

CUSTOMER NEWSLETTER | April 2022

# TIMBERLINK

**Next**  **Timber**  
by Timberlink

IT'S WHAT BETTER TOMORROWS ARE BUILT ON

- Timberlink turns nine
- Bell Bay \$63M Upgrade
- Why Timber Framing?

**Timber**  
The Ultimate  
Renewable

**TIMBER LINK**<sup>®</sup>

AUSTRALIA | NEW ZEALAND



## In this issue

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Timberlink Update              | 3  |
| Bell Bay Update                | 4  |
| Timberlink Safety              | 5  |
| NeXTimber®                     | 6  |
| Housing Market                 | 10 |
| Timberlink Green               | 9  |
| Why timber framing             | 12 |
| 5 minutes with Trevor Innes    | 14 |
| Fennell's Transport Innovation | 15 |
| Question of the Month          | 16 |
| People News                    | 17 |
| Careers Corner                 | 18 |
| Socials                        | 19 |

**Cover photo:** NeXTimber (artist impression)

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Timberlink Australia  
Telephone 1800 088 135  
[www.timberlinkaustralia.com.au](http://www.timberlinkaustralia.com.au)

Timberlink New Zealand  
Telephone + 64 3 520 6240  
[www.timberlinknz.co.nz](http://www.timberlinknz.co.nz)

Welcome to the April edition of our customer newsletter.

In this month's issue, we share details about our NeXTimber CLT and GLT investment, additional upgrades at our Bell Bay site, new awards, industry update and reveal details of our graduate program... and that's just the start.

As always, we thank our valued customers for their ongoing support and wish you a safe Easter break with your family.

Happy reading!



# Timberlink turns nine

On the 1st of February 2022 we recognised Timberlink's 9th birthday. Much has happened in our business, and within the industry over this period. I wanted to take a moment to highlight the significant outcomes that our team, with our customers support, have helped this business deliver in what has been a very challenging two years.

Despite the many challenges we continue to face due to COVID-19, we remain well on track in our journey to build a world class Timber Products Business. Over this period, we have:

- Worked with our customers to supply record demand and volumes, understanding the enormous pressure that customers have been under.
- Now completing our once-in-a-generation \$90M investment upgrading our Tarpeena facility into Australia's newest and most advanced sawmill.
- Commenced work at Tarpeena on the construction of Australia's first combined world scale softwoods CLT and GLT manufacturing line, where our NeXTimber range of mass timber products will be manufactured.
- Planned and committed to further expand the capability and capacity of timber manufacturing by announcing:



- A \$63M upgrade of our Bell Bay facility
- Building an LOSP treatment plant at Tarpeena and
- The construction of a \$12M wood composite plant at Bell Bay

Timberlink has continued to significantly invest throughout this period, and well beyond, confident in the long-term strength of our industry and the benefits of timber being the ultimate renewable.

The last two years have been difficult in many ways for all of us. I wanted to thank our customers for supporting us and working together to ensure the timber industry is making a sustainable change for future generations. All the best for the year ahead and I wish you and your families good health and happiness throughout the year.

**Ian Tyson**  
**CEO**  
**Timberlink Australia | New Zealand**



# Bell Bay \$63M Upgrade



A \$63 million capital investment will continue to transform the Bell Bay facility, increasing production capacity by more than fifty percent. The project will commence in 2022 with commissioning expected by the end of 2025.

Timberlink Chief Executive Officer Ian Tyson said, “At the completion of this project, the combined output of Timberlink’s Bell Bay Tasmania and Tarpeena South Australia manufacturing facilities will position Timberlink to increase supply of manufacture of structural timber for use in the construction of homes in Australia. The project has been brought forward by over two years in order to support additional supply into the Australian market.”

The upgrade will increase both the volume of renewable plantation pine logs that can be processed and the yield per log, creating a workplace of the future, with high tech machinery improved accuracy, safety and job security. The planned investment is in addition to major upgrades completed two years ago and the construction of Tasmania’s first Wood Plastic Composites manufacturing facility announced earlier this year for the Bell Bay site.



