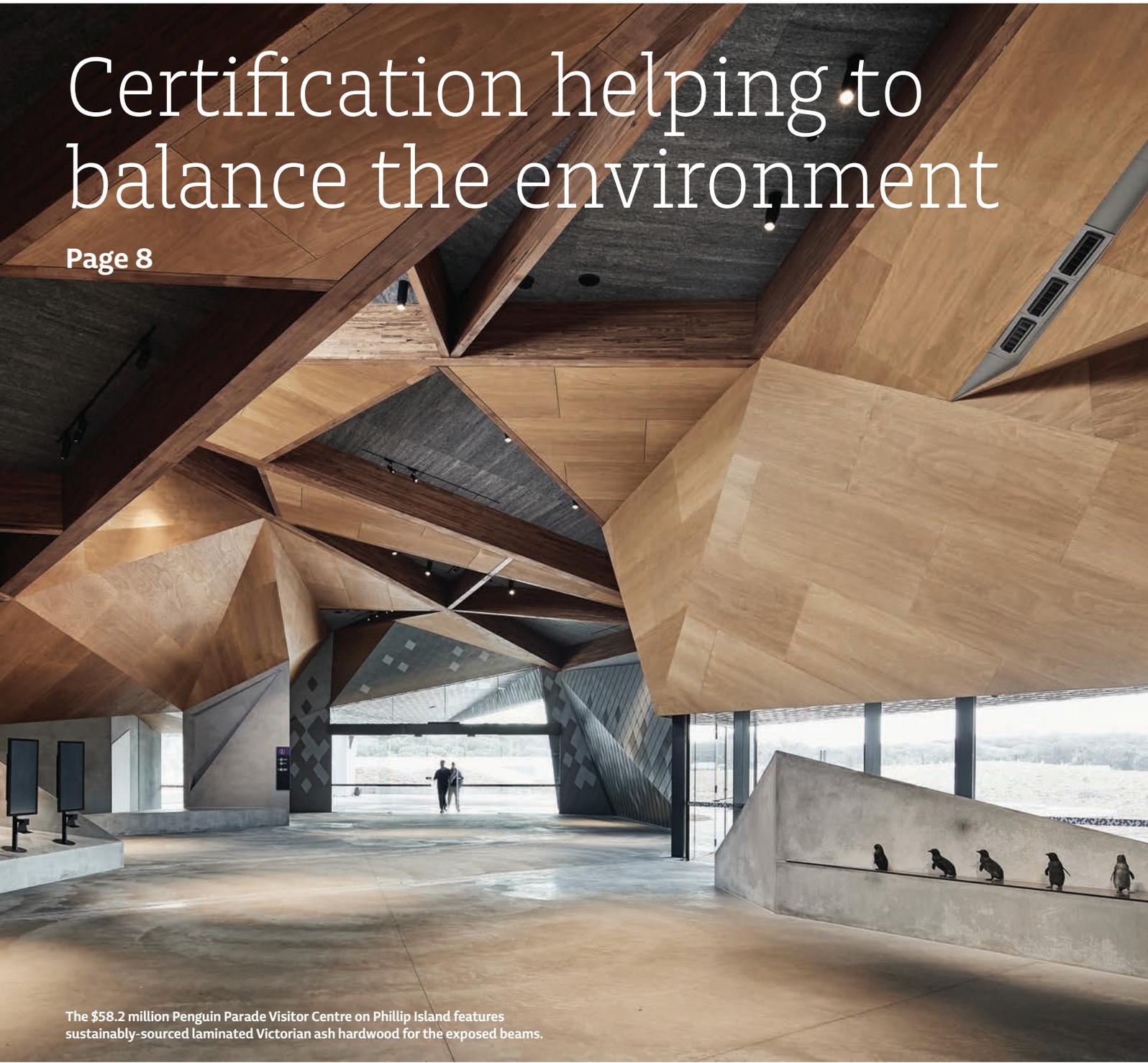


Certification helping to balance the environment

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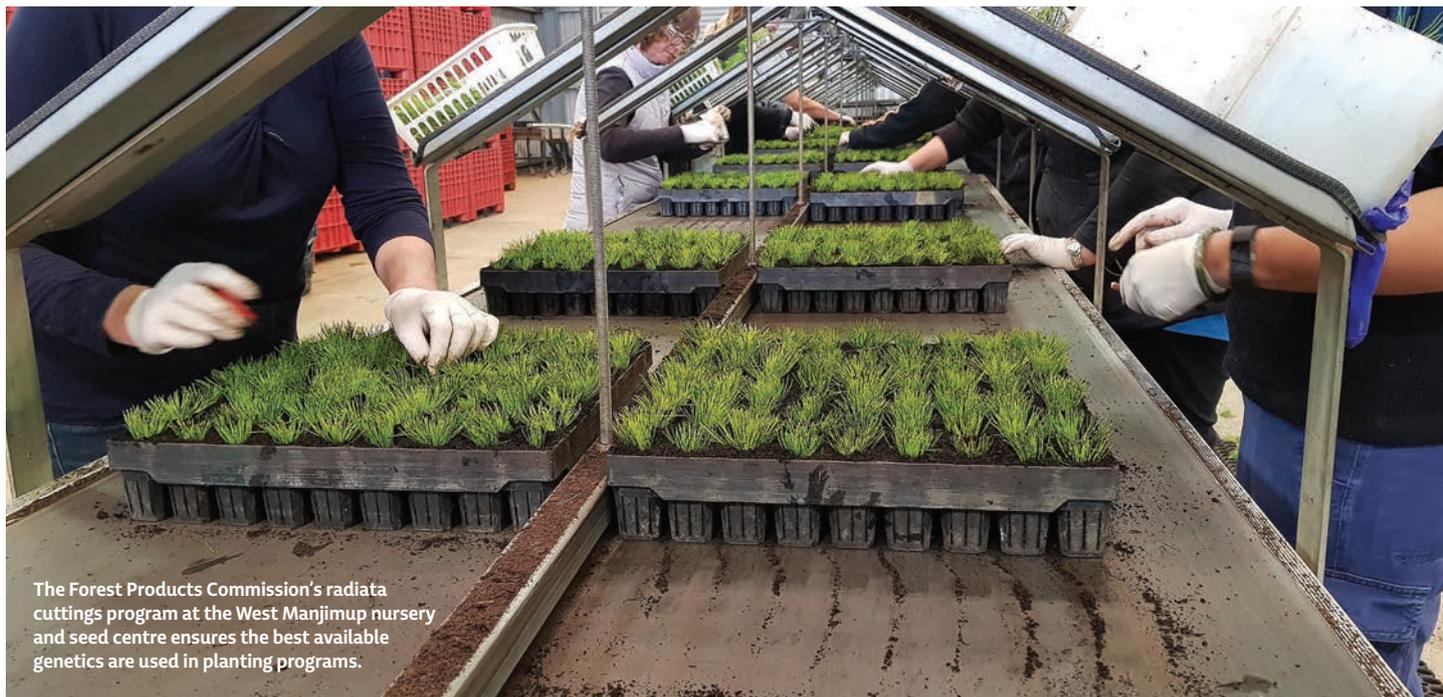
The \$58.2 million Penguin Parade Visitor Centre on Phillip Island features sustainably-sourced laminated Victorian ash hardwood for the exposed beams.

