

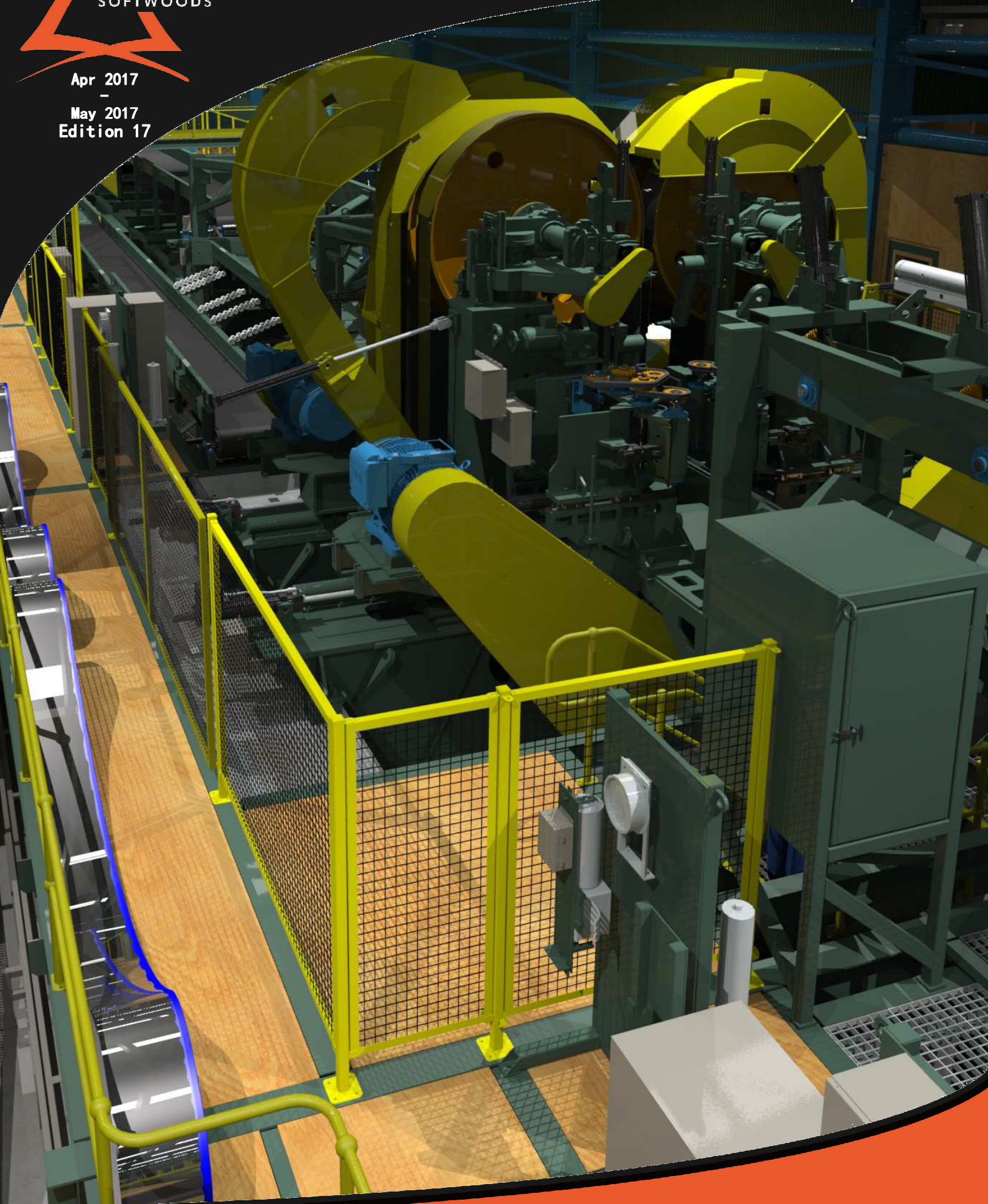


THE SPLINTER

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

*BELOW: The new
Greenmill sawline. A
Rendered image of the 3D
model of the new infeed to
USNR quad bandsaw*

Apr 2017
—
May 2017
Edition 17



PROJECT UPDATE

Peter Oliver (PTEL), Paul Muscat, Shane Vicary and Warren Eyers inspecting our new sawline equipment with John Jacques (USNR) in Canada.

Colac Saw Line Upgrade



The new Green mill structural steel extension and 2m lift of the existing building is now completed with roof and wall sheeting to start in the next week.

40m x 17.5m of new building + 31m of lifting the existing roof totalling some 1,500 sq m of new roof line including the 2 new MCC rooms.



