



TIMBER LINK[®]

AUSTRALIA | NEW ZEALAND

Sustainability Report

Financial Year 2017

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Sustainability at Timberlink is more than a policy; it is part of our DNA

Welcome

Sustainability has always been at the core of Timberlink. We utilise renewable trees grown in well managed plantations in regional Australia and New Zealand. These growing trees remove carbon from the atmosphere which is then stored in our timber products for life. Harvested trees are replaced with seedlings to repeat the cycle.

All the products we make; structural pine, outdoor, decorative and packaging timbers; all have low embodied energy, create minimal waste, sequester carbon and when used in the home or workplace make us happier and healthier¹.

Our mills provide stable, rewarding employment for regionally based Australians and New Zealanders. We value the communities we operate in and try to give back as much as possible.

These good things are so much the everyday for us that despite working hard at them, we sometimes forget to talk about them, which is where our annual Sustainability Reports come in.

In this report we discuss the progress we have made in the last 12 months to reduce our impact on the environment, make our workplace and communities even better places to be and maximise the positive contribution our products make to the environment now and into the future.

Things like:

- We keep our people safe, engaged, motivated and we listen to them
- We only use locally grown pine in our mills, the majority of which is certified to both major international schemes
- Every 1m³ of structural pine we make, removes 631kg of CO₂ from our atmosphere²

- We carefully assess every log before cutting it to reduce waste. The little waste there is we use to run our kilns; this year 93% of our energy came from our wood waste
- Being as efficient as possible with inputs like electricity and treatment preservatives and continually looking to reduce use of consumables
- We give back to our communities just as they support us

However, we always want to do better.

We want sustainable strategic thinking to be innate for every functional area, not just a consideration for our sawmills. This leads us to challenge our Timberlink Leadership Group (TLG) this year, with the task of setting out a plan to making sustainability truly internalised across the entire business.

With the TLG recommendations and strategies now all in place, we look forward to reporting on our progress in future sustainability reports.



Ian Tyson

Ian Tyson
Chief Executive Officer
Timberlink Australia | New Zealand

¹ Wood Nature Inspired Design, Planet Ark, 2017

² Environmental Product Declaration Softwood Timber, Wood Solutions, 23 June 2015

Our 2017 Achievements

Safety

- A 37.5% reduction in our Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR)
- 88% of our employee survey respondents agreed they worked “in an environment where I feel safe and where looking out for our mates is expected”
- Launch of MYOSH- our fully integrated Safety, Environment and Quality reporting system

Sustainability Target & Tracking

- Creating our 2022 Sustainability Target: Reach Stage 4 within five years
- Implementation of a new Sustainability Reporting System to track and manage our progress

Our Communities

- 75% of our mills’ total monthly expenditure, not including wages, was spent locally.
- Increased our support to Bell Bay community groups and local causes by 102%.

Our People

- Almost 70% of employees completed our annual employee survey, a 5% increase from last year
- 96% of employee survey respondents agreed they were “willing to work beyond what is required in my role to assist Timberlink to succeed.”
- Implementation of our new Performance Planning and Development Tool; focus on converting values into behaviours.

Pollution, Waste & Consumption Minimisation

- 93% of the energy used to run our mills we produced from our own wood waste
- Converted two of our Blenheim kilns to contraflow-type kilns, reducing our energy consumption by more than 30% for each cubic metre of wood produced

Certification

- Now have dual AFS/PEFC and FSC chain of custody certification across all Australian mills and all products (Blenheim holds FSC certification only as no PEFC certified log available in the region)
- Over 97% of our Australian log intake continues to be AFS/PEFC and/or FSC certified with the remainder coming from small farms operated under strict controls.

Compliance

- Tarpeena- No reportable incidents or complaints
- Bell Bay- No complaints, fourteen reportable incidents, none resulting in material environmental harm. Majority arose from single piece of equipment; we are working hard with the support of the EPA to resolve the issue.
- Blenheim- No reportable incidents, eight complaints. Direct engagement with local neighbours through on-site group meetings has significantly reduced the mill’s nuisance impact on them.



