

December 2020

TIMBERLINK

New Green Mill under construction at Tarpeena

Timberlink to build new CLT
and GLT plant at Tarpeena

Timber Care - what we
are doing to keep timber
straighter, longer

40 years of service

Christmas closures



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Tarpeena Upgrade Update

The \$100m upgrade of Australian mills is on schedule, increasing production quantities, quality and securing manufacturing jobs in regional Australia.

This year at the mill we installed a 2nd CFK (contra flow kiln), new weighbridge, new stacker, new dry shed, built a new dispatch area, created new and improved storage facilities and much much more.

We're currently in the process of the most significant part of the extensive upgrade, the creations of a 2nd sawline in our Green Mill.

The Green Mill building itself is close to completion with the new Control Room and Dispatch office final fix carpentry and painting underway. The installation of the USNR internal sawline package has now commenced.

We are averaging between 60 and 70 contractor personnel on site at the Green Mill representing up to 25 different contracting companies. All whilst the existing sawline still runs to ensure we are producing as much timber as possible for our customers.

Construction of a new dry shed has been completed with the team immediately taking advantage of the increased capacity to store dry timber undercover.

TIMBER LINK
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Timberlink Australia
Telephone 1800 088 135
www.timberlinkaustralia.com.au

Timberlink New Zealand
Telephone + 64 3 520 6240
www.timberlinknz.co.nz

Timberlink's 2020 Sustainability Report

The 2020 Timberlink Sustainability Report has been released.

We continue to make big strides in sustainability as a triple bottom line concept and this document captures and summarises many areas of the business that we can all be proud of.

The highlights this year include:

- The commitment to cut our scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 53%
- The Australian mill upgrade program leading to numerous efficiency gains
- Safety improvements at the forefront of our mill upgrades program
- The Home Safe, Every one, Every Day program
- Supporting our customers and our local communities

Moving beyond basic sustainability compliance towards becoming an inherently sustainable business is a goal Timberlink's leadership team and Board set itself a few years ago. We are proud that the Australian mill upgrade program will see the limited Australian timber supply used more efficiently, bringing our customers a more secure timber supply for years to come.



TIMBER CARE

What Timberlink is doing to keep timber straighter for longer

Check out Timberlink's YouTube channel for further tips on how to keep your timber straighter



How Timberlink is investing and innovating to keep timber straighter for longer in the harsh Australian climate

In our last newsletter we shared a few tips with you on how to best store your timber. We summarised it by asking you to **Stack, Strap and Wrap** your timber.

We love timber here and we have some of Australia's leading experts working to ensure that it stays as straight as possible in the harsh Australian climate. We've also recently invested \$100m in our Australian mills, including some of the latest state of the art sawmilling equipment available in the world. This new technology enables us to deliver a more consistent piece of timber.



New CFK kilns keep timber straighter

Here are some of the things we do to keep timber straight:

- 1** Our Lucidnye scanners use AI technology to scan each piece of timber and ensure it is up to standard.
- 2** We've Installed an additional continuous kiln (CFK) at our Tarpeena site. These kilns improve the quality of dried timber while saving 30% on energy. The drying process in the CFK is very gentle with long presteam/warmup and reconditioning parts of the drying cycle resulting in timber that's very stable and moisture content that's very uniform. All structural timber manufactured at Tarpeena is now dried through continuous kilns.
- 3** Our upgrades include improved storage areas meaning finished goods are kept away from standing water and packaging is less prone to damage. These factors ensure moisture content variability doesn't increase during storage.
- 4** A much larger undercover dry rack storage is being installed at Tarpeena. This ensures that freshly kiln-dried racks are taken directly to protected storage, minimising the chance of moisture pickup prior to planing and grading in the Drymill.
- 5** All work in progress (WIP) rack stock is stored on either concrete or hard stands. This helps to ensure the stack is stored square and therefore keeps the timber straighter.
- 6** Regular stacking audits are carried out to ensure stacking integrity of both WIP rack stock and finished goods.
- 7** All finished goods are now stored on well drained bitumen or concrete to reduce risk of water ingress through base of packs and reduce plastic damage by forklift tines.
- 8** All planed WIP products destined for further treatment processing are stored undercover until dispatch from site.



CLT GLT building Brisbane

The \$60m investment will create up to **50 new full-time jobs** and the new CLT and GLT plant will be the **first** of its kind in Australia, combining both CLT and GLT in the one facility



Timberlink's CLT and GLT plant to be built in Tarpeena, South Australia

Construction is due to begin next year with a completion date of 2023

Timberlink is pleased to advise that after a significant review of possible locations, our Tarpeena sawmill site has been selected to build Australia's first softwood, state-of-the-art CLT (Cross Laminated Timber) and GLT (Glue Laminated Timber) manufacturing facility. Initially creating 27 full-time permanent jobs, then rising to 50 jobs once the plant reaches capacity.