The new High Voltage Kiosk for MCC room #1 is pictured in place, the Kiosk for MCC#2 is also in place.

Both new MCC rooms are above the mill working height of 4.4m above the concrete floor.

The Colac Sawline upgrade is now well under way with the new sawdust waste system installed, new High Voltage cables have been installed, supplying electricity to the existing sawmill and capable of also supplying electricity to the new sawline, external buildings constructed for the HV kiosks and MCC rooms. The new section of raised roof is now almost fully installed and clad and excavations have started for the machine foundations and pedestals.

To ensure that the Sawmill equipment is being built to the highest possible quality standard, and that we receive what we think we will, a AKD contingent made up of Shane Vicary, Paul Muscat, Warren Eyers and Consultant, Peter Oliver (Pacific Timber Engineering) did a flying 3 day visit to Plessisville in Canada, and Woodland, just outside of Portland USA.

The team visited the 2 manufacturing sites to view our equipment in various degrees of build. They were very impressed by the quality of product, the housekeeping and standard of the USNR workshops. The systematic approach within each of the engineering shops and the attention to detail and workmanship standard on display was very clear. Overall, they came away with the distinct impression that "USNR cares", this has helped reinforce AKD's belief in USNR as our preferred supplier of sawmill equipment for this project.

Containers are being dispatched in July and August from the USA and are due to start arriving in September and our containers from Austria are due onsite at the same time. We will then start "lifting in" and installing throughout October. We have a target date of late November to bump motors and run the first test log, the new mill will be up and running for commissioning in December.

- John Browne, Operations Manager & Project Owner



The new sawdust handling system has been installed and commissioned, the system was needed to give us access to the existing mill area for concrete foundations. The new sawdust system will eventually be able to take sawdust from the edger infeed, edger and bandsaws if needed as the mill expands.



The concrete slab is for the future 2nd Quad Bandsaw and took 12 large concrete trucks to fill, concrete pedestals will rise to a height of 4.4m above the floor level to support the equipment.

Japan Trip—May 2017

Glen Darroch, John DeLorenzo and myself travelled to Japan in May this year to visit our new wood chip customer, Summit Handa Power Corporation, a subsidiary of Summit Energy Co.(Summit), ultimately a subsidiary of Sumitomo Corporation.

A shipment of over 40,000 tonne of chip was exported to Summit in February, 2017. Summit have constructed and will operate a 75 megawatt biomass power plant at Handa, just outside Nagoya. The raw materials to be used in the plant include local domestic resource from logging waste and sawmills, imported woodchip and palm kernel shell from South East Asia. AKD has established the sales to this new customer to help diversify our woodchip customer base, giving AKD greater security of demand for the future.

After the tsunami and subsequent Fukushima nuclear power plant disaster, the Japanese government has introduced FIT (Feed in Tariff) schemes to encourage investment in alternative power generation. A number of biomass plants are being constructed which will provide a long-term market for forestry and sawmill residues, replacing existing nuclear power stations.

Given our current energy issues in Australia with a general market and political desire to reduce coal burning, and the current energy crisis (electricity and gas market difficulties), a similar scheme here would be ideal for the local forestry industry, as we have plenty of renewable biomass available for power generation.

It seems a real shame that AKD is shipping fuel for biomass to the other side of the world with the right political and commercial incentives that fuel could be used to generate electricity in Australia.

- David McGinness, *Chief Risk Officer*



FOOD	
Motsu-yaki	
Liver	¥150
Shiro(large intestine)	¥150
Tongue	¥150
Teppou(rectum)	¥150
Gatsu(stomach)	¥150
Harami(diaphragm)	¥220
Nodobue(vocal cord)	¥220
Komekame (temple)	¥220
Tanshita(the root of tongue)	¥220
★Shibire(sweetbread)	¥220
Nodogasira(throat)	¥220
Hachinosu(beef stomach)	¥120
Tontoro(neck)	¥300
Butabara(belly)	¥300
Marucho(beef intestine)	¥300
★Tsukune(mince pork)	¥320
★please choice tasted sweet sauce or salt	
Becon	¥320
★Wagyu—Karubi(beef)	¥380
★please choice tasted sweet sauce or salt	
Five of our recommendation	
Atsuage(thick fried tofu)	¥150

Japan Trip: L-R: Boiler & Furnace, View of plant from top boiler, Chip Stockpile. Local food menu (can you read the fine print in brackets)

AKD LOG EXPORT PROGRAM

by Neil Harris & Jo Foster

AKD Softwoods export low grade logs which are typically logs that are either small, low density or have large knots and are not suitable for our current sawlines. The logs that are exported do not produce the “prime” grades of timber that we are chasing. We export logs from the South West region of Victoria and South Australia through Portland and from the Ballarat and Otways regions through Melbourne.

