



Melbourne WoodTECH called off NZ event to go ahead

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The Melbourne WoodTECH 2021 conference has been cancelled because of Covid-19. The two-day conference, run by the Forest Industry Engineering Association, was planned for Melbourne for early August. Source: Timberbiz

However, because venues in Melbourne have become unavailable that event has had to be cancelled. Because of the uncertainty still surrounding international travel, it's planned that New Zealand sawmillers and saw doctors along with key local equipment suppliers will be able to meet up in person in Rotorua.

The Rotorua event will go ahead on 3-4 August 2021.

"At this stage it's expected to be one of few that will be run in 2021 – anywhere around the world," FIEA Director Brent Apthorp said.

"The format has been modified though. Based on the expectation of border and travel restrictions still being in place for many of the international equipment suppliers, the good news is, that the 2021 event is planned to run and it's going to provide a raft of new features for local mills."

Australian mills, as well as mills and technology providers from outside Australia, will also be able to live stream the full two-day event. The event can be watched live over the two days or the presentations will be able to be accessed later for sawmills to use for their own on-site meetings, technology updates or for mill training.

A feature of this year's event will be the number of practical workshops being given covering saw guides and lubrication, fine tuning circular and band saws, making use of machine data in the mill, real time data collection for machine diagnosis and troubleshooting.

A further focus will be given retaining and attracting younger people to the industry and a series of presentations around new timber treatment and wood modification technologies have also been able to be built into the event.

Details on the two-day program are available at www.woodtech.events/wt21