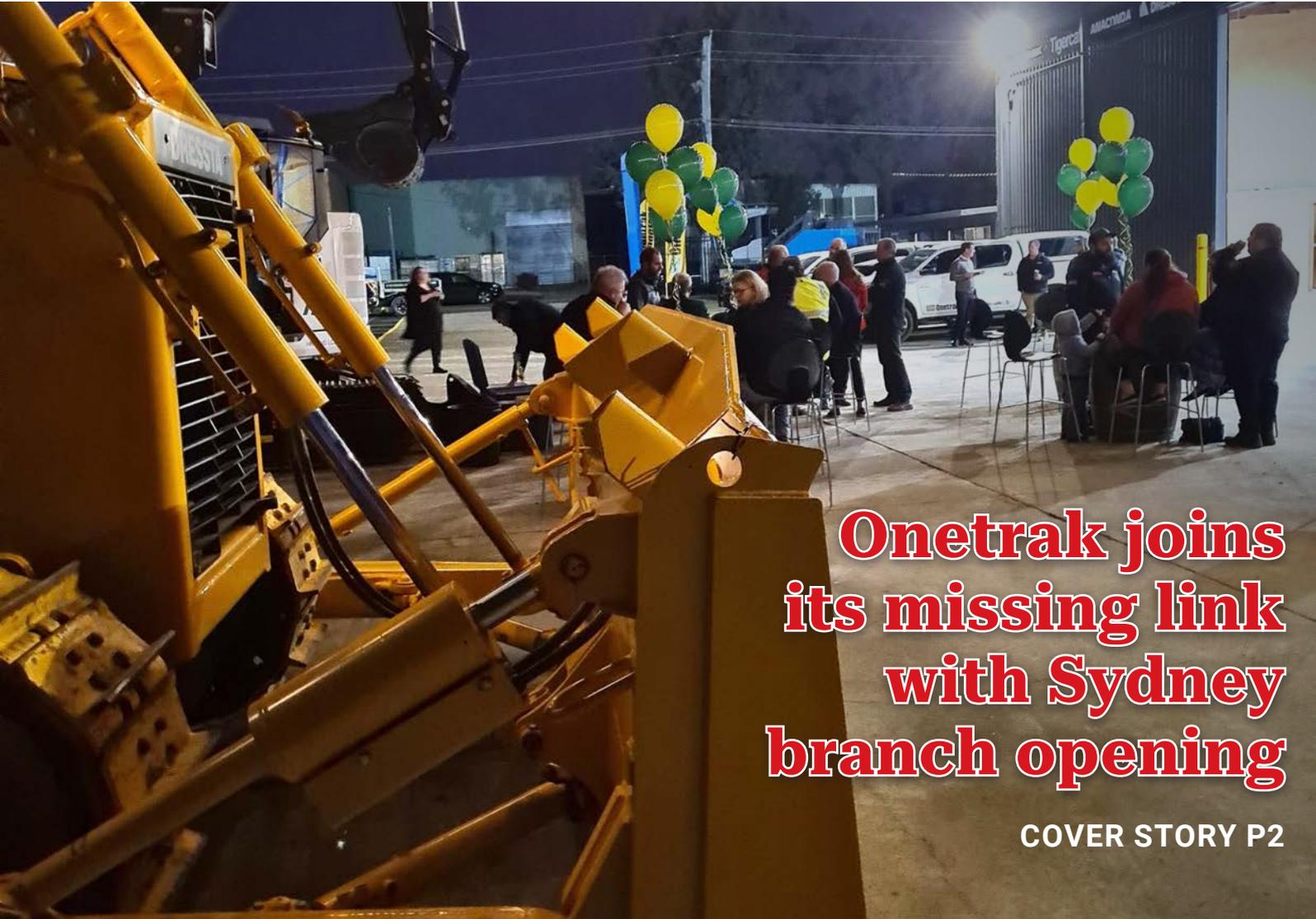
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Onetrak joins its missing link with Sydney branch opening

COVER STORY P2

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Onetrak joins its missing link with a new branch in Sydney's west

Recognised for its involvement in the forest industry through its Tigercat brand, the company also supports and services several other brands.

IN what can only be described as remarkable growth and success story Onetrak has now filled its missing link with the opening of its eighth sales and servicing branch in Sydney's west at Moorebank.

Nationally Onetrak is recognised for its leading involvement in the forest industry through its Canadian-manufactured Tigercat brand, but the company also supports and services several other important brands.

Its Sydney branch will be broader in its range of activities, providing equipment and services, not only to the forest industry but to the wider construction and infrastructure industries across Sydney and beyond.



1/ Amongst the balloons and bunting are Onetrak's Kim McLean, Shane Murdoch and Leonie Hosking.



2/ Having a couple of quiet ones are Faysal Berdilek, Onetrak product support; Tara Beath, Variety Children's Charity; Noel Reid, Onetrak, HR manager; Debbie MacDonald, Onetrak marketing coordinator, and Mitchell Hills, Onetrak product support.

"In Sydney we will be able to better continue to service our loyal and very much appreciated forest industry clients, but also our now wider portfolio of

clients across a range of construction, earth moving and infrastructure industries," said managing director David Hazell.

