

## MEDIA RELEASE

June 8, 2017

### **Timberlink applauds the launch of the Tasmanian Wood Encouragement Policy**

Timberlink congratulates the Tasmanian Government on being the first Australian state to develop a Wood Encouragement Policy. Launched yesterday by the Honourable Guy Barnett, Minister for Resources, the Tasmanian Wood Encouragement policy requires that the use of wood be considered for use in all future public building projects.

Timberlink's CEO, Mr. Ian Tyson, states that "this forward-looking policy helps to secure the future of the Tasmanian timber industry and supports the Tasmanian economy. Furthermore, this policy highlights the government's commitment to the sustainable building environment that can only be achieved through the use of timber building materials."

Timberlink' Bell Bay mill is Tasmania's largest softwood mill employer, employing about 200 people. Timberlink looks forward to working with its Tasmanian mill, customers, designers and specifiers to maximise the opportunities for wood created by this policy. "The launch of this policy is certainly exciting news for Tasmania and our Tasmanian employees", concludes Mr. Tyson.

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### **About Wood Encouragement Policies**

Wood Encouragement Policies (or similar policies in place in Japan, Finland, France and other major economies) are developed primarily to drive environmental improvements. Using responsibly sourced wood to build, instead of non-renewable building materials such as concrete or steel, benefits the environment in many ways. Trees absorb carbon dioxide from the environment whilst growing and retain this carbon once harvested, processed into wood products and used as a building material. In fact, approximately half of the dry weight of wood is carbon! The production of wood also uses less energy than the production of other building materials – again good for the environment. Furthermore, a number of studies have highlighted the health benefits of being exposed to wooden fittings and fixtures including a reduction in heart rate and stress level.

### **About Timberlink Australia | New Zealand**

Timberlink ([timberlinkaustralia.com.au](http://timberlinkaustralia.com.au), [timberlinknz.co.nz](http://timberlinknz.co.nz)) is a leading Australasian timber products manufacturing business. The business has three sawmills at Bell Bay (Tasmania), Blenheim (New Zealand) and Tarpeena (South Australia) that manufacture plantation structural pine products. Timberlink has sales and distribution teams based in Perth, Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne and sales teams based at the Bell Bay and Blenheim sawmills. Aligning the Timberlink business with forest resources enables the company to have a long-term committed approach to its business and customers. Timber manufacturing is a carbon negative industry. For every cubic metre of dry finished timber produced, 631kg of carbon dioxide is drawn from atmosphere and retained in the timber over its entire lifetime.



Timberlink Bell Bay Mill, March 2017.