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- » Wood policy certification gain

- » PFFC: power for good in NZ
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- » Kitchens and the environment
- » Committed to Australian Made



The Forest Products Commission's radiata cuttings program at the West Manjimup nursery and seed centre ensures the best available genetics are used in planting programs.

Trials test best offspring from some of best trees

A PINUS radiata breeding trial was recently established to test the offspring from some of the best trees in Australia.

Forest genetics manager Anjanette Chandler said that establishing this trial was complex.

"The Myalup trial consisted of 7500 of the best seedlings available in Australia. This represented more than 270 different seed lots, all of which needed to be hand planted by our fantastic volunteers," Ms Chandler said.

"Each of these seed lots were individually labelled and planted out in a precise experimental design, allowing us to track each seedling over its full rotation."

To maintain strict controls on the experiment the planting was done by FPC staff members.

"Fortunately, we had staff from several offices volunteering to get their hands dirty and plant trees over the week," Ms Chandler said.

Seed for this trial was provided by Tree Breeding Australia, the national Pinus radiata tree breeding cooperative, with the trial forming part of a series replicated across the country.

"An assessment at around seven years of age will provide information on how well the different seed lots perform both within and between trial sites," Ms. Chandler said.

"This will ultimately guide what should be planted in FPC seed orchards, ensuring the FPC is only using the best genetics.

"Thanks to all FPC staff who volunteered their time across the week, but special thanks to Mike Cully, Greg Hodgson, and Steve Davis who helped plant across multiple days."

Ms Chandler thanked the nursery crew for their assistance with raising and labelling all the seedlings.

The Forest Products Commission (Western Australia) is one of 30 organisations currently certified under the Australian standard for Sustainable Forest Management (AS 4708 – 2013). With more than 1,200,371 ha of defined forest covered under the Responsible Wood Certification Scheme, the Forest Products Commission (WA) is a forest grower and proud member of Responsible Wood.

(Courtesy Forest Products Commission (Western Australia).

This will ultimately guide what to plant



Certified forests in Western Australia... the Sandalwood Plantations venture, which owns and manages more than 19 million trees grown on 13,000 ha across the central wheatbelt where sandalwood has naturally occurred for thousands of years.

Promoting sustainably-sourced timber across the state

Wood policy very encouraging for certified forests in the west

WESTERN Australia has followed Tasmania in adopting a state-wide Wood Encouragement Policy (WEP).

This requires responsibly sourced wood be considered, where feasible, as the primary construction material in all new-build and refurbishment projects. It does not in any way mandate the use of timber, but rather seeks to ensure that wood is at least considered as the primary structural component in buildings.

Planet Ark, through its Make It Wood campaign, encourages the use of responsibly sourced wood as a building material.

A key part of this initiative is the promotion and advocacy of Wood Encouragement Policies throughout Australia that encourage the use of responsibly-sourced wood in construction.

“Responsibly-sourced, certified wood is the only major building material that helps tackle climate change,” Make It Wood campaign manager David Rowlinson said. ‘It’s renewable, it stores carbon for the

life of the building, and it has much lower embodied energy than conventional, more carbon-intensive building materials.”

The state-wide WEP is part of the WA government’s introduction of the Djarlma Plan for the Western Australian forestry Industry – inspired by the indigenous Noongar people’s concept of Djarlma, which reflects the interconnected relationship of people, forests and woodlands.

Responsible Wood CEO Simon Dorries spoke of the power of wood encouragement policies in promoting sustainably sourced timber on construction projects.

“WEPs provide an important incentive for the use of wood in building projects, and when it comes to responsibly-sourced wood, forest certification plays an important role in demonstrating that timber is sourced from forests that meet acceptable environmental standards for practice,” he said.