Onetrak is home to large brands in the earthmoving and construction, forestry, materials handling and quarry industries, and is the exclusive national Australian dealer for Hidromek, Tigercat, Dressta, Striker, Anaconda, Fuchs and Alicon machinery and equipment.

Mr Hazell was joined at the opening of the new western Sydney branch by members of his senior national team. He said that following the opening of their Sydney facility, Onetrak has eight branches across Australia, with a head office in Tasmania.

"We now operate about 40 field service vehicles and have over 120 technical,

Cont P.3

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1/ Ribbon-cutting formalities are performed by David Hazell with assistance from Brad Madden.
 2/ David Hazell with Brad Madden, Regional Manager NSW and Queensland. Onetrak also services NSW Forestry Corporation's rapid response fire trucks.
 3/ Clients and guests enjoy the hospitality at the opening of Onetrak's western Sydney branch.



From P 2

sales and support staff across eight locations. Onetrak also offers new and used machine sales, rental equipment, attachments, service and parts."

Founded in 2006 by David and Jaime Hazell, in 17 years Onetrak has grown from a small single construction equipment franchise in Tasmania to be a leading Australian-wide machinery

supplier and service provider with branches in Tasmania, Victoria, NSW, Western Australia, South Australia and now Queensland.

"Our new Sydney facility reinforces our strong growth that is founded on our direct and exclusive relationship with a number of machinery manufacturing factories," Mr Hazell said.

On the cover: Onetrak celebrates its new branch opening in Sydney with clients and guests.

Launceston takes the honour of the first timber high-rise building in Tasmania

A 7-STORY high-rise building is quickly being constructed in Launceston, Tasmania. High-rise buildings are nothing new, however this one is made from timber instead of the usual concrete and steel. The building manager of Fairbrother, Marcus Perkins, remarked that "the speed of construction has been the biggest eye-opener for us".

The building contains hardwood mass timber that is produced in Tasmania, *eucalyptus nitens* that were planted in the 1990s and softwood timber from interstate and overseas



The new St. Luke's Health headquarters, a 7-storey high-rise in Launceston. Photo: Fairbrother

such as European spruce-engineered timber.

The speed of construction and environmental benefits are definitely positives to this project, the challenges being protecting the building against water by double or even triple sealing joints and the higher cost when compares to traditional materials.

Source: ABC

The united voice for Australia's forest industries



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2023-2024 Timber Queensland Growth Scholarship recipients announced

TIMBER Queensland is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2023-24 Growth Scholarship Awards Program.

Timber Queensland's Strategic Relations Manager Clarissa Brandt said entries increased by 50% from the inaugural 2022-2023 program and the calibre of entries was impressive.

"It's an amazing opportunity to receive one of these Awards, and it was definitely a difficult task for our hardworking judging



committees," said Clarissa Brandt.

"Applicants are early to mid-career professionals and skilled workers who have given thought about their future career paths and developed learning project ideas that will benefit



their individual growth and contribute to the development of Queensland's forest and timber industry," she said.

"The recipients represent a variety of sectors within our industry supply chain forestry, harvesting, processing and building. Based on the experience of the inaugural award recipients, they will gain valuable skills, knowledge and connections as they implement their learning projects."

The recipients of the 2023 – 2024 Awards are:

\$10,000 KENNEDY'S TIMBER AWARD

Katie Fowden

Learning Project "Canadian Exemplar First Nations Forestry Partnerships"

\$5000 AKD AWARD

John Said

Learning Project "Mechanisation of the Pruning Regime"

\$5000 HQPLANTATIONS AWARD

Nicola Morris

Learning Project "Designing a Healthy Home – Researching Building Biology & Passivhaus

Principles" **\$2500 DTM TIMBER AWARD**

Daniel Schweitzer

Learning Project "Certificate IV in Work Health & Safety"

Recipient of the Kennedy's Timber Award Katie Fowden, Strategic Relations

Manager at Hyne Timber, said she is very excited about the incredible opportunity to implement her learning project.

"The aim of my study tour is to examine Canadian processes to establish First Nations sustainable forestry partnerships, which are significantly more advanced than Australia's. I will investigate how long Canada took to establish these partnerships, the financial modelling, lessons learned and where such partnerships failed and why," said Katie Fowden.

AKD Award recipient John Said will travel to Germany to explore various new options for mechanised pruning that are being implemented internationally.

"My learning project will allow me to gauge the effectiveness of this technology and determine if it is economically viable to implement as a works program. I will gain experience working with engineers, forest growers and plywood and veneer manufactures," said John Said.

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Cont P 5

From P 4

Nicola Morris, a Carpenter working for Eco Cottages, a manufacturer of prefabricated and relocatable modular homes, has received the HQPlantations Award and is going to undertake study on building biology and passivhaus principles. Nicola will learn to design and build a home that supports human health and wellbeing with the dual intention of reducing the impact on our natural environment.

Long-term GMT Logging employee Daniel Schweitzer started working in the



timber industry when he was 16, growing to love the industry and what it delivers.

