



Preservation COMPASS

In this issue:

- Timber disposal challenges in New South Wales
- Anti sapstain development targets benefits
- FramePro™, new boron water-based structural timber treatment now available
- LOSP treatment expansion in Queensland
- Flower Power gets message across
- Appointment strengthens New Zealand team
- Comprehensive range and custom service with Termite Tuff
- Design awards showcase timber versatility

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The New South Wales government is aiming to reduce the amount of waste material going into landfills. In that context the management of end-of-life treated timber products will demand increased industry attention.

The government has identified a number of products and is attempting to reduce the quantity of these products ending up in landfills. It is doing this by directing that relevant industries take increased responsibility for products at the end of their life.

According to NSW Timber Development Association (NSWTDA) General Manager Andrew Dunn, a good example of this policy direction is plastic bags. "Lightweight plastic bags are now considered to be on-the-nose. Reducing their use and finding replacement products has almost become a national obsession."

While treated timber is not in the top priority listing, the NSW government's 2004 Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Priority Statement, does include treated timber in the list of "Wastes of Concern". The Minister for the Environment has requested that the timber industry present reports on specific proposals or current actions and further reports on implementation relating to:

- Development of processes to identify and separate treated timber from mixed timber wastes.
- Programs to educate consumers about proper disposal of treated timber.
- Assessment of options for the use of more benign alternatives to treat and preserve timber.
- Action to develop end-market uses for recovered treated timber.

Mr Dunn is leading the timber industry's efforts to deal with the government requirements. He indicates that at the moment the extent



Timber disposal challenges in New South Wales

of the task for the timber industry is unclear, he said "The government is presently referring to 'treated timber', so that could also include blue framing and other treated products in addition to treatments for higher hazard class applications. We are seeking clarification from the government on the scope of the task."

He also advises that if the timber industry does not make meaningful progress the government has indicated that it may enact regulations, saying "government regulation could mandate some sort of requirement to collect and dispose of end-of-life products. This is unlikely to be the most cost effective solution for the industry. Any additional cost will, at the end-of-the-day, need to be carried by treated products and that has implications for competitiveness relative to alternative products."

In association with the Australian Plantation Products and Paper Industry Council, NSWTDA has taken a lead in focusing the attention of all sectors of the timber industry on this end-of-life challenge.

Under NSW legislation EPR schemes can include product stewardship arrangements where stakeholders have a role and responsibility in managing waste, from designers and manufacturers through to retailers and consumers. The NSWTDA has therefore established a treated timber product stewardship group comprising all parties in the use of treated timber products. Meetings will be scheduled following the preparation of

a "way forward" discussion paper.

It is proposed that the Treated Timber Product Stewardship Group, which in itself represents progress by the industry, will be the point of focus for communication between the industry and government.

Mr Dunn suggests that there needs to be further work carried out on exploring commercially viable options for utilising end-of-life treated products, and said, "Timber products have some impressive credentials, but one weakness has been re-use and

disposal. The industry has been a bit underdone in this area."

He indicates that, whilst there has been some valuable research work carried out on end-of-life utilisation, more work and a coordinated industry response is required. "The government has indicated that it will not intervene where industries are doing the right thing to reduce waste, but will act decisively where they are not," said Mr Dunn.

Mr Dunn advises that if the timber industry

is proactive and seeks collaborative efforts to address EPR issues there can be positive outcomes in developing new markets. Timber represents a material that could potentially form a completely closed loop in its flow through the economy and by so doing achieve a greater market share in a sustainable economy. The EPR issue offers an opportunity to develop projects to progress such an outcome. 🌐

Visit TDA at www.timber.net.au

Anti sapstain development targets benefits



Osmose's Group Product Development Manager Jeremy Christmas - putting substantial effort into some exciting new anti sapstain formulations.



Osmose Development Chemist Brett Coombridge - working through anti sapstain formulation screening trials.

The demand for high-performing anti sapstain treatments in New Zealand continues as mills seek to export green sawn timber and logs, however green timber is prone to developing unsightly sapstain, mould and decay fungi in transit that can detract from the value of the product.

The use of a robust and cost effective anti sapstain product can ensure that timber arrives at its destination in good condition. Osmose already has a suite of well proven anti sapstain products available. However, the Osmose research team is always working on new product development and providing additional benefits to its sawmilling customers.

