

Appeal for Temporary Dwellings for Japanese recovery

8 April 2011

Representatives of the Japanese Government in Australia have approached the National Association of Forest Industries (NAFI) asking for assistance from Australian companies with the capacity to supply temporary dwellings for residents displaced by the recent earthquake and tsunami.

The prefabricated units will be purchased under commercial arrangements – rather than as charity donations.

While nuclear safety and food security have been the immediate priorities, Japan is looking to install 30,000 temporary dwellings in the next two months to help offset the estimated 100,000 - 150,000 buildings destroyed.

Similar temporary dwellings were used following the Kobe earthquake (1995). Once vacated, the homes were transported to other South East Asian countries and used in development aid.

Examples of the dwellings required (pictured below) are 30 square metres and split into two separate homes. The approximate cost of each dwelling is around 4.5 million Yen, or approximately A\$50,000. They are expected to be lived-in for two to three years.

NAFI Communications Manager, Greg Haraldson, said Australian companies could play a role in helping the Japanese reach their target of 30,000 dwellings in two months.

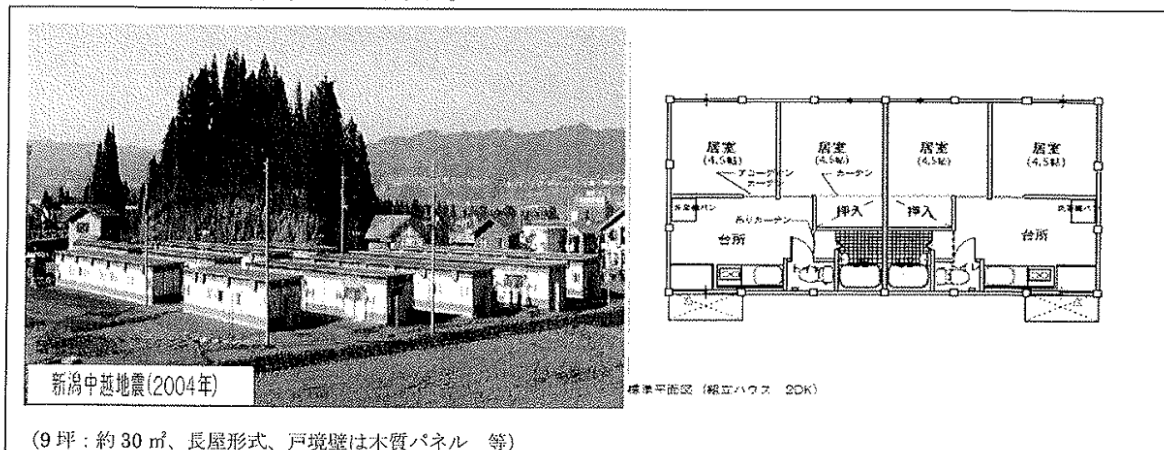
“As a key trading partner, the Australian forest industry has close links with the Japanese. We’re hoping to get the word out that there is an opportunity for Australian companies to supply temporary dwellings,” he said.

“Australian mining towns often feature these sort of dwellings and similar buildings were used to house victims of the Black Saturday Bushfires.”

For companies interested in seeing how they may be able to get involved in supplying prefabricated dwellings, contact the Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Sydney

(<http://www.jcci.org.au/english/e.htm>) or Melbourne (<http://www.jcci-jsm.org.au/english.html>)

① 応急仮設住宅の標準的な平面等



Example of plans for the modest 30m² temporary dwellings used following the Niigata-Chuetsu quake