

# Timber: Natural, Renewable, Sustainable.



Responsible  
Wood  
RW/1-31-38



PEFC™  
PEFC/21-31-38

Promoting sustainable forest management

## Timber: Natural, Renewable, Sustainable

Timber combines performance, wellbeing and environmental advantages and unlike other building materials, it can be harvested, re-grown and re-harvested in an average person's lifetime. The production of timber products also uses less energy than most other building materials (that are typically sourced from fossil fuels) making it the ultimate renewable.

Source: 'Carbon and Environment' [www.naturallybetter.com.au](http://www.naturallybetter.com.au)

## Using Wood to Tackle Climate Change

Growing trees absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere so efficiently that approximately half the dry weight of timber is carbon. This carbon remains locked inside for the life of the wood (even when used for timber products) and is only released when the wood rots or is burnt. As a result, sustainable harvesting can actually reduce overall carbon emissions by transforming trees into timber products before they rot and release stored carbon back into the atmosphere. Further, timber waste can be used as a very low carbon emitting biofuel, in place of high carbon emitting fossil fuels.

The combination of carbon sequestration in growing trees and the long term carbon storage in wood products represents a significant net sink and store of carbon for Australia.

Source: 'Carbon and Environment' [www.naturallybetter.com.au](http://www.naturallybetter.com.au)

## Australian Forestry: a Sustainably Managed Resource

- Australian forests are protected by strict Federal and State controls and regulations ensuring that there is a healthy balance between long term conservation and sustainable forestry management.
- Australia's 134 million hectares of forest cover approximately 17% of Australia's total land area. This represents almost 3% of the world's forest area.<sup>1</sup>
- In Australia, the native forest area is 132 million hectares. Of this area, only 28% is available for harvesting and only 1% is actually harvested each year.<sup>1</sup>
- 21% (26.4 million hectares) of Australia's forests are part of Australia's network of protected areas where nature conservation is the primary management intent.<sup>2</sup>



# Boral Timber Products have full Chain of Custody Certification which meets the Responsible Wood Australian Standard AS 4707.

## **Sustainable Forest Management Certification (AS 4708)**

The area of certified forests and plantation in Australia has grown to about 26.7 million hectares.<sup>2</sup> This includes most of the native forests managed for timber production.

Sustainable Forest Management certification provides assurance that the forests are conserved and managed responsibly to ensure they deliver social, environmental and economic benefits now and in the future - balancing people, profit and the planet.

## **PEFC Responsible Wood Chain of Custody Certification (AS 4707)**

Chain of Custody tracks a forest or wood product from its origin in a certified forest through to its end use by the consumer. Responsible Wood Chain of Custody certification verifies that Boral Timber solid hardwood products are produced from certified, legal and sustainable resources.

As such, Chain of Custody is a tracking process that provides an environmental assurance standard for the sustainable use of Australia's forest resources.

Responsible Wood is endorsed by PEFC (Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification) and is the national governing body for PEFC in Australia.

## **Boral Timber Responsible Wood Certified Products**

Boral Timber has implemented Responsible Wood Chain of Custody for solid hardwood products to support responsible and sustainable forest management in Australia.

All Boral Timber manufacturing sites are Chain of Custody certified, meaning all products from these sites are certified and can be traced from processing to distribution and are produced using certified, legal and sustainably managed sources.

### **Structural**

- Softwood
- Green and Seasoned Hardwoods

### **Other products**

- Furniture boards, pallets, crating, poles, crossarms, dunnage, woodchips and woodwaste/biofuel

<sup>1</sup> ABARES 2018. Australia's State of the Forests Report 2018.

<sup>2</sup> ABARES 2017. Australia's Forests at a glance 2017.



[www.boral.com.au/timber](http://www.boral.com.au/timber)

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