‘We commend the Western Australian government in showing leadership in this field, and note the adoption of similar policies around the world including Canada,



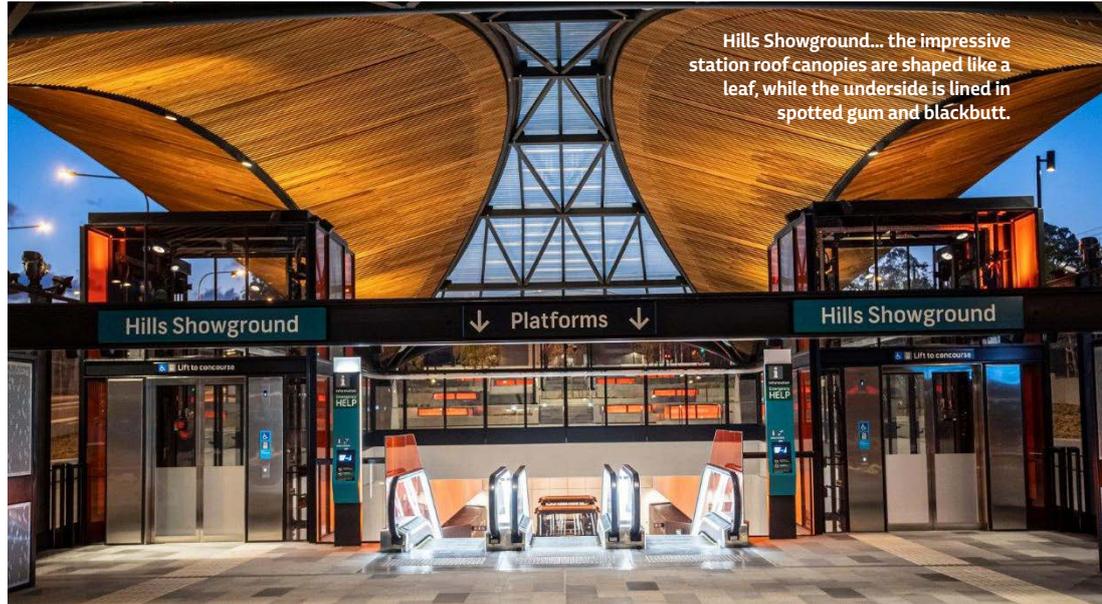
David Rowlinson... responsibly-sourced, certified wood the only major building material that helps tackle climate change

Japan, France, Finland, The Netherlands and the UK.”

Responsible Wood, the governing body of PEFC in Australia, is Australia’s largest forest certification scheme with more than 90% of commercial forests currently involved in the scheme.

In total, there are four Responsible Wood certified forests in Western Australia including the Bunbury Treefarm Project, Forest Products Commission (WA), WA Plantation Resources Pty Ltd (WAPRS) and WA Sandalwood Plantations Pty Ltd.

Public
transport
system on
track with
chain of
custody



Sydney Metro project sets benchmark for certification

ACKNOWLEDGING and rewarding environmentally-sustainable choices in the construction industry is becoming increasingly important as the demand for greater sustainability grows among end consumers, government, developers and specifiers.

The most effective way for timber growers and manufacturers to provide proof of the sustainability of any timber product is through certification by an independent, recognised accreditation body such as the Program for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) internationally and in Australia through the Responsible Wood certification scheme.

Traditional chain-of-custody certification poses problems for the construction industry when short-term projects involve numerous, uncertified contractors. This has been resolved by Responsible Wood through the creation of 'project certification'. This provides a mechanism for attaining chain-of-custody certification against the

Australian standard (AS4707) for a specified project with a limited duration.

Chain of Custody certification connects the end consumer with the sustainable origins of their timber products linking sustainable forest management with the market. It tracks forest-based products from sustainable sources to the final product, closely monitoring each step of the supply chain through independent auditing to ensure that only material with proven sustainability reaches the end consumer. It is a solid assurance at a time when claims around sustainability and products being 'green' are abundant and, frequently, unproven.

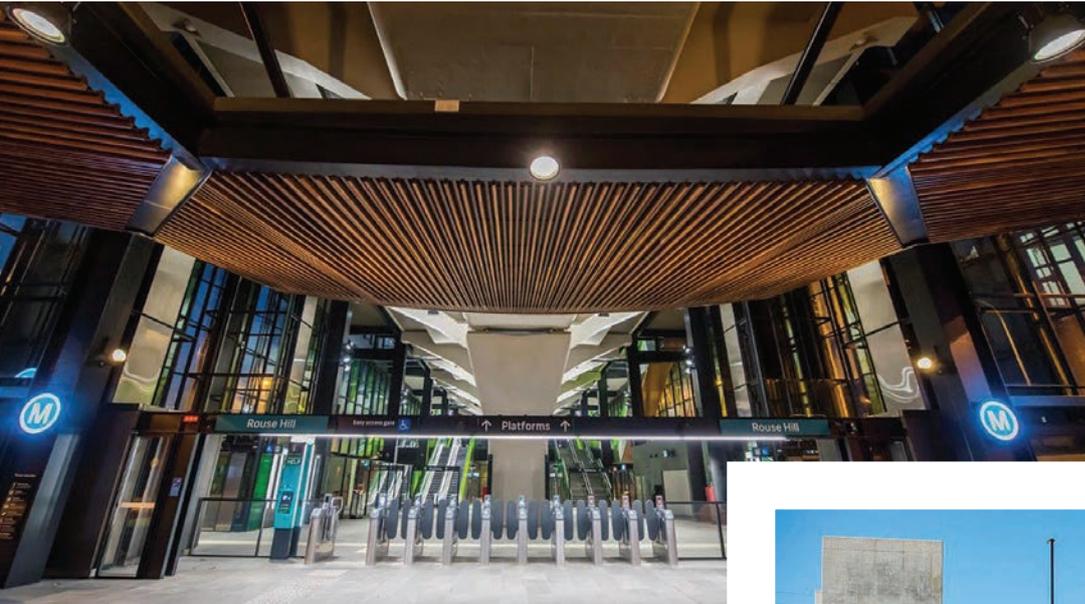
Currently in Australia there are 250 individual sites operating Responsible Wood certified chain-of-custody systems.

The first project ever awarded this certification not only in Australia, but in the southern hemisphere, is no small undertaking. Indeed, it represents the biggest public transport project completed in Australia in recent years.

The Sydney Metro project will be the first fully-automated metropolitan rail system in Australia and, alongside an entirely new 66-km rail system, will provide 31 new railway stations.