The Portland operation is managed through TPT a New Zealand based company who market our logs to traders and processors mostly in China. The logs are shipped breakbulk which means they are loaded directly into the holds of the vessels. Our export operation is a joint effort done in conjunction with HVP and GTFP who are both forest growers and suppliers of AKD.

The Melbourne operation is mostly sold to Rezex, who deal directly with the end user of the log in China and these logs are loaded into containers and shipped from the Port of Melbourne.

AKD’s export log operation is critical to AKD maximizing the value of the plantations that we harvest, as we seek to optimize the commercial value of all the products we recover, very similar to our approach to sawmilling. When we harvest the tree, we have to sell the whole tree, we can not cut down half of a tree! So we have to have sales organized in advance for the whole tree.

AKD’s export log program is an international sales activity and also helps AKD understand the international value of our plantation resource, so it is a constant and easy measure of AKD understanding the realistic market value of the logs that we purchase from 3rd parties.

China Trip - May 2017

Both Neil and Jo from Forestry spent four days with TPT along with representatives from HVP visiting our customers in the Shanghai, Xiamen and Dongguan areas in Southern China looking at how the small logs that we export are processed. They then spent two days with Rezex visiting their customers in the Zhongshan area, also in Southern China, which also included a visit to a construction site to see the final products in use.

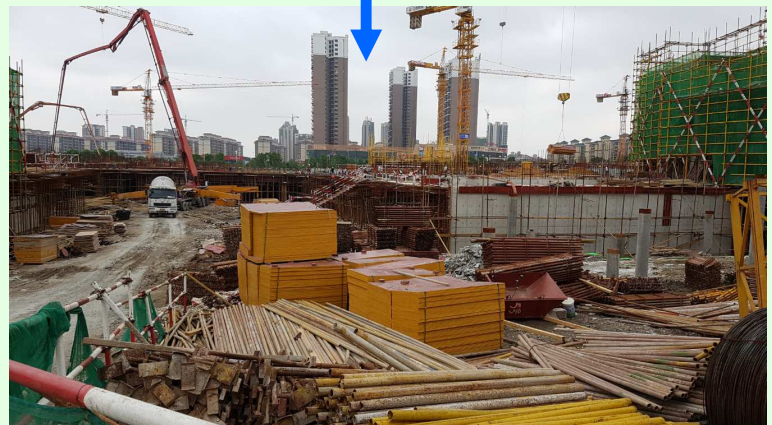
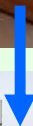
There are basically two different types of operations in China. A peeling operation producing veneer which is used as form work for concreting and a sawing operation producing sawn timber which is used for furniture and construction. The core of the peeled log is also used for furniture or broom handles as nothing is wasted.

- Interestingly our Chinese customers are well aware that Australian radiata is stronger than New Zealand radiata but do not want to pay any extra for it! This will therefore need to be our marketing focus in the future
- We gained greater insight into which products the Chinese market prefers, and since our return, we have made two separate changes to the harvesting cut plans to accommodate these requirements whilst not affecting our domestic products but increasing our returns.
- The Chinese market is maturing and some processors are looking to value adding with kiln drying for furniture and structural products in the near future.
- The Chinese market, which traditionally has been quite volatile, has been stable for 18 months now and based on our discussions with customers it would seem there is confidence that it will remain so for the foreseeable future.
- The industry in Southern China has expanded significantly over recent years and, as with the rest of China, there has been considerable State directed consolidation of processing plants away from urban areas to defined industrial zones usually near or at ports.

The sawing process from log to sawn timber to final use at the construction site



The peeling process from log to peeled to the final veneer product on a construction site



AKD LOG EXPORT PROGRAM

by Neil Harris & Jo Foster
CONTINUED....

New Zealand - Trip March 2017

Both Neil and Joanne from Forestry spent two days with TPT at Tauranga and Rotorua on the North Island along with HVP representatives. They attended the monthly meeting at TPT's head office on the Port of Tauranga (pictured below) followed by a tour of the Port which process 250 truck loads of export log per day.



Tauranga port

Two days were then spent with David Robinson from Nelson Forests on the South Island with the main purpose of seeing firsthand how they manage their woodflows from plantation inventory and harvest planning to final delivery to their customers (Supply Chain Logistics). Nelson Forests manage approx. 16 harvesting crews who produce around 15 products per operation with multiple customers.