“THE RECIPIENTS REPRESENT A VARIETY WITHIN THE INDUSTRY SUPPLY CHAIN



Daniel will undertake safety qualifications to help him encourage a safe working environment in his new safety role.

Clarissa Brandt says Timber Queensland appreciates the time and effort put into the applications.

“We have encouraged all candidates to take consolation from the wise words of one applicant who has said although they were unsuccessful there was reward in taking the time in considering their career and where they want to be in five years. Taking

time out of our busy work and personal lives to find direction is to be valued and will undoubtedly provide rewards in some other way,’ she said.

Reports from recipients of the 2022-2023 Growth Scholarship Program are available here.

AFCA webinar: Professional Freight Task Management Program

THE Australian Forest Contractors Association (AFCA) hosts excellent training webinars.

On Thursday 17th August at 4pm the AFCA is inviting

you to join a comprehensive training session online that “combines the knowledge and expertise of our extensively qualified trainers with real-world examples and practical training sessions.” This

webinar will have industry experts Alan Pincott and Kirsten Pincott presenting the PFTM Program. The AFCA states that the program, “offers a complete and holistic approach to best

practices in the transport industry whether you’re an experienced professional or just starting out!”

To join the webinar, click this link to register.

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Timber Supply Summit looming

Registrations still open to attend summit and field trip.

THERE is now just under two weeks until the Timber Supply Summit officially kicks off. Summit joint organiser Dennis Neilson says some of the exciting program updates include a presentation from the Minister for Agriculture, Senator the Hon Murray Watt and from leading international industry executives.

The list of international speakers includes Chief executive officer for the Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) Noraihan Abdul Rahman, and Kevin Pankratz, Senior Vice Present Sales and Marketing, Canfor.

Noraihan Abdul Rahman, CEO of MTC is a long-serving member of MTC and is extremely knowledgeable about the timber industry. She



Timber summit participants include Senator the Hon Murray Watt, Minister for Agriculture; Noraihan Abdul Rahman, CEO of the Malaysian Timber Council, and Kevin Pankratz, Senior Vice Present Sales and Marketing, Canfor, Canada.

was MTC's first woman chief operations officer and now the council's first woman CEO in its 30-year history. She is charged with overseeing the strategic direction and driving the sustainable growth for the council.

Noraihan's promotion has been celebrated as a step in the right direction for an industry that has few women

in its top ranks. The then MTC chairman Norrida Yusoff said Noraihan's new role was a point of pride for the council, especially in a competitive timber industry.

Kevin Pankratz, the Senior Vice Present Sales and Marketing from Canfor, will be representing Canada at the Timber Summit. Canada is becoming increasingly

important to meet essential softwood supplies into the Australian market and Canfor is one of the world's largest producers of sustainable timber, pulp and paper.

Kevin's experience, which includes 30 years in the forest industry has enabled him to play a key role in executing Canfor's marketing diversification and customer-focused strategy. Kevin is also currently the Vice Chair of The Canadian Wood Council and Chairs the subcommittee for Wood Works.

The summit will be relevant to all participants in the timber supply chain. Registrations for the timber summit are now above expectations so get in to reserve a remaining seat. For further information click here.



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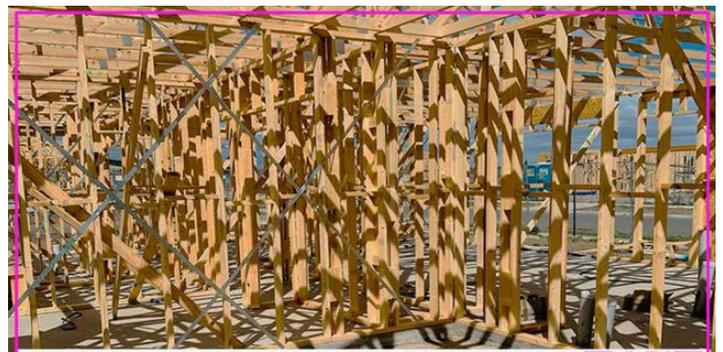
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Land shortages across Australia impact housing crisis

THE government has a plan to build one million homes over the next five years to address the housing crisis that Australia is currently facing. However, HIA Senior Economist, Tom Devitt recognised that the land shortage could be a major roadblock to the government achieving this goal. The price of land increased by 23% from

March 2020 to March 2023. This is a significant jump from the 5% increase of the 3 years prior. Mr Devitt also shared that, "On average, it takes ten years to move land through the seven stages of land release... Decisions made today about land release can be expected to affect housing supply ten years from now."



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AUGUST

29-30: Timber & Forestry News Australian Timber Supply Summit – Melbourne.

For any queries relating to the conference, please contact: info@corp-comm.com.au

27-3 SEPT: Malaysian Timber Council Trade and Marketing Mission to Australia – Melbourne & Brisbane.

Including visits to Melbourne and Brisbane. To participate and for further information contact John Halkett at john.halkett@forestlands.com.au or 0417 421 187

SEPTEMBER

9: Women in Forest & Timber Network Charity Cocktail Fundraiser – Rose Room, Brisbane.

