

July 2020

# TIMBERLINK

## BUY AUSSIE TIMBER FIRST CAMPAIGN

Timberlink is building a new  
CLT and GLT plant!  
We explain what's in store

2019 Sustainability Report  
Released

COVID-19 Update

Tarpeena upgrade  
project, innovation in  
the mills

Announcement of  
Carbon Reduction  
Target



TIMBER LINK®

AUSTRALIA | NEW ZEALAND

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# TIMBER LINK<sup>®</sup>

AUSTRALIA | NEW ZEALAND

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# COVID-19 update

## Operational Status of our Mills:

|                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Tarpeena Mill SA            | Fully Operational |
| Tarpeena Treatment Plant SA | Fully Operational |
| Bell Bay Mill Tas           | Fully Operational |
| Blenheim Mill NZ            | Fully Operational |

## Australian Distribution Centres:

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Yennora NSW        | Fully Operational |
| Knoxfield Victoria | Fully Operational |
| Gilman SA          | Fully Operational |
| Canningvale WA     | Fully Operational |

Timberlink is delighted to announce that we have so far been free of any confirmed cases of COVID-19 in either our Australian or New Zealand business.

## Office Operations

All Timberlink Australia mills and distribution facilities remain fully operational. We are taking orders, producing stock and delivering to customers. Across all our sites, our teams are practicing good hygiene, social distancing and reporting any symptoms or concerns as they arise. We continue to work with our customers, suppliers and partners to minimise face to face contact, through social distancing and communicating via video and phone as appropriate.

## Customer Service

Following the latest round of social distancing measures put in place around the country, Timberlink has moved the majority of customer service out of our Melbourne offices and they are now working remotely in a newly established virtual call centre. Customers are advised not to call their state offices directly. Instead they should call the national Customer Service line on **1800 088 135** to talk to customer service, as individual team members dedicated phone line may be unattended.

## Timberlink's New Zealand Mill Reopens

The Blenheim mill in the South Island of New Zealand has reopened after being closed temporarily for four weeks, in accordance with New Zealand Government Stage 4 requirements. New Zealand Customer Service has also now reopened after working remotely for the month.

Thank you to all of our New Zealand customers that continued placing orders throughout the period, we have been able to fulfill these since the reopening.

## The Coming Months

We continue to monitor this highly dynamic situation very closely and will be guided by the advice and direction of relevant Government agencies and Health Authorities. If there are any changes to the circumstances and approach we have outlined in the above, we will certainly keep you informed. To stay up to date with the latest status at any time, visit the Timberlink COVID-19 Updates page at [www.timberlinkaustralia.com.au/COVID-19](http://www.timberlinkaustralia.com.au/COVID-19). For further details, please contact your Timberlink Account Manager, who is also able to assist you remotely.

# Timberlink to announce Carbon Reduction Target

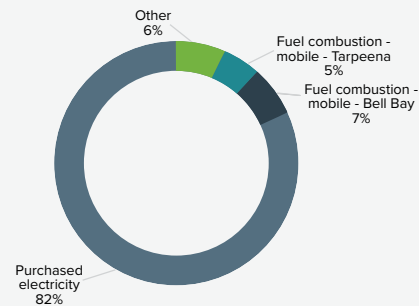
Timberlink is proud to be on the path to setting its own Carbon emission reduction target. The first part of the work was the formal evaluation of Timberlink's carbon footprint, and this is now complete.

It has meant measuring - **Scope 1** direct emissions such as fuel used in forklifts; **Scope 2** indirect emissions from purchased electricity; and **Scope 3** indirect emissions from sources including log harvest and haulage, downstream haulage, and processing of sold products.

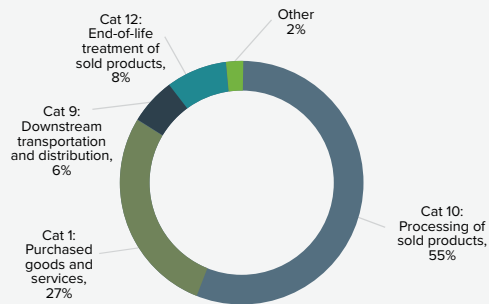
The footprint does not include the Carbon Dioxide taken in by the plantation trees that are grown to create our wood products. This would obviously result in a huge improvement in the formal footprint calculation, but Timberlink is determined to reduce its emissions in the manufacturing and delivery process.