A field tour of two different harvesting operations included a tethered harvesting operation which is used in steep areas eliminating the need to handfall any trees. A tethered harvesting operation is where a tether machine (pictured below left), is attached to a harvester via a cable, which the harvester operator operates via remote control. Therefore no-one sits in the tether machine, but it is there to secure the Harvester machine and keep the driver safe. The tether machine moves the harvester position up and down the steep hill. This approach enables "steep" country to be harvested without using cable haulers or hand fallers therefore lowers the cost and is making it much safer.



Tether Machine



Processor tethered

Nelson Forests are constantly updating their wood flow systems and whilst they are far more advanced than we need to be it gave us a great insight into steps we can take to become more efficient. To establish the foundation of "controlling the controllables" we are moving to capturing harvesting production data on a daily basis through a program called "Sticks" and broadening our inventory data capture and decision making ability through implementation of the "YTGen" program.

Coordination with landing stocks, daily delivery reporting and then daily, weekly and quarterly forecasting are the next steps along the pathway, along with assessing and implementing the software systems appropriate to the task.

Site Housekeeping



Housekeeping is a constant challenge for all Sawmills and while we have come a long way some of us have recently witnessed that some of our competitors are ahead of us in this area. We also know that a tidy site is one that installs pride and creates a culture of “caring”.

Furthermore, a tidy site workspace is one that is not cluttered which makes it a safer workspace.

The key to housekeeping is a systematic approach to cleaning, creating an organized work space and, where possible, eliminate the source of the mess.

All our manufacturing areas have made great progress in either organizing the work spaces or the systematically cleaning messy areas.

The next stage we need to focus on is the root cause elimination of the source of the mess, and with more of our employees now trained in root cause analysis, we look forward to a dramatic improvement in this area.

The Colac Greenmill team have a compulsory cleanup of these areas so that they look like this at the start of every shift.



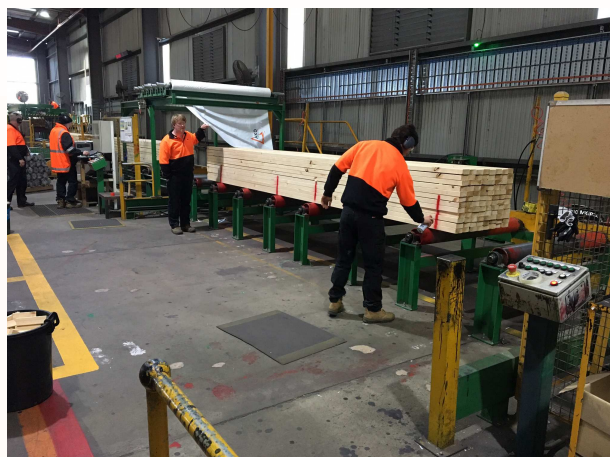
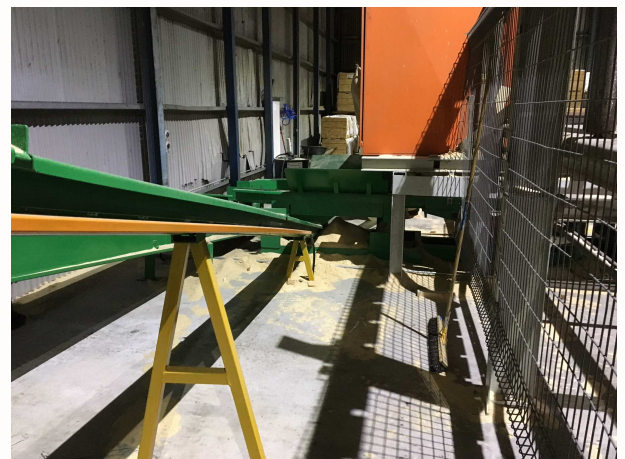
Before



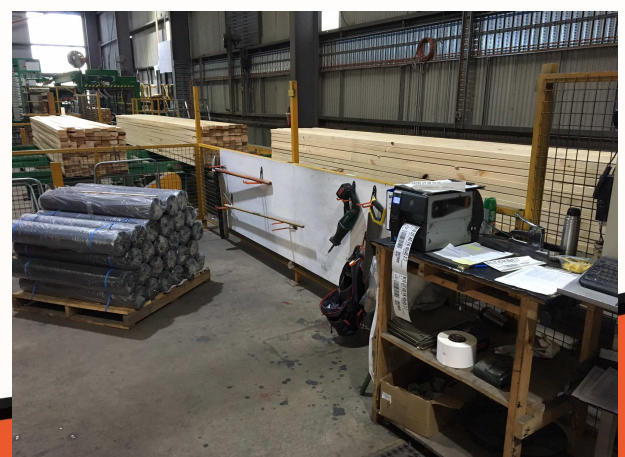
After



*Pack docking line—
examples of poor
housekeeping*



*Wrap'n'strap line—
example of good general
housekeeping
eg. shadow boards*





CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Certificates



After a long, long wait, we would like to congratulate all participants in the AKD Continuous Improvement Program. We had over 300 employees engage in the completion of nationally accredited training over the last five years in Certificate III & IV qualifications.

