Specified.

Architectural Timber Insights - by Pentarch Forestry™

ISSUE 1. 2024

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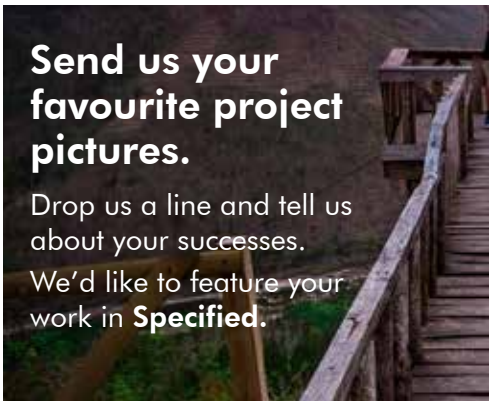
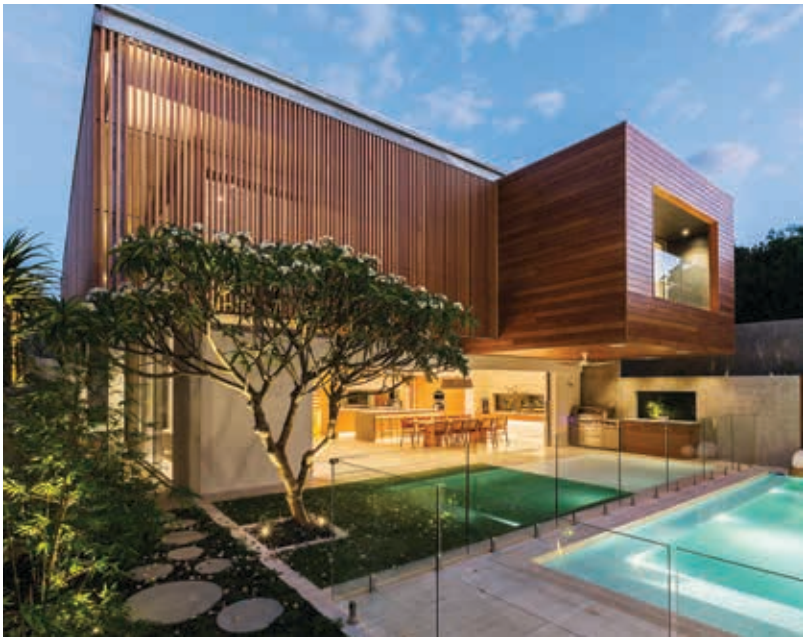


Follow us on

Welcome to Specified.

Through Specified, we endeavour to link Architects, Builders and Stockists across our network. Each issue will feature conversations with industry experts, insights from our National Specifications Manager, spotlights on projects and species, tips on how to look after your building, conversations with our people, updates on our industry, and more, so that you're always leading from the front.



Pentarch Forestry™ Premier Cladding

PENTARCH FORESTRY™

Product Focus

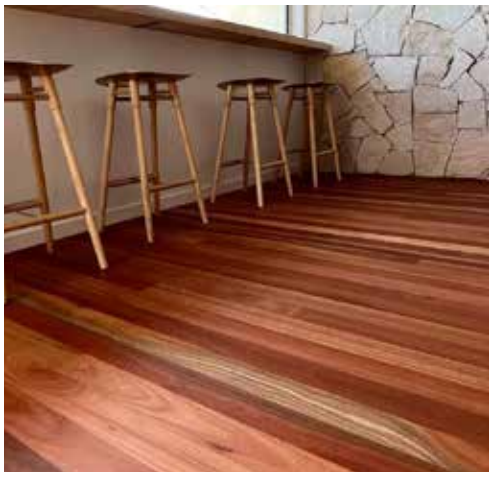
East Coast Jarrah

Beautiful, durable and classic, East Coast Jarrah is suited to all types of architectural design.

A rich blend of sustainably sourced Australian hardwood allowing designers and homeowners to create a timeless look throughout an area.

With tones ranging from nutty brown through to lighter subtle pink and deeper red tones, East Coast Jarrah is available in Premier and Natural Grade, giving options to showcase the warm natural features of mother nature.