Ian Tyson with Bridget Archer MP and The Hon Michael Ferguson MP

An increase of more than 50% in on-island sovereign timber manufactured from sustainably managed plantation pine





# Safety Update

## Timberlink wins Bronze Award - Safe Work SA Awards

Every October, SafeWork SA encourages all South Australian businesses to get involved with National Safe Work Month and host a work health and safety themed event.

SafeWork SA's 2021 'Organise Your Own Workplace Activity' competition ignited an impressive range of creative activities that promoted and highlighted the importance of WHS in the workplace. A record number of 42 businesses registered their original events and activities that addressed risks specific to their business and workers.

Activities were awarded points by a judging panel made up of WHS specialists, focusing on:

- WHS relevance, Employee engagement, and Originality

Winners were awarded either gold, silver, or bronze awards.

We are pleased to announce that Timberlink won a Bronze Award for our Hands and Fingers safety Event at our Tarpeena site.

Our Tarpeena site developed a theme around a major safety issue in our line of work, creating and promoting the theme "Safety is in my hand". This activity included education, awareness and understanding for hand protection.



### Safe Work Month Competition

Some ideas to get started

Consider the hierarchy of controls – give priority to eliminating the need to handle hazards in the first instance, before resorting to wearing personal protective equipment.

- Tools to remove our hands from the line of fire
- Safety knives – retractable blades
- Eliminating blind spots where we can't see where we are putting our hands
- Where we do need to use hand protection, what's the most suitable and safe type?
- Is there a way we can improve our selection, storage and use of hand protection?

**Competition Details**  
Provide the best hazard reduction initiative that will improve hands and fingers safety at Timberlink Tarpeena for your chance to win:  
**1<sup>st</sup> Prize \$200 gift card - 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$100 gift card - 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - \$50 gift card**  
To enter please send your initiative to Shane Anderson before 12pm Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021  
The winner will be chosen by the Tarpeena WHSE Committee and announced after the November WHSE Committee Meeting.

We also held a competition where all of our staff were encouraged to provide the best hazard reduction initiative that will improve hand and finger safety.

### Timberlink's Winners:

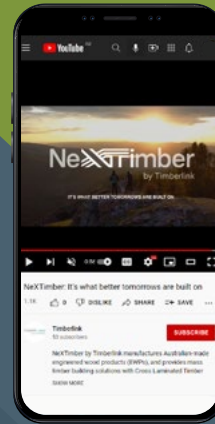
Gold: Chris Gartner (Dry Mill)

Silver: Matthew Dowson (maintenance)  
Ant Mathys (Dry Mill)

Bronze: Mike Hunter (Saw Shop)

# NeXTimber®

by Timberlink



▶ [Watch our NeXTimber video](#)

or scan the  
QR code



## NeXTimber: It's what better tomorrows are built on

NeXTimber by Timberlink will manufacture Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) and Glue Laminated Timber (GLT) products providing an Australian-made renewable and low carbon solution for commercial, residential, and public projects. The NeXTimber range can be used on their own or in conjunction with traditional building materials.

Backed by a \$63 million investment, the NeXTimber range will be manufactured on Australia's first combined CLT and GLT manufacturing line, within a purpose-built manufacturing plant being constructed adjacent to Timberlink's state-of-the-art timber manufacturing facility in Tarpeena, South Australia.

Timberlink Chief Executive Officer Ian Tyson said "NeXTimber by Timberlink places us at the forefront of integrated forestry and softwood processing in Australia. The NeXTimber range will be manufactured at Timberlink's Tarpeena site from Timberlink timber,

sourced from local certified pine plantations, with the most significant contributor, like Timberlink, under the ownership of funds managed by New Forests. This connection from seed to structure will give NeXTimber customers a unique level of supply certainty."

Ian Tyson continued, "Currently around half of Australia's engineered timber is being imported and the demand for this is expected to continuously grow in the next decade, so growing the capacity of locally made CLT and GLT is great news for Australian manufacturing and local regional employment."

"Timberlink is looking forward to growing the NeXTimber brand and converting more specifiers and builders to using Australian-made mass timber because as our brand says NeXTimber: It's what better tomorrows are built on."

NeXTimber will take us into the 21st century, using natural renewable timber to make our planet more sustainable and liveable for the next generations.