3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Annual charity cocktail fundraiser in support of the Brisbane Domestic Violence Service (BDVS). For further information and sponsorship opportunities contact Jacinta.Colley@vidawood.com

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

2-6: 30th Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC – Hyatt Regency Sydney Hotel.

Formulation of forest policy and to review and coordinate its implementation on the regional scale; to exchange information and advice on suitable practices and action in regard to technical problems. Further details fwww.fao.org/events/detail/apfc-30/

11-12: 71st International Softwood Conference – Hilton Vienna Park Hotel Vienna.

The conference will offer the opportunity to scrutinise trends in the timber market focusing on facts and figures showing softwood production as well as consumption. Further more info visit https://isc2023.com/

15-19: ANZIF Conference – Twin Towns Conference Centre, Coolangatta, Qld.

The Theme for 2023 is "Embracing Our Natural Capital: the science, technology and art of managing forests for all values". Further info from: www.forestry.org.au/

Australian Timber Supply Summit

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THANK YOU to our sponsors and supporting partners of the Australian Timber Supply Summit to be held in Melbourne on 29-30 August 2023.

This event will be a fantastic opportunity to discuss, network and understand this essential component of the supply industry.

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Bushfire affected state pine forests to make a comeback!

FORESTRY Corporation's accelerated replanting program has broken records this winter with a whopping 11-million pine seedlings planted in State forests. These replanting programs have been actioned by Forestry Corporation with the purpose of recovering forests that were affected by the devastating 2020 Black Summer bushfires.

Thankfully, their efforts have not been wasted!

"We are getting excellent results from recent plantings" reported Tumut Silviculture



1

1/ Bombala is one of the areas where the replanting is taking place.
2/ Every one of new trees is planted by hand by professionals.



2

Manager Roger Davies. "We have replanted approximately two thirds of the area that was impacted by the fires in 2020".

Over a 12-week period this winter in Tumut, 5.6 million seedlings were planted, bringing the total of replanted trees in the area to 24 million.

However, the industry isn't out-of-the-woods yet, as they

are still some time away before seeing the fruit of their labour. It will take 13-years before fibre can be extracted from the trees and 25-years of growth before structural timber can be obtained.

"That really is the challenging part about forestry and other tree crops, while infrastructure damaged by

bushfire can be rebuilt, for tree growers it takes a long time to recover," Mr Davies said.

Despite the challenges, Mr Davies is confident in the replanting programs.

"With that said a world-class salvage operation happened in the softwood plantations following those fires and now it's been a case of setting the forests up for future harvests.

"As this season shows we are tracking well ahead of schedule in replanting those bushfire-affected plantations," he said.



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- Supply side: Woodchip and Pulplog export trends
- Pulp grade and Biomass woodchip shipping trends
- Woodchip pricing trends
- The Emerging Role of monetising "Natural Capital" in Native and Plantation Forests
- Predictions for the supply & demand balance, and prices for Asia Pacific woodchips: 2023-2027
- New Projects/New Products Panel

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Tim Lester joins the Australian Forest Contractors Association

THE Australian Forest Contractors Association (AFCA) is pleased to announce Tim Lester has now commenced as the new general manager from Monday 14th August, 2023. With a rich background spanning over two decades in both government and industry sectors, Tim brings a wealth of expertise in natural resource management, sustainable agriculture, biosecurity, and rural innovation.

Adan Taylor, Chair of AFCA, expressed confidence in

“ HAS CONTRIBUTED TO VARIOUS SUSTAINABLE INITIATIVES

Tim's leadership, noting that he will be a valuable representative for AFCA's members. "We are looking forward to welcoming Tim as an asset to AFCA. His expertise and leadership will be instrumental in driving the continued growth of our organisation," stated the AFCA Chair. Outgoing General Manager Carlie Porteous also endorsed Tim's appointment, citing his forward-looking policy experience as an asset for AFCA's growth.



Tim Lester... new general manager of AFCA.
Photo Australian Forest Products Association

In response to his appointment, Tim Lester shared his enthusiasm and professional journey, from his time with the Australian Forest Products Association to his contributions to rural

research and development. He acknowledged AFCA's existing achievements and pledged to build upon them, seeking member feedback for collective progress.

"I am excited to step into this role and to work with our members to promote and advance the interests of the forest contracting sector...I want to pass on my acknowledgement of Carlie, Terese and the AFCA Board for the work they have done to set the association up for success. I am committed to building upon these and continue to grow the membership and sponsors to ensure AFCA is in the best position possible to deliver for our members", said Tim.

Source: AFCA

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ITI Australia: responsible timber solutions

ITI Australia, a leading timber and building products distributor, has positioned itself as an industry trailblazer by prioritising sustainability. Responsible Wood Sustainability Manager Matt de Jongh and Sydney Branch Manager James Bailie recently caught up at the ITI facility in Sydney and shed light on ITI Australia's commitment to responsible practices and its collaboration with Responsible Wood. Through their dedication to responsible forestry and innovative timber solutions, ITI Australia continues to lead the way towards a more sustainable future.

