Timber Stewardship

How the timber industry has organised to address the end-of-life timber problem

Stephen Mitchell
Sustainability Program Manager

Timber Development Association

What is the Problem?

- Quantity of waste timber
- Assumed large quantities of methane emissions
- High quality of some of the waste timber resource
- Lack of alternatives to disposal
- Demands from government to industry
- Poor sustainability argument
- Lack of strategic direction
Post-consumer waste timber –
Generation, disposal, recovery

- ACT
- NSW
- QLD
- SA (Adelaide)
- TAS
- VIC
- WA (Perth)
- National

Major products derived from waste timber and wood products diverted from landfills - Australia

- Mulch and compost
- Biofuel
- Chicken Litter
- Salvage
- Particleboard

ecologically sustainable development
Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

Raw Material Supplier → Importer → Producer → Recycler → Consumer → Waste Company → Disposal

Product Stewardship

End-of-life Manager → Consumer → Retailer → Brand Owner → Manufacturer → Designer → Supplier
Recycling Rates

- Concrete >75%
- Ferrous metal >85%
- Timber ~30%
- Plastics 16%
## Industry Response

- Formed the Treated Timber Product Stewardship Group (TTPSG)
- Responded to NSW Government
- Applied for co-funding from Australian Government to address problems on a national basis

---

## DAFF Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder analysis</th>
<th>EPR / product stewardship review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current utilisation</td>
<td>Formation of national group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barriers to recycling</td>
<td>Intervention points analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy / action plan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
International EPR review

• Mixture of regulatory and voluntary schemes
• Most common for – packaging, batteries, refrigerants, electronics, oil and tyres
• Voluntary scheme in Finland for take back and recycling of CCA and creosote treated timber
• Proposed scheme in Norway
• European Packaging Directive includes targets for recycling of wood packaging

Recycling terminal in Tuulos
Recycling - salvaged timber

Thor Recycling - ACT
Wholesale Sleeper Co - NSW
Australian Hardwood Network - Northern NSW
Waste Converters - VIC
CCA Vineyard Stick - SA

Recycling – particleboard

Wood Waste Recycling
Reduce costs and reduce landfill by recycling your wood waste.
The laminex group

D&R Henderson - Vic
Laminex - WA

ecologically sustainable development
Recycling – mulch

Moss Rock - VIC
Phoenix Power Recyclers - Qld
Australian Native Landscapes - NSW
Jeffries - SA
Rainbow Mulch - WA
Moss Rock - Vic

ecologically sustainable development

Residues to Revenues Australia 2007
Recycling - particleboard

Wood Waste Recycling
Reduce costs and reduce landfill by recycling your wood waste.

Laminex - WA

D&R Henderson - Vic

Recycling – Animal Bedding

Pine Shavings

HYSORB WOODSHAVINGS
Premium Quality
Wood Bedding

ecologically sustainable development
Bioenergy - Domestic

- Shiver Me Timbers - VIC
- National Cedar Componentry - NSW
- Vinsan Contracting - WA
- Ebay - VIC
- Ebay - NSW

Bioenergy - Industrial

- Visy Pulp & Paper - NSW
- Rocky Point Sugar Mill - QLD
- Carter Holt Harvey - NSW
- Adelaide Brighton Cement - SA

Source: Stephen Schuck

Residues to Revenues Australia 2007
Current utilisation – carbon sequestration

- GHG emissions from landfill ~3% of total emissions
- Emissions from disposed timber assumed to be very high by AGO
- Research by CRC for Greenhouse Accounting (and NSW DPI) show timber breaks down very slowly in landfills – may in fact sequester carbon
- Liaising with AGO to update incorrect emissions data
National Timber Stewardship Group

• Membership:
  – Forest growers - Forests NSW
  – Processors - A3P & NAFI
  – Engineered Wood Products - EWPA
  – Timber treaters - TPAA, LOSP Group
  – Chemical - Koppers, Osmose
  – Merchants - TABMA
  – Importers – ATIF (+ A3P, NAFI)
  – Government – NSW DEC, Sustainability Victoria
DAFF Project Update

| Stakeholder analysis       | ✓  |
| EPR / product stewardship review | ✓  |
| Current utilisation        | ✓  |
| Formation of national group | ✓  |
| Barriers to recycling      | End of July |
| Intervention points analysis | End of July |
| Strategy / action plan     | End of October |

Barriers to Increased Recovery

- Economic
  - Low (negative) value
  - Transport costs to markets
  - Costs of capital
  - Competition with cheap demolition/coal/residue/landfills
  - Calorific value is low compared to coal (except in Victoria)
- Contamination
  - Physical (plastic, paper, large chunks of metal)
  - Chemical (lead, copper, chromium, arsenic, chlorine)
- Regulatory
  - EPA regulations – lack of clarity
  - Planning approval process
Intervention Points Analysis

• Most timber waste identified is from:
  – demolition
  – pallets and packaging
• Identify the best intervention points and detailed analysis of barriers
• Also analysing treated timbers products to identify appropriate education points
Successes to date

• Developing positive relationships with Governments and policy makers
• Sharing the problem
• Industry taking control of the problems – and the solutions
• Improving our sustainability argument
Thank you

Questions?