# A Ground-breaking day for NeXTimber®

In February, our first sod was officially turned at Timberlink's NeXTimber manufacturing facility at Tarpeena South Australia. Once completed, the state-of-the-art manufacturing plant will occupy a massive 15,000 square metres, large enough to house twelve Olympic sized swimming pools.

Timberlink is committed to product and service excellence and is partnering with world leading equipment and software providers including Kallesoe Machinery A/S, Hans Hundegger AG and hsbcad to place NeXTimber at the forefront of supply capability in the Australian and Oceanic region.

The sub ground civil and piling works have been completed, with the building completing late this year.

Timberlink's CEO Ian Tyson said "Timberlink has recently completed a major multi dimensioned investment at Tarpeena's mill which largely has completed our timber manufacturing modernisation, creating a world class timber manufacturing facility. The co-location of a CLT and GLT Plant on the same site makes this facility unique

in Australia. Timber is the Ultimate Renewable and NeXTimber products provide carbon negative mass timber solutions for building components, that enables a reduction in the embodied carbon in a range of building types. However, you use NeXTimber, you won't just be building a building. You'll be creating a better future".

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development David Basham said "the combined manufacturing plant will boost local timber production and provide an alternative for steel and concrete in mid and high-rise construction".

"Timberlink's new state-of-the-art manufacturing plant at Tarpeena will be a game-changer for South Australia's timber industry and it's very exciting to see construction now underway," Minister Basham said.

Cr Shirley Little District Council of Grant said "It is wonderful to see this investment of \$63M in our town of Tarpeena with a population of 414 people. Timberlink has created great confidence in the community and supporting ongoing employment".

Timberlink's CEO Ian Tyson



Timberlink's CEO Ian Tyson breaking ground with David Basham MP and Cr Shirley Little

# NeXTimber<sup>®</sup> - CLT & GLT Range

## Cross Laminated Timber

NeXTimber Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) is made from machine-graded, kiln-dried radiata pine, which is finger jointed, dressed and arranged to form a solid timber panel.

Alternating layers are laid perpendicular to each other, with adhesive applied along the faces and edges of each piece of timber before being cured under pressure to form one solid rectangular billet up to 16m in length, 3.5m wide and 360mm thick.

Individual building elements are then digitally machined from the billet using Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) technology.

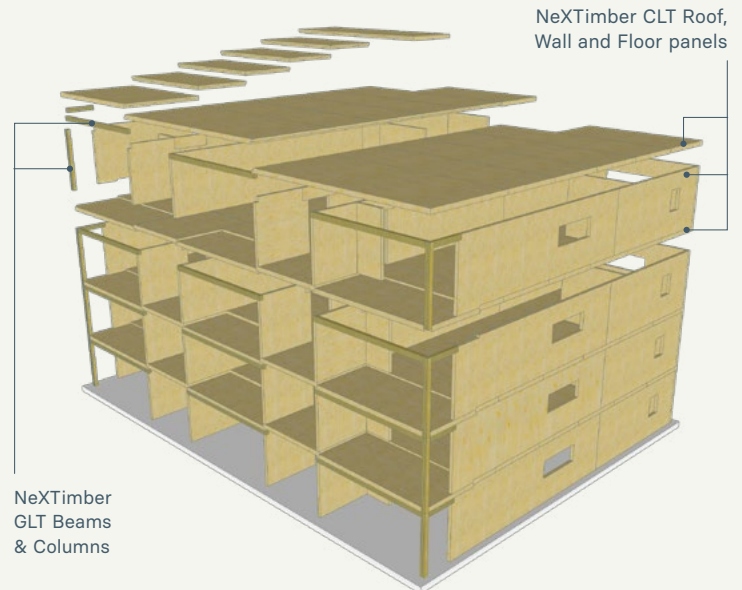
The cross direction layup of the panels, combined with the digital fabrication, offer a strong, rigid, dimensionally stable and highly accurate building product that offers versatility for designers to specify as roof, floor and wall structures.

- ✔ CLT panels are edge-glued for improved transverse stiffness, in-plane rigidity and overall structural performance.
- ✔ NeXTimber CLT and GLT products can achieve superior durability and fire performance with the use of thermoset adhesives for all gluing applications when compared to products manufactured using thermoplastic based adhesives.

