

Designing for tomorrow

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The Wood Marketing Federation (WMF) celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2014. It marked the year by establishing the following three major projects in addition to its Third Level Student Wood Awards and wood promotion programme:

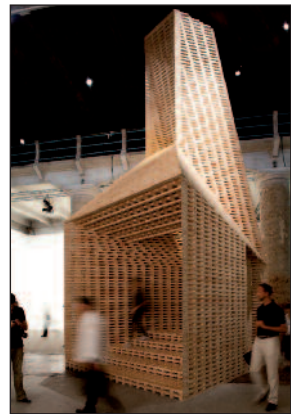
- Wood Awards Ireland, aimed at architects, engineers and designers using wood as the inherent medium in their projects.
- National Forestry Conference on market opportunities for Irish timber in association with the Society of Irish Foresters.
- Irish Timber Information Centre is an initiative hosted by NUIG to provide information on timber usage, design and treatment.

Overall winner of WAI 14: Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Co. Council Operations & Maintenance Centre, Ballyogan, Co. Dublin.

WOOD AWARDS IRELAND 2014

WAI 14 was the major project during 2014. Supported by the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI), it promoted wood as a sustainable material in innovative construction and design. The WAI jury chaired by Ciaran O'Connor, State Architect, selected a shortlist from 64 entries including site visits to 19 projects in Counties Cork, Dublin, Meath, Wicklow, Kildare, Galway and Westmeath.

The overall award and category winner for Large-Scale Public Buildings was the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council Operations and Maintenance Centre, Ballyogan, Co. Dublin designed by DLRCC Architects Department and Bucholz McEvoy Architects Ltd.



Vessel, winner of the International Award in WAI 14, was meticulously assembled by Gem Joinery from 5,250 pre-sawn panels of Sitka spruce sourced in Coillte forests and processed by Glennon Brothers.

Slievebawnogue – Double House, winner of Small Scale Building Award.



WAI was sponsored by COFORD, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, AHEC (American Hardwood Export Council), Enterprise Ireland and Coillte.

RESTORATION WATERWHEEL



An interesting project in WAI 14, which received a commendation in the Conservation Category was the Kilbeggan Distillery Waterwheel. The timber for the waterwheel restoration project was expertly sawn by Sheehan Sawmills who used European larch for the floats and oak for the sluice gate, both sourced in Coillte's forests.



Winner Innovation Category – Contemplation Space in American white ash, Mater Hospital from a concept by Laura Magahy – MCO Projects, design by Garvan deBruir, and architect Michael Goan.

“The 3,700m² office building uses timber in a holistic way, exploiting its versatility for a variety of end uses, from structure to windows, to achieve its environmental design goals,” said O’Connor. “This is the work of innovative and knowledgeable designers in whose hands wood finds its full expression.”

The winner of the Small Scale Building-Structural Award was Slievebawnogue – Double House built in a disused quarry in the Dublin Mountains surrounded by a Sitka spruce forest. Designed by Clancy Moore, the engineering expertise was provided by Malcolm Jacob. The main species used were oak and Douglas fir.

Homgrown timber featured strongly in a number of entries including the winner of the International Award *Vessel* constructed totally in Sitka spruce, sourced in Coillte forests and sawn by Glennon Brothers. *Vessel* with its 9-m high sculptural light funnel was a pivotal element at the Venice Biennale and was seen by 178,000 visitors.

