ANNUAL REPORT
2019
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delivering TIMBER innovation and performance whilst SUSTANING our communities and FORESTS
Dean Anderson
Chairman

The Timber Development Association remains true to the objects for which the Company was established; to promote and develop in whatever manner it considers advisable the use of timber in all its different forms, whether solid wood, plywood or reconstituted forest products. Our success is measured by the acceptance and utilisation of timber products as a viable solution to an engineering and design problem. The continuous improvement and extremely high standard of buildings and other utilitarian items entered in the Australian Timber Design Awards are a testament to the Timber Development Association delivering upon its objects. This improvement in the utilisation of timber as a design and engineering solution has been facilitated through the tenacity and intellectual rigour applied by the Timber Development Associations Chief Executive Officer Andrew Dunn and his team. We are also fortunate to have a Board that not only provides corporate governance but includes members who can also appropriately challenge the team on aspects of timber utilisation, a special mention going to long serving members Tim Rossiter and Michael Murphy.
The Australian Timber Design Awards continues to be the association’s foremost event, seen this year with the winning design for Bunjil Place by fjmt, a stunning foyer in the shape of an eagle, demonstrated what can be done with timber. Around 230 architects, engineers and timber industry attended the award night at The Star in Sydney, celebrating the absolute best in timber design.

NSW continues to be the hot spot for mass timber buildings, with almost half of all mass timber buildings built in Australia to date occurring in this region. The building types have changed from residential to now more open-plan offices and schools, as well as hotels.

TDA continued to conduct Tours, with this year’s tour to Austria and Switzerland. Fifteen design professionals visited manufacturing and fabrication plants, as well as completed and building under construction, across these two countries.

Research work for the industry benefit continued. This year saw work on characteristic perpendicular to grain bearing capacity, as well as conducting structural testing of walls and floor systems for the timber industry. TDA thank those companies for using TDA and for their continuing support.

TDA continued to undertake WoodSolutions’ seminars, workshops and guest speaking spots have to design professionals in NSW and ACT. Around 2,000 professionals have attended this seminar throughout the year.

Finally, I would like to thank TDA’s staff for their passion to enable TDA to achieve its outcomes during the year because without their dedication this would not have been possible.

Andrew Dunn
Chief Executive Officer
Project work is the core of TDA’s business, and we continue to carry out work for the benefit of the Australian timber industry.

Project funding is through many sources with the predominate source being through Forest and Wood Products Australia; other causes include timber and building companies directly. The following is a summary of major projects conducted by TDA during the financial year.

Measuring Moisture and Axial Displacement in Australia’s First 6 Storey Timber Framed Building

This research’s objective was to obtain real data on the temperature, relative humidity, moisture content of timber and vertical displacement of an actual, six-storey timber-framed apartment building, located in Sydney, during its construction and occupation.

The research was successful in obtaining seven months of data, but the information collected was inconclusive. The data collection occurred during the construction phase of the building and ceased before the building’s completion.

Moisture content measured in a radiata pine stud in a wall positioned close to the hallway – Position #2

Vertical movement of each level measured in a wall close to the hallway – Position #2
The research aimed to re-establish the characteristic perpendicular to grain values for common timber species used in construction from Australia and overseas and to develop a method to calculate deformation due to perpendicular to the grain compression. This work’s purpose was to inform the design methodology used in the WoodSolutions Mid-rise Timber Building Structure Engineering guide, in calculating the axial shortening of lightweight mid-rise timber-framed buildings.

The research found that AS 1720.1 method of assigning characteristic design values for bearing perpendicular to grain by the strength group or by assigning a value for MGP stress graded timber did not match the values found from testing, refer Figure 3. The research also reviewed the perpendicular to grain modulus of elasticity and also found a relationship to density, refer Figure 4.
WoodSolutions promotion program

WoodSolutions Guides

TDA assisted in the authoring of a Mid-Rise Timber Framed Structural Design Guide. The guide aims to explain practices required for mid-rise timber-framed building design as well as provide structural engineering guidance.

Wood Tutorials & Seminars

2018-2019 Wood Tutorials and Seminars

TDA continues to deliver the WoodSolutions Tutorial and seminar program to ACT and NSW. Six major events were held during the period, with audiences mainly made up of architects, engineers, building designers, certifiers, and students.

Wood Solutions Tours

During the year one tour was conducted to Austria and Switzerland. Fifteen design professionals attended, visiting CLT and glulam manufacturing facilities, fabrication and buildings under construction and completed. The highlight of the tour was seeing advance robotic timber fabrication and climbing a 60 m timber tower.

Robotic Timber Fabrication at ETH Zurich

WoodSolutions Tourist 2018 on Experimental building, Biel Switzerland
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**The 2018 Australian Timber Design Awards**

The 19th Australian Timber Design Awards were announced at a dinner function at The Star, Sydney on October 2018. Around 220 design professionals attended the night that saw The overall winner of the Awards was fjmt for Bunjil Place, an eagle-shaped foyer to council building in Melbourne.
Websites

TDA owns and manages a number of websites for the timber industry, these include:

- timber-architecture.com
  Weekly e-news service of timber architecture

- timberdesignawards.com.au
  Australian Timber Design Award dedicated website

- tdansw.asn.au
  This is TDA’s member website aimed to keep members informed of TDA activities

TDA administers some other industry sites for committees that it belongs to. These include:

- timberduediligence.com.au
  This website contains the Due Diligence tools developed by TDA of the timber industry. The tools assist timber companies in demonstrating compliance that timber is legally harvested.

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Staff (as at July 2018)
Andrew Dunn – Chief Executive Officer
Mariela Amarante – Office Administrator
Kevin Schnorf – Exchange Student from Bern University of Applied Science (Left February 2018)
Valentin Reabar – Exchange Student from Bern University of Applied Science (Joined February 2018)
David Fletcher – Seminar coordinator (Appointed January 2019)

Casuals and Contractors
Elizabeth Whittle – Accountant
Catherine Lao – Audio Visual, Timber Design Awards
Chris Michael – Visual Designer