## Glue Laminated Timber

NeXTimber Glue Laminated Timber (GLT) is an engineered wood product made from finger jointing and layers of machine-graded, kiln-dried and dressed radiata pine, laminated together with adhesive and cured under pressure to form one singular element that can be used as a high-performing structural member.

Unlike CLT, the timber's grain runs in one direction, making it well suited for use as beams, columns and portal frame structures.





## Our Range

NeXTimber's CLT and GLT product range is produced from certified plantation radiata pine. Our high-quality Australian mass timber building solutions offer a renewable, sustainable and carbon positive timber building solution for commercial, residential, and public projects; used on their own or in conjunction with traditional building materials. As part of our service we can provide all the necessary fixings and connections, along with temporary lifting systems to suit project-specific requirements.

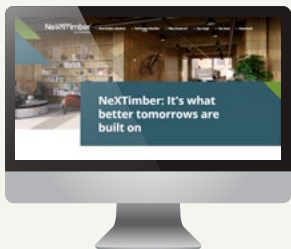
### NeXTimber CLT Range

- Roof panels
- Floor panels
- Wall panels
- Lintels & other framing

### NeXTimber GLT Range

- Beams
- Columns
- Frame & truss members

For further information on our CLT or GLT range scan the QR code to visit our [website](#) or contact: Luca Brown  
lbrown@timberlinkaustralia.com.au  
or 0408 924 145



Production of the NeXTimber range is scheduled begin in 2023. Our locally based technical support team is ready now to help you optimise the use of NeXTimber products in your future projects to achieve maximum cost, time, and environmental efficiencies.

# Housing Market

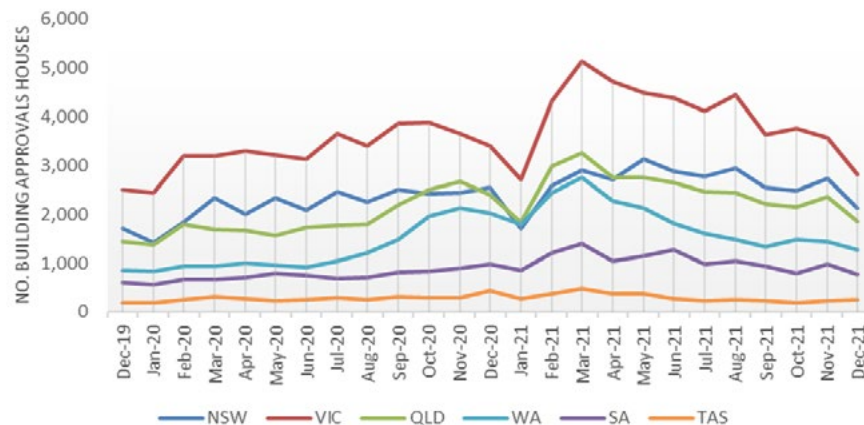
## Housing Construction Activity

Demand for new housing is currently at elevated levels even as building approvals are well past the peak created by the HomeBuilder stimulus. Economic conditions remain favourable with mortgage rates still at record low levels, employment growing at 3% nationally as unemployment fell to 4.2% in Dec-21, with the outcome being a sustained rise in house prices, as capital city values increased by 21% year on year. Interest rates are not expected to increase until late 2022, solid employment growth is anticipated and with the re-opening of international borders the economy is now expected to grow by 3.8% during 2022.

Compared to 2020, national building approvals for houses were 26% higher in 2021, with WA and SA experiencing growth over 40%. NSW and VIC rose by 20%, while QLD and TAS were 30% and 5% higher respectively. As the remaining HomeBuilder applications flow through the pipeline, approval numbers have declined by 6% nationally during the Dec-21 quarter, most notably in VIC and QLD.