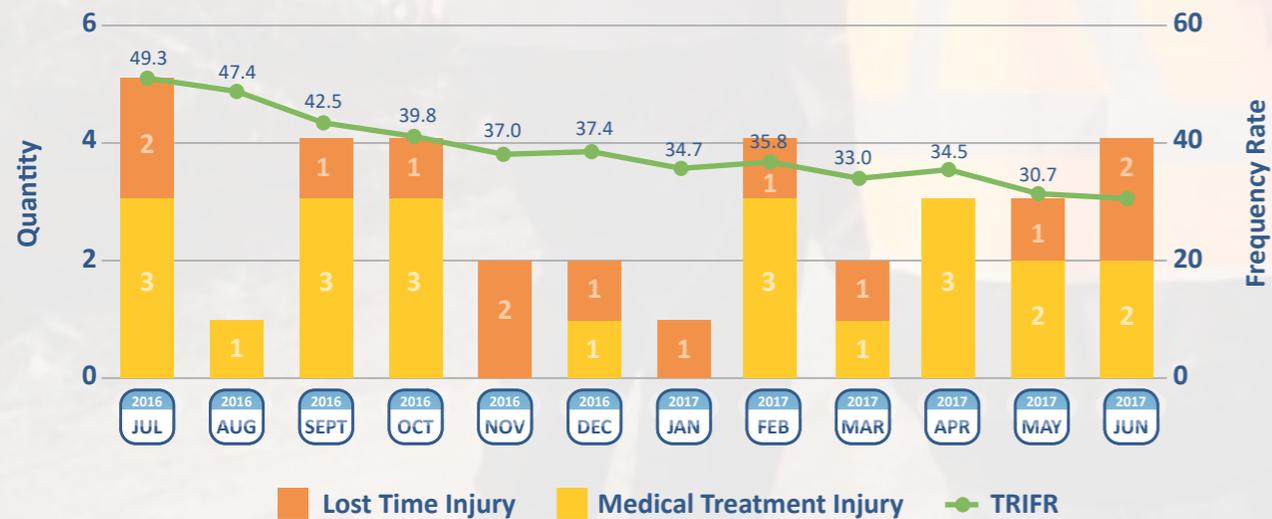
Safety

Significant Injury Reduction

This year we implemented a new Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for safety; our Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR). This measures the sum of lost time injuries (LTI) and medical treatment injuries (MTI) per 1 million hours of work. Apart from measuring our own performance, it also helps us benchmark our performance within our own industry, and the many others we interact with.

This year our TRIFR decreased from 47.5 to 29.7, a 37.5% decrease in Total Recordable Injuries compared to last year, showing our focus and commitment to be a “zero harm” business is taking effect.

Injuries by Classification and Global TRIFR (per million hours)



New Safety Reporting System

In April we launched a new online safety reporting system, MYOSH. This fully integrated Safety, Environment and Quality reporting system has improved the reporting of incidents and how we communicate and manage them as an organisation to prevent them being repeated.

The web-based system pulls everything related to Work Health and Safety into the one place; hazards, incident reports, planning of inspections and audits, as well as a comprehensive dashboard for running safety reports. It also assists with injury and contractor management. Over the year we integrated environmental incident and hazard reporting into the same system, with quality to follow in the coming year.

Safety Leadership Training

This year we enlisted the services of SafeSearch, an external safety consultancy company to help change and sustain the safety culture across the business. Already all our business leaders, including the Lead Team, Department Managers and Supervisors, have undertaken SafeSearch’s Safety Leadership Training.

The trainings focus is teaching effective ways to interact with people regarding safety issues. Discussing the way work was being conducted, concerns and possible corrective actions, as well as how to compliment people when witnessing safe work practices, were all covered in the training.

By improving our holistic safety skills, we can reduce incidents and improve the safety culture across our business and the results of this year’s employee survey suggest our safety focus and leadership is having an effect, with 88% of respondents agreeing they worked in an environment where they felt safe and where looking out for mates was expected.

Mental Health Awareness

Our Bell Bay mill became an accredited Mental Health First Aid Facility, with 15% of our people there undertaking Mental Health Awareness and identification training.

Our 2022 Sustainability Target

At the start of our ‘formal’ sustainability journey, we followed the compliance route. We had our business formally assessed for compliance against the International Finance Corporate Performance Standards for New Forests Social and Environmental Management System (SEMS) compliance, and we complied after addressing some minor, largely administrative, gaps.

Next in 2015, we wrote our first internal Sustainability Report setting up and using New Forests’ ESG metrics. Then in 2016, we publicly released our first comprehensive Sustainability Report, which we committed to producing annually.

This year we wanted to go further. We wanted to move to a level of integrated sustainable strategy that went across the whole business, to evolve our thinking into seeing environmental and social initiatives as catalysts for strategic and economic growth.

To achieve this, a cross-functional team from our Timberlink Leadership Group (TLG) was set the task of assessing our current sustainability status, then determining where we wanted to be in five years time and plotting a path to get us there.

