



# Monaro Timber News

The monthly newsletter from Monaro Timber Pty Ltd

October 2007

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## Timber flooring on display.

The home show is on at the end of the month in Canberra. This year we are helping out Jamie Schulhin who is one of Canberra's flooring contractors. Jamie has a stand at the show and we will be there to assist with timber questions. One of the mills we represent, Australian Solar Timbers, has kindly agreed to lend us some display boards which should really 'help show what Aussie hardwood flooring is all about. In particular we will be showcasing the overlay range which is the 12mm thick tongue and groove flooring. This product is designed to be laid over a solid surface such as particle board or concrete and is ideal for multi storey buildings where access is difficult. It comes in a length range of around 500mm up to 2700mm so is easily transported up stairs or elevators. Overlay flooring has a life span similar to 19mm flooring but has less issues with transitions to other floor coverings such as tiles and it is also cheaper. We have sample in our showroom or check it out at the home show.

Also on flooring, we will shortly have a heap of new information available to you on our web site which will help answer all sorts of questions. There will be info on selecting timber, floor types, installation methods and more. We will let you know when this is available for you.

More on flooring. Monaro Timber specializes in the supply of solid timber floors, large and small. Most of our jobs are somewhere between 50 and 150m<sup>2</sup> but we also undertake larger projects. We recently supplied around 1800m<sup>2</sup> for a commercial building in Civic and we have just secured a contract to supply a

## Volume 6, Issue 10

similar quantity for the Canberra School of Music. This material is being specially dried to a lower than usual moisture content and will be independently inspected before leaving the mill to ensure all is in order. This is not normal practice but on larger jobs, with enough lead time, can often be arranged. The brief for this job was quite specific but with our contacts in the industry we were able to meet the requirements. The floor is currently being produced and will arrive in Canberra shortly.

## Timber and dry weather.

Every year at about this time we have to consider the effects of dry warm weather on timber. Raw timber with exposed fresh end grain is likely to crack if allowed to dry too quickly. On our benchtops we usually place tape across the ends after we have cut them to size to avoid end checking. It is also a good idea to get the timber oiled or sealed as quickly as possible. Be careful with leaving timber lying flat on a bench or table. It can cup very quickly like this due to uneven drying. Try and store your timber in a way that allows good air flow. When sealing make sure you have an even coating on all sides. If the weather is warm and windy as it has been recently it may be necessary to keep the doors to your workshop shut or the timber covered to avoid the hot air blowing over it.

Timber will react to climatic change but by being conscious of this you can avoid many of the possible problems. If you have any specific questions please feel free to call us and we will do our best to help you.

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## New Stock.

We had a new load of Tas Oak arrive. Stocks of most sizes have been boosted including overlay and 19mm flooring. Recently some of the best Blue Gum we have seen in a long time arrived. There is also quite a bit of fiddle back material available too. A new pack of 38mm PNG Rosewood was put away a few days ago. Boards range from 100mm up to 200mm wide and as usual it is generous in thickness. A pack of 38mm and 50mm Black Bean has also landed but at this stage hasn't been opened. We are waiting to see if it will be needed for a job but some will certainly be available for sale shortly.

That's all for another month.

Regards *Shaun*