Product development is an important part of Osmose's business strategy and Product Development Manager Jeremy Christmas heads up the team developing and testing new preservatives, including anti sapstains.

"The forest industry is dynamic and ever-changing. Our aim is to have proven products available that allow our customers to keep ahead of changes and take advantage of new market opportunities as they arise," said Mr Christmas.

Our product development team is putting substantial effort into testing some exciting new anti sapstain formulations. The warm and humid conditions over the summer months are ideal for fungal growth and provide a real test of any new protection systems.

Mr Christmas advises that over recent months, the Osmose product development group has set up a number of field tests, ranging from mini-packs through to full-sized packs and logs and said, "These tests have been located at the sites of major anti sapstain users and in some cases shipped to foreign ports. Regular inspections have been undertaken to provide hard data on the real world performance of new products, including comparisons with existing commercial products."

"It is critically important that we fully understand the performance of any new product we offer to the market. We undertake a great deal of laboratory testing first, including testing for efficacy, corrosion and formulation stability. The large scale cooperative field testing that has been set up with potential users is the best way for all parties to experience the benefits that are on offer," concluded Mr Christmas. 🌐

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Sapstain

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Hylite 80™

Anti
Sapstain

FramePro™, new boron water-based structural timber treatment now available in New Zealand

The ability to provide effective treatment of structural timber in New Zealand has been enhanced by the availability of the new Osmose FramePro product. This water-based boron treatment for internal framing applications meets all requirements for the H1.2 hazard class in NZS 3640.

Osmose's New Zealand Technical Sales Manager Terry Smith confirms that the demand for kiln-dried, boron treated framing is increasing. He indicates that, in addition to providing the proven performance of a traditional boron H1.2 preservative, the new treatment has other real advantages.

"This water-based boron treatment is a low odour product that allows the timber to be dispatched from the treatment plant immediately following treatment. Treated timber does not need redrying, holding or any further processing prior to use" said Mr Smith.

FramePro is applied using a low uptake vacuum pressure process. This results in just a three to five percent moisture uptake in kiln dried treated timber and causes only minimal dimensional change.

Mr Smith says packs of timber can be vacuum pressure treated in about an hour using existing CCA or LOSP vacuum pressure treatment cylinders with suitable modifications. "Treatment in finished pack form reduces handling costs and increases flexibility, and the use of existing treatment plants minimizes capital costs and ensures easy chemical containment".

In the case of the two major commercial users who are already using the new boron treatment, existing pressure treatment cylinders have been used successfully with only slight modifications. The treatment cycles used for application of FramePro will also allow treatment to be undertaken in existing LOSP treatment plants.

He adds that results from commercial applications are the same as those achieved in the extensive laboratory and pilot testing undertaken at the Osmose research and development facility.

Mr Smith also advises that the use of FramePro for H1.2 applications has been approved by independent quality assurance providers, the New Zealand Timber Treatment Council and AgriQuality, following their separate

treated product testing and analysis. The new FramePro boron water-based low pressure treatment offers another treatment application for structural timber that complies with appropriate New Zealand standards and has distinct advantages that will make it an attractive option for the New Zealand treatment and building industries. 🌐



Terry Smith - NZ Technical Sales Manager

"FramePro is a low uptake water based preservative, providing full sapwood penetration, meets NZ standards for H1.2 & the timber can be dispatched immediately following treatment".

New Osmose boron water-based treatment complies with New Zealand standards and has distinct advantages for the building industry.



LOSP treatment expansion in Queensland

Strong market demand for PROTIM® LOSP treated timber products in north Queensland is driven by the need to provide effective protection against termites. In addition, increased demand for laminated, finger jointed and other engineered timber products is also behind the increasing popularity of LOSP treatment.

Recently expanding their treatment capacity with the addition of new PROTIM® LOSP plants have been Queensland companies Ravenshoe Timbers and Cahill Timber. These newly commissioned plants are amongst the most modern and efficient LOSP treatment facilities in Australasia.

The ability of Ravenshoe Timbers to treat its moulded product lines to H3, using their new LOSP treatment plant has added a further dimension to the success of this specialist mill.

Ravenshoe's Managing Director Doug Simms said the mill, whilst continuing the sawmilling tradition of the past, is also among a new breed of progressive Australian sawmills specialising in milling, drying, finger-jointing, profiling and treating mouldings for the building industry.