Based off these results, Timberlink will soon set an official emissions target. We are excited to make our contribution towards Australia meeting the Paris target agreements.

Timberlink's Scope 1 and 2 Emissions Footprint



Timberlink's Scope 3 Emissions Footprint



# Timberlink is asking for your support in the coming months to "BUY AUSSIE TIMBER FIRST"

We're supporting the Australian Forest Products Association's campaign to help sustain and support the Aussie timber industry through the COVID-19 economic downturn.

Our CEO Ian Tyson said that in "normal economic times" Australia produces around 80% of the softwood timber that is used to build homes for Australians. The balance of supply is then imported. Now the impact of COVID-19 will see a significant drop in forecasted housing starts, affecting the demand for Australian softwood timber.

That is why we are asking you to "BUY AUSSIE TIMBER FIRST" to help us avoid this dramatic impact on the people employed right across the timber supply chain. Many of those people employed in regional towns across the country.

*"The Australian softwood timber industry directly supports around 45,000 jobs and is key to many regional towns and communities."*

*"At this difficult time as we are working hard to keep our industry capability in place, we are asking Australian businesses in our Australian industry for additional support by buying Aussie timber first," he said.*

*"Choosing renewable Australian plantation timber not only keeps our mills operating but it supports the entire integrated supply chain from the harvesters, growers, logistic providers, processor, through to the timber retailer, framing manufacturer, and home builder."*



Any additional support from our customers would preserve Australian jobs and keep our industry capability in place for the future, while supporting our regional communities both now and into the future.

At Timberlink's Bell Bay mill in Northern Tasmania, the mill directly contributes around \$150m to the local Georgetown economy and employs over 3% of the town's population. Timberlink's Tarpeena mill contributes around \$180m to the local economies of Mt Gambier and the surrounding areas.

We are still investing in the Australian mill upgrade program and also building a new CLT and GLT plant, due to open in 2023.

Check our ads on the Timberlink YouTube channel to see our team requesting you to Buy Aussie Timber First.

The centrepiece of the campaign is a website with testimonials from Aussie timber workers and includes the opportunity to upload your own photo to create a mosaic in support of Aussie timber framing. The campaign will include advertising with links to the site showing the reasons why you should choose renewable Aussie timber first.



*Our employees are asking you to help in this difficult time by Buying Aussie Timber First*



Please upload your photo to the mosaic at [www.buyaussietimberfirst.com.au](http://www.buyaussietimberfirst.com.au)

The mosaic on the website is designed to represent the 45,000 Australian's who are directly employed by the timber industry.

*Upload your photo*



# Tarpeena update

We're proud to be investing in our renewable future at Tarpeena. Major components of our upgrade project are now well underway.

As always, our top priority at this busy time is to ensure that everyone goes HOME SAFE every day.

## COVID-19 Impacts

Contractors working on the upgrade project adapted well to the fast-changing environment, following government procedures and social distancing measures to risk mitigate.

Currently we have no real impact to our works.

Timberlink is actively updating and supporting our employees and contractors as more information comes to hand.



*New Greenmill Sawline construction underway*

## New Weighbridge

The civil works have been completed and main construction is underway. This new weighbridge will have many cutting-edge, world-class features, leading to safer outcomes for our drivers.



The Green Mill construction has begun, this is one of the major works of the entire Australian upgrade program.

The earthworks are being done and the first USNR components for our new sawline have arrived.



## New Stacker Shed

The new stacker shed is complete after the frame was built on site and erected on the site of the old kilns. The equipment is being installed in the shed currently



## Old Kilns Demolished

The demolition of the old kilns has been completed as well as the cool shed area. They come down a lot quicker than they go up!

A section of this has already been handed over to operations for rack storage.



## New Green Mill

# New Forklifts

Timberlink is delighted to announce that we have taken delivery of 21 new Hyster Forklifts at our Australian Mills.

Hyster is a world class manufacturing company with 12 plants around the globe, it has been in operation since it began in America in the 1920's.

The Timberlink HOME SAFE program is focused on the three parts of a safe workplace – safe people, safe systems and safe plant, equipment, and environment, hence our significant investment in these new forklifts.

The new forklifts will be used in key production centres such as the Greenmill, Kilns, Drymill and Despatch. With the increase in our production output due to our process improvements and capital expenditure the new forks are a welcome sign and along with the road improvements and improved servicing our drivers will enjoy comfortable and reliable machines.

