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Dear FWPA Member,

I'm sure we can all agree that the clear highlight this month was the SMAC CEO Roundtable, where we were able to step back from day-to-day pressures, connect with peers and have open, practical conversations about where the industry is heading.

Below you'll find a summary of outcomes and next steps as well as a number of useful news updates, resources and industry insights from our Statistics & Economics team.

I hope you find the content useful for you and your team.

Regards,

Ian Blanden

Head of Research, Development & Extension

February highlights

- **SMAC CEO Roundtable**
 - Outcomes incl: Next Steps
 - Pete Bounsall, GM Strategic Procurement for Stockland
Key insights and access to full speech
- **Industry Health Check**
 - Prefabricated building imports lift to record \$326 Million
 - Reconstituted board imports in decline
 - Webinar - Blue Scope Steel 1H 2026 Results
- **Research & Development**
 - FWPA – Emissions Knowledge Gap Analysis
 - National Centre for Timber Durability & Design Life (NCTDDL)
- **FWPA's WoodSolutions**
 - WoodSolutions newsletter - The resource edit

SMAC Update

Thank you to everyone who contributed so openly over the two days of this workshop. This level of engagement and collaboration lead us to agree on a clear Purpose and Vision for SMAC as well as confirming the four highest-priority research themes and problem areas for the industry. See below.

This gives FWPA a strong mandate to focus investment where it matters most and ensure our work continues to directly support softwood manufacturers.

A meeting to advance some of the outcomes will be arranged ahead of the next SMAC Meeting 15-16 April. Location TBC.

Review outcomes presentation

Guest speaker, Pete Bounsall

Key insights for Australia's softwood manufacturing industry.

'Shift from selling materials to fully-engineered systems'

Developers want solutions. Systems that slot into early design, reduce risk and time onsite, and come with solid performance data.

'Boost reliability, scale and sovereign supply'

Softwood demand will only grow and the companies that win will be those offer certainty of supply, price and performance.


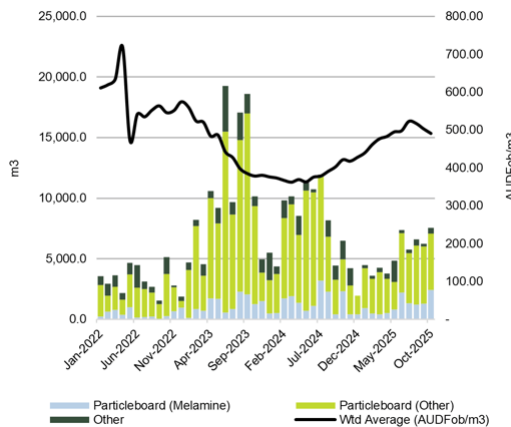
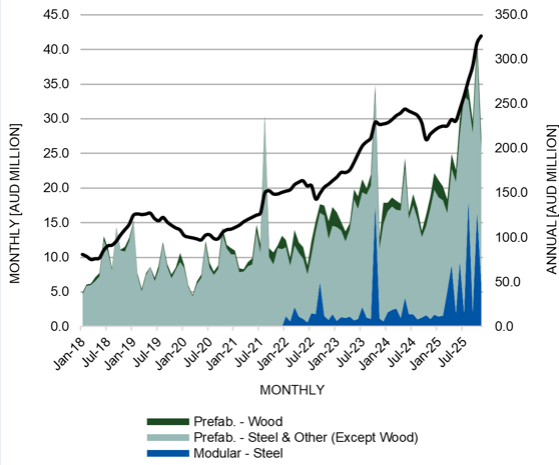
'Engage earlier in the development cycle'

Material choices are increasingly made at feasibility stage, months before procurement. If our industry wants to influence decisions, we need to be in the room early. Working with designers, estimators, engineers, and cost planners will help influence and shape the solution before it's locked in. When timber enters late, it loses. When it enters early, it competes extremely well.

[Access full speech here](#) | [Learn more about Stockland](#)

Industry health check
with Dr Erick Hansnata

FWPA's data dashboard - FREE FOR MEMBERS

Australia's imports of **prefabricated and modular buildings** lifted to a record

Most 'major' **reconstituted board** products: particleboard, MDF and OSB **saw imports lower year-on-year**, despite improvements in

AUDFob326.4 million year-ended Nov 25.

the main end-product market: housing.



Webinar

BlueScope Steel Half Year Result Investor Presentation

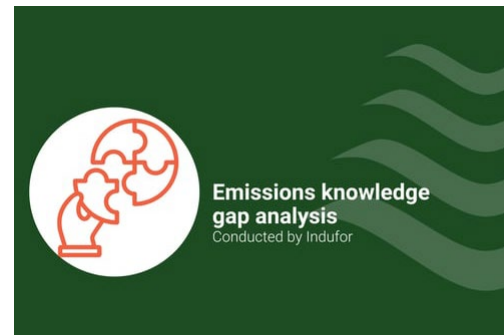
[Watch here](#)

Research & Development

New release:

Emissions knowledge gap analysis for the forest and wood product sector.

Funded by the Carbon Farming Outreach Program and conducted by Indufor in consultation with industry, research organisations and other rural Research and Development Corporations (RDCs).



National Centre for Timber Durability & Design Life

[Read about](#) the latest developments in supporting the practical, commercially viable, end-of-life pathways for treated timber from vineyards, that have the potential to **save the industry up to \$3000 per hectare in disposal costs.**

[Summer newsletter 2026 highlights](#)

New Project: Investigating and resolving quality assurance problems with LOSP treated softwood timber using AI-assisted workflow to turn spot test photos into reliable, repeatable measurements.

Plus, read about the regulatory barriers to circular pathways for end-of-life treated timber and engineered wood products.

WoodSolutions update

Introducing - The resource edit newsletter

As Australia's leading source of independent timber design and building information, WoodSolutions offers hundreds of free resources to inform timber design, specification and

construction. The resource edit draws from our extensive library to share technical content that breaks down timber design and makes using wood in your next project easier.

This month features the latest Condensation Management Guide and much more. [Download here](#)

[Subscribe here](#) (scroll to bottom of WS webpage)



Mark your calendar

9 March - 20 April

AFWI National open call - EOI

20 July 2026

AFWI project applications close

29-30 April 2026

[Sydney Build 2026 Expo - ICC Sydney](#)

22 July 2026

[Annual Showcase – The National Centre for Timber Durability and Design Life](#)

18-19 May 2026

[FTMA National Conference - Sunshine Coast](#)

9-10 September 2026

SMAC meeting - location TBC

23-24 June 2026

[WoodTECH 2026 | Innovatek - Brisbane](#)

3-4 November 2026

SMAC meeting - location TBC

1-2 July 2026

SMAC meeting - location TBC

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Research, Development & Extension



Statistics & Economics



Codes & Standards

Get in touch



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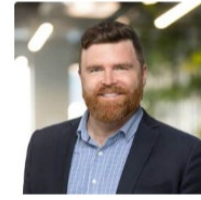
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