### Enabling Prefabricated Timber Building Systems for Class 2-9 Buildings

Prepared for *Forest Wood Products Australia (FWPA)* by the Centre For Sustainable Architecture with Wood (CSAW).

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- Executive Summary & Introduction
- Construction & the Matrix of Prefabrication
- Prefabrication in Class 2-9 Building in Australia
- Current Prefabricated Timber Supply Chain
- Drivers Enabling Prefabricated Timber Building Systems
- Barriers to Enabling Prefabricated Timber Building Systems
- Case Studies
- Recommendations

### Webinar Overview



- Drivers for and barriers to the increased use of Prefabricated Timber Building (PTB) systems
- Increasing number of innovative PTB systems suggests ongoing growth potential
- NCC 2016 allows Fire Protected Timber in mid-rise construction
- Growing awareness Several tier one and two builders now build using PTB systems
- Market-ready PTB systems remain in formative stages
- Opportunity to leveraged of timber's well established benefits:
  - Strength to weight ratio
  - Design and construction flexibility
  - Environmental benefits
  - Prefabricated timber construction suits:
    - Brownfield suburban & inner city sites
    - Restricted access sites
    - Sloping sites

# **Project Introduction**



### Design:

'Prefabrication is not just about the making, both the architectural and engineering design intent and processes are paramount and must be considered'

### Location:

'Manufacturing or the act of making pre-determined elements must be away from the final destination/position in a building or structure. This could be on the same site or at another location off site'

#### Purpose:

'Prefabrication is not the manufacture of 'blanks' but rather specific pieces intended for a specific task or series of tasks in a particular building or structure'

### Singular Item or Entire Assembly:

'The item being prefabricated can be a single component or an entire assembly of component'

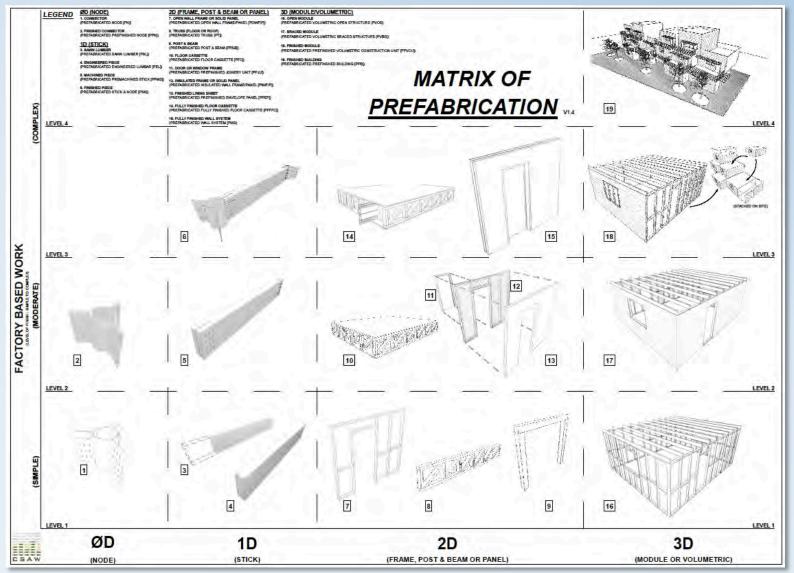
### Simple to Complex:

'Components or assemblies of components can vary in their complexity relative to the entire structure. They can form part of a structure or the entire structure'

The design and off-site manufacture of a *project specific component, assembly or system* that is utilised, in part or as a whole, to build a structure.

