



AUSTRALIAN FOREST CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION LTD.

ACN 102 865 430

Manager

David Drane

PO Box 242, Morwell Vic, 3840

david.d@vic.australis.com.au

Ph : 0413 997 257

Chairperson

Colin McCulloch

bvllogging@commander360.com

Ph: 0418 135 36

Viability Consultant

Col Shipard

colshipardafca@bigpond.com

Ph: 0428 215 882

“The Log” 11 October 2011



Hello and welcome to another weekly edition of “The Log”, the Australian Forest Contractors Association Ltd’s own internal electronic Newsletter for all of our Members and Corporate Partner Sponsors.

Firstly this week as AUSTimber2012 draws even closer, here are the latest updates from the organisers.

“For those members who have not yet looked at the AUSTimber website, AUSTimber 2012 will offer, amongst many other attractions, the unique opportunity for visitors to see High Productivity Vehicles in action around a short course dedicated forestry route. In addition to this, prospective buyers will have the opportunity to travel around a 16 km all surface demonstration route in prime movers supplied by a range of different manufacturers.

As stated in the last Log, much of the premium Motel accommodation has been taken up, but there are literally hundreds of Bed & Breakfast, beach houses, and other holiday accommodation within very short travelling distance of Mount Gambier. Using this option will give the visitor the opportunity not only to attend the premier Forestry Expo in the southern hemisphere, but the opportunity to enjoy the magnificent tourist attractions of the Green Triangle region.

One of the criticisms levelled at AUSTimber in 2008 was the apparent lack of support by local businesses for attendees at our event. In response to this, General Manager David Quill has joined the Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce, and the level of interest by members of the Chamber in AUSTimber has been exceptionally high, promising greater involvement by the community in our event.



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Travel to Mount Gambier, as stated in the last Log, has been enhanced by a greater number of services, but driving to the Green Triangle takes visitors either along the Coorong from Adelaide, or the Great Ocean Road from Melbourne, all spectacular tourist drives.

We encourage all members who have Facebook or Twitter accounts to “like” or “follow” AUSTimber2012. This is the best way to keep abreast of current news. If you haven’t done so, please visit the website www.austimber2012.com.au.”

In coming weeks we will include photos of reasons why the visit to Mt Gambier will be enjoyable.

Also in preparation for the big event, Tony Noske, Executive Director – Operations, NOSKE Logistics has committed to sponsorship of corporate uniforms for AUSTimber staff.

In addition, the Noske Group will be demonstrating their high productivity vehicle developed for hauling woodchip from South West Fibre’s Myamin Chip Mill to their export facility at Portland. This system, winner of the 2011 Australian Freight Industry Innovation award, will be participating in the short demonstration route that is planned for the event.



JOHN DEERE
Nothing Runs Like A Deere

This 6km route is on forest roads close to the public, through plantation forests on unsealed and natural surface roads, and is intended to demonstrate how “user friendly” these High Productivity Vehicles are.

A photograph of this new vehicle is attached to this week’s “Log”.



We have been contacted by a private company with land planted with a hardwood plantation. This plantation was established some 20 years ago in an effort to utilize excess irrigation water.

During the drought, lack of water has led to a significant reduction in growth and in some areas the death of trees. They are looking at clear felling this area and replanting with a more drought tolerant species, and are interested in obtaining the services of a Contractor. Trunk diameter ranges from 100mm to 300 mm. Area planted is 130 hectares.

For more details contact **Keith Pickmere**, Business Development Officer, Murrumbidgee Irrigation, Research Station Road, Hanwood NSW 2680 or PO Box 492, Griffith NSW 2680
T: (02) 69620288 |M: 0408218032, E: pickmerek@mirrigation.com.au | www.mirrigation.com.au



Over the next couple of weeks we will be bringing you an extract from “IAAdvice” the newsletter from our friends at Insurance AdviserNet. It’s a timely reminder for us all.

“Following a major upheaval in a business, there is a 40-50% failure rate where for whatever reason they can’t get themselves back up and running. A major reason for this is that only a small number of businesses take advantage of Business Interruption Insurance. The old adage of “it will never happen to me” is very prevalent in small business today, and research shows that while 40% of small businesses have this coverage, only 2% of them have sufficient coverage to help them through a major upheaval.

Business owners need to realize that while the normal business insurance pack will cover the cost of rebuilding and purchasing of new equipment, there are other questions to be considered. Questions such as who will cover:



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- * Loss of trading time and income during reconstruction or rebuilding,
- * Regular outgoing payments such as loan repayments
- * Customers or tenders lost because of inability to trade
- * Retention of good staff during the rebuild period
- * A regular income for the business owner to continue living as normally as possible.

Only Business Interruption Insurance covers these issues and yet most small to medium businesses do not purchase the product which leaves the owners with an unnecessary level of exposure.

In next weeks “Log” we will look further at this issue, but in the meantime if you would like any more information about Business Interruption Insurance or would like to discuss any insurance question, we recommend that you contact the guys at Insurance Advisernet.

Contact Warwick Pratt on Ph 0422 415 161 or email: wpratt@iaa.net.au,

Thanks to Insurance Advisernet for the copy from their Newsletter.

Here’s something to be aware of. From time to time, we like to have a look at issues that can arise through the Chain of Responsibility laws that impact on us all. This weeks question relates to transporting equipment or machinery and oversized loads.



Q: If the same load on a truck is both over height and over width, can the operator be prosecuted for two offences or just one?

A: In a recent judgment, the NSW Supreme Court ruled that an operator can be prosecuted for two offences if a load is both over height and over width. The judgment dealt with two cases appealed from the Goulburn Local Court.

One of the cases involved a trucking operator that had transported a piece of agricultural machinery that was, allegedly, both over height and over width. The magistrate held the breach of the width and height requirements constituted one offence, not two, because both charges related to the same piece of equipment.



She concluded that prosecuting the operator on

both counts would place it in double jeopardy. Under the double jeopardy rule, an individual cannot be pursued more than once for the same offence, once it is resolved with an acquittal or conviction.



On appeal, the Supreme Court ruled that the breaches of the height and width requirements were separate offences, and that no violation of the double jeopardy rule was involved.

The message for all of us is “be careful” when moving machinery, and make sure all loads are not oversized.

Thanks to the New South Wales Branch of the Australian Trucking Association for this item.

Well, that’s all for this week. Thanks for taking the time to read this edition of “The Log”. We look forward to bringing you some more news from our industry again in two weeks time.

Regards to all
David Drane

