

TTF Newsletter May 2018



Dear reader,

We just wanted to let you know that we've updated our [Privacy Notice](#) to reflect your new rights under the General Data Protection Regulations.

You don't need to do anything further, but these policies clearly set out how we process and protect your personal data, so you may want to take a look at our website for more information.

Timber Industry could face “£1 Billion Brexit Bill” if UK leaves Customs Union

Importing Timber

The UK imports over 10 million cubic metres of timber per year – valued at over £1 billion. This is the value of the timber, not the value of the services provided by the timber industry, such as transport, processing, and distribution.

Currently, as part of the Customs Union, all timber imported into the UK is duty-free. This is a significant benefit for the timber industry.

If the UK leaves the Customs Union, timber imported from the EU will be subject to a 10% duty. This will increase the cost of timber by £1 billion per year.

Since the volume of timber imported into the UK is expected to increase, this will result in a significant increase in the cost of timber.

The Timber Tax Bombshell

The timber industry faces a £1 billion Brexit bill if the current customs and VAT and the VAT rules are applied to goods imported from the EU since the Brexit Bill will end the Customs Union.

The proposed Taxation Bill will require the payment of VAT on imports of goods from the EU. This will result in a significant increase in the cost of timber.

What needs to happen?

1. Government to agree to the proposed Taxation Bill.
2. The Government to agree to the proposed Taxation Bill.

The UK timber industry

- Timber is a key material for the construction industry.
- UK timber is used in a wide range of applications, including housing, infrastructure, and furniture.
- The timber industry is a significant part of the UK economy.
- There are many companies in the timber industry.

The UK timber industry faces a potential “Billion Pound Brexit Bill” if Britain leaves the EU Customs Union, the Timber Trade Federation (TTF) said in a statement.

“Some 90% of timber used in construction is imported from Europe, which British timber supplies are insufficient to replace,” says TTF MD David Hopkins. “Under the proposed Taxation Bill, once the UK leaves the EU and its VAT area, VAT on EU imports will have to be paid up-front. This will cause considerable problems for the SMEs who make up the majority of our sector.”

[Read more](#)

TTF Blog | TTF Raises ‘£1 Billion Brexit Bombshell’ with Ministers

TTF BLOG

TTF Raises ‘£1 Billion Brexit Bombshell’ with Ministers

In this blog post, TTF Managing Director David Hopkins explains why “the Customs Union options threaten to make the situation worse” and invites TTF Member Companies to raise the Timber Industry case to their local MP.

“Whatever your views on leaving the EU, it is hard to see that anyone voted to slowdown trade and increase cost and red tape for business,” writes David. “This is why the TTF is raising the issue and the implications with Ministers, MPs and local authorities.”

[Read more](#)

TTF strategic plan to be presented at Annual General Meeting 2018



The TTF's Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2018 will take place on Thursday 14th June 2018 at the Mary Ward House Conference Centre, 5-7 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9SN. One year after the launch of the successful "Timber You Can Trust" Campaign, the AGM will discuss the progress made over the last 12 months towards ensuring TTF is helping improve and maintain standards across the market, and what plans we have for the year ahead.

[Read more](#)

A reminder for Operators importing plywood from China



The new set of criteria for plywood is coming into force this June 30th 2018. The new criteria require Operators importing plywood from China to collect and submit evidences to demonstrate compliance against the *Construction Products Regulation (CPR)*, including product standard *EN 13986:2004 +A1:2015 Wood-based panels for use in construction*.

All Members who act as OPERATORS importing plywood from China under the EUTR are required to:

1. Complete and submit the *Tool D – Plywood* return form by June 30th 2018.
2. Where required, provide evidence to demonstrate compliance.

[Read more](#)

TTF Produces 'Trusted Timber' Supplement for BMJ



The Timber Trade Federation has produced the first of a regular series of supplements for the [Builders Merchants Journal magazine](#).

Titled '*Trusted Timber*' and freely downloadable [here](#), the supplement features 29 TTF members in a wide range of articles aimed at promoting timber sales among UK Merchants. It will be produced twice per year and circulated to all BMJ readers.