Matt de Jongh, on witnessing ITI Australia's responsible initiatives, expressed his enthusiasm, stating, "ITI Australia's unwavering commitment to sustainability is truly commendable. Their integration of responsible practices and innovative technologies sets an inspiring example for the entire industry."

Recognising the significance of ITI Australia's collaboration with Responsible Wood, Matt emphasised, "The Responsible Wood certification, ensures that the timber used by ITI Australia is sourced from responsibly managed forests, safeguarding biodiversity and supporting local communities. This dedication to responsible resource management is crucial for a sustainable supply chain."

James Bailie, Sydney Branch Manager at ITI



Responsible Wood Sustainability Manager, Matt de Jongh (right), and Sydney Branch Manager James Bailie, discuss ITI Australia's commitment to responsible practices.

Australia, shared his insights on the company's responsible practices and collaboration with Responsible Wood. He explained, "At ITI Australia, we believe in promoting sustainable practices throughout our operations. Our collaboration with Responsible Wood enables us to provide our customers with timber products that are sourced responsibly."

Regarding the environmental and social benefits of their collaboration, James added, "By utilising timber certified by Responsible Wood, we support responsible forestry practices and contribute to the overall health of our environment. Additionally, the certification guarantees that our customers can trust the sustainability and quality of the timber products they receive from ITI Australia."

ITI Australia's history is marked by its continuous efforts to redefine the timber industry wholesale/

distribution landscape. With a deep commitment to innovation, the company has invested in distribution centres, product development, and service standards. James Bailie explained, "Since our establishment in 1987, we have strived to promote the strength, versatility and environmental benefits of timber. We have built innovative brands such as Design Pine, Flamefixx and EziTrim Plus, while also partnering with industry-leading products like Weathertex, Easycraft and Modwood."

ITI Australia stands out as a trusted partner for responsible timber solutions. With the Responsible Wood

certification, customers can have confidence in the environmentally conscious practices followed by ITI Australia. Matt de Jongh emphasised, "By choosing ITI Australia, customers are making a conscious choice to support responsible resource management and contribute to a more sustainable

future."

James Bailie further explained, "ITI Australia offers the largest range of structural and decorative timbers, including trusted products such as Parkside spotted gum, Evalast composites and Metsa Kerto LVL. Our dedicated team ensures that customers receive world-class service while making environmentally responsible choices."

ITI Australia's commitment to sustainability, coupled with its collaboration with Responsible Wood, has positioned the company as an industry leader in providing innovative and responsible timber solutions. It is evident that ITI Australia is dedicated to responsible forestry practices, supporting local communities, and preserving biodiversity. By choosing ITI Australia, customers can access a wide range of timber products while contributing to a more sustainable future.

“ RESPONSIBLE WOOD CERTIFICATION ENSURES TIMBER USED IS SOURCED FROM RESPONSIBLY MANGAGED FORESTS ”

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Forestry Australia produces online learning for members

AS part of its commitment to the next generation of forestry professionals, Forestry Australia has developed the Forest Fundamentals Online Learning Program, providing an introduction to foundational forestry-specific subjects. This new program is available on Forestry Australia's website and is free and exclusive to members.

The program provides direct access to forestry expertise. Presenters include Assoc. Prof. Kevin Tolhurst, Dr Michelle Balasso, Prof. Cristopher Brack, Dr Brian Turner, Assoc. Prof. Leon Bren, and Megan Graham. The full list of presenters and subjects can be found here.

Forestry Fundamentals features over 35 videos as well as additional resource guides on themes such as forest values, active management, forest monitoring and evaluation, and social values of

forestry.

Forestry Australia CEO, Jacque Martin said that over the past two years, Forestry Australia has consulted with employers and several senior foresters on this initiative.

"Since 2021 the sector has told us that there is a notable knowledge gap within the Australian forest sector," Ms Martin said.

"Forest growers are recruiting graduates with environmental science or agriculture qualifications, who are well-qualified in their field, but may be looking for additional forestry knowledge and insights. The program is part of a key strategic initiative to improve access to forestry experts and continues to build on Forestry Australia's value proposition."

In response to this feedback, Forestry Australia, supported



Forestry Australia CEO, Jacque Martin.

by the DAFF Leadership Grant, developed this program to:

- Provide forestry-specific information targeting recent graduates and new entrants to the forestry sector. Assist companies when introducing new forestry concepts to staff or with onboarding of new staff. Build the sector's capacity with practical forestry knowledge, targeting

subjects that are not easily or currently available.

- Capture and make available the extensive knowledge of Forestry Australia members and subject matter experts.
- Create an easily and conveniently accessible suite of resources.

The Future Foresters Initiative Committee reviewed the videos and provided the following feedback:

"A great range of topics that will be a helpful introduction to forestry graduates and as a review for more experienced people. Videos are a great insight for those who just discovered forestry. I think the complexity of the information presented really demonstrates the vast array of forest values and how they must be considered. Excellent list for additional reading."

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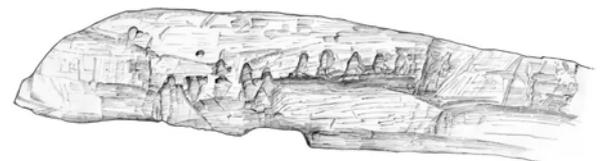
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Britain's oldest carved piece of wood is 6,000 years old!