The plant is scheduled to open in 2023 and will be co-located with the recently expanded and upgraded softwood sawmill at Tarpeena. This facility will create interest from the timber industry from around the world as it will be unique to have a combined state of the art sawmill and GLT, CLT plant on one site. This facility will showcase the best of leading technology that creates the ultimate renewable, timber.

The Tarpeena mill currently employs over 200 people and contributes \$150m to the local Mt Gambier economy. Around 150 additional jobs will also be created during the construction phase.

Timberlink gratefully acknowledges the District Council of Grant for their strong support and enthusiasm for the new facility to be located in Tarpeena. Mayor Richard Sage and Council has shown great support for the project and has worked with Timberlink management to achieve this outcome for Tarpeena.

"CLT and GLT is the building material of the 21st century, the product is being embraced by leading architects, builders and designers and replacing concrete and steel in our cities with timber that stores carbon and is the ultimate renewable. Most of the product will be supplied into large buildings in capital cities so we could have built the plant closer to those cities. With the facility being constructed at Tarpeena there are benefits with it being located on the same site as our saw mill and the region and we're delighted to be able secure this commitment from the South Australian Government and the District Council of Grant" Timberlink CEO Ian Tyson said.

Dave Rollins

One of Tasmania's finest timbers retires to his herb garden

Anyone that has had the pleasure of meeting Dave Rollins will know he is a larger-than-life character. After nearly 44 years in the industry he is finally finishing his "gap year" and retiring to enjoy life with wife Jo and the family.

Dave began his career in timber in 1976 after doing some bar work in Burnie. Whilst working in the Cumming Bros Sawmill timber yard, he completed a 4-year cadetship in timber through RMIT, learning all things timber from the nursery to the mill. "It was Dave's depth of knowledge regarding timber processing and products was always valued by customers – he was always prepared to go the extra mile", says former manager Sue Wood.

Dave first worked for Timberlink in 1987 when joining what was then Tas Softwoods. During his time with the company he has had 2 stints at our Tarpeena mill in South Australia as well as time in Melbourne and of course at our Bell Bay mill in Northern Tasmania.

Whilst rewarding, the moves were hard said Dave "I want to thank my wife (Jo) and children (Zak and Meg) who have had to start all over again in new communities. Particularly Jo who has worked as long as me and has only just racked up her 1st lot of long service given, she had 2 stints each in the Tas, Vic and SA Education systems."

But he didn't start in Sales, originally Dave was manually stacking 12x2 18' blackwood boards. As he moved from the yard into sales after a couple of years, he had to begin keeping track of stock inventory. In true 1970's style this was done on a piece of Burnie Board, painted white,

brushing the records on then leaving it to dry for the next tally.

These days "IT rules" says Dave, "the immediacy with which you can get information today is the change that stands out most, we can tell customers exactly what we have and what we will have very quickly."

"We used to send out stock lists to keep track of what was purchased on a telex tape and then there was the Gestetner for copying said Dave. "The industry is also a lot safer today than it was when he began a lot of things then would have been OHS issues today."

Enjoying the company of the great characters met in the Auspine days at the Pines pub in Tarpeena on a Friday evening was a particularly fond memory for Dave.

The job had other perks to with the "opportunity to visit most of Australia, as well as NZ, Fiji and South Africa a plus."

Well known for his sharp wit, Tasmanian State Sales Manager Gareth Watson said he will miss his humour around the office and his well worded emails. Likewise Sue Wood said that she will miss his unique sense of humour most.

At the end of the day though it was a passion for his customers and their businesses that drove Dave, "he cared about the customers as if their business was his business" says Tasmanian State Sales Manager Gareth Watson.



His customers have made an indelible impact on his life, "I've learned a lot from them" said David "they've all contributed to my growth, but I won't miss waking up at 4am to drive to Hobart, so I think it is the right time for me and my family".

Dave is looking forward to cooking more for wife Jo, making a herb garden and spending more time with children and grandchildren.

Initially Dave got the job in timber as he took a gap year from university studies, as that "gap year" comes to a close over 40 years later, we say thank you to Dave, a true legend of the Tasmanian timber industry.



Gestetner machine

Dave with his wife Jo and grandchildren

Thank you for Buying Aussie Timber First

In June 2020, we asked our customers to Buy Aussie Timber First - and you did.