The production of a wide range of mouldings at Ravenshoe has been strengthened by the commissioning of the new LOSP treatment facility. "We can now offer our customers a more responsive and cost effective supply service," he said.

According to Osmose's Regional Manager Ian Clarke, the LOSP plant now operating at Ravenshoe was designed and manufactured in modular form in New Zealand and assembled on-site with the assistance of Osmose technical staff.

Acknowledging the assistance provided by Osmose in assembling and commissioning the treatment plant, Mr Simms said, "The technical input from Osmose made the project much easier for us. We are very happy with the final result."

"We have a strong working relationship with Osmose and we look forward to that continuing into the future," concluded Mr Simms.

Meanwhile at Maryborough, Denis Cahill's CCA timber treatment business has been dramatically expanded with the commissioning of a new state-of-the-art Protim® LOSP treatment facility, utilizing the Protim® Optimum™ preservation system.

The plant was officially opened by the honorable Warren Truss MP, Commonwealth Minister for Transport and Regional Services in November last year.

Mr Truss praised the Cahill Timber initiative to: "Keep in step with industry change and prepare for the exciting challenges facing the timber treatment industry."

According to Mr Cahill the LOSP plant, contained in a new 32 metre by 30 metre building, represents a significant investment. "We believe it is money well spent and we're going great guns thanks to the technical support provided by Osmose and a good market in North Queensland for framing timbers" said Mr Cahill.

The plant has been specifically designed to suit Cahill Timber, with a customised cylinder designed to reduce the 'void volume' which significantly reduces the time required to transfer excess preservative. "This has resulted in a faster turn around time, and reduced preservative stock holding."



The process control system allows complete automation and extensive reporting and has the latest on-screen graphics depicting every stage of the treatment process in real time.

"We have now really cranked up the plant and are pushing through some good volumes," said Mr Cahill.

Auswood, a well established and leading manufacturer and supplier of LOSP treated timber mouldings have also been implementing some change, and recently upgraded their treatment system to Protim® Optimum™. The significant advantage over the previous tin based formulation, is the ability to treat all H3 product with a single formulation. ☺

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Flower Power gets message across

As many customers find it hard to imagine what their outdoor areas could look like with a little renovating, Willmott Forests, in conjunction with Flower Power, have erected a display at Flower Power's Taren Point store in Sydney. The exhibit provides homeowners with creative ideas, designed to bring outdoor entertaining areas to life.

Most of the products manufactured by the Willmott Forests' Timber Processing Division are sold into the growing landscape market through Bunnings, Mitre 10 and number of other landscape and hardware supply specialists. The products are extremely versatile and can be used in structures such as retaining walls, fences, decks, pergolas and planter-boxes.

Willmott Forests is a publicly listed, quality endorsed, fully integrated forestry company producing a wide range of treated and structural timber products from its pine processing operations in south eastern NSW.

Willmott Forests is a leading supplier of CCA treated landscaping and fencing products into the NSW and ACT markets. Further expansion of the present distribution of treated timber products into Victoria is underway.

The Willmott Forests Prime Pine range

offers an extensive choice of treated landscaping products to suit every application. Willmott Forests' Prime Pine brand is one of the market leaders in landscape timber products by providing security of future resource through the company's timber processing operations.

Willmott Forests Managing Director, Mr Derham added that the company's knowledge and expertise provides a unique opportunity to strengthen its business activity.

"Our specialist product range, service and secure resource enables us to plan growth and give customers the security of knowing they are dealing with a mature, reliable and growing business.

As an integrated forestry company we provide plantation establishment and management services through to offering a full range of structural and landscape timber products" said Mr Derham.

"Being the grower, producer and supplier we can monitor our product quality standards from the forest, to production and right through to the customer. Quality is met through strict control guidelines. Our Prime Pine products are treated to Australian Standards and offer a limited 50 year guarantee," Mr Derham concluded. 🌐

Appointment strengthens New Zealand team

New Zealand Technical Sales Manager Terry Smith has announced the recent appointment of Rachel Duley to the Osmose team.

Rachel has joined Osmose in the role of Territory Manager. "We are pleased to be able to add her abilities to our already strong team," said Mr Smith.