"East Coast Jarrah enhances any space large or small"



Specifications

Botanical Name:
Eucalyptus Pellita, Saligna, Grandis and Syncarpia Glomulifera

Size: 85 x 19mm and 130 x 19mm
Grade: Premier and Natural Grade
Tongue & Groove: Solid Flooring
Janka: 9.7*

*Provided property is an average of the mixed species

To request a sample or for more information, please contact **marketing@pentarch.com.au**

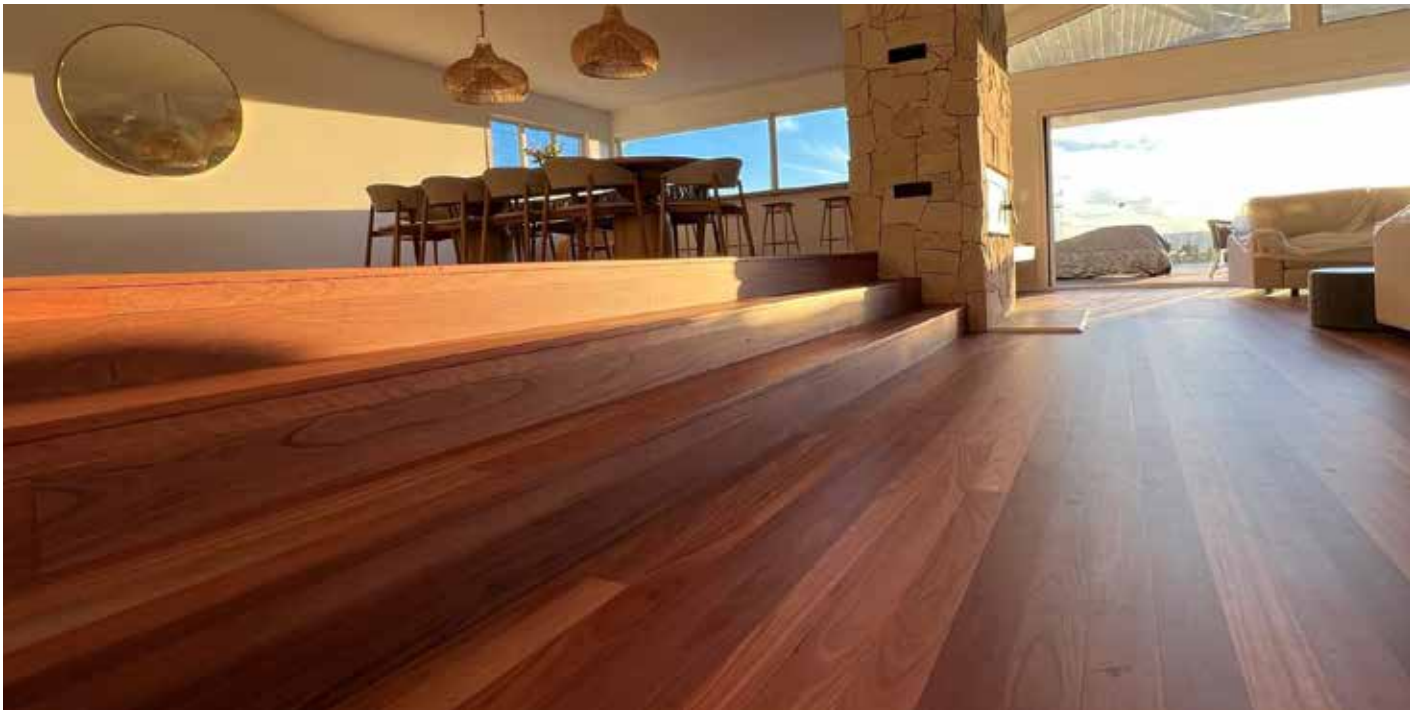


Image Credit: NJH Flooring

Interview with Nathan from NJH Flooring

by Daniel Parkin - National Specification Manager

Firstly, welcome Nathan, and thank you for taking the time to speak with me about changes in the industry. What trends are you seeing in the Solid Flooring space currently?

Hi Dan, thanks for having me.

I'm finding that flooring space is trending towards a more natural appearance. This may be a matte finish away from gloss, but primarily a choice from architects and homeowners to a floor with more natural features such as gum vein, pin hole, highlighting the true beauty of Australian Hardwood.