This resulted in our new Sustainability Goal- **To achieve Stage 4 across the entire business by 2022 from a base of between Stage 2 and Stage 3.** This will see us having an “Integrated Strategy”, where we become innovators, and the business is transformed so sustainability is fully integrated into our corporate strategy and business operations.

The TLG team then completed the project by implementing our new sustainability measurement and reporting system. The performance indicators chosen are consistent with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Sustainability Reporting Standards framework to ensure we can compare our performance to global benchmarks.

Next Steps

The ultimate driver of us moving from our current stage to the Integrated Strategy Stage (Stage 4), will be improving our people’s commitment to sustainability and continuing development of the sustainability culture at Timberlink. To start this process, we have extended environmental awareness training deeper within the business, providing our people with real life examples of how they can make an impact on our sustainability performance. Everyone at Timberlink needs to believe they have a role to play in our sustainability journey.

To follow our progress, we will be using the measurement and reporting system the TLG team put in place as part of their project. This system will evolve alongside our performance pushing us to continually improve. We look forward to reporting on our progress in our next Sustainability Report in 2018.



Figure 2. Stages of Sustainability- Current Position and Our 2022 Goal

Our Communities

Our focus is about being a great regional timber products company and we understand our success is linked to the strength of our local communities. If we don't perform then our communities can feel the effect. Almost three quarters of our mills' total monthly expenditure is spent locally and that's not taking into account wages paid.

To help support our communities that support us, we offer a variety of different support depending on the communities' needs. To assist the process this year, our Bell Bay mill created a Community Sponsorship Committee who oversaw the distribution of funding to community groups increasing funds by 102% compared to last year. Below are just some of the examples of support we provided this year.

- Local fundraising events such as Doing Life Together which raises awareness of youth suicide, Cancer Council Fundraisers, RSL and school fundraisers
- Community timber donations and school timber and sawdust donations
- Community firewood donations
- Local sports team sponsorships
- Children's competition
- Ongoing sponsorship of the Science and Engineering Challenge
- Local museum sponsorship

Rebuilding Buchan Pub

The Buchan Pub, located in country Victoria, was over 130 years old when it was destroyed by fire on the evening of 8th April 2014. Caused by an electrical fault the fire took 55 firefighters and 9 firetrucks an hour and a half to bring under control. The owner, looking at a rebuild cost of over a million dollars, was ready to walk away but the local community was not prepared to let this happen!

A crowd-funding campaign (one of Australia's biggest and most successful) raised more than \$600,000, with people across the world providing support. Local suppliers worked together to supply materials, and when the local Dahsens store contacted Timberlink to supply the timber for the trusses, we were only too happy to help.

The rebuild was completed in December 2016, and suppliers and builders were invited to attend a lunch at the newly restored pub. Alan Holter (Victorian State Sales Manager) who was instrumental in arranging the timber, attended on behalf of Timberlink and reported that the Buchan Pub is well and truly back in business.



Kaikoura Earthquake Support

On 14th November 2016, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake hit the South Island of New Zealand close to Kaikoura on Marlborough's East Coast. Causing two deaths and significant damage to buildings and infrastructure, Timberlink quickly donated \$5000 to the Marlborough Mayoral Earthquake fund to help those affected by the quake.

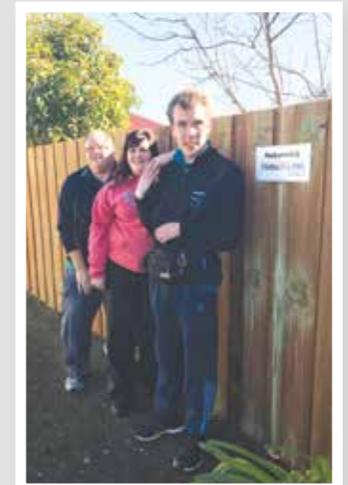
This winter we offered further support, donating two truckloads of pine off-cuts to be used as firewood by families still living in earthquake-damaged homes. The Earthquake Relief team had been struggling to find enough dry firewood for families in the Kekerengu, Ward and Seddon communities to get them through the winter.

Dean Heiford, Marlborough City Council's Support Services & Earthquake Relief Manager gratefully accepted the timber from our Blenheim mill.



New Fence Built with Rotary

At the New Horizons Club in Tasmania, a team of 20 Launceston Rotarians set about replacing 50 metres of fencing using Timberlink donated palings. Working together with Rotary allowed us to support this local club, which provides services for people with disabilities to participate in a range of sporting, recreational and social activities.



A Short Introduction to our Communities

Bell Bay, Tasmania

An industrial town and deep-water port located on the Tamar River in Northern Tasmania.