An illustration of the carvings on the Boxford timber.
Photo: Judith Dobie/Historic England

Derek Fawcett, a retired surgeon decided to build a workshop on his property in Boxford, Berkshire 4 years ago. Little did he know that a mere 1.5 metres underground lay a piece of history! While building, the contractors found this piece of wood that Derek described as looking like "a big stump". As the piece was hosed down the carvings became visible and Derek thought they could be man-made. The Nottingham Tree-ring Dating Laboratory radiocarbon dated a slice of the wood and discovered that it was from between 4640BC and 4605BC making it 500 years older than the piece that previously held the title. Derek Fawcett described the find as "very exciting" and has donated the piece to the West Berkshire Museum.

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Timber summit timely as house building incentives mount

Federal Labor is starting to show its true colours with its traditional opposition to the forest industry.

TO kick off this month I wanted to lend my support, such as it is, to the upcoming, timely Timber Supply Summit to be held in Melbourne on 29th and 30th of August. This will be a critical event for the timber industry supply chain this year. This is particularly so given initiatives by the Federal and State governments to provide funding and other measures to power charge social and affordable house-building efforts. It is well recognised that Australia is over a million homes short, with expectations that this figure will climb with strong immigration predicted, and record rental shortages only too apparent. Back to the upcoming timber summit in a moment.

Unfortunately, I have to say that the Federal Labor government is starting to show its true colours with its traditional opposition to the forest industry. So, despite commentary by the Prime Minister to assembled industry participants at the Hyatt Hotel in Canberra in December 2022 – waxing on about the vital role that the forestry sector was able to play in his net zero carbon emissions ambitions. However, the evidence to date tells a different story.

The Labor government has already restricted the use of native forest residues and hardwood sawmill waste for baseload renewable bioenergy production. And from the



More houses please ... Australia is in the middle of a housing crisis with compelling social goals needing to be addressed with affordable housing targets.

Prime Minister down, not even a squeak about the disgraceful decision by the Victorian government to shut down native forest-based hardwood production, and decimate a whole array of dependent businesses and regional communities.

Also apparent from what I hear is that the Minister for Agriculture who also has forestry in his bailiwick has demonstrated a lack of enthusiasm for meeting with peak forest industry organisations, preferring it would appear, to prioritise other areas and in his

“ AUSTRALIA IS IN THE MIDDLE OF A HOUSING CRISIS

TRUNK LINES



With CHERYL FORREST

portfolio rather than dealing with forestry matters.

But returning to the timely timber supply summit – presently a political hot potato – Australia is in the middle of a housing crisis with compelling social goals needing to be addressed with affordable housing targets and the need for investment in lots more rental

accommodation. However, simple logic, you can't build affordable, price-competitive homes without structural timber to make house frames and trusses. And what about hardwood timber supplies?

So, the Melbourne timber summit will be an essential gathering for the industry to provide some answers to where the softwood and hardwood timber products will be sourced to meet predicted demand and the political imperative to build a lot more houses quick smart!

I am told that registrations for the timber summit are already above expectations so get in to reserve a remaining chair. Might see you there.

Cheryl

2023 Australian Timber Supply Summit

REGISTER NOW...

• 29 & 30 August, 2023 - Crown Promenade, Melbourne VIC Australia

This global summit will address the growing Australian housing needs and the timber supply and demand issues the above industries are facing. Industry experts will be unpacking these ongoing challenges, including the building industries reliance on timber imports, the implications to the timber supply chain and the Australian economy. The collective minds of the industry can make a positive footprint and open communications regarding timber supply today and into the future.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening address by **The Hon Murray Watt, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Keynote Address: David Gardner – Chief Investment Officer, Forestry of London, UK based Fund Manager, Gresham House – Climate Change and The Role of Forestry in Global Decarbonisation**
- **Housing Industry Chief Economist – Are the Australian Construction & Building Industries Increasingly Reliant on Timber Imports?**
- **Statistics & Economics Manager of Forest Wood Products Association, Kevin Peachy – Future Market Dynamics & Supply Chain Implications**
- **Chair of Timber Merchants Australia, Peter Alexander – The Role of Timber Merchants Australia, it's Position and Concerns on Supply**
- **Managing Director of SFM Agribusiness, Andrew Morgan – Australian Historical Present & Predicted Domestic Softwood Supply**
- **Director of Indufor Australia, Andrew Morton – Australian Historical Present & Predicted Domestic Hardwood Supply**
- **CEO of Engineered Wood Products Association Australasia, Gavin Matthew – The Need for EWP's Supporting the Supply Gap**
- **Communications Director of Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA), Joe Prevedello – AFPA's role in Boosting the Forestry Estate, Timber & Wood Fibre Supply**
- **Global Timber Supply Experts and International Speakers from Europe, UK, New Zealand, China, & Malaysia – Opportunities to supply the Australian Solidwood Sector and the Future of the Timber Supply Chain**

FIELD TRIP – ONLY A FEW SEATS LEFT!