[Read more](#)

TTF to hold technical seminar on fire treatments & fire doors in September



Following the recent NPPD meeting in May, the TTF is organising a technical seminar for members on fire treatments and fire doors on Tuesday September 4th.

The event - to be organised in conjunction with the [Wood Protection Association \(WPA\)](#) and the [British Woodworking Federation \(BWF\)](#) - will look at case studies and the types of products available. The workshop will also be structured to help TTF members better understand their responsibilities in this complex area. Watch this space!

[Read more](#)

NPPD Annual Dinner 2018 | Meet our guest speaker Ian Irving



Comedian, compere, raconteur, after dinner speaker, auctioneer, pioneer and average-at-best golfer; [Ian Irving](#) is a performer with remarkable pedigree, forged during 30 years on the circuit, playing to global stars in some of the most prestigious venues around the world!

Ian will be our guest speaker at the prestigious [NPPD Annual Dinner](#) to be held on the night of 7th November 2018 at The Grand Connaught Rooms in London.

[Read more](#)

TTF Statistical Bulletin May 2018 - Why the Poor Start to 2018?



The Timber Trade Federation has issued its Monthly Statistical Bulletin for May 2018 including a [Focus on the Imports of timber and panel products to the UK in the first two months of 2018](#) (*Why the Poor Start to 2018?*).

The Stats - downloadable [here](#) for TTF Members - show that import volume in the first two months of 2018 was lower than in the same period in 2017 by around 140,000m³. However, it should be noted that import volume in the first two months of 2017 was higher than in any year this century, including the record years of 2006 and 2007 for the same two months.

[Read more](#)

Sponsorship opportunities available for UK Wood Panels Conference 2018



Visibility and involvement in TTF's major events have always been a badge of honour for many companies and organisations.

Sponsorship opportunities have now arisen for the [UK Wood Panels Conference 2018](#) - to take place on the morning of 7th November 2018 at The Grand Connaught Rooms in London. We provide a range of high-quality sponsorship packages to suit a wide range of budgets. For more information, please contact Karen Sussex at ksussex@tff.co.uk

[Read more](#)

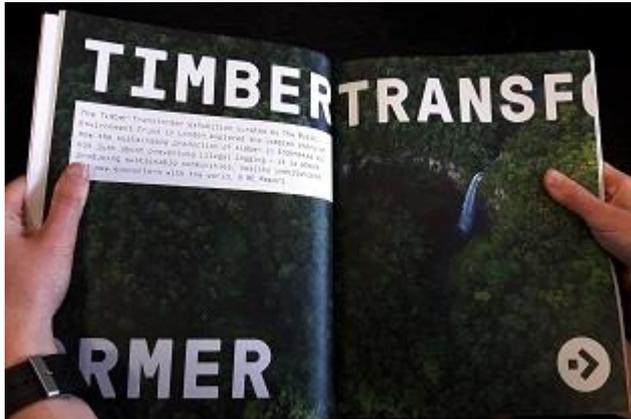
Country Risk Assessment update - Focus on: Myanmar, Brazil and Cameroon

Following a recent meeting of the Forests Forever Committee, the TTF has released a country risk update focused on three major exporters of tropical timber products such as Myanmar, Brazil and Cameroon.

The TTF has informed member companies to be aware of the ongoing developments of timber legality issues in these regions along with advising members to take proportionate due diligence measures aligned with the risk level.

[Read more](#)

Timber Transformer exhibition featured in new edition of BE:journal



TTF's "Timber Transformer" exhibition has now ended and we'd like to thank everyone who paid a visit to our little piece of Indonesian rainforest in the heart of London!

You can read more about the show - and all the hard work behind the scenes - in this excellent report, published in the second issue of BE:journal <http://bit.ly/2J45pVs>

[Read more](#)

New TTF website to go live in the next few weeks



The new TTF website will be finally launched in the next few weeks to coincide with the TTF Annual General Meeting 2018.

The new online platform will allow TTF members and visitors to access information and insights much easier. TTF Member companies will also have the opportunity to showcase their latest products, services and news on their own interactive profile pages.

The TTF Team will be on hand to guide members and registered users during the transition period.