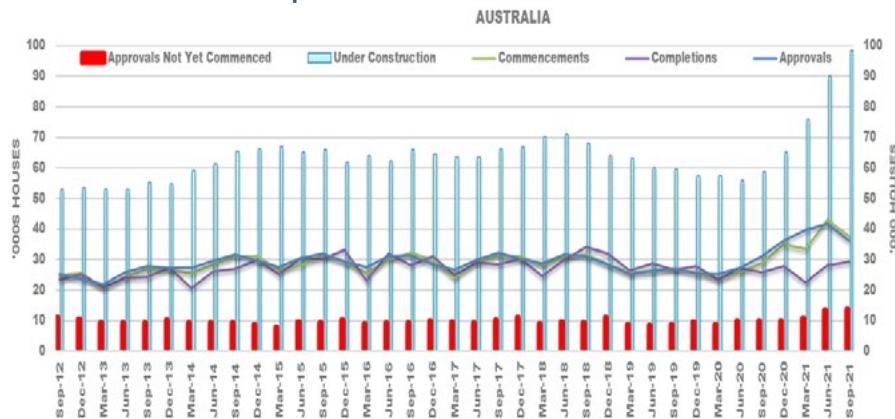
With the extension of the HomeBuilder construction commencement date from 6 to 18 months, the last projects from the scheme can commence up to Sep-22, easing the strain on the

## Number of building approvals for houses



Source: ABS

## House Construction Pipeline



Source: ABS

full pipeline. However, the strained working capacity of dwelling construction is highlighted by the record number of 98,400 houses under construction nationally. With an additional 14,000 houses

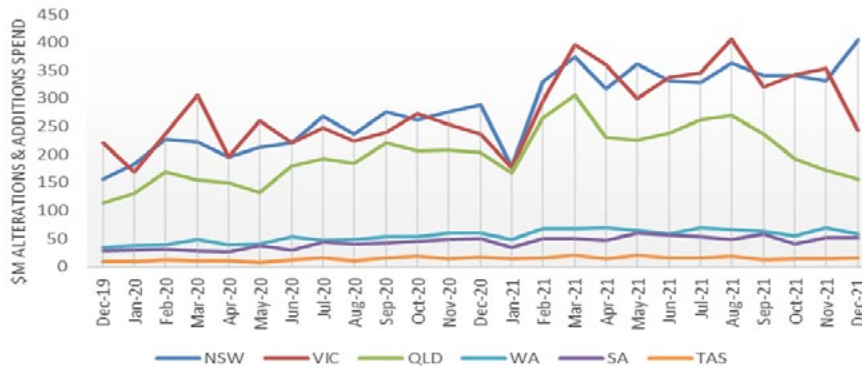
approved not yet commenced as at Sep-21. The bulging pipeline is apparent across all states, as displayed by the widening gap between commencements and completions over the past 12 months.



## House Construction Pipeline

| Sep 21 Quarter              | NSW    | VIC    | QLD    | SA    | WA     | TAS   | AUS    |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| Approvals                   | 8,672  | 12,201 | 7,125  | 3,036 | 4,425  | 712   | 36,171 |
| Approvals Not Yet Commenced | 3,151  | 2,520  | 1,001  | 3,695 | 3,108  | 418   | 13,893 |
| Commencements               | 8,764  | 12,647 | 7,950  | 2,738 | 4,743  | 841   | 37,682 |
| Under Construction          | 24,044 | 28,808 | 16,991 | 8,533 | 16,852 | 3,177 | 98,405 |
| Completed                   | 6,155  | 10,724 | 6,402  | 2,393 | 2,971  | 716   | 29,362 |

## Alterations & Additions: Dec 2019 - Dec 2021



Source: ABS

## House Construction Pipeline

Alterations and Additions (A & A) are a significant contributor to softwood timber demand and have been boosted by rising home values, high property turnover and the HomeBuilder renovations scheme. A & A national spend for projects over \$10,000 during the 3 months to Dec-21 was 12% above the same period last year, with substantial gains in NSW and VIC. For the 12 months to Dec-21 national A & A expenditure, reached \$12.4 billion, 33% above the 2020 level.

# Why Timber Framing?

Timber Framing is the leading choice for building Australian homes, and our future.

Around 80% of Australian homes are built with timber framing. As one of the oldest resources, it's also the building material we're most experienced with. It's safe and trusted, and it's the only framing material that tackles irreversible climate change. And research shows that this is exactly what Australians are looking for.

Timber framing is:

## **Renewable and Sustainable**

With negative perceptions about logging and deforestation, people often think cutting down trees is a bad thing. However, when timber comes from a sustainably managed source, it's the most eco-friendly building material available as at least one tree is replanted for each tree that is harvested. In Australia, we replant over 70 million trees every year and our softwood plantations grow the amount of timber framing needed for an average home in less than a minute.