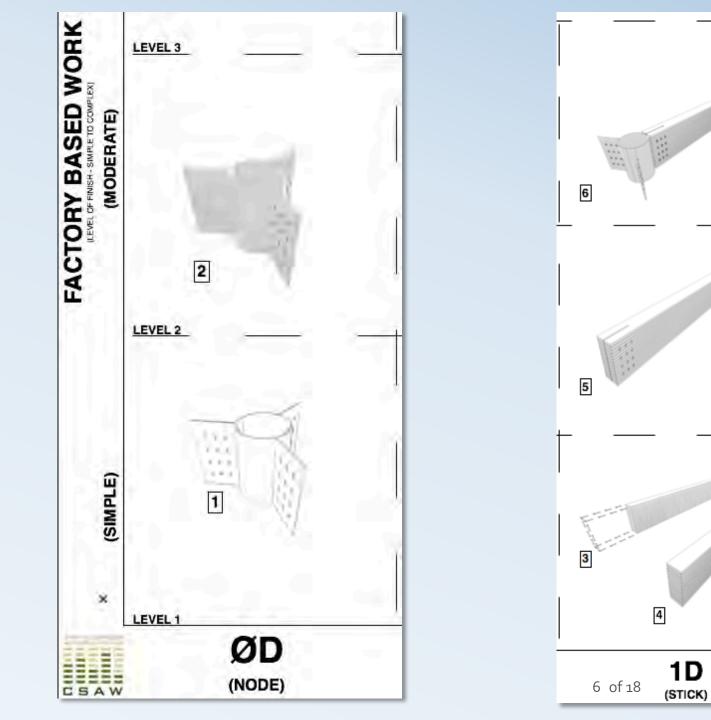
## **Prefabrication in Construction**



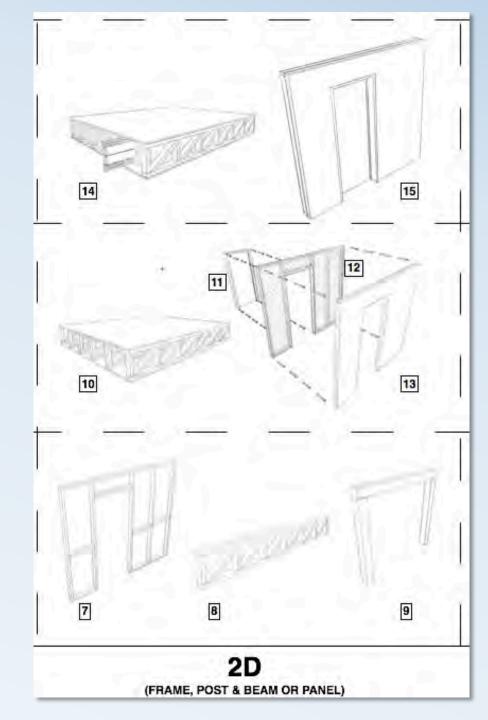


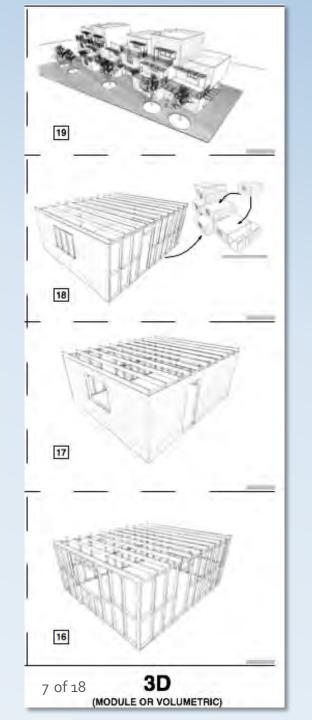
**Prefabrication Matrix** 



















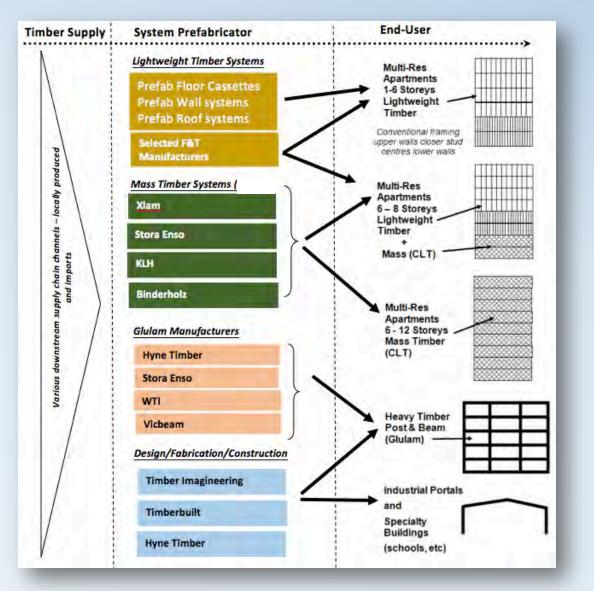


Forte` Living - Docklands

The Green - Parkerville

# Prefabrication in Class 2-9 Buildings





# Prefabricated Timber Supply Chain



### D1 – Cost & efficiency advantages over traditional alternative construction methods

- D2 Inherent quality manufacturing & site impact advantages of prefabricated timber construction systems
- D<sub>3</sub> Increases in medium density dwelling construction in urban infill areas
- D4 2016 NCC 'Fire Protected Timber' Deemed-to-Satisfy provisions for Class 2, 3 & 5 buildings
- D5 Timber's inherent structural, fire, thermal and acoustic properties
- D6 Interest in environmentally friendly materials and wood encouragement policies
- D7 Increased interest in using low-grade wood resource in higher strength engineered wood products
- D8 Governments encouraging innovation and off-site manufacturing and prefabrication
- D9 Building Information Modelling (BIM) and digital manufacturing
- D10 Increased training & education opportunities in prefabricated systems design, manufacture and supply
- D11 Established heavy lifting and transport logistics industry