Bell Bay is situated just a few kilometres away from picturesque George Town. Rich in history, George Town is Australia's third oldest settlement and home to over 7,000 people.

Tarpeena, South Australia

A small town of around 400 people located just over 24 kilometres North of Mount Gambier.

Tarpeena has a rich sawmilling history, being the site of one of Australia's oldest privately-owned plantation pine sawmills- the SAPFOR mill, which began operations in 1935, and is now the site of our mill.

Blenheim, Marlborough

New Zealand's largest grape-growing and wine making region and home to about 30,000 people.

Established in the 1850s, early settlers dubbed the settlement The Beaver, Beaver Town or Beaverton because of frequent floods. The region is now home to 20,000 hectares of vineyards and about 67,000 hectares of Radiata Pine plantations.

Our People



We want our people to come to work each day and feel engaged and supported and believing in our shared values. With this in mind, over the past 12 months we have been building and implementing new development programs and making significant investments, ensuring our people have the tools and skills they need to succeed in their roles.

We have also structured more formalised engagement initiatives through surveys, setting of KA's with reviews, toolbox discussions and various leadership and safety programs. We are committed to this as a business and with our people's support are excited about what this business is, and can still become.

Lead to Succeed Program

This year five Tarpeena employees took part in a pilot leadership program "Lead to Succeed". This comprehensive leadership development program was designed to provide participants with the skills, tools and techniques to enhance their team's outputs and tackle the challenges of leadership with confidence.

The pilot program consisted of eight half or full day workshops off-site and supported each participant with learning alongside peers combined with access to experienced mentors.

Timberlink Leadership Group

Our Timberlink Leadership Group (TLG) consists of a selected group of approximately 30 people from across our business with a diverse range of skills and expertise. Now in its third year, the TLG develop longer term strategic objectives for our business which feed into our five-year strategic plan.

This year our TLG members set our 2022 Sustainability Goal, reviewed our new KA process, developed actions and focus areas based on our employee survey results and identified business innovation opportunities.

We Ask and then Listen

In April we conducted our second annual employee survey to help us better understand employee attitudes, perceptions and engagement across the business. Pleasingly the response rate increase by 5% compared to last year. Almost 70% of employees took time out to provide feedback on "what's most important to you whilst working at Timberlink and how you rated the business in areas of leadership, culture and you and your team".

Living the values across the business from our leadership team through to all staff was a key outcome. Our employees also told us that working in an environment where staff feel safe and looking out for colleagues was highly valued. This feedback has led to review and update of our performance review system to include assessment against each of the core values of the business – 'Safety First' is one of these core values.

Local communication sessions were conducted with senior leaders across the business to share the survey results and the resulting items for action.

New Performance Tool Focuses on Values

After feedback from our employee survey, work was done this year to improve how we measured the performance of our people. The Timberlink Performance Planning and Development Tool was the result. Designed for all employees at all sites, it's a

simple tool for capturing an individuals' "Personal Development" to help them develop professionally and grow at Timberlink.

A key part of this new tool is its focus on our behaviours, how we conduct ourselves every day in everything we do. We don't want our values relegated to a breakroom poster, we want them to be part of everyday thinking, so they become "just how we do things here at Timberlink".

People, Performance and Culture

We are currently in negotiations for an Enterprise Agreement at one of our mills which has both employee and management representatives involved as equal partners in the consultation process.

All employment arrangements are equitable including equal remuneration for men, women and different age groups. All salaries are based on the requirements of position and not the individual. We have 37% of our workforce located in the Mt Gambier region and 34% in Bell Bay.

Our New Zealand site ensures Timberlink is true to its Equal Opportunity Policy by providing jobs, promotions, training and remuneration based upon requirements of position. Approximately 16% of our employees are located at our Blenheim Mill, New Zealand.

Across the business the proportion of female employees increased by 2% compared to last year.

Share of Female Employees

	2015	2016	2017
Number of Employees	458	550	548
% of women among all Employees	12%	12%	14%
Women in the Leadership Team	2/9	2/9	10/39

Figure 3. Share of Female Employees FY17

Employee Distribution by Age

Age	Blenheim	Tarpeena	Bell Bay	Rest of Business	Grand Total
Up to 30	17%	15%	27%	5%	18%
31-50	39%	48%	57%	51%	50%
51 & over	44%	36%	16%	44%	32%

Figure 4. Employee Distribution by Age FY17

Significant Regional Employer

We are a significant provider of regionally based employment opportunities. Approximately 87% of our positions are in regional areas of Australia and New Zealand compared to metro areas.