Leading up to Christmas, Timberlink would like to take the opportunity to say a big “thank you” to our customers for Buying Aussie Timber First in 2020. And it’s not just our timber processors, it’s the many faces appearing on the Buy Aussie Timber First mosaic – the mums, dads, sons and daughters in our regional communities, who are also grateful for your continued support during the pandemic.

During this tough year for all of us, Aussie sawmillers have demonstrated to government that the sector is a significant local manufacturing industry, producing essential services and products, and must continue to operate COVID safe.

Also in 2020, the Australian timber industry has been impacted by multiple global changes, and a significant uplift in new housing demand – off the back of new government stimulus measures. This has resulted in unexpected demand pressure on the entire building materials supply chain.

In responding to this, we are doing our best to meet the demand for timber framing by:

- ramping up short term production to meet this unexpected demand
- increasing long term investments for new future capacity
- investing in the latest processing technology to improve the yield of structural products & developing innovative solutions for timber structures into the future



Timberlink continues to invest heavily to increase the amount of timber we can supply, as evidenced by our current Australian mill upgrade program.

On behalf of all Aussie sawmills and the broader timber processing industry, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to your ongoing support in 2021.

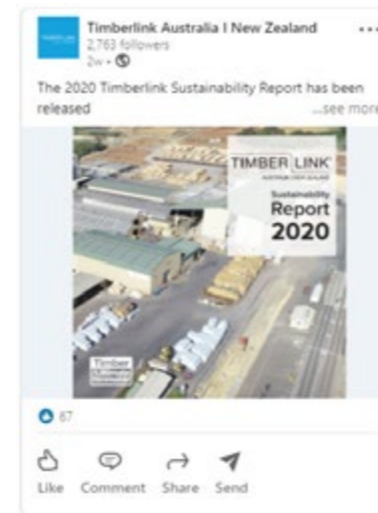
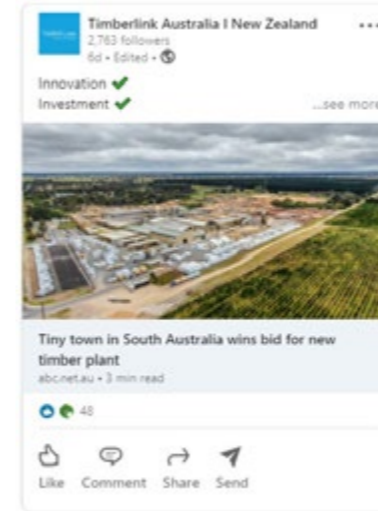
Are timber supplies tight?

Timberlink is currently investing \$100m in an Australian mill upgrade program which increase our timber production levels by 15%.

Nationally timber supplies are tight, at the onset of the COVID pandemic, builders were concerned about the demand for housing and expected that by September the market would dramatically decline. This led to lower production levels in the early part of this year and it also appears to have influenced structural pine timber importers as imports are lower than expected. Imports represent approximately 20% of timber supply for home building across Australia.

Timberlink was also forced to close its Tarpeena mill for a short time during the recent South Australian lockdown that was caused by the false information provided by an individual.

Our socials



Keep up to date with us via LinkedIn at: <https://au.linkedin.com/company/timberlink-australia-i-new-zealand>

Careers

A career in timber is so much more than just a career in timber.

We are still actively recruiting as normal and we welcome any interest or resumes to careers@timberlinkaustralia.com.au. We are happy to review resumes from different industries at this time as well. If you or someone you know has been looking for a chance to work at Timberlink then you can keep up to date with our current availabilities at www.timberlinkaustralia.com.au/careers

CURRENT VACANCIES:

Green Mill Production Controller	Bell Bay
Packer Stacker x 2	Bell Bay
Forklift Driver	Bell Bay
Electrical Process Improvement Engineer	Bell Bay
Area Compliance Officer	Bell Bay
Customer Service Representative/ Account Manager	Bell Bay
Delivery Driver	Canning Vale
Green Mill Production Controller (Fixed Term) x 2	Tarpeena
Grab/Loader Driver	Tarpeena
Dry Mill/Kilns Manager	Tarpeena
Electrical Maintenance Supervisor	Tarpeena
HR Business Partner	Tarpeena



We wish the very best for you, your family and your staff this festive season. Enjoy the holidays with family & friends, and we look forward to working with you in 2021!

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Timberlink Australia
Telephone 1800 088 135
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Christmas closures:

Site/Area	Last day	Return
Bell Bay Dispatch	23rd Dec	4th Jan
Tarpeena Dispatch	19th Dec	4th Jan
Adelaide	23rd Dec	4th Jan
Knoxfield	23rd Dec	4th Jan
Perth	23rd Dec	4th Jan
Yennora	23rd Dec	4th Jan