

Timber recycles carbon



TIMBER QUEENSLAND MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Timber structures withstand Cyclone Yasi: Building Code ensures compliance

Evidence from building inspections undertaken post Cyclone Yasi show that timber structures compliant with the current building Code and AS1684.3 stood the test, confirmation that current wind load requirements are sufficient.

Timber Queensland's CEO Rod McInnes says statements made last week by the Cyclone Testing Station (CTS) attached to James Cook University indicate structures compliant to wind load requirements, which have been in place since the early 1980's, stood up well to Cyclone Yasi's destructive winds.

"The good work undertaken by the CTS team indicates that even pre 80's structures that have been repaired and are compliant with the current Codes performed well with only superficial damage evident. However, older buildings, sheds and lean-to's have been more severely impacted," said Rod McInnes.

Timber Queensland says these reports should send a clear message to Government Regulators about effectiveness of the current Building Code which, when properly applied, has performed well.

"The facts speak for themselves. Regulators have been doing a good job and must not be panicked into increasing wind load requirements," said Rod McInnes.

"Unnecessary knee-jerk reactions will only lead to increased building costs at a time when most of Queensland can ill-afford them," he said.

"Focusing on education and practical training in the application of the Code with particular attention to fixings and tie-downs would be more useful."

ENDS

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PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Note:

Daily updates Damage Investigations following Cyclone Yasi from the Cyclone Testing Stations are available at http://www.jcu.edu.au/cts/JCUPRD_045821.html

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