These are incredible pieces of equipment, the 16-ton forklift can weigh approximately 30 tons fully loaded. That is the same weight as 21 Toyota Hilux's.



# Timberlink is building a new CLT and GLT plant!

Investing in local production

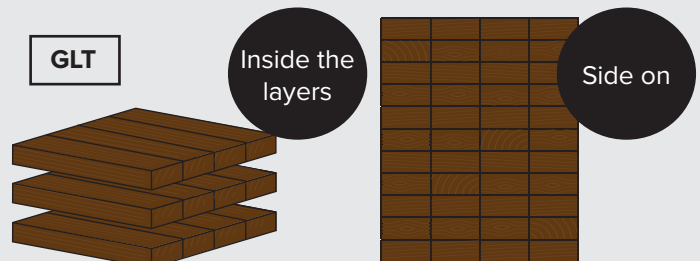
We show you what CLT and GLT are and how this innovation will be a part of the building industry of the future

Timberlink is proceeding with plans to build a brand new CLT (Cross Laminated Timber) and GLT (Glue Laminated Timber) manufacturing facility in South Australia or Victoria in 2023. The Timberlink Board has approved the plans to enter the growing mass timber market and will build a state-of-the-art facility.

## What is CLT & GLT?

CLT (Cross Laminated Timber) & GLT (Glue Laminated Timber) are smaller sections of solid timber glued together to make a super strong larger piece. GLT and Laminated Veneer Lumber (LVL) have been available in Australia for decades, whilst CLT has become popular in recent years.

**GLT** - pieces of laminated structural timber that are layered and glued to each other in the same direction. This gives GLT increased strength and it is used mostly in structural beams or columns.



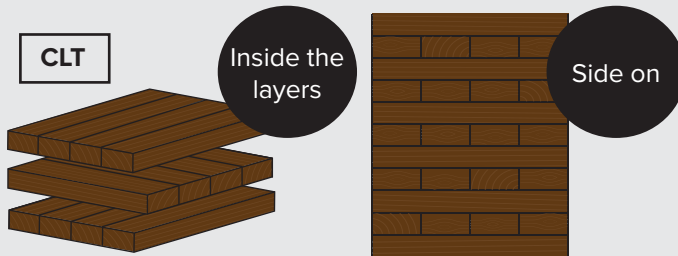




Google building

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**CLT** - pieces glued at a 90-degree angle to the layer above, giving the product strength in both directions. This gives CLT similar characteristics to concrete.



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Engineered timber products are increasingly being used in Australia and globally, particularly in midrise buildings due to a combination of factors, including cost-effectiveness, liveability, ease and efficiency of construction. This is especially important as population growth is driving greater urbanisation, with society creating a rise in demand for building with energy efficient, sustainable and carbon positive materials. Timber is the ultimate renewable offering the environmental benefits of a sustainable, carbon positive building material.

Timberlink CEO Ian Tyson said “CLT and GLT products are used as the structural elements for building residential housing, medium density and high-rise timber buildings. With around half of all CLT currently used in Australia being imported and strong growth in demand expected over the next decade, this investment in local production is great news for Australian manufacturing, the forestry sector and Timberlink.”

## About the Plant

A total of 27 full-time permanent jobs will initially be created when the facility opens in 2023 rising to 50 at full output. A significant number of additional jobs will be created during the construction phase.

Timberlink is in discussions with both state and federal Governments, to secure a location for the world-class manufacturing facility to be built in either South Australia or Victoria.

This significant investment will see the construction of Australia’s second major softwood CLT plant and first combined CLT & GLT manufacturing facility. CEO Ian Tyson said this would place Timberlink at “*the forefront of integrated forestry and softwood processing in Australia. Timberlink with its integrated forestry, production and market position is very well suited to play a significant part in this growing and dynamic market.*”

Ian Tyson went on to say that “*this is a major and exciting next step for Timberlink. In the last seven years the company has heavily invested into its three softwood processing mills and expanded our market position. I am confident that now is the right time for the company to build on its strong foundations with this move into engineered timber, the building material of the 21st century and the ultimate renewable.*”