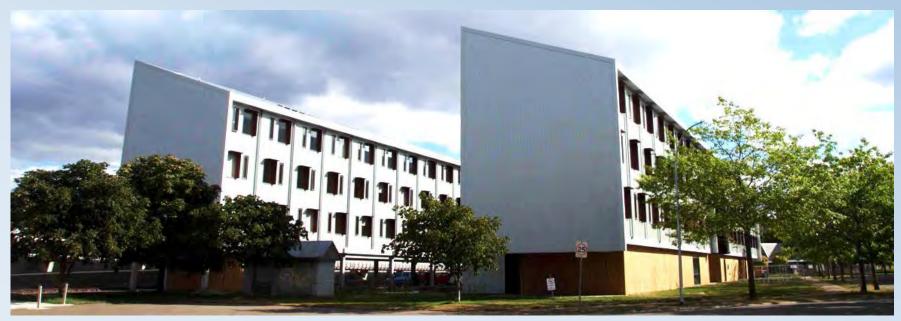
### **Drivers** to Enabling Prefabricated Timber



- B1 Risk to existing businesses
- B<sub>2</sub> Financial models
- B<sub>3</sub> Timber industry's interest and capacity to supply
- B4 Industry fragmentation and lack of coordination
- B<sub>5</sub> Competition with other materials
- B6 Establishing a culture of prefabrication
- B7 Perceptions of timber and prefabricated systems
- B8 Costs in establishing prefabrication facilities
- B9 Australia's geography and isolated populations
- B10 Research and knowledge sharing

### Barriers to Enabling Prefabricated Timber







### Production/Installation:

• Approximately 9 months

### Unique features:

- Fully finished timber framed prefabricated modules
- CLT corridors and flooring in all upper level public areas
- Nail plate roof trusses assembled with roof cover on ground

Case Study-NRAS Inveresk – UTas Student Accommodation





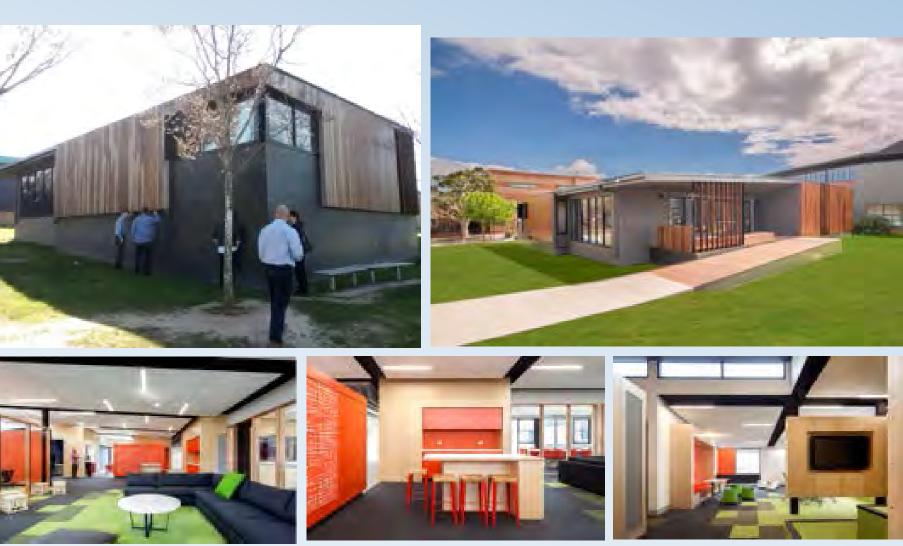
Case Study-NRAS Inveresk – UTas Student Accommodation





Case Study-NRAS Inveresk – UTas Student Accommodation





Unique features:

- Bespoke prefabricated modular buildings with a focus on design quality

# Case Study- : Timber and steel framed volume modules Potential to be demounted and relocated - The Learning Project







Case Study-The Green Unique features:

- Five storey building with 57, 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments
- 'Hybrid' construction utilising Tecbeam timber cassette floors, prefabricated wall frames and SIPS external cladding
- Overall project cost was 25% lower than traditional construction
- Largest floor cassette 2.7m x 8m
- Most prefabricated wall frames were 3.6m long
- Sub-contractors sourced from residential sector
- Appears as a traditional rendered multi-storey building

Image Credit: https://chemicalmaterials.elsevier.com/wp-<u>content/up</u>loads/2016/06/CTL-Elsevier.png

- R1 Class 2-9 Prefabricated Timber Systems Market Implementation Group
- R2- Network and leverage technical support and promotion with other system component suppliers
- R3 Assist Truss and Frame manufacturers to expand
- R4 Urban densification developer
- R5- Increase technical support for design professionals, builders and prefabricators
- R6- Develop a database of current timber-wise design professionals
- R7 Regular industry site visits to new Class 2-9 buildings
- R8 Develop detailed case studies of all significant new Class 2-9 projects constructed
- R9 Encourage the use of Building Information Modelling (BIM)
- R10 Support value-adding research into out-of-grade softwood and plantation hardwood resource
- R11- Actively support the off-site and prefabrication sector
- R12- Encourage R&D and University Centres of Excellence
- R13 Expansion of NCC DtS Provisions to other commercial building classes and taller builders

# 13 Recommendations



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