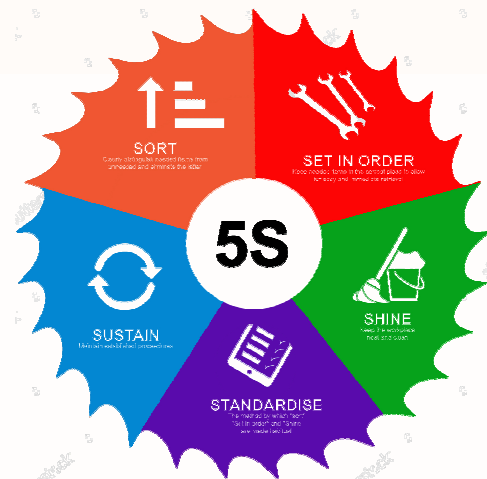
We would like to especially recognise and thank the support and patience of the last group, who had to overcome delays and problems associated with the training provider going into administration (out of business) just before the end of the program. Although these issues were outside of our control, there was a significant effort, perseverance and additional cost by AKD to ensure qualifications were completed and obtained. This process took almost a year; collecting information from administrators, finding a new provider willing to complete the program and establishing and completing evidence portfolios.

This however, has been well and truly worth it to provide you with your well earned nationally recognised certificates. A special thanks and recognition goes to Mark Costoloe (Training Manager) for his efforts in this pursuit.

We have already seen many of the benefits to the business in improving our communication, efficiency, quality, safety and commitment to continuous improvement. Improvements and initiatives that come directly to mind include: 5S and housekeeping, the step feeder project in the Colac Green Mill, Admin Recycling and improved notice boards. These initiatives and many more have become part of our 'way' of business and continue to make up our training processes and focus.

Completing a Certificate III or IV is a great achievement and we congratulate you on this.

Well done to all.



AKD's own 5S Saw.
Developed for ongoing emphasis and training.



Step Feeder Project in Colac Greenmill. Saving significant downtime and improving safety



Team Irrewarra with their certificates, after the presentation



Small red rubbish bins that replaced individual desk bins in the Main Office. This has significantly reduced that amount of landfill waste and increased recycling.



Chemical Incident in Treatment Plant

~MOCK SCENARIO~

Workplace Health & Safety covers a wide and various range of areas, such as plant & equipment, electrical, traffic management and chemical safety to name a few.

Our Treatment Plant involves chemical handling and as we continue to take steps to our goal of 'Towards Zero', we took the opportunity to get the team involved and conduct a **mock scenario** based around a chemical spill.

Scenario:

Forklift driver was loading an IBC full of chemical. Another employee was within the area, talking to the forklift driver. Forklift driver became distracted and subsequently pierced the IBC. Large amount of chemical splashed onto the employee and chemical spilled outside containment area.

Response:

Warren was called upon to assist Meghan. She was taken immediately to the emergency shower to remove chemical. John arranged the spill kit. Peter came from the office to assist in containing the spill. John called 000 informing them of the incident and the location details.

Without the involvement, knowledge & engagement of the team, this process would not have been as successful as what it was & together we will work through the actions that were identified as a group.

So for those involved – thank you for your contribution in making AKD an even safer place to work!

- Meghan White
- Peter Spence
- John Dunlop
- Daryl Lawrence
- Warren Tawhiao

"Good idea to do the training if something did happen"

"Worthwhile doing to pin point areas we can improve"

"Exercise was good – need to do more, you never know what could happen"

"The drill was beneficial"





Congratulations to Barb Jelleff on achieving 26 years of service with Jelfor Timbers.

After working in Pharmacy, Optometry and Health Insurance, Barb entered the Timber Industry in 1991 in the family owned and operated business Jelfor Timbers. Barb started off as the office cleaner (*no family favours here*), as the top office job was already taken by a very strong minded, capable and motivated woman, her mother, my grandmother. However, Barb soon was answering the phone and moved into the head office administration role, which she still enjoys today.

She loved working with and for her family up until AKD took over the business in October, 2016. Barb is now happily settled in with her new Jelfor family, myself (niece Rachel) and Manager Jason Biddle, and of course all her old Jelfor family around the yard.