The Sydney Metro project will be the first fully automated metropolitan rail system in Australia

Continued P5



Rouse Hill... showcasing Australian timbers using suppliers that embraced Responsible Wood chain-of-custody' forest certification.

Australia's largest infrastructure project in recent years... certified timber used in the façades of the new multi-storey car parks at Sydney Metro Northwest was sustainably sourced bringing the total timber used in the project to 200,000 linear m.

From P4

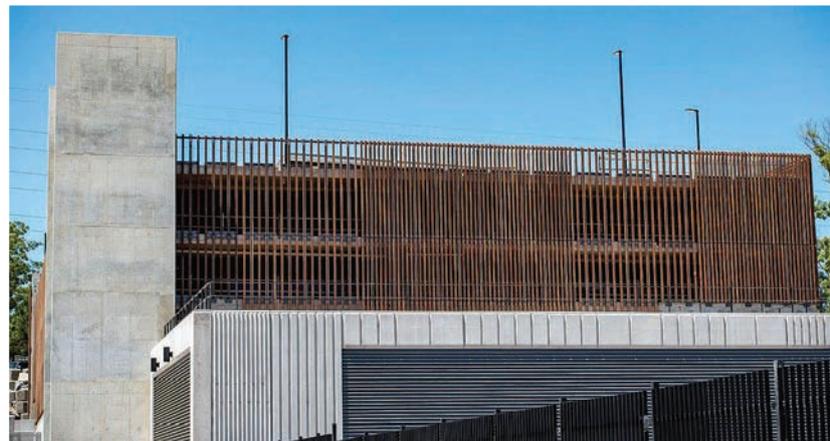
Stage 1 of the project, Sydney Metro Northwest, recently opened to the public and services the region with the highest car ownership levels per household in Australia. It constitutes eight new stations and commuter car parks accommodating 4000 cars. Seven of the eight stations have satisfied the criteria for Responsible Wood certification. In fact, from the outset there was a contractual requirement for Sydney Metro Northwest's contractors to source 100% of all timber products used from either re-used, post-consumer recycled or ethically certified timber. As a response to this, Northwest Rapid Transit (NRT) developed a procurement strategy to secure the supply of only certified timber products.

Described by Responsible Wood CEO Simon Dorries as "the high watermark for forest certification", the project is the first in what could be a number of construction and infrastructure projects seeking Responsible Wood project certification.

Mr Dorries said this represented a pioneer project, not only the largest of its type in the southern hemisphere but the first to successfully achieve Responsible Wood and PEFC project certification.

"We are fielding more and more enquires from construction teams and certification bodies looking to achieve certification for future projects," he said. "The construction industry should look out for many more Responsible Wood and PEFC project certification applications over the coming years."

Seven of the eight new stations have been certified by SCS Global Services under PEFC and Responsible Wood chain-of-custody standards with the eighth station achieving partial project certification by the FSC.



A key component of the stations' design was elements of the Cumberland Plain. The impressive station roof canopies are representative of a leaf, while the underside is lined in spotted gum and blackbutt timber species commonly found in the Cumberland Plain forests.

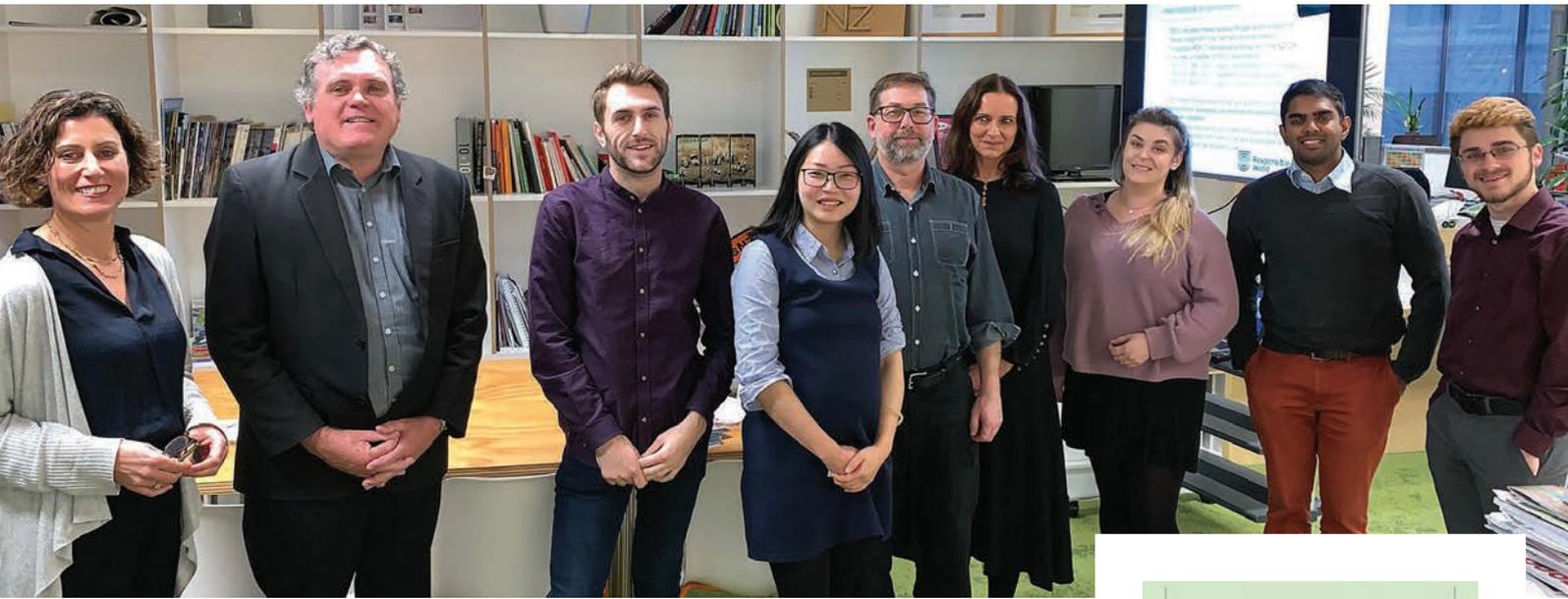
Timber used in the façades of the multi-storey car parks was also certified as sustainably sourced bringing the total timber used in the project to 200,000 linear metres.

