



InSIGHT

Keeping you informed of the latest Koppers Performance Chemicals and Industry News.



Issue 6 - July 2019

MicroPro treated wood technology continues to be the most awarded wood treatment and late last year MicroPro was awarded a GoldHEALTH rating with its Global GreenTag Level A Product Health Declaration™ (PhD™). Now LEED has Recognised the Global GreenTag Product Health Declaration™ (the GreenTag PhD™)!

The GreenTag PhD is the first health transparency tool in the world to assess human health concerns directly, rating the health impacts of a final product – and not just the hazards of a product’s ingredients.

“Full disclosure by a manufacturer of the toxicity information of a product is a bold move, says David Baggs, Global GreenTag’s CEO and Program Director. “And it is the right thing to do, as it is important to enable the market to make informed and responsible buying decisions. Ultimately, the GoldHEALTH rating awarded in this case reflects the impressive measure to which Koppers Performance Chemicals has invested in developing and manufacturing a wood treatment technology product that is safe for use* around people, pets and plants,”” says David.

Please continue reading on page 2.

* When used as recommended.



The Choice is Yours.

Following the awarding of a Global GreenRate Level A certification, MicroPro Wood Treatment Technology has just been awarded a GoldHEALTH rating with its recently published Global GreenTag Level A Product Health Declaration™ (PhD™).

The GreenTag PhD is the first health transparency tool in the world to assess human health concerns directly, rating the health impacts of a final product – and not just the hazards of a product’s ingredients.

Ultimately, the GoldHEALTH rating awarded in this case reflects the impressive measure to which Koppers Performance Chemicals has invested in developing and manufacturing a wood treatment technology product that is safe for use around people, pets and plants.” David Baggs, CEO Global GreenTag.

For more information call us now on 1800 028 895.





The presence of Global GreenTag LLC, Americas in the US market is set to be enhanced further. The certifier's Global GreenTag PhD, Materials Transparency Certification Program (reviewed and assessed by the LEED Committee and MR Technical Advisory Group (TAG) has been formally recognized within the LEED framework of Rating Systems.

GreenTag Program Director, David Baggs says "we are new to the US but greatly look forward to helping the market better understand our certification protocols, which are based on factual data, detailed science and ISO standards compliance (among others). Understandably for some, while definitely LEED recognized and relevant they are not so familiar. That said," Baggs adds:

"Our PhDs are unique for other good reasons, in that we take the ingredient hazard flags and through a thorough risk assessment, we eliminate the hard work for green professionals wanting to not only use LEED but also go beyond LEED and understand the actual health impact of the product in use via the 'GreenTag HealthRATE' rating. These Health ratings are included on our PhDs, so from the multiple perspectives of LEED compliance, time saving and healthy building creation they are a win-win-win outcome for manufacturers and green professionals, alike."

About LEED

LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is the most widely used green building rating system in the world. Available for virtually all building, community and home project types, LEED provides a framework to create healthy, highly efficient and cost-saving green buildings. LEED certification is a globally recognized symbol of sustainability achievement.

Global GreenTag and GreenRate are registered trademarks operated under licence by Global GreenTag Pty Ltd.



FTMA Framed Faces – Warwick and Helen Drysdale

This was such a fine story about one of our valued customers that we have reproduced it here for those that may have missed it. Enjoy

Usually Framed Faces focuses on one person, however, today we celebrate a couple who have not only built a business together, but have done so successfully and happily working together whilst raising a family. Let's face it, most of the frame and truss sector are family owned businesses and even though Programmed Timber Supplies in NSW is not a fabricator they are part of our supply chain and passionate FTMA members.

Helen and Warwick Drysdale celebrated their 35th Wedding anniversary late in 2018. They have 5 children (3 daughters and 2 sons) who have all been successful in their studies and chosen but varied careers (none in timber directly). Three are married. Their eldest daughter just had their second child a few months ago and their eldest son and his wife are expecting in August. Just through the sheer numbers, family has and still is their life outside of their business.

From the start of Programmed Timber Supplies (PTS) in 1999 Helen devoted every available minute to support Warwick, they were a team but her individual capacity was immense. Over the last couple of years Helen has been able to leave the PTS business side of things to Warwick and is now able to be around more for the family.