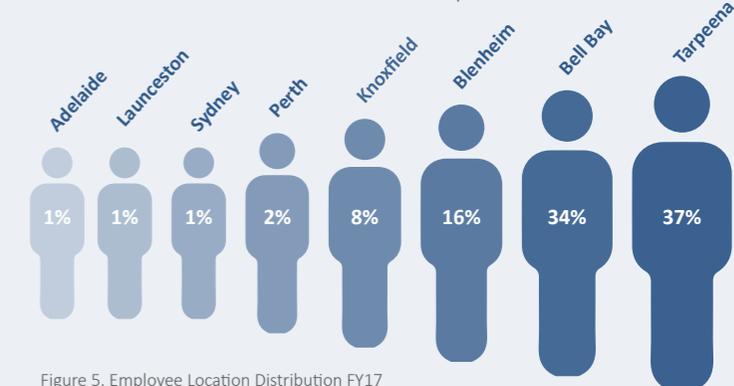


Figure 5. Employee Location Distribution FY17

A Performance Improvement Culture - Tarpeena

A performance improvement culture comes about in two ways; one is about improving on current assets and the second is about linking new technology to old. Our people are always looking for ways or opportunities to extract more value for the business and our customers.

Recently, a section of our Tarpeena mill was having issues linking some new technology to an existing system, resulting in significant down time for the mill. Some of our key maintenance people put their heads together, and using some out of the box thinking, came up with an idea around how to hand off from one machine to another.

The team worked collectively and ensured all key operators were involved in discussions and encouraged to provide input. The agreed solution wasn't available off the shelf so further discussions were needed and risks were reviewed. They decided to implement the plan with a solid backup ready to go in case it was not successful.

The result was bigger than anyone expected. The successful implementation not only eliminated mill downtime, it improved the flow of timber around the mill, improved safety by reducing the need for employee intervention and resulted in less product being wasted due to damage.

The Group is now working on other improvement projects around the mill.