Barb tells me Jase is related to someone in Apollo Bay with whom she had an altercation with after wearing a drink. But she says "oh well, guess you can't pick your relatives" and chooses not to hold it against Jason.....Sorry Jase.

Barbs positive attitude and great work ethic is some of the many reasons we love having her here at Jelfor. It's a pleasure working beside you Barb.

On behalf of Jelfor Timber, AKD Softwoods and Jason, we would like to thank Barb for the last 26 years of commitment and hard work. We hope there is another 20 years to come.

- Rachel Jelleff



PORTLAND PINE DEVELOPING OUR PEOPLE AND CULTURE

From our return to work safety and team building training, Portland Pine has developed a poster that is hanging on notice boards around the site (see below). We have also ran a second half day training session since, further developing the team culture that they are striving for. The final training session is to be held in June.

If we are serious about being a United, Consistent, Safe, Friendly team of role models, we agree we need to stop:

- Negativity/Arrogance
- Holding onto/Not sharing information
- Shutting down people's views
- Being disrespectful
 - Backstabbing
- Immaturity
- The "Them and Us" mindset
- Slacking
 - Being unreliable
 - Lack of commitment to tasks

We agree we need to:

- Listen to other's opinions, to understand and be prepared to help
- Be open minded and not be critical of other's views
- Not be disrespectful
 - Go directly to the person concerned and discuss matters in a civil manner
- Share information and include others
- Pitch in/Pull our weight. Take the initiative

SNAPSHOT

SALES



36,174m3

Of timber sold in May 2017. Our biggest sales month ever.

PRODUCTION



Irrewarra has achieved budget every month this year so far

PURCHASING



4,685

Bearings purchased for the site this financial year

MAINTENANCE



21,737

Work orders raised in MEX this financial year

PURCHASING



1,160

black stencil spray cans have been used in 2017

IRREWARRA



Irrewarra is playing a vital role in Colac's baby boom with 2 already out and another 4 to come in the next 3 months

FUN FACTS



- No piece of paper can be folded in half more than 7 times
- The first pair of high heels were made for male soldiers in the 1500's
- Wedding rings are worn on the left hand finger because its the only finger that has a vein connecting to the heart.
- Cows have best friends within herds
- It is impossible to lick your own elbow
- Leonardo Da Vinci could write with one hand and draw with the other at the same time.
- In a deck of cards, the king of hearts is the only king without a moustache
- The game space invaders was so popular in Japan that it created a coin shortage.
- It is physically impossible for a pig to raise its head and look at the sky.
- There are around 61 trees per person in the world
- 26 minutes of slow dancing will burn about 420 kilojoules
- The sound a camel makes is called nuzzling
- Lemons contain more sugar than strawberries
- In the course of an average lifetime you will, while sleeping, eat 70 assorted insects and 10 spiders.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following staff on reaching a milestone this Apr—May 2017

David	Monaro	14/05/2007	10yrs
Richard	Pilcher	10/04/2012	5yrs
Dean	Bailey	30/04/2012	5yrs
Steven	Chapman	30/04/2012	5yrs
Jed	Craig	30/04/2012	5yrs
Brent	Hateley	30/04/2012	5yrs
Owen	McGuire	30/04/2012	5yrs
Mark	Russell	30/04/2012	5yrs
Jason	Field	7/05/2012	5yrs
Richelle	Catterall	14/05/2012	5yrs



RANK	TIPPER	ROUND 8 TOTAL SCORE
1st	Ben Holmes	49
2nd	Clark Rodger	48
3rd	Dale Tillack	47
4th	Brett Williamson	47
5th	Brent Hateley	47
6th	Glenn Lacny	47
7th	Mark Seabrook	47
8th	Luke Day	47
9th	Luke Turner	46
10th	Adam Harris	46



**Congratulations to
BEN HOLMES**
for being on top of
the leader board
after ROUND 8
of the
AKD Footy
Tipping Comp.

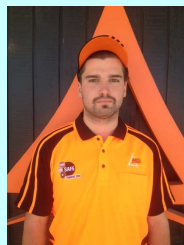
Ben received a
coles myer gift card
to spend on his wife and kids.



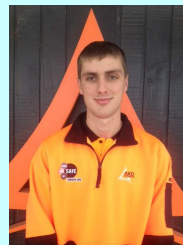
New Employees - WELCOME TO THE TEAM

AKD welcomed these new employees in Apr-May 2017
and encourages everyone to make them feel welcome and
work together to keep them safe.

New employees are encouraged to ask a lot of questions, so
please help them out..