I also believe this is due to a large sustainability push from the market, Natural Grade floors mean that there is less waste from docking to acquire select or higher grades.

It's great to see consumers and architects moving towards a design that encapsulates the true beauty of our resource as well as holding sustainability at the forefront of their designs.

As you can tell, I am a huge fan of the grade changes Pentarch Forestry™ have implemented.

It's an interesting point that you bring up about the changing mindset due to sustainability, this is why Pentarch Forestry™ changed from having three grades – Classic, Australiana, and Natural – to two grades – Premier Grade, combining Classic and Australiana, whilst retaining Natural Grade.

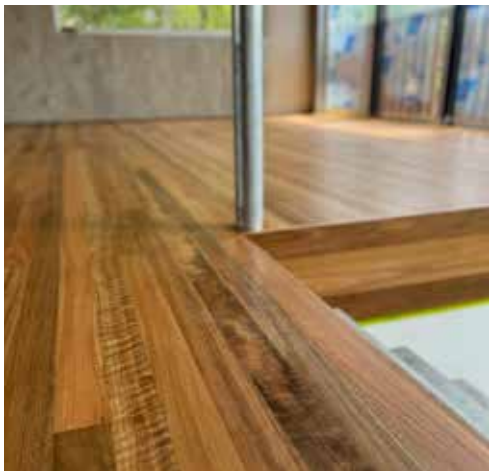
Less docking means less waste and a fantastic sustainable outcome.

Apart from a general open attitude towards grade, what other changes have you seen?

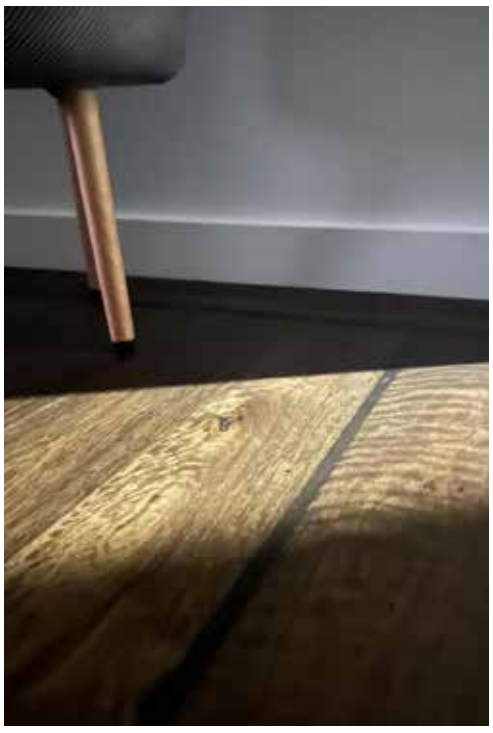
Another exciting change I've noticed is the increasing use of alternate timber species.

As a flooring professional, it's invigorating to see a departure from Blackbutt and Spotted Gum. Australia is home to some of the most beautiful species – White Mahogany, Stringybark, New England Blackbutt, Blue Gum, Brushbox, Tallowwood, Red Mahogany – we are truly spoilt, and it excites me to see a change in attitude towards specifying with a wider range of species.

I can't wait to lay and finish your new **East Coast Jarrah** and **Northern Chestnut** flooring!



"The biggest shift apart from the grade that I have seen has been towards alternative timber species"



Interview continued:

Given your location in Northern NSW with its high rainfall and humidity, what advice would you offer around install?

A huge question Dan!

This is what separates the flooring professionals from everyone else. Timber is hygroscopic, it expands, contracts and reacts with environmental changes. You can't expect a timber floor to perform if it turns up on site and is installed straight away and laid tight.

It needs time to acclimatise to the environment.

