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MEDIA RELEASE

Timberlink announces a generational investment in timber manufacturing at Bell Bay

A \$63 million capital investment at Bell Bay Tasmania will see an increase of more than fifty percent in on-island sovereign timber manufactured from sustainably managed pine plantations. The project will commence in 2022 with commissioning expected by the end of 2025.

The expansion project installation and construction is in two stages, from 2022, with full output achieved at the end of 2025 this will include:

- Offline Log Debarking and Sorting
- Saw mill expansion
- Residue and Energy optimisation
- Additional continuous Kiln for drying of timber
- Planer infeed systems
- Site infrastructure improvements

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.”

Federal Member for Bass Bridget Archer said the significant investment is yet another example of Timberlink committing to the region.

“As an elected representative, I’ve had a long-standing relationship with Timberlink since they began production in Bell Bay in 2008 and I appreciate the ongoing economic and social benefits the company provides to our local area,” Ms Archer said.

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.

In addition to 25 contractor jobs during the capital upgrades and expansion, Timberlink expects that this project will create 18 new permanent full-time jobs at the facility for the next generation. It is estimated that the Timberlink Bell Bay manufacturing facility supports approximately 600 direct and indirect jobs in the region.

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About Timberlink Australia | New Zealand

Timberlink (timberlinkaustralia.com.au, timberlinknz.co.nz) is a leading Australasian timber products manufacturing business. The business has two sawmills at Bell Bay (Tasmania) 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 their Bell Bay manufacturing facility and Blenheim sales office. 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, 699 kg of carbon dioxide is drawn from atmosphere and retained in the timber over its entire lifetime.

Timberlink is owned by investment funds managed by New Forests, a sustainable real assets investment manager headquartered in Sydney. Founded in 2005, New Forests manages approximately AUD 7.7 billion in assets under management across more than 1,000,000 hectares of forests and land in Australia, New Zealand, Southeast Asia, and the United States. Learn more at www.newforests.com.au