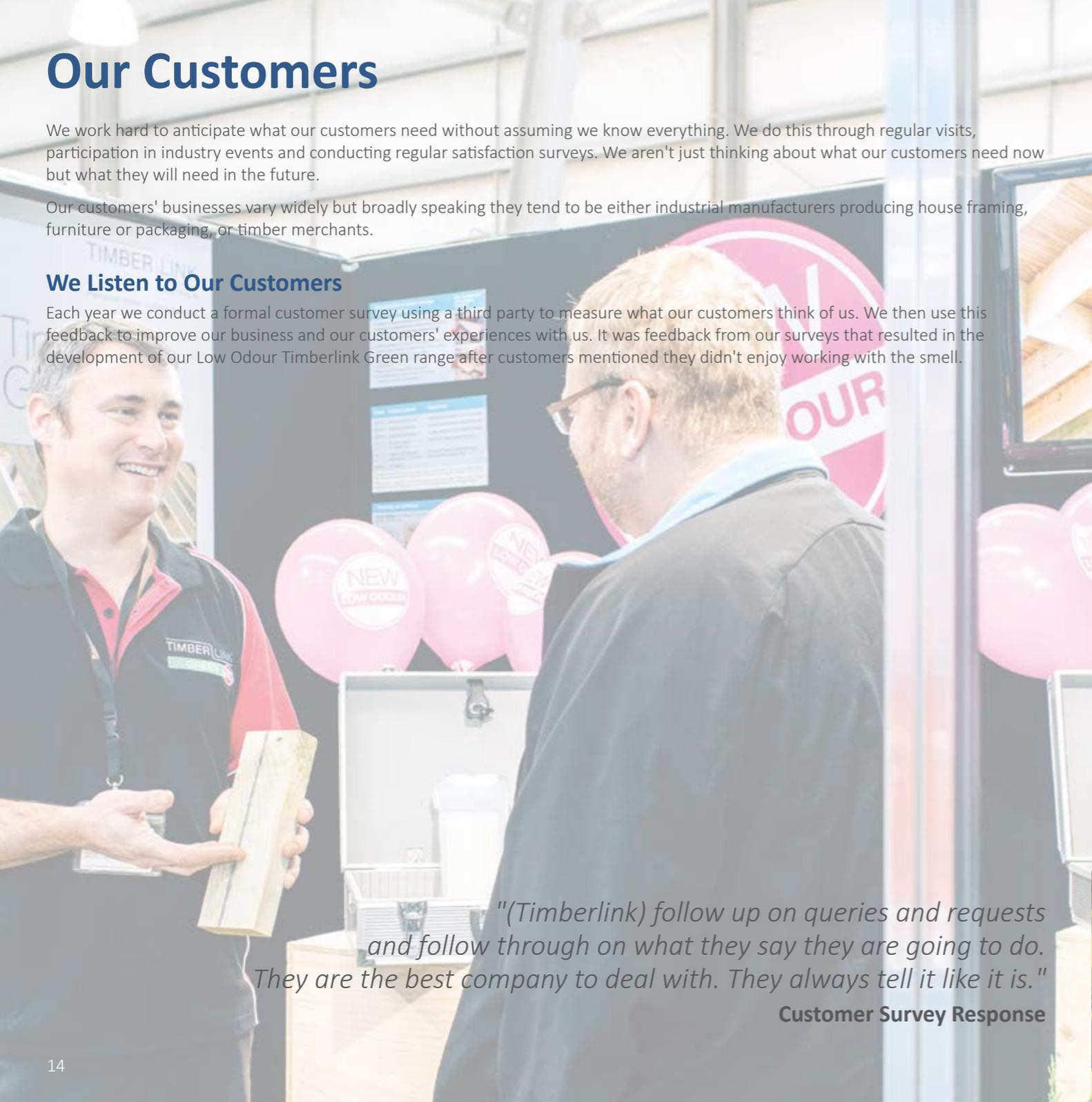
Our Customers

We work hard to anticipate what our customers need without assuming we know everything. We do this through regular visits, participation in industry events and conducting regular satisfaction surveys. We aren't just thinking about what our customers need now but what they will need in the future.

Our customers' businesses vary widely but broadly speaking they tend to be either industrial manufacturers producing house framing, furniture or packaging, or timber merchants.

We Listen to Our Customers

Each year we conduct a formal customer survey using a third party to measure what our customers think of us. We then use this feedback to improve our business and our customers' experiences with us. It was feedback from our surveys that resulted in the development of our Low Odour Timberlink Green range after customers mentioned they didn't enjoy working with the smell.



"(Timberlink) follow up on queries and requests and follow through on what they say they are going to do. They are the best company to deal with. They always tell it like it is."

Customer Survey Response

Compliance

Tarpeena Mill

Our Tarpeena mill operates under South Australian EPA site licence #39742 and had no notifiable events or complaints during this reporting period.

15 internal reports were raised by staff in production areas, highlighting minor spills or potential environmental hazards that were rectified, with no adverse impact.

Bell Bay Mill

Bell Bay operates under Tasmanian EPA license #8563/3 and passed its on-site EPA audit of all its license conditions with 100% compliance. We were commended for our environmental management practices.

Bell Bay didn't receive any complaints during the period but there were 14 reportable incidents, none of which resulted in material environmental harm. The EPA must be notified of reportable incidents, but they are not considered as infractions subject to penalty. License conditions and testing requirements are substantially more comprehensive in Tasmania than in other jurisdictions.

The incidents were:

- Six low investigation trigger limits – have been addressed in a draft new EPA and will be applied early next Financial Year
- Four limited-term instances of running the boiler with the baghouse on bypass due to damage to the baghouse which required several days of planning prior to being able to complete rectification
- A ruptured fire main putting liquid into a test point under the treatment plant

- A chainsaw being used outside permitted hours (this is acceptable if the EPA is notified)
- A smouldering fire in a mulched waste MDF pile existing from the site's previous industrial occupier
- A spillage of approximately 1.5 cubic metres of wood chip from a contractor's vehicle

18 internal reports were also raised during this period, many driven from internal assessments and proactive inspections being completed

Blenheim Mill

Blenheim sawmill operated under multiple resource consents during this reporting period. All monitoring and reporting requirements have been met

Our Blenheim mill complied with all applicable resource consents for the period. However, the mill operates in a sensitive area as it is very close to urban properties. We understand the importance of having a good relationship with our neighbours, they are a critical element of our social licence to operate, so we have been having regular meetings with our neighbors to share business updates and discuss issues.

Within this period, reports were raised both internally and externally, all of which have been logged in the business's MYOSH reporting system for corrective action. Of the external complaints raised, 43% were relating to smoke, 25% to noise, 18% to dust and 14% for safety and security lighting.

There were 32 internal reports raised through proactive hazard reporting on the site, driven by environmental awareness training and raising the importance profile of environmentally sound practices.



Pollution, Waste & Consumable Minimisation

Energy

93% of our mills' energy usage is generating the heat needed to kiln dry our timber. All this heat energy we make from our own wood waste. We generate the energy in biomass fired heatplants which are run on our lower-value by-products such as sawdust, shavings and offcuts.