Billy De La Warr
DMC



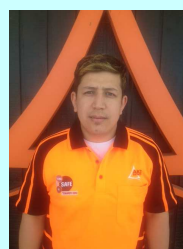
Jack Schultz
ELEC



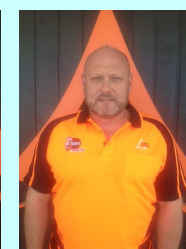
Bryce Ladhams
IRR



Kavitha Mohan
FIN



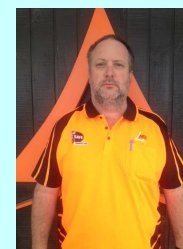
Mohammad Sharify
DMC



Dale Barrow
IRR



Dylan Tenabel
IRR



Michael Gibb
GMC



Nicole Luppino
DMC



Marcus Warton
DMC



Maxwell Muscat
GMC



Morgan Bowes
DMC



Ian Davis
EWP



Connor Sweeney
DMC



Lindsay Whennen
PPP

**SUCCESSFUL
PEOPLE**



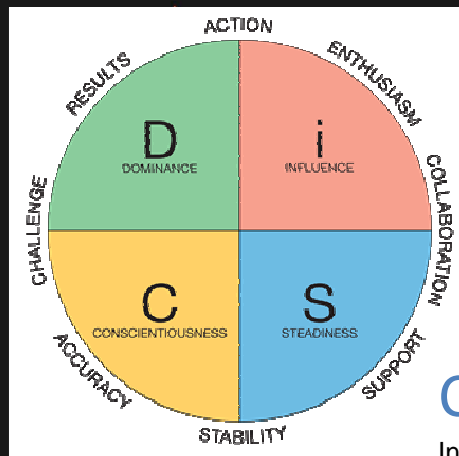
They Continuously
Learn New Things

**UNSUCCESSFUL
PEOPLE**



They Think They
Know It All

@kaushik | wittyfeed.com
you can use this poster by giving proper courtesy.



COMMUNICATION LEADERSHIP STYLES

In pursuit of developing and enhancing our High Performing Team and as part of our Continuous Improvement Program, a communication style workshop was conducted in late April. Over 2 days, selected AKD employees participated in a DiSC workshop.

DiSC is a behavioural assessment theory which centres on four behavioural traits: Dominance, Influence, Steadiness and Conscientiousness. Participants were required to undergo a personality questionnaire prior to the session, which highlighted and displayed individuals natural behavioural position.

The workshop provided a fantastic opportunity for interaction and engagement, with the key focus of the day being:

- Self-awareness of communication styles and the impact they have on others.
- How to read the communication style of others and adapt your style to get the best from others.
- How we can work most effectively as a team.

The day opened individuals mind up to thinking about how other people and styles are motivated and gave tools to get the best out of each other. The tools provided throughout the workshop will be invaluable when dealing with co-workers, as well as suppliers, customers and other stakeholders.



Are your
contact details
up to date?



Get your payment summary fast for tax time..... Update your details today!

With the end of financial year fast approaching, now's a great time to make sure we have your correct details.....Have you changed address or phone numbers lately? Got an email address and want your payslips emailed? Want your payment summary emailed?

Please advise your supervisor or drop into the office to update your details today.

FLU SHOT

AKD HEALTH & WELLBEING PROGRAM

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Health & Wellbeing Program —Flu Vaccinations.

We had an over whelming response, resulting in over 130 employees and 35 family members getting the flu shot.

Fantastic effort!

We look forward to increasing numbers in coming years, aiming to get 100% participation.





Launching the **AKD STOP for SAFETY** Program

So we all know the saying "**Prevention is better than cure**", right? This applies to our workplace as well. We want to **STOP** incidents from occurring and we want to **STOP HURTING PEOPLE**.

The launch of the **STOP for SAFETY** Program is designed for this exact reason.

**Prevent an
incident BEFORE
it occurs**



As a company, we are encouraging everyone to stop **ANY** task, activity or behaviour that has the potential to result in an incident. But like any issue, we can't simply stop and walk away – we need to get the right people involved to come up with solutions so as the task or activity can be done safely.

Like any program however, **EVERYONE** needs to get involved!

It is important to acknowledge that the **STOP for SAFETY** Program has the full support from our:

- Board of Directors
- CEO – Shane Vicary
- Executive Team
- Managers & Supervisors

Trust me when I say, this is not something you see in every organisation (I wish I'd had this support in other companies I have worked in) – the level of commitment demonstrated by these stakeholders shows just how committed we are to achieving our goal of moving '**Towards Zero**'.