[Read more](#)

BMF Timber Forum Summer 2018 coming up



Timber Forum
Summer 2018
Coventry
27th June 2018

The BMF Timber Forum is returning to the [Builders Merchant Federation's](#) headquarters in Coventry on Wednesday 27th June 2018.

The event - open to both Timber Suppliers and Merchants - will cover a wide range of topics and is designed to provide an in-depth overview of the UK Timber Market.

[Read more](#)

TTF Head of Sustainability joins PEFC Field Trip 2018



On 8th and 9th May 2018, [PEFC UK](#) held its Stakeholder Field Trip 2018 in Lockerbie, in Dumfries and Galloway, southwestern Scotland.

The Timber Trade Federation was represented by its Head of Sustainability Xiao Ma who took part in the initiative along with around twenty UK Timber Industry Stakeholders. The event - organised in partnership with TTF member companies [James Jones & Sons](#) and [Scottish Woodlands](#) - was intended to show what Sustainable Forest Management and Chain of Custody certification means in practice and the value it adds to forest products.

[Read more](#)

TTF partners with Front Group to improve transparency in Global Timber supply chains



The Timber Trade Federation is glad to confirm its partnership with [Front Group](#) for 2018 with the aim of improving transparency in global Timber supply chains by addressing modern slavery.

This topic will be discussed in detail at the [4th Modern Slavery & Human Rights in Supply Chain Conference](#) to be held at Norton Rose Fulbright, 3 More Riverside, London SE12AQ on 24-25 September 2018.

[Read more](#)

Structural Timber Awards 2018 - Submission deadline extended!

STRUCTURAL TIMBER AWARDS

 2018 SUBMISSION DEADLINE

08.06.2018


 Timber Trade Federation

 growing the use of wood

Proud sponsor of


 PRODUCT INNOVATION AWARD

The Structural Timber Awards will now accept entries until Friday 8th June 2018. For the third year in a row, the Timber Trade Federation will be sponsoring the [Product Innovation Category](#). This category is open to innovative new products and systems, or older items on the market used in a fresh and inventive way.

[Read more](#)

TTF and Solid Wood Solutions launch new partnership to promote engineered timber technology



The Timber Trade Federation and [Solid Wood Solutions](#) have today launched a new partnership to promote engineered timber technology.

The subject will take centre stage at the Solid Wood Solutions Conference and Exhibition to be held at the Oculus building at the University of Warwick on Thursday 5th July 2018. Developed to inspire and inform, the event will shine a spotlight on pioneering timber projects that are gaining global attention.

[Read more](#)

TTF Blog | Timber Markets: Change, Challenge and Opportunities



In this guest blog post, Richard Ellithorne, Membership Services Director of the [Builders Merchants Federation Ltd \(BMF\)](#) outlines the merchants' perspective on the UK timber market.

"Despite the challenges in the current market, builders' merchants are looking to expand the range of timber products they offer," writes Richard. "Builders merchants will remain an important distribution channel in the overall construction market, with timber and wood products growing in importance."

[Read more](#)

Independent Market Monitoring (IMM) releases Spring 2018 Newsletter



The [Independent Market Monitoring \(IMM\)](#) has now published its second newsletter.

The current edition's Country Focus is on Ghana, updating on the progress of VPA implementation, the outcome of its test shipments of "FLEGT-licensed" timber and recent trends in EU-Ghana tropical timber trade. The Newsletter also includes a recap of the recent Trade Consultation hosted by the Timber Trade Federation at The Building Centre in London.

[Read more](#)

Timber Industry | Upcoming events in June 2018



TTF June 2018 Calendar features important dates and events. Find below what's going on:

- TTF Annual General Meeting | 14 June | London
- London Softwood Club BBQ | 14 June | London
- WTTA Meeting | 22 June | Bristol

You can also find major Timber Industry events - from conferences and meetings to workshops and exhibitions - on [CTI Timber Industry Calendar](#). Among others:

- International Forest Business Conference 2018 | 6-8 June | Kistowo, Poland
- Vision 2018 | 21-22 June | London
- Sylva Wood 2018 | 25-27 June | Shanghai, China
- IOM3 Conference "Timber" | 26-27 June | London
- BMF Timber Forum | 27 June | Coventry

[Read more](#)