



June 2022

MEETING THE CHALLENGES SQUARE-ON!



Bruce Larsen, General Manager Northpine

In these truly extraordinary times, Northpine continues to focus on producing high-quality radiata pine as efficiently as we can.

The emphasis is to deliver our specialist range of square posts and beams (long-length and large dimension SG8 and SG10), sold to merchants nationwide.

This may sound straightforward, but it really isn't.

We have ongoing and severe supply-side constraints and relentless customer demand – normally a 'good problem' to have. But throughout the past summer and autumn of Omicron, it has been a tremendous daily challenge to keep production through the sawmill on track and get this sought-after timber onto trucks for delivery to merchants up and down the country. At various times our own people have been sick or have had to isolate, and so have some of the truckies who freight the timber to our distribution centre in Silverdale or beyond.

Recent cartage delays have been very frustrating to all concerned.

The labour market is incredibly tight – our borders have been closed to immigrant workers while sawmills all over NZ are crying out for staff - but we often fail to attract even unskilled labour. All these things place tremendous pressure on the dedicated team here at Northpine. The health and safety of our staff is paramount, so we must be careful not to over-burden our workforce.

Given these challenges, it is heartening to see our specialist range called Northbeam being used in a wide variety of construction projects across NZ and overseas. Last month we despatched a sizable export order to New Caledonia

for use in commercial projects there.

Northbeam features in two recently-completed large civil infrastructure projects at different ends of the country – the new Mangonui Waterfront in the Far North (including a new 350m timber boardwalk alongside the picturesque harbour) and the 'Three Bridges' project across the Avon River in Christchurch. These bridges are reconnecting people with 600ha of residential 'red zone' that is becoming a new recreational space.

Take a look at the video and pics of these projects in the section below.

THEY'RE USING OUR TIMBER HERE!



Avondale Bridge, Avon River Project



Section of Avondale Bridge



Underside of Avondale Bridge



Avondale Bridge



Snell Bridge accessway under construction



Snell Bridge almost complete





Medway Bridge, Avon River Project

SG10 helps solve design issues in the Building Code

Changes to section H1 of the NZ Building Code due to become mandatory in November 2022 include, for residential housing, floor insulation, wall insulation and roof insulation as follows:

- Designers and builders can reduce the number of studs in walls and rafters for skillion roofs by using SG10 in place of SG8 to greatly reduce the thermal bridging to improve the overall R-value. **This is yet another reason to design and build with SG10 in mind.**
- Northpine supplies good volumes of SG10 to merchants nationwide. **Talk to your builder and/or merchant about Northbeam SG10 from Northpine.**

Download Northpine's very helpful [Span Tables Booklet](#)

Watch a short [Span Tables video](#)

3 kPa SG8/SG10 Span Tables now available online

The image shows an open technical manual. The left page is titled "Studs in loadbearing walls" and the right page is titled "All wind zones for 3 kPa floor loads". Both pages contain detailed tables with columns for wind speed, limited dimension of wall, and various span lengths (SG8, SG10, etc.). The tables are color-coded with yellow and green highlights.

Northpine's 3 kPa Span Tables, which combine and compare SG8/SG10 data from NZS3604:2011, are available [free online](#).

While many designers and architects have no need to consider 3 kPa floor loads, some do – and generally they go straight to an engineer for help.

Architecture consultant Stuart Dale from Architectural Promotions explains: "There are several situations where a building will require a 3kPa floor load. It is a minimum for commercial floors. Buildings such as schools and other public facilities generally require this load capacity or greater.

Timber framed commercial buildings are fast becoming the new design trend. The recent development of a six-level commercial timber building in Auckland has put this trend in the spotlight.

When designers see the advantages that SG10 offers over SG8 they realise they don't need to go to the more expensive 'engineered timber' option straight away.

SG10 is not always the best solution but, when it is, it certainly makes good economic sense. And with the current supply issues being experienced for some products Northpine's range of 'big timber' called Northbeam can solve some design problems."

WE'RE LIVE ON ARCHIPRO.

Northpine

archipro.co.nz/professional/northpine

ArchiPro.



Northpine has joined over 2,800 leading New Zealand industry professionals on the ArchiPro network

ArchiPro is New Zealand's largest all-in-one platform simplifying the end-to-end building process. The platform enables users to seamlessly browse projects, find products, connect with professionals, manage projects, and learn about building, all in one place.

We're using ArchiPro primarily to inform and educate NZ architects and designers, structural engineers, civil contractors, quantity surveyors and builders about Northbeam.



NORTHBEAM

A product range of Northpine

www.northpine.co.nz

34 Cove Road, Waipu, Northland NZ