Helen's profession before having kids was as a commercial artist. Much of her work was freelance and often meeting publication deadlines meant long concentrated hours and little sleep. Warwick believes he was a distraction she didn't really need at the time. After taking time out of her job to have children her return to work was difficult as this was the time where computerisation had made big inroads in her chosen profession.

Warwick's life in the timber industry started by working after school at the age of 13 in the local timber yard shovelling sawdust and loading timber racks. They gave him a full time job when he left school and studied Wood Technology. About 10 years later he went to work at Tilling Timber for a few years before going to Hyne for the next 10 years. It was there that he left to start the business with Helen.

Their goal was to provide the timber supply chain with timber components which freed businesses up to focus on other part so their business. Ordering smaller components saved businesses production costs and time and slowly but surely Programmed built a strong business with strong and enduring bonds that have been formed throughout the supply chain by maintaining integrity and respect and filling a void in the supply chain.

Programmed has been able to play an active part in the Australian timber industry by improving local fibre utilisation, offer career paths for staff and not only built a strong employment base, but as a family business they provide for employees and their families.

Warwick believes as they look to the future, the opportunities for our industry seem endless. No other material can boast the ultimate sustainability features. A strong and sustainable product offering is possible now and more so in the future with even better technology development. New products and product areas are emerging. Programmed has done a lot but still has a lot more to do.

For Helen and Warwick they have been fortunate to have travelled more in recent years and hope to continue to do so while they are still relatively young. They enjoy spending time on the water be it kayaking or puttering around the harbour on their little old boat. Sailing is something they enjoyed when they were younger and they still like to do either crewing on other peoples' boats or on a little dinghy themselves.

Thanks to Kersten Gentle and FTMA News May 21, 2019





Picture supplied by Dongwha.

Timber mill's \$10-million biomass boiler turns excess sawdust into energy, reducing gas bill

ABC South East NSW
By Adriane Reardon

Posted 21 May 2019

A timber mill in the Snowy Mountains is generating its own bioenergy using excess sawdust, a first for regional New South Wales.

Key points:

- The timber company was struggling to find a home for the 200 tonnes of sawdust the mill generates each day
- It has built a \$10-million boiler to turn the by-product into energy to help power the mill
- The energy will heat water to operate kilns that dry the timber, reducing the mill's reliance on gas

Korean-owned lumber company Dongwha Australia has constructed a \$10-million boiler to turn sawdust into bioenergy at its Bombala softwood mill.

Sawdust is an inevitable part of the milling process, but now it will be used to power parts of the Bombala mill.

"We generate around 200 tonnes of sawdust per day," said project manager Michael Dyer, who has been overseeing the construction of the boiler since February.

"We struggled to find a home for the sawdust, so now it will solve a big problem and reduce our gas costs," Mr Dyer said.

The bioenergy serves as a gas substitute and is made purely from the sawdust generated on site.

The energy generated is used to create hot water that is required to operate five kilns.

This then facilitates the process of drying the timber.

"The generation of hot water is totally fuelled by the biomass boiler," Mr Dyer said.

"It will eventually make it a lot more sustainable for the future for all mills."



Pictured above:
Bombala locals may notice the new 18-metre chimney at the mill.
Supplied: Dongwha Australia

Bombala’s Big Boiler

Bombala is located in the Snowy Monaro region in south-east New South Wales. The town isn’t far from the popular ski fields of Kosciuszko National Park and the region’s principal industries are grazing and timber.

Mr Dyer said locals might notice the new 18-metre chimney stack that now protrudes from the mill, but not much else.

“There may be a bit of smoke. But it’s good clean smoke.”

Mr Dyer said he knew of one other plant in Sydney that used a boiler to make its own energy, with a capacity of 5 megawatts. Bombala has a capacity of 15 megawatts.

“So ours is three times the size ... and in terms of biomass that’s very large,” Mr Dyer said.

He said that made it the largest known bioenergy plant in regional NSW, but that might not be for long.

“Since February, we’ve heard of the potential construction of three other boilers in Australia: one in Tasmania and two in Victoria,” Mr Dyer said.

Turning Waste Into Wealth

Professor of Biofuels and Biorefining at Queensland University of Technology Ian O’Hara said bioenergy production was on the uptake in Australia.