# Timberlink's 2019 Sustainability Report

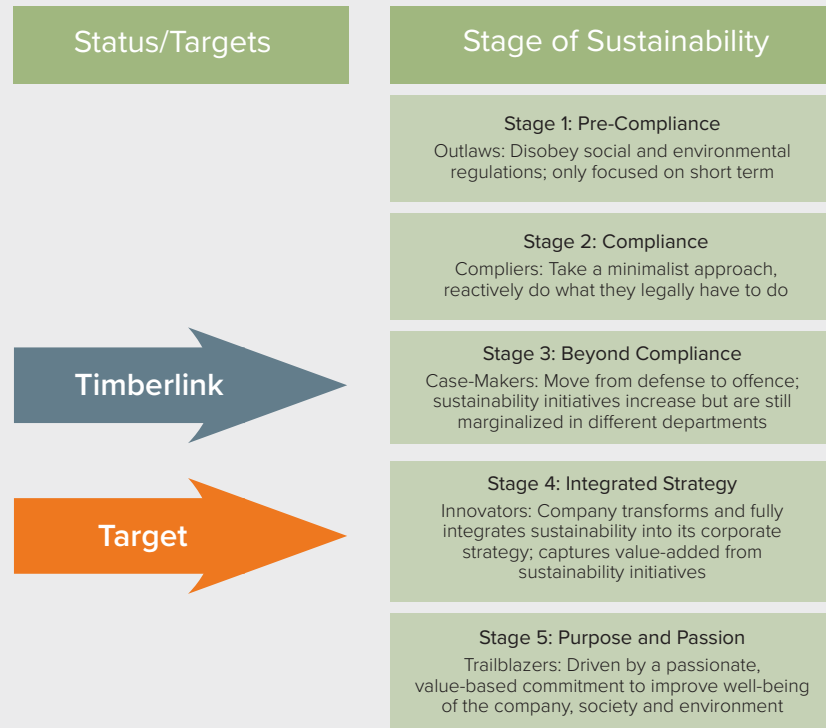


Timberlink has released its 4<sup>th</sup> sustainability report and we are delighted to announce that we are on track to reach our 5-year sustainability targets.

Key improvements on our environmental output for the year included the installation of the new CFK (Contra Flow Kiln) and Lucidyne Scanner at Bell Bay. This increased efficiency, whilst decreasing waste and energy usage.

Perhaps most importantly, we launched the HOME SAFE program, helping to get our staff HOME SAFE every day. Incredibly, our New Zealand mill achieved 2 years lost time injury free! We're very proud of everyone involved in this achievement.

## 5 stages of sustainability



*We've upgraded our mills with new technology*

# Released

## Action Plan

Internal assessment  
Employee awareness/training  
Procedural compliance/systems

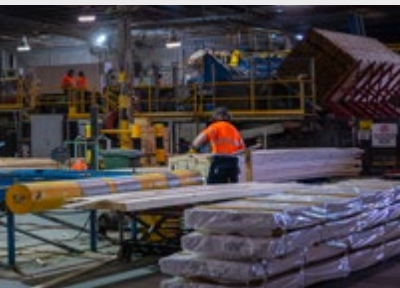
SHEQ Integration  
Procurement/Capital Benchmarks  
Waste stream/energy study

Review community engagement  
Establish Sustainability  
Committee Recruitment and  
Promotional criteria

Formal community connection  
100% Green Energy  
Promote market leader status

Reactive

Proactive



that has reduced waste and emission

# New Forests to approve Sustainability Report

Timberlink's management firm, New Forests released its Sustainability Report recently. Here is a snapshot of their results.

## New Forests 2019 Sustainability Snapshot

### Our Business



15 years  
in business



70  
employees



39% female  
employees



#### 5 Offices

Sydney and Melbourne, AUS  
Tauranga, NZ  
Singapore, SG  
San Francisco, US

### Our Investments



AUD  
5.6 billion  
in assets under  
management



3 regional  
investment  
programs



Managing  
investments in  
6 countries



A+ rating  
Principles for  
Responsible  
Investment

### Our Impact



614,000+  
hectares  
certified forests



510,000+  
hectares  
net productive  
forest area



158,700+  
hectares  
conservation  
areas



135+ million tonnes  
CO<sub>2</sub>e stored in production forests



2.5 million  
carbon credits  
issued



5,550+ people  
employed  
via investments



21% female  
employees



7.3 million m<sup>3</sup>  
timber harvested



99% of timber  
harvested from  
certified forests



## Changes to customer service during COVID-19

Timberlink places the utmost importance on relationships and we wanted to ensure that we stayed in touch through this difficult period.

Like many businesses we quickly adapted to, and in some cases grappled with new technologies, apps, and programs in an effort to make the best of the environment and stay in touch with our partners.