The construction was undertaken by John Holland and CPB Contractors. John Holland's sustainability manager Thirukumaran Jallendran said this was a milestone project for Australia; "we are proud that it reflects the country's responsible sourcing goals."

SCS lead auditor on the project, Nick Capobianco added: "Third-party certification was the key for this large-scale project; it enabled Sydney Metro to demonstrate the use of responsibly sourced timber with the backed guarantee of SCS's audits."



Timber in the multi-storey car parks was certified sustainably sourced, bringing the total timber used in the project to 200,000 linear metres



PEFC: power for good in New Zealand

Getting serious about sustainability



NEW Zealand, often considered the land of milk and honey, is also the land of exotic plantations and high conservation value native forests.

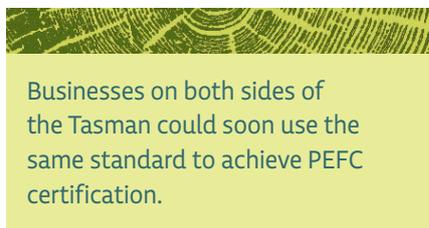
While the agricultural trade is legendary, New Zealand's round wood industry is growing from strength to strength. In fact, behind concentrated milk, sheep and butter, round wood timber is the largest export industry and a key pillar of the domestic construction industry.

And for environmentally conscious Kiwis, forest certification is all-important; providing forest growers, processors, merchants, businesses and consumers with confidence that scarce forests resources are managed for multi-generational use.

Born from changes to 'The Forest Act 1949', sustainable and responsible forestry, by its very nature, is a non-negotiable for New Zealanders.

By the numbers more than 600,000 ha of forest is covered by PEFC's 'Sustainable Forest Management' certification, with more than 30 businesses proudly carrying PEFC chain of custody.

That number is growing as demand from New Zealand buyers are incentivising merchants, retailers and processors to join PEFC and make formal claims on product.



Responsible Wood recently travelled extensively through New Zealand meeting with forest growers, importers and merchants, the drivers behind forest certification in the marketplace.

With Responsible Wood CEO Simon Dorries, we met with the New Zealand Green Building Council and the New Zealand Tropical Timber Importers Group, two associations challenging the timber and paper industry to embrace forest certification within their supply chains.

With the announcement of a joint Australia-New Zealand standard for sustainable forest management under development, businesses on both sides of the Tasman could soon use the same standard to achieve PEFC forest certification.

In an increasingly globalised world, where timber is increasingly exported to and imported from far-away countries, forest certification is a non-negotiable for businesses looking to do the right thing.

Knowledge can grow on trees

Taking forests and PEFC to the classroom



Rachel Foye presents... paper is a renewable resource, just like a crop of broccoli.



Attentive... first-year design students in Auckland were delivered the message on certified forests by BJ Ball's corporate business development manager Rachel Foye.

ONE of Australasia's largest distributors of print materials and consumables, BJ Ball, is meeting with Kiwi design students to ensure the next generation of designers sees the forests for the trees.

Certified as PEFC chain of custody, BJ Ball has been presenting to students

that have a graphic or communications design focus, which includes sharing the importance of PEFC certification to ensure paper is sourced from environmentally responsible forests.

According to Rachel Foye, business development manager, the classroom visits are all-important as business grapples with the challenges from rapidly changing environments.

"So far this year we have presented to classrooms at AUT, Unitec, Yoobee and Wintec, and the feedback from these presentations has been very encouraging," Rachel said. "Sustainability is definitely on their minds, they want to learn more."

Getting into the classroom and educating tomorrow's creative leaders is a 'must', especially in a time when packaging and plastic is being reinvented.

"We help them understand that paper can be a renewable resource, a crop like broccoli, that is farmed and harvested for a purpose, in an ethical and responsible way," Rachel said.

BJ Ball in New Zealand and Ball & Doggett in Australia, are among Australasia's largest distributors of print materials and consumables' with such a significant platform in both markets they are committed to products sourced from



responsible forests that meet clear and defined social, economic and environmental benchmarks.

There are two globally recognised forest certification schemes, PEFC and FSC, and BJ Ball proudly carries certification for both on different product lines.

"Our PEFC chain of custody provides an important 'check and balance,' an essential step that demonstrates the business's commitment to responsible forest management," Rachel added.

- JASON ROSS



BJ Ball Paper supply manager Kelly McLean and business development-corporate manager Rachel Foye confer with Jason Ross at the BJ Ball Paper headquarters in Auckland.



Low-carbon building materials were used throughout the construction.

The best of both worlds

Certified timber star of Victoria's most popular attraction

VICTORIA'S most-visited tourism destination has a new award-winning visitor centre which uses timber, in part, to achieve a delicate balance between landscape and built form and between people and one of the country's most vulnerable wildlife habitats.

Achieving this balance was part of the challenge facing architects Terroir when designing the new \$58.2 million Penguin Parade Visitor Centre on Victoria's Phillip Island where visitors since the 1920s have gathered to watch the twilight show.

While the stars of the show are tiny, visitor numbers have become vast, with up to 3800 arriving at Phillip Island every day to view the famous parade of Little Penguins as they commute from the sea along the Summerland Bay Beach to their burrows.

Situated in a very exposed coastal location, the impressive geometric building sits at the point where three distinctly different landscapes intersect. Basalt bluff headland, coastal dune and wetlands meet here and the visitor centre has been designed, in

the words of architect Scott Balmforth, to "visually embody the sense that the building is reaching out to the landscapes but also stitching them together."