On day two of the conference, we invite guests to join the Timber & Truss Field Trip to Geelong to visit frame & roof truss manufacturing plant **Big River Group**, who recently won the best frame and truss operation in the country! The second stop is to the woodchip processing & export facility **Midway**, a pioneer and major woodchip exporter to North Asia from Geelong and several other Australian ports.

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Wildfires in Canada continue to blaze and impact exports

IT has been a devastating year for our friends in the north, as Canada has experienced some of the worst wildfires in a decade. In 2023 alone, intense fires have blazed away 134,000 square kilometres of land. That figure has risen more than a staggering six times than the average of the previous decade. Sadly, the fires are expected to continue to burn for the foreseeable future.

In a national wildfire briefing, the Canadian government has predicted the fire season will continue throughout August, and potentially September too in several territories.

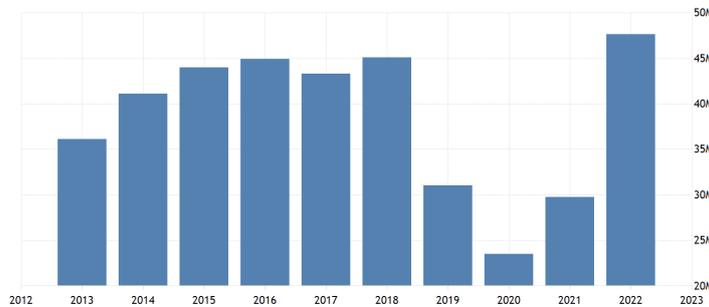
The director General of Natural Resources Canada said in the briefing, "This summer has turned into a challenging marathon... Unfortunately, bottom line: fire season is not over."

These wildfires are causing problems for the timber suppliers in Canada and are having an impact on their exports. The Canadian Conference Board stated:

"The worst wildfire season on record could stunt net export growth in the short run. Wildfires occur each year, but the scale and intensity of the wildfires this year

“ WILDFIRES HAVE POTENTIAL TO IMPEDE EXPORT GROWTH IN COMING MONTHS ”

CANADA IMPORTS TO AUSTRALIA



A decade of imports to Australia from Canada.
Source: COMTRADE | TradingEconomics.com

produced per day and delays in the production of forest products. In recent times, Canada has become an important exporter of softwood supplies around the globe. Australia is one of the nations that relies on Canada for softwood importations. In 2022, The United Nations of COMTRADE database on international trade recorded Australia importing US\$47.64 million in wood, articles of



1/ **Donnie Creek Wildfire.** Photo: BC Wildfire Services



2/ **Eagle Bluff Wildfire.** Photo: Michelle Genberg / The Canadian Press

resulted in the worst-ever wildfire season... Considering that Canada is a significant exporter of mineral fuels and forestry products, the wildfires have the potential to impede export growth in the months to come."

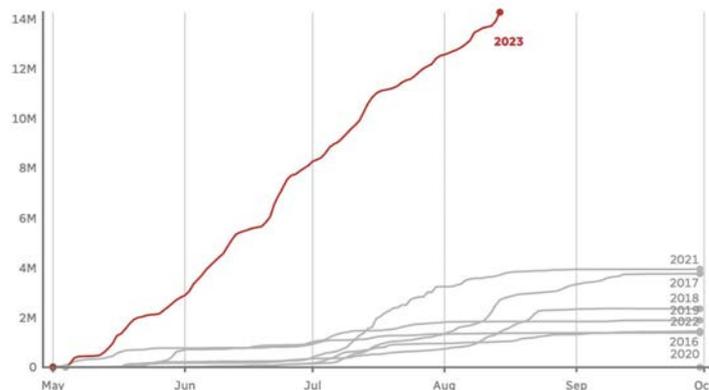
There were several industries that closed down for a period of time due to the spreading wildfires. These included oil producers, gas producers, and sawmills. This has resulted in 120,000 barrels of oil not being

wood, and wood charcoal from Canada.

As these fires frustrate Canada's exportations, Australia will feel the impact as less and less forestry products are available to import. With the supply of timber in Australia decreasing due to the changes made by the Victorian Government around logging, more importation of forestry products is needed. However, the recent grim effect of nature on Canada's exports will undoubtedly decrease current global supply of timber at a time when demand is high. Such cause and effect exposes the harsh reality of Australian State governments putting the Australian forestry industry in a place of relying on international imports.