## **Energy Efficient**

Timber has the lowest embodied energy of all mainstream building materials. This means that the entire production process of timber framing – from planting and harvesting to manufacturing, transportation and installation – uses the least amount of energy. And new technologies and innovations are increasing yields from each log, decreasing waste and reducing energy use further.

## **Reducing Greenhouse Gases**

Timber framing is a natural way to remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. Trees grow for around 30 years before they are harvested, allowing them to capture large amounts of carbon dioxide. Approximately half the dry weight of timber framing is carbon, which is locked up and stored as long as the timber exists.



## **Carbon Positive**

The entire production process – from sapling to timber framing installation – removes more carbon from the air we breathe than it emits. Younger trees collect carbon dioxide at a faster rate, so it's actually a good thing that they replace the older trees. And for every tree that's harvested, at least one more is planted in its place.





### **Strong, Durable and Quiet**

A timber-framed house is quiet, strong and stable, reducing risk of premature cracking in plaster linings. Advances in the industry, like engineered wood, also mean we can create high-tensile products for expansive open-plan living spaces and high ceilings, and homes that will last for generations to come.

### **Natural Insulating**

Timber framing is a natural insulator. Tiny air pockets in timber framing add resistance to heat flow throughout a home. And with good design, timber-framed buildings can better regulate their internal temperature and reduce household energy use when it comes to heating and cooling.

### **Low-Cost Flexibility**

While most timber frames are prefabricated or built off-site, any last minute changes or variations are easily made onsite by carpenters equipped with all the tools they need. And any extra timber required is only a trip to the local hardware store away, where it's cut to the exact size to avoid wastage.

### **Termite Treated**

It's important for homes to be protected from termites. Timber framing can be made from safely treated wood that resists termites. Many Australian timber-framed homes are well over 100 years old – a testimony to the longevity of this natural resource.

### **Fire Predictable**

A home's timber framing is protected from fire with cladding, like brick and plasterboard. What's more, timber has significant insulating properties causing it to burn in a slow, predictable way, while maintaining its structural integrity. These factors see timber-framed houses perform strongly against fire, giving designers the ability to confidently create strong, durable, and fire-resistant homes.

### **Fast to Assemble**

Timber framing's natural lightweight properties make it easy to transport and install. It means we can prefabricate and construct modules offsite, which increases onsite productivity and decreases weather delays. Builders also have the most experience and know-how with timber framing, making construction even more efficient.

### **Easy to Renovate**

When renovations are required, like when a family outgrows their home, timber framing is simple and easy to work with. Whether it's removing existing framing, adding more timber framing or both, the ready availability of designers, materials and tradespeople familiar with the material make it an easier process.

### **Simple to install Services**

Timber frames can be easily drilled to install plumbing and electrical cables, unlike some materials that require cushioning grommets to protect cable insulation during installation and limit long-term damage to plumbing due to expansion and contraction or corrosion.

### **Good for Australia**

Timber framing helps Australia grow and prosper. From forestry industry and sawmill workers to treatment suppliers, nail plate and frame and truss-manufacturers, distributors, carpenters and tradies – the industry provides over 45,000 local jobs and contributes \$24 billion to the Australian economy each year.





# 5 minutes with...

Trevor Innes - GM Technical & Sustainability

**Sustainability is a key driver for Timberlink's future. Our commitment is demonstrated with our focus on new products - NeXTimber**

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**Q: What is your background and what does your current role in the business entail?**

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A: I'm a mechanical engineer with a PhD in timber processing. I've been working with or in the timber industry for 30 years. I am currently responsible for sustainability across the business as well as technical matters such as product quality and compliance, process engineering and technology deployment.

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**Q: What does sustainability mean for you?**

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A: Leaving the world a better place than it was when I entered it, socially as well as environmentally.

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**Q: Has focus on sustainability always been a part of your career trajectory?**

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A: I've always had a green bent, this is one of the reasons I joined the timber industry as it's one of the very few true renewable resources available to us. My role extended formally from technical to include environmental management and sustainability around 7 years ago. It's a key focus of my role with NeXTimber.

