

# Media Release

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Monday 18 May 2020

## AUSTRALIAN FOREST PRODUCTS – AUSSIE MADE AND PROUD OF IT!

The Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) is proud to announce it has signed up to the Australian Made Campaign (AMCL) to support the push for Australians to choose local products manufactured from Australia’s sustainably managed forests, as we seek to rebuild the economy after CoVid-19 pandemic imposed shutdowns.

AFPA Chief Executive Officer, Ross Hampton said, “Australia’s forest products industries use sustainably harvested timber to produce Australian-made renewable products which are used every day in homes and offices around the country.”

“That has always been the case, and during the CoVid-19 pandemic our forest products industries haven’t stopped providing essential goods like paper, tissue and cleaning products, as well as cardboard for packaging and timber for pallets and new housing construction. All locally produced from Australian timber, which is the ultimate renewable.”

“It should be unacceptable to Australians that around \$5.5 billion in forest products are imported each year and we have a \$2 billion trade deficit. We even import a significant portion of the softwood timber framing we use for our homes. If more Australians buy local timber products, we will help ensure our own people keep their jobs in our sawmills and other timber processing plants in regional Australia.”

AMCL Chief Executive Officer, Ben Lazzaro said, “This partnership is a timely one, as it supports the growth of one of Australia’s most important and renewable sectors. The forest products industry is one of Australia’s largest manufacturing industries, employing thousands of Australians, many of who live in regional areas.”

“Australian Made looks forward to supporting AFPA and its members with improved access to Australia’s most recognised, trusted and widely used country of origin symbol—the Australian Made logo,” Mr Lazzaro concluded.

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To find out more about the Australian Made campaign go to [www.australianmade.com.au](http://www.australianmade.com.au).

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