

For immediate release

Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.

Sumitomo Forestry Group Company

## Henley Properties Group Honored as Australia's No.1 Home Builder!

Second time in five years winning the HIA Australian Professional Major Builder award at the HIA-CSR Australian Housing Awards

Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd. (President and Representative Director: Toshiro Mitsuyoshi; Headquarters: Chiyoda ku, Tokyo; hereinafter Sumitomo Forestry) announced that its subsidiary Henley Properties Group (69.38% owned by Sumitomo Forestry; hereinafter Henley Properties)—which builds and sells detached houses and multi-unit residences in Australia—has received the HIA Australian Professional Major Builder award at the HIA-CSR Australian Housing Awards held on May 29 by Australia's Housing Industry Association (HIA) as Australia's No. 1 home builder.



This event has a history of over 70 years since it was established in 1945. It is organized annually by HIA, which is an industry association with more than 40,000 members who are home builders and renovation operators undertaking more than 85% of the overall construction work in Australia. Winners of state-level events from the previous year move on as representatives of their states to compete during this year's event to determine the No. 1 position in Australia. This year, the event was held online via streaming in view of the impact of COVID-19.

The Professional Major Builder award is given to the most outstanding major builder—with an annual turnover of AU\$50 million or more—in terms of industry leadership, customer service and satisfaction, business scope, financial soundness, undertaking of social contribution activities and other factors. Henley Properties has won the No. 1 position at the state level three times in the state of Victoria (in 2013, 2014, and 2019) and eight consecutive times since 2012 in the state of Queensland. At the national level, this is the second time Henley Properties has emerged as No. 1 in Australia since 2015.

With a history of more than 30 years since its establishment and having supplied more than 50,000 homes in total, Henley Properties is a leading nation-wide builder in Australia driving the industry. This time, Henley Properties was given the award due to its meticulous handling of customers, including a maintenance hotline that is operated throughout the year and its long-term structural guarantee. Henley Properties was also recognized for implementing a pioneering employee development program that seeks to nurture future industry leaders.

On receiving the award, Antony Blackshaw, CEO of Henley Properties, described his pleasure saying, “It is a great honor for us to be elected as Australian Professional Major Builder again.

This award is a fruit of the efforts made by all our employees, suppliers and trades who have worked together to provide excellent services to our customers, which we have been working together for 30 years since our foundation, and as a partner of Sumitomo Forestry Group for 10 years. We will continue to provide high-quality living space to all our customers, and strive to develop our human resources who can contribute to the Australian housing industry.”



Group photograph of Henley Properties

The Sumitomo Forestry Group operates a housing business in Australia through a system of three companies—Henley Properties Group and Wisdom Properties Group in eastern Australia and Scott Park Group in western Australia—that is equivalent to ranking second<sup>\*2</sup> in Australia in the number of custom-built detached houses commenced. Going forward, the Group intends to actively develop a business that, by considering prevailing cultures and lifestyles, contributes both to local communities and to comfortable living environments.

\* HIA's 2018/19 ranking of builders by number of commencements