Great STOP's will be discussed within each department and the teams will nominate the **STOP of the Week!**

The person who initiated the STOP will be recognised with our internally designed AKD medallion and their commitment to safety will be shared across the business.

All STOP of the Week recipients will go into a draw for the major prize which will be drawn at the end of the year.

REMEMBER: We all have our own reasons why we want to be safe – these are the reasons why we all need to get on board with this program...**YOUR SAFETY IS WORTH IT!!**

I look forward to seeing some of the great STOP's and sharing the stories so others may be able to apply some of the great ideas that you all have.

If you have any queries or suggestions on how the program can be improved, please let myself or Adam Le Guern know!

Small achievements will get us to our
goal – Towards **Zero**



CEO

CORNER

with Shane Vicary



Welcome to our 17th edition of the “Splinter”. We started this newsletter back in November 2013, and I think as an organisation we should be really proud of the fact that we have not only maintained its existence, but we are “continuously improving” it. As such, the “Splinter”, which is our newsletter, is now going to go from 4 editions a year (quarterly), to 6 editions a year (bi-monthly). We are doing this to further improve communication across the whole company and we think what better way than have our newsletter coming out more often.

So we need more stories and more contributions, and not just company related.... we want more stories about the people; about you! AKD’s heart and soul is our people, so let’s share. We have seen some fantastic articles so far, so let’s get some more—personal interest stories, hobbies, weddings, births, exotic holidays, kids graduating, studies through TAFE and university, funny stories etc. We don’t want the newsletter to be just company stuff, but more personal interest content.

Every edition of the splinter has a focus and back in November 2013 we had some specific topics on Health & Safety, and ‘Are you Okay’ issue, and as such we have come along way in our safety performance since 2013, but we are looking for further improvements to successfully pursue our goal of “Zero Harm”. I am personally really proud of our new “STOP” Program, but I was unsure of how it would be taken up... would everyone get behind it etc? Far out... In the first couple of weeks to see so many excellent stops and to see the enthusiasm was just fantastic. The “Stop” Program is a commitment from everyone to put in the effort to call out and recognise actions, activities, behaviours, plant, processes etc, that should be stopped immediately. Remember, our Health and Safety mission is a journey, and everyday we have to work that bit harder in our pursuit of “Towards Zero”.

On the front cover is a “rendered 3D CAD drawing” of our new sawline. It is getting really exciting now, with a lot of activity at the building site with foundations going in, new buildings going up, equipment being constructed, waste systems installed, electrical supply, and equipment constructed and supplied from Canada, US and Austria - all of which is ahead of schedule. I am sure you have seen in the media about the closures of CHH Morwell, the Sawmill in Gippsland and ASH (Australian Sustainable Hardwoods) located in Heyfield, these are sad stories for the companies and people directly involved. But these also serve as a healthy reminder about our need to be strong and resilient and our need to be “internationally competitive”. This project is about investing in our future. It is fantastic that we have the confidence of our shareholders and our bankers to make this investment, but we cannot stand still nor take our opportunities for granted. AKD has to continuously improve to ensure we have a sustainable future.

Our new sawline is replacing our 20 year old sawline which is at the end of its life. The new sawline will be able to recover more timber from the logs we process and enable AKD to efficiently process smaller logs (something we can not do today). AKD will have the most modern sawmill in the whole world and is a big step towards our goal of being “internationally competitive”.

As a company we began this project back in 2013, when we started investigating what the business needed to do to replace the sawline post 2017. In 2014 we worked on a number of options and worked at securing a GRIFF grant from the state and federal governments to support our project. In 2015 we received Board approval and we employed key project employees such as Craig Campbell (Project Manager) and Chris Turner (Senior Mechanical Designer) in mid 2015 who did a lot of initial work; working out what sawmill equipment, design concepts and future needs for the sawmill, post this project and vendors we wanted to work with. In 2016 the project picked up speed and we finalised contracts, and in 2017 we will see the culmination of 4 years work.

AKD has purchased a brand new Iseli RZ1 benching centre and an Iseli EM 300 CNC Side Grinder unit for the Irrewarra sawshop, to support and compliment the new sawline; we have purchased the most efficient and accurate equipment to process and prepare our saws for our new sawline and our Irrewarra sawmill. This purchase will support our “high performing team” of saw doctors, enabling greater efficiency and accuracy. AKD will bring in-house work that was previously carried out by contractors, and in addition, our new sawline is based around cutting logs with greater accuracy and consistency, therefore we need our sawshop to be world class and the have the best sawshop equipment to support this.

Remember we need your contribution to the splinter.

Think Safe, work safe, be safe