

# R&Dworks

December 2017



Welcome to the final issue of R&D Works for 2017. In this issue, we explore two local projects with the potential to create new products from existing forest resources, as well as a number of interesting international developments. Wishing you and yours a wonderful festive season, and hoping you enjoy time spent with friends and family during the break.

## Making boxed-heart posts from hardwood eucalyptus

Jon Lambert and Dean Severino of Heartwood Plantations in Victoria have achieved what some in industry considered an impossibility of almost “holy grail” proportions – successfully making “boxed-heart” posts from hardwood eucalyptus species spotted gum and yellow stringybark.

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**Solar powered wood could clean water in poor countries**



Lack of access to clean water is a growing global crisis, but engineers have created a cheap, new technological solution that requires only energy from the sun and a block of wood smaller

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### From pee to tree fertiliser

Researchers in Finland have figured a new method to recover nutrients from human pee and create safe, ready-to-apply plant fertilisers that could one day turn a profit.

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### Glulam timber bridges viable for country roads

Researchers have concluded glulam (short for glue laminated) timber bridges are structurally viable, sustainable, cost-effective and durable options for replacing bridges on low-traffic county roads, with a service life of 75 years

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### Wooden nails from compressed beech

The Beck Fastener Group has hit the nail on the head with a new product: wooden nails that have more uses than you might think.

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### Fingerprinting paper

British scientists are learning how to 'fingerprint' paper in order to combat counterfeiting.

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### Harvesting timber – and carbon credits

Did you know that carbon stored in the roots of trees can be 30 per cent of their total? People often don't count this carbon. Could there be

potential for foresters to 'have their cake and eat it too' by using natural capital accounting to get credits for carbon stored in roots, even after harvesting the trees?

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### **'Hidden in plain sight' : new tree genus discovered in South America**

To their great surprise, researchers have discovered a new genus of large forest tree commonly found, yet previously scientifically unknown, in the tropical Andes.

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### **Remote sensing win-win for wildlife and forest managers**

A study in America using remote sensing technology has made a new discovery that could pave the way for more logging and stronger forest management while still protecting endangered wildlife.

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### **Director needed for National Centre for Timber Durability and Design Life**

The National Centre for Timber Durability and Design Life is searching for a Director, to be based at the University of the Sunshine Coast. It's an amazing opportunity for an academic leader. The Centre is an initiative of FWPA in partnership with government, industry and academia.

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