



FORWOOD



Member Update April 2017

In collaboration with its valued members, Forest and Wood Products Australia works to grow a thriving and sustainable industry through research and development, promotion and innovation.

Read on to learn more about some recent developments. Feel free to share with colleagues and, if there's anything you'd like to discuss, please give me a call.



Ric Sinclair, Managing Director, 0407 329 372

Industry News



Independent review backs FWPA member value

An independent review with member input has found that FWPA delivers numerous benefits to stakeholders and industry, meets its obligations and demonstrates a firm commitment to continuous improvement as it works to promote the sector.

[Read more](#) or [Read the full report](#)



Industry engagement: we want you!

FWPA is restructuring its industry engagement, with greater opportunities to participate, both for members and for non-member stakeholders such as researchers and suppliers. If you've got a great idea or have identified an industry bugbear, you may be able to form your own interest group with FWPA administration support. We encourage you to get involved and contribute to the future of our industry! [Read more](#)



Multiple brands benefit sector

FWPA has a number of brands promoting wood. Our world-leading WoodSolutions website is used by building specifiers. We educate consumers on the benefits of wood with our Wood. Naturally Better campaign (run in partnership with Planet Ark). And teachers can access resources for students about our sustainable industry via ForestLearning. [Read More](#)

[Sign up](#) for a free WoodSolutions account. As a registered WoodSolutions member you'll be able to download design guides and other files, be informed of relevant WoodSolutions events in your area and receive the free WoodSolutions newsletter.

Promoting the advantages of wood products



Engineered timber on the rise

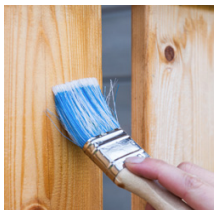
Having successfully campaigned to change the Building Code to make it easier to build mid-rise buildings in engineered timber, FWPA is maintaining momentum on a number of fronts to increase its use. These include world-leading acoustic research, visits from international architects, a programme of meetings with local developers and a design competition. [Read more](#)

Aligning products to market needs



Matched research funding available

If you've got a collaborative research project that needs funding, then FWPA may be able to help – with matched funding available under a deal the FWPA negotiated with the Federal Government. [Read more](#).



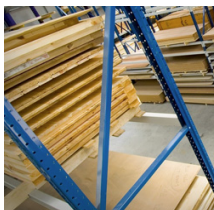
Draft fire-retardant timber coatings code of practice

The extensive range of FWPA WoodSolutions design guides supporting the use of wood in construction has now been expanded with the proposed addition of a new draft code of practice on the use of fire-retardant timber coatings. [Read more](#) or [Read Draft Code of Practice](#).



Assembling flat pack joinery facts & stats

In response to inquiries from several members, FWPA is funding new research to determine the proportion of Australian kitchen joinery that is imported “flat-pack” vs tailor-made by cabinet-makers. [Read more](#).

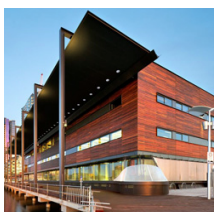


Campaign for pro-timber building code changes

FWPA is spearheading a bid to change building regulations to enable the use of fire-protected timber as a deemed to satisfy solution for schools, shops, aged care facilities and other such buildings. [Read more](#).

[Sign up](#) to receive the research and development newsletter R&DWorks.

Impacting decision making and industry capability



Wood encouragement policies continue to grow

Increasing numbers of local governments and their peak bodies are adopting wood encouragement policies – committing them to consider wood as the primary construction material in all new-build and refurbishment projects where its use is feasible. [Read more](#).



Statistics: positive immediate outlook, clouds on horizon?

Current forest industry activity levels are positive, with sawnwood production, export logs and chips all at record levels. The immediate outlook remains strong as housing approvals remain high and alterations and additions have grown, however there are question marks as to whether the growth in consumer consumption can continue. [Read more](#)

[Sign up](#) for a free Statistics Count Newsletter. Statistics Count is a monthly e-newsletter that provides FWPA members and associate members with a quick summary of key data hosted on the data dashboard. It also provides links to key data sets and coverage of articles of relevance from industry commentators.

Feedback and Contributions



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