Our South Australian State Sales Manager Brad Knight has moved to using Microsoft Teams to talk to customers, *“we went to Teams meetings rather than face to face, it was a bit of culture shock at first, but it is something that I think we settled into quite well.”*

*“It is something that will be used more in the future, if you can’t see your customers in person then seeing them face to face digitally is the next best thing, especially as people get used to it.”*

Like many businesses Timberlink has enjoyed seeing what is possible with the available new technologies in this period and we look forward to best using these technologies to communicate with our customers in the future.

## Timber Framed Construction Increasingly Cost Effective in WA

Recently Tanya Steinbeck from the Urban Development Institute of Australia did an interview with ABC radio outlining the results of a study comparing brick and timber framing costs in Western Australia.

In Perth double brick homes make up almost  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the frames, which is the opposite to the east coast of Australia.

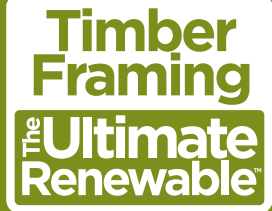
Thanks to a range of expected changes such as future land supply, a shifting labour force from bricklaying to carpentry and increased interest on environmental impacts of brick production, the report authors expect costs to come down 10 per cent by 2025. The building industry in Western Australia is slowly gaining the skills to build a higher percentage of timber frames but must shake off generations of bias for brick.

Timber frames are far better for the environment, easy to renovate and provide insulation benefits.



**Timber  
framed  
construction**  
gains attention in  
**WA**

# The Ultimate Renewable industry campaign



Before COVID-19 struck the entire wood industry in Australia came together to create and fund “The Ultimate Renewable” campaign.

This initially consisted of TV ads, billboards, magazine and online ads, featuring Peter Maddison host of Grand Designs Australia.

This campaign was then supported by the softwood timber manufacturers of Australia, who created an online campaign aimed at builders. This is because research showed builders are the number one decision makers in what a house frame is built from.

With these range of ads viewed millions of times by Australians over the past 12 months we hope that we have begun changing Australians underlying assumptions about the timber industry. Some of the key goals of the campaign were to teach Australians that:

- 1 Once trees are harvested, they are replanted
- 2 Pine trees soak up CO2 and keep the carbon locked in the timber for its life
- 3 Timber is a renewable resource like wind or solar

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There are plenty of good reasons to use timber framing, we just need you to help us tell the story.

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## What we are doing now...

Since the impacts of COVID-19 have hit, the industry has focused on more ways in which we can help increase demand in the building industry and soften the impact of the virus. This has meant we have begun to engage in lobbying activities to encourage state and federal governments to announce building stimulus packages both as Timberlink and through our industry bodies such as the Australian Forest Wood Products Association (AFPA).

Further to this we have also begun a “**Buy Aussie Timber First**” campaign. This will consist of ads targeted at builders encouraging them to buy Australian timber products first to help support the industry which employs thousands of Australian’s during this difficult time.



# Careers

A career in timber is so much more than just a career in timber. We have jobs in a wide range of fields including logistics, engineering, electrical, science & sustainability, IT, accounting, sales, admin, truck and forklift drives, as well mill processing jobs such as saw doctors and trimline operators.

We are still actively recruiting as normal and we welcome any interest or resumes to **careers@timberlinkaustralia.com.au**. We are also happy to review any 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](http://www.timberlinkaustralia.com.au/careers)

## CURRENT VACANCIES:

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Green Mill Production Controller x 2 | Bell Bay |
| Process Worker                       | Blenheim |
| Site Forklift Driver                 | Tarpeena |
| Grab/Loader Driver                   | Tarpeena |

## CAREER MOVES

### Scott Freeman takes over as Bell Bay Mill Manager

Timberlink is delighted to announce that Blenheim Mill Manager Scott Freeman has been promoted to take over the Bell Bay Mill. Scott has done a tremendous job in his 18 months in charge of the Blenheim operation and we are look forward to seeing him take on the larger operation at Bell Bay.

We would like to thank the entire Freeman family for moving for the second time in a short period, and we hope they enjoy a long and fruitful stay in Tasmania.

### New Site Manager in Blenheim

We would like to congratulate Patrick Dark who has been promoted from the position of Green Mill Manager in Bell Bay to the Site Manager at Blenheim. We're delighted to be able to promote internally for this position and both congratulate and thank Patrick for making the big move to Blenheim!

