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For immediate release

USE RECYCLED TIMBER WITH CONFIDENCE

NEW GRADING RULES WILL HELP PREVENT ACCIDENTS

The release of visual grading rules for recycled timber will alleviate building industry and end-consumer's safety concerns regarding using recycled hardwood timber products says peak industry body Timber Queensland.

Timber Queensland CEO, Rod McInnes said the completion of the national recycled timber grading rules project is timely.

"The increasing scrutiny of Workplace Health & Safety inspectors and building certifiers on the use of recycled timber highlights the need for these rules," said Rod McInnes.

"Combined with growing consumer interest in sustainable building products it was essential to address the lack of grading rules for recycled timber to encourage the safe development and growth of this industry sector,' he said.

Rod McInnes said in response Timber Queensland, supported by funding from Industry, Forest and Wood Products Australia, the Department Tourism, Regional Development and Industry,, has developed a common and unified set of visual grading rules for a range of structural and decorative recycled hardwood timber products.

"Structural recycled timber was found to have very specific properties different to 'new' timber and as a result of this, special span tables for a number of typical recycled timber applications have now been developed and published for use by designers and builders Australia-wide," he said.

"Australia now has a foundation for safe and successful manufacture, specification and use of recycled hardwood."

Copies of the Recycled Timber Span Tables and Grading Rules can be downloaded from www.timber.org.au or alternatively, hardcopies can be purchased via www.timberqueensland.com.au

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