“You’re using things that would otherwise be low-value or waste, and you’re putting them to a good purpose,” said Professor O’Hara, who researches the application of bioenergy in Australia and its benefits to the economy.

He said biomass boilers were becoming more integrated in Australian industries to produce sustainable energy, reduce company costs and boost local jobs.

“What we’re now seeing is people with smaller amounts of waste available starting to find that they’re profitable,” Professor O’Hara said.

“I expect that we’ll see a lot more of them over the next few years.”

Economics Update

Well, of-course the biggest story recently has been the running of the Federal election and the "Miracle Result".

That result means the continuation of the incumbent Coalition Government and the continuation of its fiscal and economic policies. These policies combined with 2 interest rate cuts by the reserve bank, easing of credit restrictions and mortgage insurance help for first home buyers may mean that some confidence will start to appear in the ailing housing markets for new as well as existing housing stock, and at time of writing there were small signs of recovery appearing.

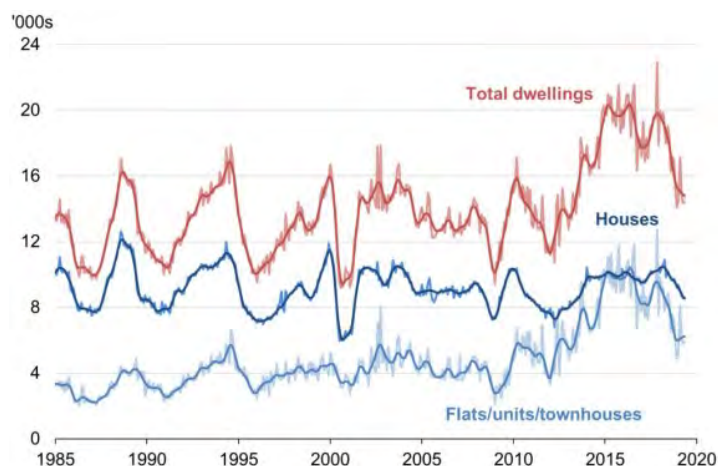
At a time of global uncertainties and a slowing Australian economy, it will be critical that economic activity is encouraged to avoid a possible recession and the still possible collapse in the housing market that some continue to predict.

In terms of the indicators for the residential construction market, the following is from the Australian Industry Group Weekly Economic Update for the week of July 5th.

The latest ABS monthly building approvals data show that the total number of approvals to build new homes (detached houses and apartments) rose by 0.7% m/m in May, after falling in March and April (seasonally adjusted). The small rise in May was because of a rise in apartment approvals (2.1% m/m), which more than offset a small fall in house approvals (0.2% m/m).

Residential building approval numbers can be very volatile from month to month, particularly in months that include approvals for large new apartment complexes. Looking through this monthly volatility at the trend data, there were 14,778 residential dwellings approved in May, down by 0.5% from April and down 20.9% from one year earlier. Building approvals have been falling from record high levels since 2016 and are now down 27.5% from their peak in May 2016. The decline has been evident in all states, but is particularly strong in apartment approvals in Victoria and Queensland.

Looking ahead, fewer building approvals suggest the residential construction boom is well and truly over for now. Even so, the level of residential construction work is expected to remain high by historical standards, supported by strong population growth. Building approvals typically 'lead' building activity by 6 to 12 months, so these recent trends suggest that residential construction activity will fall to a lower level than in the past 2-3 years.



Australian Industry Group Economics Weekly

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KPC Updates its Tankers

Zero Harm defines how Koppers conducts business every day by creating a culture of safety so that the company always places the safety and health of its employees, environment and communities first in all thoughts, plans, and actions - an aspirational, yet attainable, goal.

In this spirit Koppers has upgraded its CCA tankers to ensure safer loading and unloading and reliable delivery with a brand new tanker delivered in December last year and another tanker substantially upgraded.



The new tanker features

- Custom made by Tieman Tankers with a strong focus on safety
- Three compartment and 20,000 litre capacity
 - ✓ EBS Braking
 - ✓ Drive-away protection during loading/unloading
 - ✓ Actuated valves, vents, handrails
 - ✓ Digital weight measurement
 - ✓ Digital volume (delivery) measurement
 - ✓ Air purge system to reduce chemical drips/spills during set-up/pack-up