Despite being a renewable source of energy, we are still working on reducing the energy consumption of our kilns. This year, we converted four of our traditional batch kilns at Blenheim to two contraflow-type kilns using similar technology to our large contraflow kiln at Tarpeena. Like Tarpeena, we have reduced the energy we use drying timber by more than 30%, relative to drying in traditional batch kilns.

The specific energy consumption of the overall process at Tarpeena and Bell Bay is shown in Figure 6.

In our mills, electricity is utilised almost exclusively for motive applications, such as motors to drive saws and kiln fans. Specific electricity consumption averaged across both of our Australian mills is shown in Figure 7. Efficiency improvements continue to drive down specific electricity consumption.

Water

Specific water consumption in our Australian mills, shown in Figure 8, has continued to decrease due to a range of measures, including converting drying timber in the contraflow kiln, which doesn't require water sprays or generation of steam to condition the wood.

Emissions to air

All three of our sawmills continue to run biomass fired heatplants, with emissions to air regulated by local environmental authorities. Our heatplants are regularly tested to ensure they are all compliant with regulation.

We run continuous improvement programs at all three of our mills around optimisation of fuel mixing and flow into a stable combustion process. We expect that these programs over time will reduce emissions further.

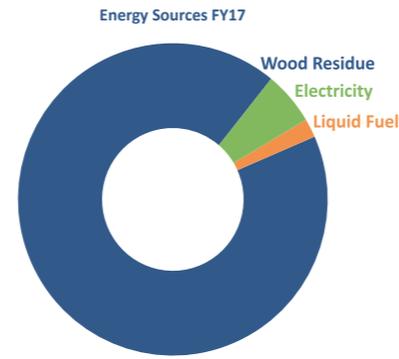


Figure 6. Energy Sources FY17

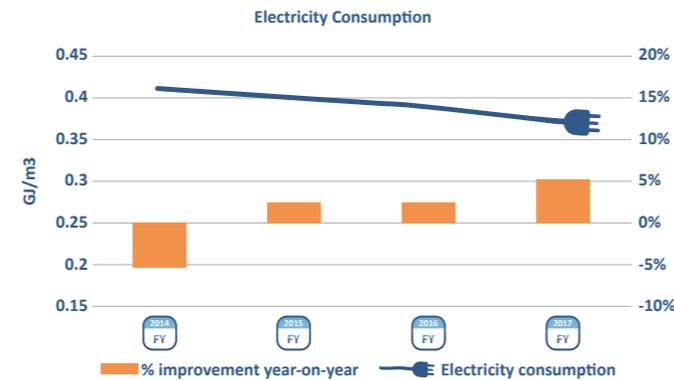


Figure 7. Electricity Consumption and % Improvement per Cubic Metre Finished Product

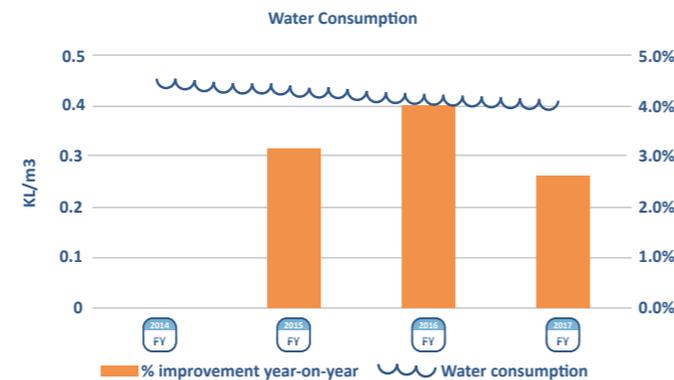


Figure 8. Water Consumption and % Improvement per Cubic Metre Finished Product

Bell Bay

Bell Bay's biomass boiler operates a fabric baghouse emissions scrubbing unit. This results in very low emissions. A sensitive particulate measurement instrument was installed in the heatplant exhaust stack to continually monitor emissions and provide early warning of damage to filter bags or other equipment.

Blenheim

As mentioned in our last report, when we purchased our Blenheim mill it had a dust abatement notice on the site due to wood dust escaping when shavings were transported from a planer to a fuel hopper.

This year we solved the problem with the installation of a baghouse solution, well beyond what was required to close the abatement notice. Unfortunately, the equipment was destroyed by fire. It will be replaced next financial year (FY17/18).

Static dust test sampling points are continuing to be regularly monitored, results demonstrate the effectiveness of improved dust control measures around site

Tarpeena

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in South Australia released a new Air Quality Policy for application in mid 2018. Timberlink made significant submissions to the preparation of this Policy. It takes a risk based approach to regulating air emissions, with human health impact the primary concern. Limits are

placed on the ground level concentration (GLC) of contaminants, irrespective of their source. These can be estimated by airshed modelling.