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**Q: How important is sustainability to your organisation? How does this commitment manifest through various stages of product development and company operations?**

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A: It's really part of our DNA through our ownership model. We are owned by an investment trust administered by New Forests, whose differentiator in their investment markets started out being their sustainability focus. We see sustainability focus, commitment and performance as essential to the long term health of Timberlink and NeXTimber. This commitment is visible through our significant investments in both NeXTimber – providing products to lock carbon up in buildings – and wood-plastics composites, where our new factory will turn recycled plastic and wood fibre by-product into high performing products such as outdoor decking.

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**Q: What are the company's current priorities from a sustainability point of view?**

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A: We have substantial programs of work mapped out in the areas of greenhouse gas reduction, climate risk, community engagement and providing our employees with a rich experience across all aspects of their employment.

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**Q: What are the company's aspirations, goals and ambitions for the future from a sustainability point of view?**

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A: Timberlink has set formal, verified carbon reduction targets for 2030, these will incorporate NeXTimber and achieving those is a key part of our sustainability plan. We track our sustainability performance across a range of key metrics each month and have calibrated those to the UN Global Compact 5-stage model; we plan to achieve stage 4 in a couple of years' time. We plan to build a robust community engagement model and are working hard to become an employer of choice.

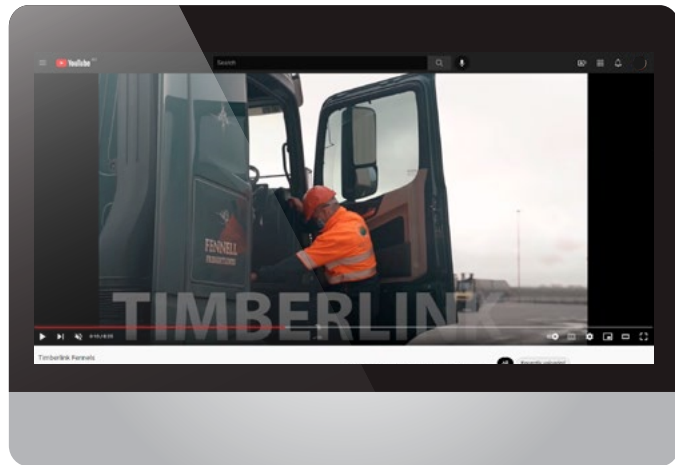





# Fennell's Transport Innovation

At Timberlink, we continuously strive to improve efficiency and effectiveness in all parts of our business. Recently, we worked with local Mount Gambier company Fennell Forestry to develop an AB Triple (AB3) transport solution for Timberlink's Adelaide to Perth markets. This allows us to combine finished goods transport and sawlog within the same journey.

Executive General Manager of Manufacturing James Anderson says, "this is a classic example of innovation leading to a more resilient business. An innovation in finished goods transport became the enabler to procure log supply from further afield and strengthen the security of log supply to our manufacturing hub – a great example of how innovation can position a business to nimbly turn potential adversity into opportunity.



 [Click to watch video or scan the QR code](#)



# Question of the Month

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## Is F7 or MGP10 Graded Timber Better for Outdoor Structures in Australia?



In terms of product performance, both MGP10 and F7 grades meet Australian standards. Stiffness and strength are the two main properties to consider when deciding which grade is better suited to a project. **MGP10 has a higher stiffness grade while F7 has a slightly higher strength grade.** If plans have been provided, it is important to purchase the exact grade of timber specified to ensure that structural integrity is maintained. If not, you can confidently choose either grade.

For outdoor projects containing exposed structural members, appearance is also important.

The nature of trees, the regions in which the plantations are grown, and the local mill operations are all factors that determine which structural grade is manufactured.

Offering both MGP10 and F7 is good for the industry and consumers. Both meet Australian Standards so you can rest assured that both grades will do a great job.

➔ For more information on this topic visit our website: <https://www.timberlinkaustralia.com.au/articles/f7-vs-mgp10-outdoor-in-australia>





# People News

## Graduates on Board

We are excited to welcome two new graduates to the Timberlink team – Angela Dass and Patrick Tjenanda.

Angela has completed a double degree in Law and International Studies at Deakin University.

