



Measure Twice Cut Once

SEPTEMBER 2018

The builder's guide to all things timber and hardware.

Getting To Know You: Jason Redding.

Jason currently works as an Internal Sales Person at Wilson Timbers, doing quotes and advising customers. But that's not all – he's kind of Jack Of All Trades around the office. When we are stretched he helps take care of purchasing, does deliveries, even picking orders if need be.

We sat down one-on-one and asked Jason some of the hard questions

1. **How long have you worked at WT's for?** "24 Years"
2. **If you won \$1M what is the first thing you would buy/do?** "Travel around Australia in camper van"



3. **How do you spend your free time?** "I like gaming on the internet. Currently I'm playing 4 Kingdoms."
4. **Worst habit?** "I might just be a little too helpful. That's how you end up having had every job in a company."
5. **All-time favourite movie?** "'Return Of The Jedi.' And no, I haven't seen the new movies yet."
6. **Do you scrunch or fold?** "Both. It just depends on the day."
7. **Which of your scars has the best story behind it?** "Too hard to pick a best one. I've had a hernia and a bicep re-attachment because I tried to lift too much. Broken my femur and both my wrists while I was at school. I've lost the bone out of the tip of one of my pinkie fingers because when I was feeding some timber into a surfacer one of the blades was blunt and it caused my hand to slide in. Really, I was lucky I only lost that one bone."
8. **What would be your spirit animal?** "Tasmanian Devil. I just like them."

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9. **What weird food combinations do you really enjoy?** "Cheese and tomato on raisin bread. Do it as either a toasted sandwich or under the grill. Just don't eat it too fast or you might burn your tongue on the sultanas."
 10. **What's the most ridiculous thing you have bought?** "A front wheel drive car. I bought a Camry once and it was a money pit. They had to pull out the water pump to change the clutch and they had to pull out the clutch to change the water pump. Ridiculous. It was the only front wheel drive car I ever owned."
 11. **What's your "Back in my day, we..."?** "Back in my day we walked everywhere."

Finally: We've Got A Decent Nail Collection.

Through a combination of customer feedback, a few educated guesses and little bit of trial and error, we are one step closer to getting our hardware section filled out with the products you actually want (which oddly enough aren't necessarily the products you tell us you want).

The stock in our nail section seems to be turning over nicely and if you haven't been in for a visit in a while we think it looks pretty good too.

If there are any fasteners you need, or any nails you want stocked that we don't have – please let us know. It's our job to make your lives easier – we are more than happy to get it for you and keep some in stock if you need more of it in the future. This is not just nails but any other hardware you might need.



We Be Tripping # 2

We were recently invited along with some of our builders to the Weathertex mill in Heatherbrae, NSW. This trip was amazing and certainly one to remember!

On arrival to Newcastle airport we were almost swept away "Mary Poppins Style". It was blowing a gale! After morning tea and the safety induction we met Mark, our guide for the day, and were geared up to start our tour. We learnt that there is 150 staff at the Heatherbrae mill all working split shifts, the burners go 24/7! We saw the mountains of logs ready to get chipped. All the logs are AFS Australian Hardwoods (eucalypt

species) and are sourced within a 200km radius from the mill. There is no waste involved in their logging as good logs are sold to local timber mills, and the offcuts and high feature logs are chipped and used for pulp for the Weathertex range.

The wood chips get sent to the big mason guns. Here the wood chips are cooked and shredded into pulp, looking much like tobacco, then mixed with a paraffin wax. The next step is called the wet lap process, this is where the pulpy waxy timber pushed along a conveyer belt with a mesh below to allow moisture to drain out while it gets condensed into a thick



Michael, Chris, Erin, Steve, Tammy, Damon, Chris, Steve, Nigel – The crew.



Mountains of woodchip

sludgy sheeting. This whole process also makes the boards naturally resistant to termites as the sugars and starches are extracted. **Did you know because there are no chemicals or nasties you can chip any offcuts you have on site and use in your gardens.** The boards at this stage are 40% moisture content while they get cut into panels with a water jet.

To get the boards moisture content down more they head to 'the press'! Now this part is pretty cool! The boards are stacked into a heat press. This takes about 25 minutes each press. We were lucky enough to watch the press expel the water from the boards. **Did you know Weathertex recycle 100% of their water supply!** In the press the top plate is a nickel base plate which gives the boards the finish (woodsman, ruff sawn etc.) This whole process is on a 24 hour continual cycle.

Once the boards are finished they are sorted and checked for any defects on the way to get re-humidified. This process will get the boards back to 7% moisture before planing them back to 9.5mm – **Did you know all Weathertex products are the same thickness? This enables you to switch profiles along front façade with ease!** The boards will head to priming (if needed) than back to sorting to ensure no defects before being packed ready for dispatching.

We headed to the boiler room which powers the whole of Weathertex. One of their boilers uses natural gas and the other 2 are fuelled by coal. One of these coal burners was procured from a World War II ship. There was so much history in this 80 year old factory. It was pretty special.

Apart from the fact that Weathertex has a less than 0 carbon footprint, and that they have great durable innovative product lines, we also love their inspiring company values and beliefs. We immediately felt a part of their family and thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of our trip.

Any of our staff would love to educate you further on Weathertex, so please contact your representative if you would like further information.



The ol' Weathertex chimney



This coal burner was from a naval ship used in WW2



The naval ship which 'donated' her coal burner to Weathertex



Pulp getting made into board (These 'slabs of pulp' will be rolled and pressed to produce a 9.5mm board/sheet)



The woodchip gets blasted through this 20cm grate and cooked via 900 psig of saturated steam in the mason gun. What is left is a tobacco looking substance. Paraffin wax is then added.



You can create curved walls with ease!!!



The hot press (where all moisture is taken out of the sheets)

Welcome To The Family

We'd like to welcome:

- Hodgson Built
- Parker Carpentry
- Civil Mining Company
- FK Gardner and Sons PTY LTD
- Realm Building Solutions
- ATM Building and Constructions
- Probuild Industries Australia PTY LTD
- Shaw Landscapes Group
- S J Higgians Constructions
- Bespoke Building Concepts Pty Ltd

To the Wilson Family. All of whom made their first purchase or opened an account with us last month. Thank you to everyone who purchased from us in the last 30 days.

Friday BBQ updates – What You Missed Aside From A Gourmet Breakfast.

Sheffield Blades and Knotwood recently hosted a trade breakfast each. With the events fresh in our minds it seemed like a good time to remind the people who are snugly tucked in bed Friday mornings what cool new innovations they are missing out on.

Sheffield Blades.

Ed – our Sheffield Rep – demoed the new Predator Pro Saw Blades in spectacular style. He got Erin to cut through a piece of pine with 3.76mm nails driven into the end. Ed's demo blade didn't lose a tooth and it has been used up and down his territory for this very party trick. Predator Pro Saw Blades have 6 times the life of a standard saw blade and are designed to cut wood, wood with knots and nails, hardwood, softwood, plywood, MDF and chipboard.



Everyone who saw the blade in action bought one – and you can get yours with your next order from Wilson Timbers.

Knotwood

Knotwood produce wood grained aluminum products. This allows builders and designers to use wood finishes without all the hard work of maintaining them. The Knotwood products that attracted the most interest on the day were their range of shutters and screening. The screening scored a lot of interest because of its ease of install and its great finish – making it perfect for use on the second of story buildings and anywhere else where maintenance would count against natural timbers.

Knotwood's screening comes in 39 woodgrain design colours and all the normal powder coated colours. Now all available from Wilson Timbers.



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