### New Green Mill Manager in Bell Bay

The team at Bell Bay is proud to appoint Nathan Kitto to the position of Green Mill Manager in Bell Bay. Nathan commenced the role in April, shortly after Scott Freeman came to the mill.

Nathan began with Timberlink in 2007 as a Qualified Electrician and has progressed over time into team leader, operational excellence and project management roles, culminating with his former position as Site Operational Excellence Manager for the Bell Bay site.

Nathan is a fantastic example of the career opportunities available at Timberlink and we hope to see him progress even further in the future.

# Our socials



# Question of the week

## Q: How was Timberlink affected by the summer's bushfires?

The horrific summer of bushfires can seem long ago now in the world of COVID-19, but it was a devastating period for all Australians. On top of the loss of life and property, there was a great impact on Australia's plantation timber estates.

Timberlink was very fortunate over the summer, with the majority of the fires hitting in areas that are not close to Timberlink's mills and plantation estates.

Timberlink takes the majority of its timber for its Tarpeena mill from the Green Triangle region in Western Victoria and South Eastern South Australia. The Bell Bay mill takes its timber from all over Northern Tasmania. These two regions were less effected by the fires than the eastern seaboard.

At this stage, the fires have not affected the Australian timber stock in such a way that it would affect our ability to increase production in line with our \$100m Australian mill upgrade program.

We understand some other Australian timber producers have been affected far more by the summer's events. Luckily, many burnt trees can still be salvaged and used in timber production and this is good news for the Australian timber supply.

Of course we send our regards to all of the frontline heroes who battled the blazes for all Australians, and our deepest sympathies to those effected.



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



# Timberlink Tarpeena moves to wind energy!



Timberlink,  
investing in the  
renewable future

Timberlink is delighted to announce that 73% of our Tarpeena mill's electricity that is bought in externally is now generated from renewable wind energy!

Our Bell Bay and Blenheim mills already run on significant percentages of renewable energy provided by Tasmanian and New Zealand hydro and wind energy.

Most of the energy required by our mills for drying timber is generated on site in biomass fired heat plants which are run on our lower-value by-products such as sawdust, shavings and offcuts.

Next month we will release our official emissions reduction target.



Tarpeena mill at night



Recently, Timberlink welcomed South Australian State Minister the Hon David Ridgway MLC, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, as well as the Member for MacKillop Nick McBride to its Tarpeena site. The pair were joined by Marcus Kuller, an Export Adviser for Tradestart South Australia as they inspected progress on Timberlink's high-tech multimillion-dollar mill upgrade and its potential for further investment.

# New Product Alert!



Timberlink has new LOSP Timberlink **Green Stair Treads** available for order. Stair Treads have been independently tested for slip resistance

Talk to your Account Manager if you are interested or you can find more information on our website at [www.timberlinkaustralia.com.au/stair-treads](http://www.timberlinkaustralia.com.au/stair-treads)

## Sizes available

240mm x 45mm x 900mm

240mm x 45mm x 1.8m

240mm x 45mm x 2.7m



# Snapshot of a full shut down

New Zealand team back at work after forced temporary COVID-19 shut down

New Zealand experienced a nationwide lockdown for just over 4 weeks with Timberlink New Zealand closing down for this period of time. The mill re-opened on April 28 and we wanted to give you a sample of the experience of the full shut-down in New Zealand.

When the lockdown was announced the business ensured that everyone had updated their contact details and that all work stations were shut down safely. Thorough cleaning was also undertaken. The mill took a few days to safely shutdown, with some equipment taking days to properly cool or be cleaned. Much of the mills equipment in general is not designed to be shut down, so this was a challenge but was successfully completed by our team.

The ELT had set up a CMT (Crisis Management Team) which had daily phone calls with the NZ team during lockdown to ensure that the latest information was shared. Prior to re-opening at Level 3 restrictions they worked through a plan to enable a safe start and ongoing safe practices. This included installing screens between workstations, staggered lunch breaks and physical distancing, along with an increased cleaning regime.

The majority of the team are back on site and were pleased to have the opportunity to catch up with friends and have some normality back in life.



*Reinduction and physical distancing at JSA*



*Grading area screen creating a safe barrier between operators*

# Clear primed, so you choose a paint or stain finish

Unprimed now also available.  
Talk to your Timberlink Account  
Manager for details.

**NEW**  
Ready to order  
Australia  
wide

## Straight as an Arrow

Finger Jointed and Laminated  
posts are strong and stay straight





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