Scott has also compared the building to "a brooch holding the three landscapes together and responding to each in different ways".

Low-carbon building materials were used throughout the construction, notably sustainably sourced laminated Victorian ash hardwood, used for the exposed beams. The choice of timber beams and plywood panelling, which are self-finished and offer a carefully selected colour and texture, were integral in achieving the centre's robust appearance.

Terroir worked closely with the structural engineers to realise a hybrid steel/mass timber roof structure with glulam beams. The laminated beams span up to 16 m and are 900 mm in depth. They create a net structure over the space with nested junctions of up to seven intersecting beams, which are all structural yet left exposed.

Continued P9

Penguin Parade Visitor Centre... impressive geometric building sits at the point where three distinctly different landscapes intersect.



From P8

Terroir specified timber sourced from managed forests with certified sustainability of the species achieved through PEFC and reciprocally by Australian authority Responsible Wood.

Project architect David McPeak said this approach supported the expectations of the client to achieve the highest standards of environmentally sustainable design.

Responsible Wood CEO Simon Dorries explains why certification is important to architects and specifiers seeking the most environmentally sustainable building materials. “Timber and timber products must meet the Australian standard for Sustainable Forest Management (AS 4708) and Chain of Custody for Forest Products (AS 4707) to achieve and maintain Responsible Wood certification, removing any uncertainty from the selection process.”

Certification for AS 4707 for Chain of Custody is held by AG Brown Sawmill which supplied the glulam timber panelling featured throughout the building’s interior – a major component of the building’s distinctive design.

The vast number of people visiting the penguin parade called for a floorplan that could accommodate large crowds so the building is arranged around a central circulation path that has the capacity for large crowds and forms a spine from which various dedicated spaces are arranged. These spaces provide for a variety of services including ticketing, education, retail, hospitality, a science centre and an interpretive habitat space which provides a ‘penguin’s eye-view’ of the world, complete with life-sized grass tussocks and cinematic projections.

In addition to these spaces there are what Terroir’s Scott Balmforth describes as “third spaces which enable individual experience and interpretation of the three surrounding landscapes and the penguin experience”.

The design credentials of this impressive building have already been acknowledged by the architectural community internationally, with Penguin Parade recently announced winner at the International Architectural Awards from a field of more than 380 entries.

But beyond delivering a state-of-the art new facility for human visitors, the protection of Australia’s largest colony of Little Penguins was the clear priority for this project and while delivering over and above for tourists (the new centre will double the visitor capacity of the previous building and is expected to cater for 840,000 visitors annually by 2030), the new centre allows for the removal of the old 1988 visitor centre and coach parking area which will facilitate the restoration of 6.7 ha of habitat and 1.5 ha of new wetland habitat, creating homes for an additional 1446 breeding penguins.

Penguin Parade’s reputation as a tourism attraction is constantly a balancing act with its function as a world-leading conservation centre and endangered habitat. Damian Prendergast, Phillip Island Nature Parks major projects manager, best sums up the success of this centre: “The new centre puts first the more than 32,000 little penguins who call the Summerland Peninsula their home, while also delivering an exceptional visitor experience.”

It could be argued that the best of both worlds can be found on Phillip Island.



Delivering kitchens for all types and budgets.

After 45 years, gallery still attuned to changing trends



Dream win... Greg Watter and Yana Wood display Kitchen Gallery's many awards for kitchen design.

Front and centre of a kitchen revolution

WITH a rich history of success in the industry, Kitchen Gallery is a company attuned to the changing wants and needs of its diverse range of clientele.

After 45 years the Brisbane-based showroom remains at the front of Australia's kitchen revolution...

"A kitchen is a long-term investment, and if done correctly it really can be the crown jewel in the household," says general manager Greg Watter.

"Customers demand more from their kitchens as time goes on and as the industry grows and changes," he said. "They demand more in quality, diversity and affordability, but they are also becoming more aware of the importance of green credentials."

Jason Ross of Responsible Wood sat down with Greg and design consultant Yana Wood who are proud of their commitment to responsible sourcing.

Indeed, when it comes to timber selection, Kitchen Gallery is very deliberate in sourcing timber that meets the growing social and environmental expectations from its client base.

It is a necessity more than a preference to source Australian timbers through the Responsible Wood certification scheme, both for the health and safety of their clients and for the longevity of their projects, they said.

"Responsible Wood is an important trust mark for us; it ensures that all timber on our projects is sourced from Australian responsibly-managed forests and it meets an Australian standard."

Greg added: "For Kitchen Gallery these are all expectations that can be delivered, certainly with the emphasis on sustainability, both in building materials and performance."

Yana agrees: "Client interaction is another key aspect of delivering a kitchen for all types and budgets. Whether it's a dream kitchen or a budget kitchen, every customer

is unique and every kitchen requires important consideration from our design team.

With a rich history of more than 30 Housing Institute of Australia awards, including the 2019 HIA Brisbane Kitchen of the Year, Kitchen Gallery has the credentials to back up its mission.

The emphasis is on sustainability, both in building materials and performance

Announced in August, Kitchen Gallery added to their HIA award haul with a further seven awards.

"The recognition is awesome," Yana said. "But what drives us is the level of service and customer satisfaction when our kitchen's come to life. This means that repeat clients are a large part of our business."

PEFC certification a life-long commitment

Matilda Veneer protects a valuable resource



From one generation to the next... Robert Filip with Craig Graham and Anthony Wardrop.



A masterpiece in veneer... the critically acclaimed Robina Town Square project.

TAKE a walk through Matilda Veneer and it's very easy to get lost in impressive variety of veneers in more than 100 different timber species, which makes the Gold-Coast company Australia's largest manufacturer of timber veneer.