In her spare time, Angela likes to volunteer as a legal aid to support disadvantaged and struggling members of the community.

Patrick has completed his Bachelor of Business at Monash University. Prior to commencing his degree he was living in the States on a basketball scholarship in Florida.

Both graduates are excited to start their career with Timberlink and as part of the Graduate Program they will have the opportunity to work alongside all functions across the business to gain a better understanding of each department. As part of program both graduates will also visit our mills and have a 3-month stint to further understand timber and how the mills work.

We welcome both Angela and Patrick to the Timberlink team and look forward to them both growing and developing their skills within each team.



Angela Dass

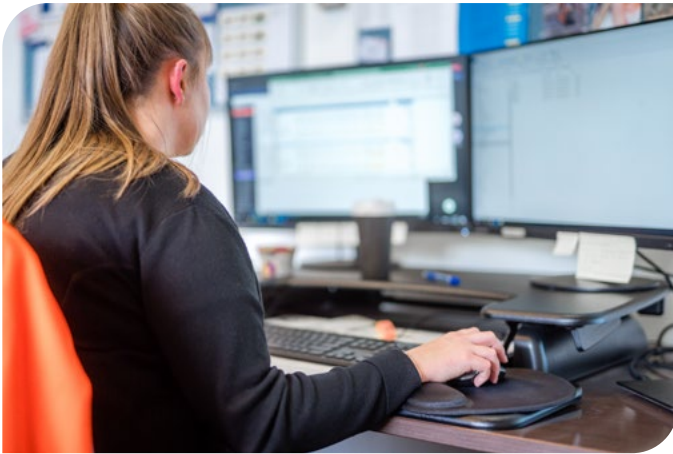


Patrick Tjenanda



# Timberlink is growing!

As we continue to grow, we are actively recruiting for a number of roles across our sites. From operations to account managers, maintenance and planning - there's a number of opportunities to start your career with Timberlink.



Stay up to date with all current vacancies on our website <https://www.timberlinkaustralia.com.au/careers>

Apply today on our Seek account or email your resume to [careers@timberlinkaustralia.com.au](mailto:careers@timberlinkaustralia.com.au)

Apply today



SCAN ME

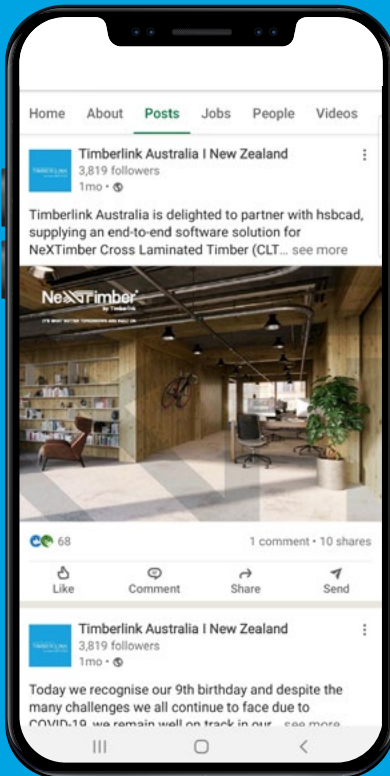
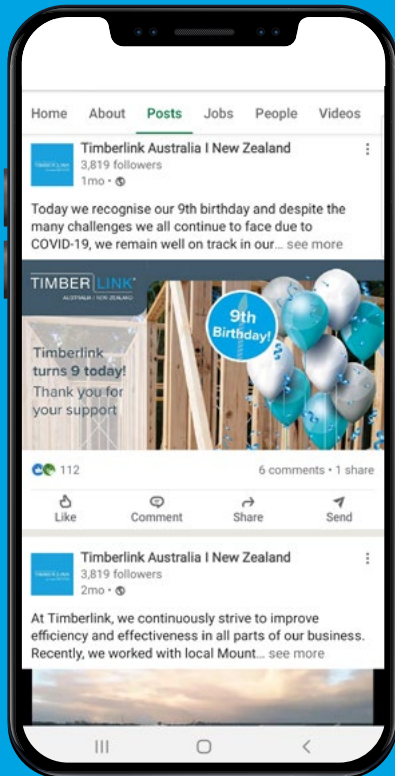


# Let's get Social!

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