



# AUSTRALIAN FOREST CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION LTD.

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## “The Log” 22 March 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

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Firstly this week, we are please to announce that we have finally decided on the best way to move to Stage 2 of our “AFCA Contractors Hall of Fame” project.

We have commissioned a Multimedia Design Company based in Mt Gambier S A to design and create a Web Site dedicated solely to the Hall of Fame. The company is also doing a lot of work to help promote AusTimber 2012 which is fast approaching.



The site will include a history of the Hall of Fame, a list of all of the inductees with a photograph and short resume of each one, a spot to promote any events relative to the Hall of Fame, and an opportunity for inductees to sign up to a newsletter which would be distributed regularly containing items of interest to them.



There will also be an email link through which more details can be added to any of the inductees resumes’.

This is an exciting project which we are really pleased about, and we believe that it will add to the status of the Hall of Fame that has already been created.



We will be writing to all of the inductees initially advising them that the web site will be created, and then again to tell them that it has been launched and encouraging them to have a look. We will also keep you informed of its progress.

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Speaking of AusTimber 2012, it is fast approaching, and we would like to urge you to put 28 -31 March 2012 into your diary, and plan to be in Mt Gambier S A for all of the events and displays that will go with this fabulous event.



David Quill and his team are all working extremely hard to create what will be a fantastic event featuring an international conference, displays and exhibitions and a range of social functions for everyone to enjoy.



**JOHN DEERE**  
Nothing Runs Like A Deere™

The prospectus for the event and early bird reservations will be available in the coming weeks, and we will provide details for you as soon as that happens.

Remember that all AFCA members and their employees will be entitled to significant discounts on registration for and entrance to the event. Just another benefit of your AFCA membership.

It's going to be an exciting time. Make sure you are part of it.



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With thanks to Scott Gentle at the Victorian Forest Contractors Association, we have been provided with a new publication that provides some guidelines for the provision of exclusion zones around the loading and unloading of motor vehicles (trucks).

“Safety Assist” is an industry program contingent on co-operation, consultation and participation between the various transport industry sectors. It is funded through the WorkSafe Victoria Prevention Fund and is run through the unique industry partnership of the Transport Workers Union Victoria / Tasmania Branch, and the Victorian Transport Association. The following is an extract from the introduction to the publication that was produced by the “Safety Assist LUEZ committee”



“The issue of truck driver and other personnel safety around mobile plant equipment during loading and unloading operations – referred to as ‘loading, unloading exclusion zones’ (LUEZ) is one of the significant safety issues confronting all levels of Industries within the supply chain.

Workplace safety incidents within the supply chain involving the injury of truck drivers and other persons by mobile plant equipment during loading and unloading are a recurring theme in all jurisdictions in Australia. In many cases injuries sustained by truck drivers and other persons in LUEZ incidents are severe, and in all cases where LUEZ incidents or near misses occur, there is a high potential for severe injury.

The safety of drivers and other people in the vicinity of powered mobile plant and equipment during loading and unloading activities is a major concern across the supply chain. The aim of this guide is to share “best practice” material in order to reduce / eliminate the potential for injuries where equipment and people interaction occurs.”



If you would like a copy of these guidelines, please contact me and I will forward one to you. They are available either electronically or in a printed hard copy format.

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In last week's edition, we brought you a commentary on the timber industry situation in Tasmania by Senator Richard Colbeck the Shadow Secretary for fisheries and forestry.



As we said last week the situation changes almost daily. Here is a further updated comment from Senator Colbeck.

'The credibility of the Greens and environment non-government organisations (ENGOS) negotiating Tasmania's forestry deal is on the line unless these groups start to respect the process, Tasmanian Liberal Senator and Coalition forestry spokesman Richard Colbeck said. "The forest industry is acting in good faith and it is about time the ENGOS did the same,"

"There have been some wild claims from the environment representatives in recent days and the credibility of ENGO leaders is at stake and, in one case, it is almost untenable.

"Bill Kelty's statement should not be taken as a signal of the end of native forest activity in Tasmania.



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"What we now need is sensible discussion to define the term "high conservation value" within its correct framework. "The term cannot continue to be used as a land grab technique when it does not have justified, science-based validation," Senator Colbeck said.

Current claims for high conservation value include 28 year old regrowth forests regrown from clear fell and burn, forests that have been logged for more than 100 years, parts of an artillery range, and pine and eucalypt plantations.

"The legitimate question the forest industry asks is: If "high conservation value" can be preserved through 100-plus years of forestry then why can't it continue to be preserved by continued harvest? The answer is that the values can and will be preserved.

"The State Government must also keep its commitment to extend wood supply agreements until 2027 for existing saw millers and the extensions must be on reasonable terms. "This work should be completed within the timeframe of the statement issued by Mr Kelty on the 11<sup>th</sup> March. "There is a long term future for sustainably managed native forests in Tasmania.

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Welcome to Dean and John Venturoni of Retreev Pty Ltd, Colac Victoria, who are the newest members of AFCA. Thank you for coming on board and we hope you enjoy your stay and benefit from being a member.



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Thanks again to all those members who have renewed your membership for 2010 – 2011. We really appreciate your support. To those few members who are yet to forward your payment for this financial year, we really would appreciate it as soon as possible.

We do have some members who completed their payment by installment, if you haven't paid yet and would like to discuss this option please contact me. All discussions are confidential of course.

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Well, that's all for this week. Thanks for taking the time to read this edition of "The Log". We hope you all have a safe and profitable week and we look forward to bringing you some more news from our industry again next week.

Regards to all  
David Drane