And for Matilda Veneer, supporting responsible forest practices by its very nature is critical for its long-term survival and prosperity.

Talking to Responsible Wood's Jason Ross, Anthony Wardrop

and Craig Graham emphasised the importance of responsible sourcing, manufacturing and stocktaking; all important for protecting forests for current and future generations.

'We are in this business for the long term; in some ways we are part of a new generation of manufacturers, and with this we have an underlying responsibility to support our forest resource for the next generation,' Anthony said.

"And with this, forest certification plays an important role in verifying and demonstrating our life-long commitment to responsible forestry."

Anthony said PEFC chain of custody certification provided customers with a trust that products used in the home and on building projects support sustainable forestry.

Founded in 1990, Matilda Veneer processes more than 1200 cub m of logs into veneer and between 1800 and 2000 cub m of plywood.

With more than 1.4 million sq m of veneer and plywood stored in its Gold Coast facility, Matilda



In some ways we are part of a new generation of manufacturers

Veneer's extensive species list includes Queensland walnut, silky oak, Tasmanian blackwood and a huge range of Australian hardwoods including spotted gum, blackbutt, ironbark and karrah to name just a few

'Some of our timbers have been in storage for close to 30 years,' says Anthony Wardrop. "We are in the decorative timber business, a business where fashions and trends change regularly and often."

"We believe that stockpiling is a 'must'. With timber resource in precious supply, we have an obligation to ensure all timbers are protected and preserved for future purchase."

Life and death in a city of trees

The urban canopy conundrum

MANAGING urban wood, or reclaimed timber, long considered a challenge for local government, was in the spotlight as leading academics, government and industry professionals converged on the Australian National University for a workshop.

Billed as the workshop to re-imagine how urban timber recovery can support sustainable forests, participants grappled with the important topics of forest planning, market development and public engagement, working with representatives from the ACT government to develop a sustainable urban forestry model for the local market.

With a commitment to replant 17,000 trees over the next four years, the ACT is committed to renewing its urban canopy. And when it comes to sustainable management, Transport ACT plays an important role in managing urban wood on Canberra's street scapes.

Presenting to the workshop, the Minister for Transport Chris Steel emphasised the importance of urban forestry in improving climate resilience to adapt to climate change.

"This is the largest program of tree planting this century to renew and enhance our urban forest for generations to come," the minister said. "We want to make sure we're putting in place trees to help us adapt to climate change."

Opening the workshop, ANU associate professor and forester Dr Cris Brack provided important historical context to



Managing Urban Wood symposium... co-convenors Ashley Eriksmoen, head of furniture workshop at ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences, Dr Cris Brack, Associate Professor at ANU Fenner School of Environment and Society, and Dr Robert Lamberts, deputy director of the Australian National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science at ANU.

the challenges faced by Canberrans as the city's mix of exotic and native trees age.

"In many ways the history of Canberra can be told through our canopies," he said. "As the suburbs develop, successive governments have embraced the emphasis on urban canopies. As our canopies continue to age, and dare I say it start to die, now more than ever is the time to consider the importance of urban renewable and the development of suitable frameworks and pathways for sustainable salvage of reclaimed trees."



At the workshop, Responsible Wood's Jason Ross discussed the benefits of forest certification in providing frameworks for the sustainable management of urban canopies.

"When it comes to management of forests, forest certification plays a vital role in demonstrating that canopies are managed responsibly, for multi-generational use."

He said the PEFC 'Trees Outside Forests' initiative, provided pathways for urban canopies to seek forest certification.

"When it comes to salvaging reclaimed timber and developing markets for timber products, PEFC and Responsible Wood provide important avenues for market access," Jason said.



A chain reaction... Jason Ross (centre) discusses forest certification with delegates at the PETC 19 conference and trade exhibition in Brisbane.

Onus is on engineers and building practitioners to demand forest certified timber from their supply chains

Responsible Wood takes global stage at PTEC 19

Timber engineers recognise value of forest certification

RESPONSIBLE Wood, the governing body for PEFC in Australia, was one of six key exhibitors at the three-day 2019 Pacific Timber Engineering Conference (PTEC 2019) in Brisbane in July.

With a collaborative mix of industry, academics and practitioners, the conference brought together speakers and delegates from 11 countries who disseminated and absorbed latest developments in science, research and application of wood in construction.

Responsible Wood, forest certification provided an important context of panel discussions.

“In a Pacific context, global demand for engineered timbers is growing and through the development of the mass timber has become a viable and attractive option for the built environment,” said Jason Ross who fielded inquires at the Responsible Wood stand.

“But with the development of mass timber solutions such as CLT, glulam and laminated veneers forest certification is playing an important role to ensure the timber is sourced from forests that meets environmental benchmarks,” he said

Responsible Wood and PEFC are enduring ‘trust marks’ providing engineers and building practitioners with confidence that timber is not only legal but promotes responsible land use for multi-generational use.

“The onus is on engineers and building practitioners that work with timber to actively demand forest certified timber from their supply chains.

Jason said the conference demonstrated that the supply of PEFC and Responsible Wood certified timber was ample, and when it came to forest certification chain of custody was paramount.

PEFC is the largest forest certification scheme in the world. In a global context, more than 310 million ha of forests is covered by PEFC, while more than 11 million ha is covered in Australia under the Responsible Wood certification scheme.

“To ensure timber is certified, a PEFC or Responsible Wood claim must be made by the supplier to verify the origin of the timber, a product that follows a supply chain from forests that are subjected to an extensive auditing process by an external certification body,” Jason said.

International forum in Japan champions the power of PEFC



Responsible Wood CEO Simon Dorries presents at the SGEC-PEFC International Forest Certification Forum.



Forest certification forum gets under way in Tokyo.

'Family' celebrates 20th anniversary at Tokyo gathering

THE PEFC family continues to grow from strength to strength with more than 150 delegates from across the Asia-Pacific region gathering at the 2019 SGEC (Sustainable Green Ecosystem Council) / PEFC International Forest Certification Forum in Japan.

