

# Media Release

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November 12, 2015

## Members support FWPA at AGM

The members of Forest and Wood Products Australia Limited (FWPA) have elected three directors and approved some minor constitutional changes at today's annual general meeting (AGM).

Candidates to the FWPA Board are selected by an arms-length director selection committee, which includes representatives from four national associations.

After completing their first three year term of office, John Simon and John McNamara were both re-nominated by the Director Selection Committee along with Stephen Dadd from Boral. All nominees were elected by the members.

Following consultation with industry associations and the Department of Agriculture and Water, a package of minor administrative changes to FWPA's Constitution was presented to the AGM as a special resolution, which requires the support of 75% of voting members. All the proposed changes were passed by the members.

Addressing the AGM, FWPA's Chairman, Ron Adams thanked his fellow directors for their commitment and contribution in their diligent oversight of the company. This was Ron's last year as a director and chairman of FWPA and he noted with pleasure the changes that the company has undergone since it was privatised in 2007.

"In nine years as Chairman, I have enjoyed leading nine unique boards because each board is truly distinctive based on its composition and knowledge of its members. Over this time, I have shared my director duties with 20 other intelligent and passionate individuals who have brought their own experience from within the forest and wood product sector, and equally important, from the broader corporate and not-for-profit sectors," Ron said.

"The strength of FWPA lies in its capability to articulate and implement its rolling 5-year plan in a collaborative and systematic manner across the five key program areas. I am confident that FWPA will continue to deliver effective and valuable commercial outcomes for its members and for the Australian Government."

### **About Forest and Wood Products Australia**

FWPA aims to improve the competitiveness and sustainability of the Australian forest and wood products industry through innovation by investing in effective and relevant R&D and promotion of the industry's products, services and values. FWPA undertakes industry-level activities where a collective approach delivers more effective and valuable commercial outcomes than individual action. We deliver services that support the industry's capacity as a major exporter and mainstay of regional communities in many parts of Australia.

At a subsequent FWPA Board meeting, the directors elected John Simon as the new Chairman of the Board. John has recently retired as CEO of Simmonds Lumber and has previously held senior executive roles in the forest products sector, including Chairman of the Timber Development Association. John continues to remain active in the sector in a number of non-executive roles.

“I am grateful for the support of my fellow directors and I look forward to maintaining the strategic focus and strong corporate governance of the organisation,” John noted. “FWPA has built a reputation of integrity and professionalism and this is a credit to directors and staff. FWPA is endowed with income from industry levies and government funding. We need to continue to ensure that these funds are invested wisely and for the benefit of all sectors of the timber industry.”

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**For more information contact:**

Ric Sinclair  
Managing Director  
Forest and Wood Products Australia Ltd  
ric.sinclair@fwpa.com.au  
+61 407 329 372

[AGM presentation can be viewed online here](#)

**Image:**



John Simon and Stephen Dadd

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