# Selling the softwoods (and the trees)

Softwoods CEO Forum





#### An integrated program based on:

- Industry consultation and other data
- Specifier research (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- Consumer research (5+ years of ongoing tracking)

#### Strategy based on:

Results of research over many years

#### **Research results:**

 Lack of knowledge was a major barrier to increased use of wood in building construction



Three main areas of activity:

Consumer - WHY use wood/social license (environmental message, wood stores carbon)

- Planet Ark Relationship Australia's most trusted source of information.
- Range of activities undertaken
  Make It Wood/Environmental Edge TV, bus, print, electronic screen
- Sponsorship consumer exhibitions –
  Grand Design Live, etc



#### **Consumer Program**

- Targets a broad range of consumers
- Helps us understand consumer attitudes
- Results continue to be excellent –

#### **Contributing to:**

- Increased understanding of the advantages of wood
- Indirectly increasing the social licence for the industry to operate

#### Trade Partner Program - Wood. Naturally Better.™

- Communicates to industry and trade
- Allows members of the supply chain to leverage the strengths of the two programs to increase the Industry's market share
- Over 1,000 members



#### Specifier Program (WoodSolutions) - HOW to use wood

- Audience architects, engineers, building designers
  building surveyors, quantity surveyors, fire engineers, etc
- Established important sponsorships and alliances with key professional associations (AIA, EA, BDA Alliance, etc)
- Both National and State levels



#### WoodSolutions communications channels

- Generic conventional sales materials
- Trade events, retail displays etc.
- Trade, industry and professional publications
- Electronic media websites, social media etc.
- Technical design guides
- Professional tutorials
- Seminars and speakers



## WoodSolutions activities – Marketing brochures and promotional gifts



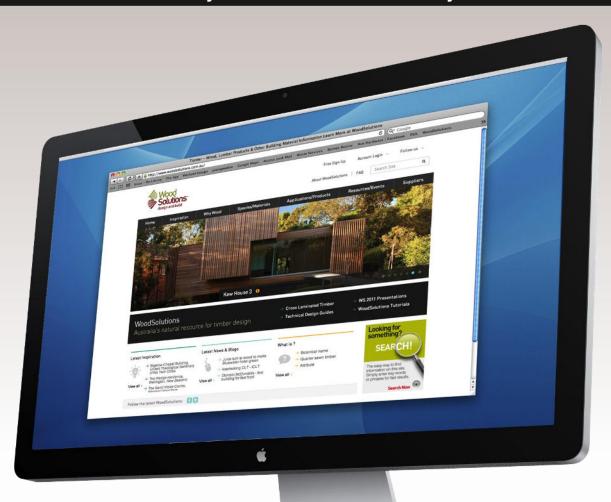
woodsolutions.com.au

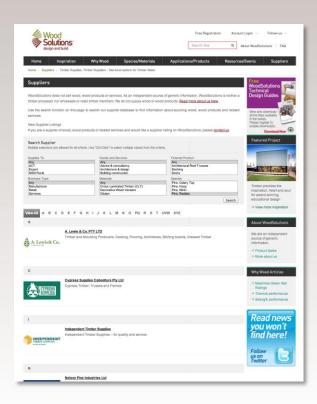
#### WoodSolutions activities - Trade Advertising





## WoodSolutions activities – Electronic Media - Website, social media, etc







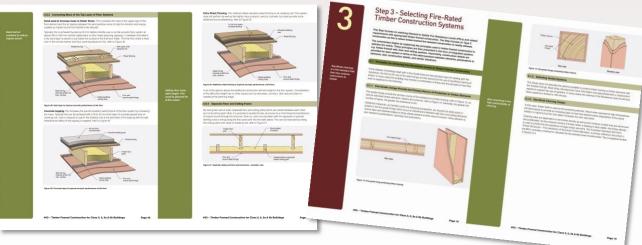
#### www.woodsolutions.com.au

- Online knowledge source information more accessible
- Sourced from research studies, technical guides, building codes and standards, case studies etc.
- Advertise your business on supplier area of site
- 60,000Great example of how the internet can aggregate and disseminate complex information
- 60,000+visitors per month/over 1.3Million page views



## WoodSolutions activities – Technical Design Guides







#### **WoodSolutions activities - Seminars & Tutorials**









#### **WoodSolutions success to date**

- Website/internet 60,000+ visitors a month
- 13,000 technical material downloads in 2013
- Seminars, tutorials and events 50,000 event attendees in 2013
- Partnerships with professional bodies (architects/engineers/ designers) potentially 25,000+ professionals
- Education program aimed at UNI/TAFE staff



# We have built the foundation



#### WoodSolutions is.....

- Communicating new product developments,
  e.g. Modular flooring panels, engineered wood products
- Expanding website content and related information
- Growing the supplier section of the website (is your company or product/s there?)
- Conducting/supporting tutorials and other informative events



Now what do we add to grow? There are many options. Here are two.



#### **Opportunity One**

#### The BBQ (or workplace) phenomenon.

Can all your staff clearly articulate the many advantages of wood as a material and your products in particular? A more informed industry workforce can:

- Sell more of your products
- Provide support for other timber and wood products
- Contribute toward increasing the social license for our industry to operate



#### **Solution One**

## FWPA (WS) is prepared to offer online and/or personally delivered group tutorials that will:

- Familiarise your staff with the renewable and environmental advantages of wood
- Help them to understand how wood fits into a competitive materials market
- Help them to understand how specifiers see wood and wood products and what they want from them



#### **Opportunity Two**

## Overseas experience shows that one-to-one personal, professional communication can:

- Increase the use of wood and wood products
- Identify new projects and markets
- Be the 'eyes and ears' of the industry
- Provide technical and website content
- Provide an excellent ROI



#### **Solution Two**

## Establish a national technical field force of 8-10 knowledgeable reps who can:

- Liaise with specifiers from architects to building surveyors
- Inspire with news of new projects
- Advise changes to building codes and standards
- Provide generic product advice
- Direct specifiers to a supplier listing
- Speak at seminars, tutorials....and more



#### Solution Two – Develop a business case

FWPA will develop a business case to run a pilot program in Victoria and Queensland to ascertain the benefits of establishing a National technical field force:

- This will benefit all sectors of the Industry
- There will be a focus on the commercial building sector to expand the application of new building solutions

 If the result is positive - Voluntary funding will be required to implement the Field Force

#### **Summary**

#### FWPA's generic marketing program is:

Increasing consumer knowledge of wood





Driving awareness and uptake of wood and wood products by building material specifiers





#### Summary

#### **Opportunities for your sector include:**

- Increasing staff knowledge of the environmental and other advantages of wood
- Promoting sales of your wood products by ensuring they are represented in the Supplier section of the WoodSolutions website
- Supporting the case for a WoodSolutions Technical Field Force



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Thank you