Hosted in Tokyo in June, the forum commemorated the 20th anniversary of PEFC and celebrated the enduring role of forest certification in improving the social and environmental conditions of the world's forests and those that live in them.

A trust that timber and paper-based products are from a sustainable source.

One of eight speakers, Simon Dorries, CEO of Responsible Wood, emphasised the importance of PEFC certification in providing environmentally conscious consumers with trust that timber and paper-based products are from a sustainable source.

"For many buyers certification is a 'must'; consumers are more demanding that the products sourced from global forests managed in a sustainable way," he said.

"Today, PEFC forest certification is increasingly becoming a non-negotiable for suppliers looking to gain access to international markets."

Responsible Wood is the only Australian forest certification scheme mutually recognised and internationally endorsed by PEFC.

"The forests products industry is increasingly global in outreach and Australia is no different," Mr Dorries said.

"Australia is an importer and exporter of forest products and many of these circulate around the Asia-Pacific region. This underlies the power of certification; under PEFC forest certification timber can be grown, manufactured and traded from country to country and border to border, with all forest products traced back to a sustainable source."

Speakers at the forum included Ben Gunneberg, CEO of PEFC International, Tatsuya Kajiya, executive director of SGEC / PEFC Japan, Joji Makimoto, director-general of the Japanese Forestry Agency, and Professor Yoshinori Yasuda, director of the Museum of Natural and Environmental History in Shizuoka, along with presentations from Askul Corporation, Tombow Pencil Co. Ltd, and the Tamura Timber Company.



True value... Ben Gunneberg addresses the 4th Asia-Pacific Forestry Week conference in South Korea.



Participants at the 4th Asia-Pacific Forestry Week event embrace the theme 'Forests for Peace and Well Being'.

Certification great enabler for peace and well-being

Empowering communities, managing landscapes and lifting millions from poverty

ADDRESSING the true value of forest certification, PEFC International CEO Ben Gunneberg drew attention to the important social and environmental benefits arising from growing the global footprint of PEFC.

Speaking at the 4th Asia-Pacific Forestry Week in South Korea with the theme 'Forests for Peace and Well Being', Mr Gunneberg challenged participants to celebrate the values underpinned by forest certification.

"These are the direct, known benefits," he said. "But it is the lesser known, indirect benefits of forest certification that contribute to our well-being, better collaboration and ultimately, peace."

Reflecting on the importance of forest certification in lifting communities out of poverty, Mr Gunneberg stressed the vital role certification plays in building trust and confidence between different groups.

"Forest certification gets people together ... to talk, challenge each other, explore and find solutions for problems at all

levels – locally, regionally, nationally and internationally," he said.

"It can also help pull people out of poverty by giving new income generation opportunities."

Mr Gunneberg said certification built trust and confidence between different interests through consensus and conflict resolution processes, which were the basis for ensuring and maintaining peace at all levels.

Hosted by the Korea Forest Service together with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, the theme of the conference was 'Forests for Peace and Well Being.'

Reflecting on the role of forest certification in advancing communities, Mr Gunneberg highlighted the global reach of certification:

"Take a look at Indonesia. The indirect benefits of seeking sustainable solutions for rural communities has enabled communities to cultivate a range of non-wood forest products for food security and community welfare.

"There has also been a 95% reduction of the areas burned by smallholders,

Forest certification builds trust and confidence between different interests

because companies gave them agricultural machinery to prepare the land. This has reduced respiratory disease in children and the elderly, and improved urban neighbourhoods in Singapore who were suffering from the haze."

Mr Gunneberg said forest certification was about cooperation on practical, implementable solutions at all levels, and about partnerships through local dialogue between communities and interests.

"It is also about well-being, from fair wages to gender equality, as well as capacity building, education and training for sustainable livelihoods," he said.

"Forest certification is more than just sustainable forest management, it's about collaboration of people to enable ongoing dialogue, conflict resolution and problem solving at all levels for peace."



Trust mark demonstrates to customers and buyers alike that timber and paper-based products are grown in sustainably managed forests.



Aussie-grown and proudly so ... Responsible Wood re-commits to the Australian-Made campaign

RESPONSIBLE Wood, custodian of the Australian standard for Sustainable Forest Management (AS 4708) and Chain of Custody for Forest Products (AS 4707), has re-committed to the 'Australian Made' campaign.

Australian-grown and proudly so ... Responsible Wood CEO Simon Dorries drew strong parallels between the Australian Made Campaign and Responsible Wood's certification scheme.

Provides trust that Australian forest products meet the social and environmental expectations of consumers

"The famous Australian Made- Australian Grown certification trademark is the true mark of Aussie authenticity, recognised widely and underpinned by a third-party accreditation system," Mr Dorries said.

"Much like the Australian Made Campaign, Responsible Wood forest certification is used widely throughout the Australian forest products industry," he said.

"The Responsible Wood trust mark demonstrates to customers and buyers alike that timber and paper-based products are grown in sustainably managed forests and manufactured, retailed and sold through Aussie businesses."

As a campaign associate of the Australian Made campaign, Responsible Wood will continue to promote the Australian Made-Australian Grown message to consumers.

Responsible Wood marketing and communications officer Jason Ross says forest certification provides, first and foremost, trust that Australian forest products meet the social and environmental expectations of consumers.

"In order to achieve and maintain Responsible Wood certification, businesses are required to subject themselves to an extensive auditing process, conducted by independent certification bodies accredited by JAS-ANZ," he said.

"Subject to regular and extensive audit, Responsible Wood certification ensures that forests and forest products meet sustainable best practice benchmarks."

More than 11.5 million ha of defined forest is covered by Responsible Wood certification, with more than 250 businesses proudly participating in the chain-of-custody scheme.

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