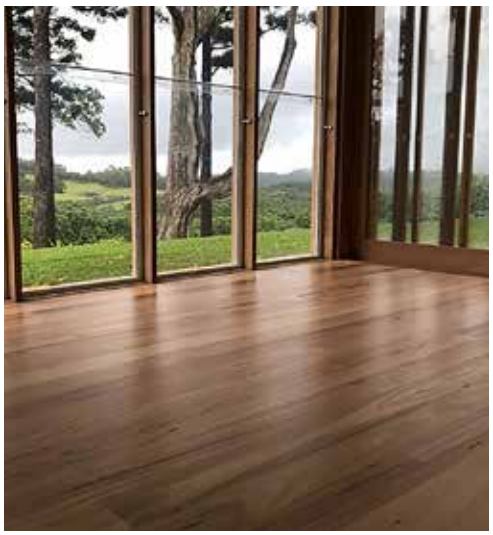
I know your flooring is manufactured between 9% and 14% moisture content as per industry standards. If that floor is 10% or 11% when it arrives on site and we have had large amounts of rain and humidity is high, that floor will grow, it will expand. Alternatively, if that floor was laid when it was high in moisture, if it then acclimatises inside, it will shrink, gap and look unsightly.

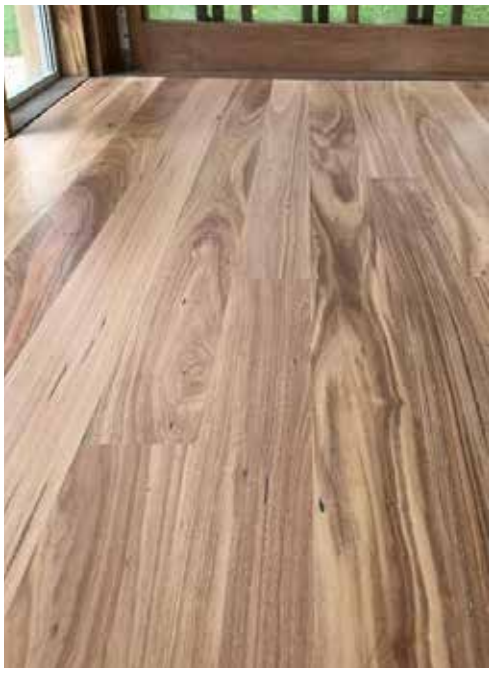
Flooring professionals take a lot of measurements; when stock arrives, we do testing as it acclimatises, and we test before we lay. We also look at surrounding environments, microclimates within rooms and buildings, weather patterns.

You cannot just lay a floor and hope for the best. If there is a product on site that should take priority with install times, it is timber flooring. We install based on environmental conditions, we introduce micro joints to areas with high humidity to allow for seasonal expansion and we install as per standards and manufacturers.

I agree Nathan, it is one of the most technical parts of the project. Timber flooring performance is either a make or break for the project. It is the main feature in the build and when it goes wrong, there is no hiding it.

Nathan thank you for your time and for being part of our first industry Insight segment. I am looking forward to visiting a few of your projects and seeing our East Coast Jarrah and Northern Chestnut finished. Good luck this year with the National flooring awards, I hope you can make it three from three for **Floor of the Year!**





"Australia has some of the most beautiful species around"

Specified.

Pentarch Forestry™
Case Study

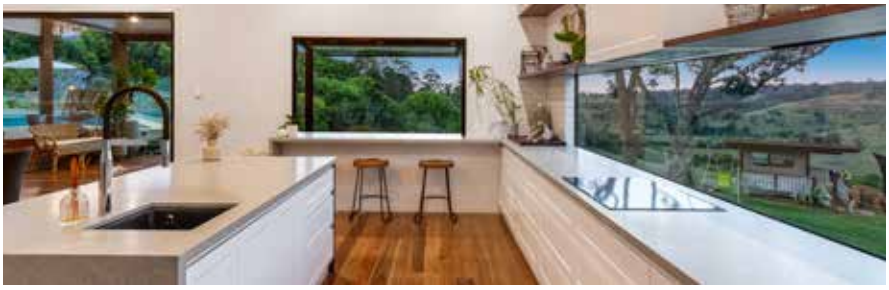
Tanahaylen Valley House by Joel Jensen Constructions
Featuring Pentarch Forestry™ 130x19mm Spotted Gum Premier Grade Flooring and Decking.

This home was meticulously designed to capture the stunning view of the valley.

It encompasses a split-level layout with an open plan living, dining, kitchen, and butler's pantry, along with 5 bedrooms, an upper floor dedicated to the master suite with a walk-in robe, ensuite, and office, a rumpus room, a main bathroom, powder room, and linen store.