Timberlink has been following this approach with completion scheduled for FY18, to ensure the heatplants are compliant to the new requirement. Recent work to improve the consistency of fuel feed to the three heatplants at our Tarpeena mill, as well as the far more consistent heat load provided by the contraflow kiln, will reduce heatplant emissions.

Effluent and waste

Both of our Australian mills deal with the majority of stormwater and wastes it may contain, such as small amounts of oils and greases via on-site controls like oil mops and settling pond systems. Blenheim mill has no surface water discharge, with all stormwater going to groundwater via soakage pits as is common practice in the region. Soakage pits near hydrocarbon sources, such as our mechanical workshop, are equipped with interceptors to remove any oil or grease that may enter the pit.

Trade waste is disposed of via agreement with appropriate authorities and vendors in all three jurisdictions.

All mills actively monitor groundwater contamination via bores, principally to ensure that previous and/or current timber treatment plant operations are not resulting in contamination, particularly metals.

Bell Bay also monitors water quality in its multi-stage settling pond system.



Certification

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

Timberlink Australia has held an FSC Chain of Custody and Controlled Wood Certificate (DNV-COC-000719, DNV-CW-000719, FSC-C117015) for production and distribution of wood chips (FSC Mix, Controlled Wood) since 18 June 2013 covering Australian production. In 2017 our FSC certificate was expanded to cover all solid wood products, and all by-product, this includes sawdust, shavings, boiler ash as well as reject logs.

The majority of log supply to the Australian mills is FSC certified from forests owned by New Forests administered investment trusts.

Timberlink New Zealand holds FSC Chain of Custody and Controlled Wood Certificate (RA-COC-006687, RA-CW-006687, FSC-C115860) for production and distribution of solid wood products and woodchip.

Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)

Both of our Australian mills hold AFS Chain of Custody certification for both solid wood products and by-products (including woodchip). AFS holds mutual recognition status with the international PEFC system, enabling Timberlink to market AFS certified products to the domestic market and PEFC certified products internationally.

International Phytosanitary Scheme (ISPM15)

Both Australian mills are certified producers of heat-treated wood packaging compliant to the Australian Wood Packaging Certification Scheme (AWPCS), which in turn is compliant with the international phytosanitary scheme ISPM15³. This certification is vital for production of products to be utilised as exported packaging. Blenheim mill is similarly certified to ISPM15.

³ International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures No. 15

The Only Major Australian Sawmilling Business With Dual Certification

Globally, there are two major forest certification schemes – Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) and Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC). In Australia, the Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) holds dual-recognition status with PEFC. Both schemes have associated Chain of Custody Standards to ensure traceability of certified product back to source. The two schemes have a few differences but are similar in many ways including both having the same core goal of assuring sustainability of forest management and the timber products supply chain.

Timberlink's Australian business, including our two mills, Tarpeena in South Australia and Bell Bay in Tasmania, recently achieved FSC certification on solid wood and all residues; a scope extension to our previous FSC certification on woodchip only. This is in addition to the AFS/PEFC certifications already held by our Australian sites, which we intend to maintain. Our New Zealand mill in Blenheim already holds FSC certification, so we now hold FSC certification for solid wood products across all sawmills.

No other major Australian sawmilling business holds both FSC and AFS/PEFC certification, something we are very proud of and something that makes purchasing certified timber easier for our customers. We also believe offering certified product to the market and promoting the sustainability benefits of certified wood will help grow awareness and demand for sustainable building products.

Even though formal Chain of Custody (CoC) certification through to the end user is problematic due to dispersed supply chain, we believe that being able to put timber in front of consumers bearing a high-recognition sustainability brand will build awareness and momentum for sustainable procurement practices.

Both AFS and FSC CoC certifications allow us to bring in a small amount of uncertified log under very tight controls. We do this at very small percentages as it allows us to support local small-scale growers, typically mixed-use farmers. This provides a social and economic benefit to growers for whom the economics of pursuing forest certification don't add up due to their small scale. It also provides environmental benefits by providing a market for logs from land that would otherwise likely be put to lower-environmental-value uses.

By allowing these small local growers to operate under their tight controls, the certification systems then support other local businesses such as small sawmillers and moulding facilities which help keep our regional communities healthy.

timberlinkaustralia.com.au
timberlinknz.co.nz

TIMBER LINK

AUSTRALIA | NEW ZEALAND

Contact for Further Information

Trevor Innes
General Manager Technical and Environment
Timberlink Australia Pty Ltd
trevor.innes@timberlinkaustralia.com.au



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