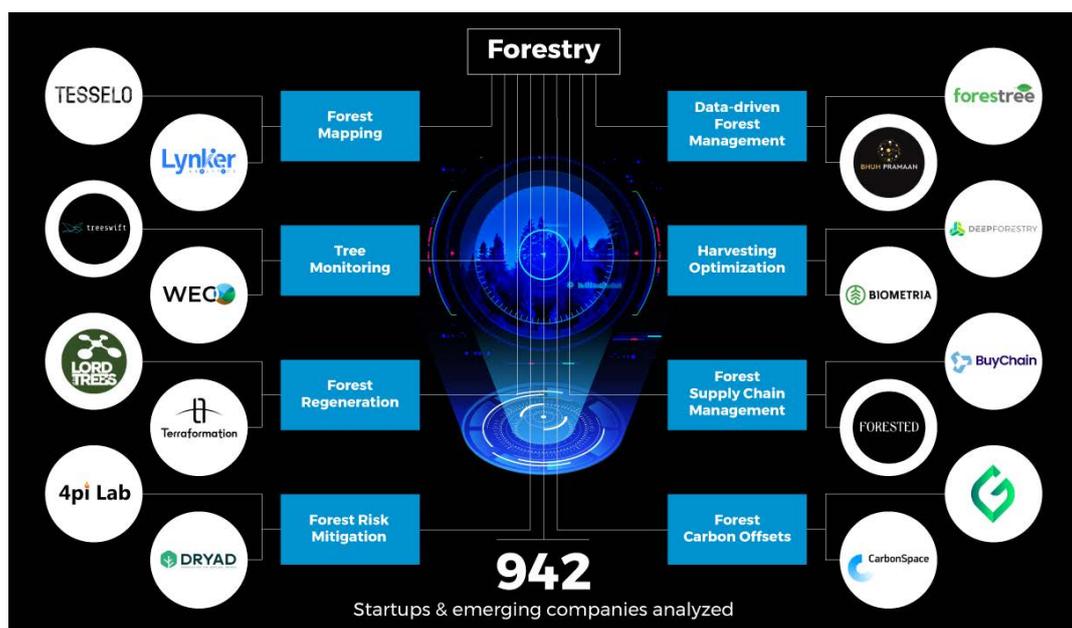
CANADIAN LAND BURNED SO FAR IN 2023

Estimated cumulative hectares burned in wildfires from satellite-detected hotspots



A shockingly different trend follows the 2023 wildfires compared to previous years. Source: Canadian Wildland Fire Information System (Graeme Bruce/CBC)

Top forestry trends and promising start-ups



Overview of top eight forestry trends and 16 start-ups working in forestry areas. Source and data: StartUs Insights.

TECHNOLOGY is constantly evolving and changing with new companies emerging with new tech at a fast rate! StartUs Insights analysed 942 start-ups around the world and have identified eight top forestry trends and 16 key start-ups that are making strides in those areas.

We have selected our top four forestry trends which are forest mapping, forest regeneration, data-driven forest management and harvesting optimisation.

We have also selected our top four start-ups from those categories which are Tessel, Lord of the Tree, Forestree, and Deep Forestry. Each of these start-ups is working

with fantastic technology that continues to improve the field.

FOREST MAPPING

Tessel is a British start-up that offers real-time forest mapping solutions. Their goal is to help businesses plan and develop responses and estimate the damages of disasters and natural hazards. Tessel's solutions also assist businesses in staying compliant with environmental regulations through their tree species classification, measuring and prediction of forest growth, plantation harvest monitoring, and pest detection.

FOREST REGENERATION

Lord of the Trees is an Australian based start-up focused around planting solutions. Lord of the Trees uses drones to perform precision planting of over one hundred thousand seeds in only half a day. Not only do the drones plant the seeds but every single seed is packed with fertilizer mixes that are carefully prepared and balanced to give each seed the best chance at long term survival.

“LORD OF THE TREES DRONES PERFORM PRECISION PLANTING”

DATA-DRIVEN FOREST MANAGEMENT

Forestree is another Australian start-up that has created a full package tree management software that empowers users to analyse and report on detailed data that is collected on each individual tree.

Every tree's information is stored from the tree's height and location down to when the tree was planted. This level of in-depth data all in one place allows for conservation and assessment of risks to be even easier.

HARVESTING OPTIMISATION

Deep Forestry comes out of Sweden with drones and robotics to assess current growth of trees and predict ongoing growth. Drones fly through the forest scanning the trees to help harvesters plan out when and where to harvest trees.

This sort of precision planning helps companies to increase their sustainability and decrease their impact on the environment.

The other categories include Forest Supply Chain Management, Forest Carbon Offsets, Forest Risk Mitigation and Tree Monitoring.

Check out the in-depth report here.

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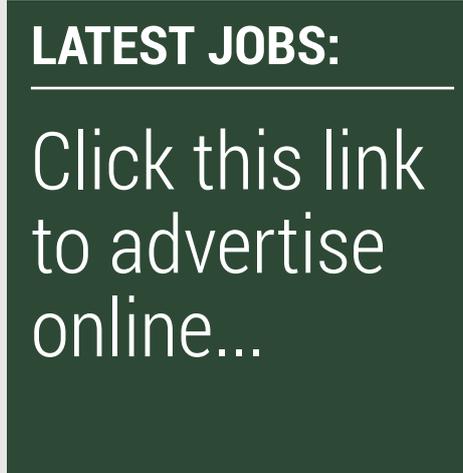
The Queensland Government is running a competitive sale process for the harvest and purchase of state-owned Queensland sandalwood (*Santalum lanceolatum*).

Interested? Make a submission by 5 pm on Friday, 25 August 2023. Visit www.qld.gov.au/forestryoffers or call 13 25 23 to obtain copies of the proposal documentation.



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