



Architects and designers, read this!

It's not the best time to introduce a new product with Christmas literally around the corner so we will just give you an insight into something very interesting. Next year you'll get the full run down.

Do you use or specify MDF or particle board?

Are you looking for a ZERO emission option?

Do you require a product with a built in fire retardant?

On top of all this, are you seeking a Green Star Rating?

If so, you need Design Panel. Either Encore particle board or Arreis MDF. These exciting new board materials are brought to you by industry innovators Simmonds Lumber and distributed in the ACT region by Monaro Timber. Simmonds were the first, and still the only, importer of DNA certified Merbau and now offer this new range of board material which not only ticks the "green" boxes, it re writes the rules. Forget low emissions, we are talking "no" emissions. ZERO. There is no formaldehyde used in the production of these products and further more, the resource used is a mix of FSC certified material and SCS Certified Recycled Wood Content. It doesn't get any better than that. If you need it veneered, drilled, sized or whatever, talk to me. Stay tuned for further details.

This must be a record.

It's said that less than one in five businesses started today will be around in five years' time - which puts this story into perspective. HMshi Ryokan is a hotel and spa in Komatsu, Japan.

It has been owned and run by the same family for 46 generations so far, and its famous hot springs have been refreshing and revitalizing its patrons for no less than 1291 years. Founded by a Buddhist disciple whose master had the springs' location delivered to him in a dream, HMshi is the world's oldest hotel and also the world's oldest continuously-operating business.

The world was a very different place back in 718 AD when HMshi first opened its doors; the fall of Rome still dominated the culture of the time, the Muslim invasion of Europe and India was at its peak and people were alive who had met the prophet Muhammed in person. The Chinese had just invented gunpowder, the Maya were about to crumble in South America, and the Byzantines and Bulgars were fighting over Rome's territories in the East.

The hotel now has around 100 guest rooms. Room prices hover around US\$580 per night for a double room. What's more, it's made of wood and it's been around for close to 1300 years. *Source: Gizmag*



New Stock

It's been a hectic month with new timber turning up almost daily. Thankfully a lot has been going out and we have had close to a record month. Thankyou to all our loyal and highly valued customers.

Currently we have excellent stocks of decking in Merbau, Ironbark and Blackbutt. Flooring stocks in most species are good but keep in mind most of the mills shut down for the best part of January so if you need it then order now. We've had many furniture timbers come in but 75 x 75 African Mahogany is a stand out. Our Christmas shut down is as follows. Last day, December 21st. Re open January 11th. Have a happy and safe break. *Shaun*

Questions or comments? E-mail us at shaun@monarotimber.com.au
or call 02 6280 6467

Drop in at 16-20 Kealman Road Queanbeyan.
8.00—4.30 weekdays.
8.00—12 noon Saturdays