



# FORWOOD



March 2018



**Ric Sinclair**  
Managing Director  
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Dear << Test First Name >>,

Welcome to ForWood.

This year has already seen a number of important developments, chiefly an update to the draft 2019 National Construction Code (NCC) to facilitate timber use in all building types up to eight storeys.

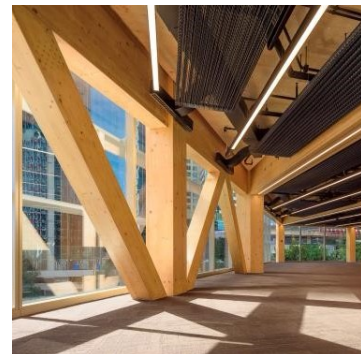
Congrats to Boris Iskra and Paul England for successfully making the case for change – I'd urge industry to show support by making submissions to the Australian Building Codes Board.

In this edition, we also look at forests and robots, wood in bushfire-prone locations, research funding and more.

## Welcoming a new era for commercial timber construction

FWPA has shepherded in changes to the draft 2019 National Construction Code (NCC) that facilitate the use of fire-protected timber in all buildings up to eight storeys – and industry has the opportunity to back the proposal.

[Read more](#)



## Robotics in the forest – assessing the value of automation

FWPA recently held a workshop to discuss the possibilities for robotic systems in Australia and New Zealand's forestry sectors, determining that while automation has great value and is



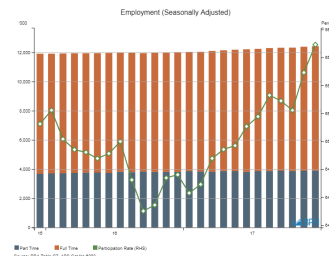
inevitable, there is a need for more research and consultation.

[Read more](#)

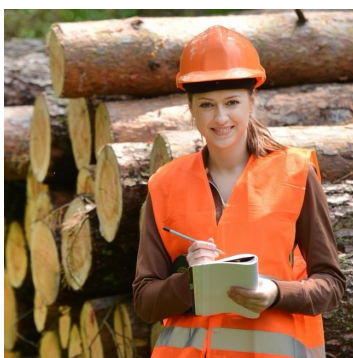
## Updated FWPA Data Dashboard available, and better than ever

The recently-upgraded FWPA Data Dashboard provides members with a comprehensive range of public domain and industry data sets, in one convenient location.

[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.



## Forestry contributes billions to local economies

FWPA has contributed funding to new research highlighting the socio-economic contribution of two of Australia's major forest regions, and identifying industry areas of concern and business outlook.

[Read more](#)

## Professional development – collaborative and regional leadership

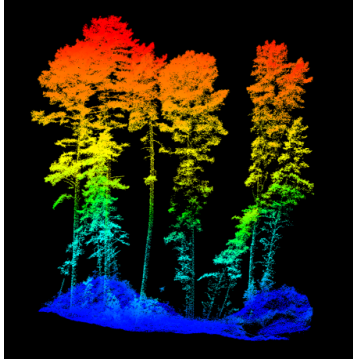
FWPA's new 'For Our Future' Regional Forestry Collaborative Leadership Program for mid-level managers is set to kick off in the first week of March, with 13 registrations for the Western Australian program. If you know (or are) a promising potential future industry leader, it's not too late to register interest.

[Read more](#)



## Forestry sector poised to outperform with 'digital agriculture' – report

Forest and wood products have greater potential to add value to the Australian economy than other agricultural sectors by using 'digital



agriculture' – the collection and analysis of data to improve decision making – leading to better business outcomes

[Read more](#)

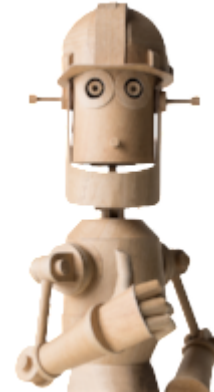
**Sign up to receive the research and development newsletter R&DWorks**

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## **FWPA highlights safe use of wood in bushfire-prone locations**

Many people don't know you can use wood for construction in Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) -rated locations. Woody the Woodbot featured in a new FWPA-funded campaign to raise awareness, improve understanding and encourage people in BAL areas to use wood when building.

[Read more](#)



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## **WoodSolutions' impressive online performance**

Have you seen the world's most-visited timber website, WoodSolutions? Or joined our thriving and engaged social media network? Here are some recent highlights.

[Read more](#)

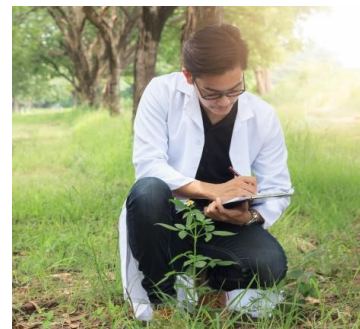
**Sign up for a free WoodSolutions account.** As a registered WoodSolutions member you'll be able to download design guides and other files, be informed of relevant WoodSolutions events in your area and receive the free WoodSolutions newsletter.

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## **Research funding available – have your proposals ready!**

FWPA encourages you to prepare your research, development and extension proposals before the 23 March deadline arrives, to capitalise on funds available for the 2018-19 financial year and onwards.

[Read more](#)



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**Australia's first World Forest Center**





## Education Institute Program

The globally renowned International Educators Institute (IEI) forestry programme is coming to Australia for a two-day conference in May featuring the World Forestry Center's Rick Zenn. The event is being organised by FWPA's school education initiative, ForestLearning.

[Read more](#)

## New WoodSolutions guides and EPDs launched!

WoodSolutions has recently updated and expanded its popular resource on Environmental Public Declarations (EPDs), as well as publishing new guides on: how to comply with construction codes when building in aged care; using timber for garden retaining walls; and office fit-out systems using wood.

[Read more](#)



## Feedback and contributions



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