Notable features include a custom-built staircase, locally sourced 300 x 300mm timber posts, exterior mod wood cladding, an insulated garage door designed to shield from the western sun, a uniquely shaped pool tailored to complement the house, a custom-crafted blackbutt entrance door, 30 metres of decking along the rear of the house, bespoke blackbutt two pac benchtops, ducted air conditioning, an outdoor kitchen, a smart home technology system, and spotted gum hardwood timber flooring with a personalized border design.

Situated on a steep, 3-acre block, the site underwent extensive work to create a welcoming and family-friendly living environment.



2022 HIA Housing Award
- **Custom Built Home - $750k to $1 million – Winner.**

Timber Talk

Managing Mould

From time to time, our team is called to inspect mouldy decks and external cladding.

Mould can grow on a wide range of surfaces, including showers, wet areas, tiles, bricks, stone, and painted surfaces.

Issues with mould on timber generally arise after the timber has been delivered to the site, where it has absorbed moisture from environmental factors.

Due to its open-cell structure, timber presents diverse challenges in combating mould. To mitigate this issue, it is advisable to pre-oil all four sides and ends of external timber products before installation, thereby effectively sealing and safeguarding the fibres against moisture.

Mould is often evident on decks built too close to the ground, where there is a lack of ventilation and an uncoated backside allowing moisture in. The use of film-forming coatings that are coated on the top side only, trapping moisture underneath the film, is also a common issue. Mould tends to be more common on east- and south-facing building aspects, which receive less UV exposure compared to north- and west-facing aspects.

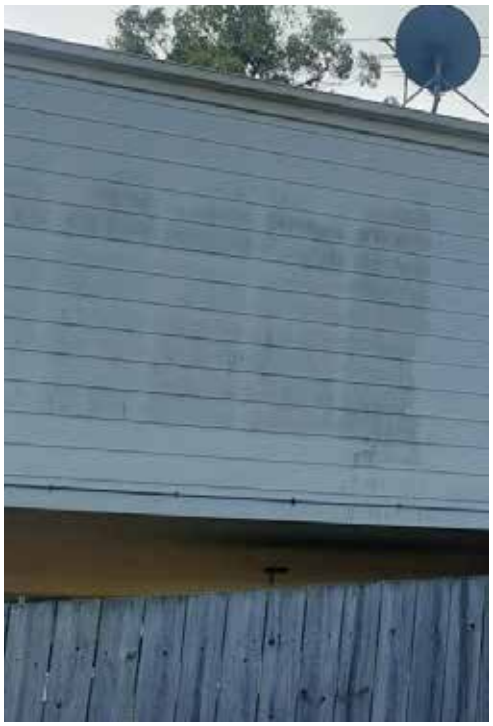
With proper installation and maintenance, mould can be avoided or significantly reduced.

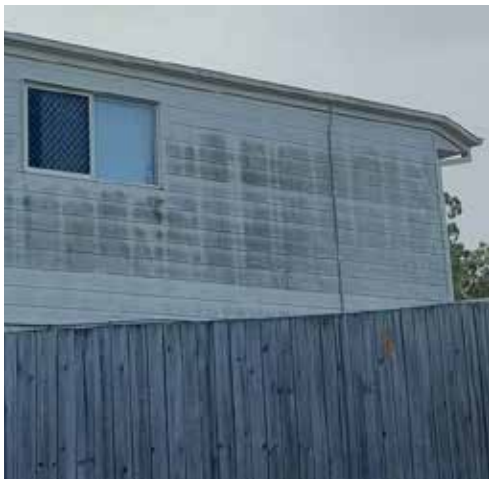
The correct method:

- Proper ventilation, such as creating gaps between deck boards and providing ground clearance, along with installing cladding with a cavity batten, is crucial.
- Coating all four sides and applying end coatings after cutting and prior to installation. Regular protective coating maintenance protects the fibre against environmental changes.
- Proper material storage on-site is equally crucial.

Ongoing regular coating maintenance is key!

In summary, always remember that mould is an environmental issue, and if the coating is performing and protecting the timber fibre, moisture won't be able to enter the fibre.





An example of Mould before treatment