He said that Osmose was delighted to be able to secure the services of such a high calibre person. "Rachel is well regarded in the timber industry and will further strengthen our capacity to service our expanding customer base."

Rachel has worked in the timber preservation industry for the past ten years. In that time she has gained extensive experience in all aspects of preservation processes and technology. She has a strong research and development background. More recently, Rachel has applied her skills and knowledge in a key customer service role where she has built an impressive reputation for achieving results.

Rachel completed a Bachelor in Science degree at Auckland University in 1994 and also holds a Certificate in Management from Manukau Institute of Technology. 🌐



Rachel Duley - joined the New Zealand Osmose team as a Territory Manager.



Willmott Forests

Taren Point Flower Power display provides creative ideas, designed to bring outdoor entertaining areas to life.

Comprehensive range and custom service with Termite Tuff

Pinewood Products, located at Gaven on the Gold Coast is a one stop timber company. The company offers a comprehensive range of treated pine and hardwood products. It isn't surprising that the company supplies to wholesalers and merchants from Cairns to Sydney, and has sent product as far south as Adelaide and north to Darwin.

A family owned business, Pinewood Products' management has more than a hundred years of collective knowledge of the timber and building industry. Chief executive Colin Sealey has 40 years experience under his belt. "I think that, as a company, we pride ourselves on our timber knowledge, good quality products and service," he said.

Pinewood has registered Termite Tuff as the company's official brand name. Products are now being promoted using the Termite Tuff brand and logo.

"We are aiming for our products to be acknowledged as market leaders and identified easily in the market place," said Mr Sealey.

Pinewood Products has a CCA treatment plant, timber drying kilns, an electric dehumidifier, re-saw capacity, moulders, and capacity for producing perfect round logs.

"We are trying to maximise our business around supplying a range of quality treated products, and offering a wide range of custom services," said Mr Sealey.

"Our various services include custom kiln drying, custom machining, custom CCA treatment of pine to H3, H4, and H5 and hardwoods to H3 and H4. We currently treat a wide range of products including sawn pine, pine moulded products, perfect round logs and hardwood product lines, including custom moulded products."

The Log Factory at Gosford on the NSW Central Coast has been buying treated products from Pinewood Products for ten years. Director Gordon Monro, said they purchase a range of products for household and industrial use, including posts, lattice, decking, landscape and DIY lines.

"We have found that the quality of Pinewood's treated timber is consistently very good – which gives us a lot of confidence."

Pinewood's product range, in both pine and hardwoods, can only be described as extensive. Treated product lines include everything from chamfer boards and shiplap claddings, mouldings, decking, lattice, agricultural and industrial products to DIY, landscape and fencing materials. ☼



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Design awards showcase timber versatility

The Australian Timber Design Awards are a national competition aimed at showcasing the best in Australian timber design. The 2005 awards presentation, held at Old Customs House in Brisbane last November, boasted the highest number and quality of entrants yet. Osmose was proud to be the sponsor of the Exterior Structures Category of the awards.

The Federal Forestry and Conservation Minister Senator Ian Macdonald presided over the award presentation. He acknowledged the "wonderful array of designs presented" and congratulated the architects and designers "who displayed the versatility of Australian timber and demonstrated that timber can be a truly sustainable material."

The winner of the Exterior Structures Category of the awards was the Chain Valley Bay suspension bridge and board walks at the Karignan Creek Wetland, Wyong, NSW. The suspension bridge and board walks form a vital pedestrian and cycleway link between the communities of the northern and southern villages of Chain Valley Bay. They were designed to minimise the impact on this sensitive area, while

achieving a bridge crossing in excess of 50 metres and providing some 75 metres of elevated boardwalk.

Construction materials for the suspension bridge and board walks were selected to maximise the efficient use of sustainable and durable Australian hardwoods for suspension trestles, bridge beams, joists, boardwalk structure and decking. Treated hardwood piles were used for the bridge supports and to support the boardwalks.

Group Marketing Manager Dave Airey said "Osmose was delighted to be associated with these prestigious national timber design awards that celebrated the design versatility of timber". He echoed remarks by others about the overall calibre of entries, noting the exterior structure category was particularly well supported and saying "Some of the designs in this category are quite outstanding and very clever."

He also pointed out the important design, structural and utility roles that both treated hardwood and pine timber played in the external structures and other award categories. ☼



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*For further information see separate guarantee documents.

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