The Effects of our Climate on Wood Flooring: The equilibrium moisture content (EMC) is the moisture content at which the wood is neither gaining nor losing moisture; this however, is a dynamic equilibrium and changes with relative humidity and temperature.

Rathbone Square Development Nov 2016: We currently have Log sensors installed in a selection of apartments and this week recorded RH between 74% and 89% - which is bang on what the chart shows. This means if we installed timber on site now and it was exposed to the ambient atmospheric conditions, it would soon achieve an EMC of ~22%. If the joinery item was delivered to site with a moisture content of say 6%, the change 22% - 6% = 16%. There is test data in the industry that has evidenced that for every 4% change in moisture content of timber products the item could shrink or grow by 1% of its dimension depending upon the increase or reduction in EMC. So, in the actual example we have on site 16% / 4% = 4, so 4 x 1% = up to 4% potential shrinkage/growth!

Temperature, Humidity and Moisture Content (MC)

