



# AUSTRALIAN FOREST CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION LTD.

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## “The Log” 30 August 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, the guys at Community Research Centre Forestry (CRCF), have released their latest Bulletin.

Bulletin No 20 looks at the impact of using the simple onboard Multidat system in a native forest harvesting operation. This trial was part of the work done to develop the Onboard systems selection and implementation guide that is available on the CRC for Forestry web site.

As forest operations have become increasingly mechanised over recent decades, they have also become more capital intensive and more complex to manage. International experience in forest harvesting and in related industries has shown significant savings can be made by using onboard computers to get expensive equipment working more effectively. CRC for Forestry researchers have tested the range of available onboard computers in three major field trials, covering different Australian forest harvesting systems and forest types. This bulletin examines one type of onboard computer available in Australia.

As usual, if you would like a copy, just contact me and I will forward it to you.

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CRCF also have a DVD titled "Timber harvesting in steep and moderately sloped terrain" that was produced recently by one of their researchers. If you would like more details and perhaps a copy, please contact Mark Brown at the CRCF (Ph: 0488 123 115, or email [mwbrown@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mwbrown@unimelb.edu.au)).



Mark has also provided a link to a Logging Safety Manual that is produced in the U S that might be of interest. <http://loggingsafety.com/content/timber-harvesting-safety-manual>.

Again if you have a look and have any questions, please contact Mark.

Thanks to the CRCF for all of this information.

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Over the years in "The Log" we have told you about "Freight Week" in Victoria which would be of interest to Haulage Contractors in Victoria or nearby, and this year's event is coming around quickly.

Freight Week will kick off this year with "Peoples Day". People Day is a major part of Freight Week. It is on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September at Melbourne Park (Rod Laver Tennis Centre) Function Centre.

The format for the day has changed from previous years. This year People Day takes on the challenges facing the haulage industry by analysing the demand, skills challenges, programs and assistance packages available. It will provide case studies on companies who are recognised leaders in implementing innovative programs. The afternoon is run in two streams covering automotive qualifications framework and a second stream on logistics Industrial Relations issues.



Tickets are on sale now at \$275 for a standard registration, visit [www.freightweek.com.au](http://www.freightweek.com.au) to book your tickets.

All events during Freight Week 2011, including People Day, have been designed by industry for industry, so the low attendance fee represents good value for money for an event which will deliver practical solutions.

Later in the week "Safety Day" is once again being held as part of Freight Week. It is on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September, at the same venue.

Safety Day will bring participants up to date with new laws, programs and safety guidance relevant to the haulage sector. It will focus on how to implement cost effective and measurable safety programs. Best practice programs will be presented to help you gauge where your organisation is at in terms of its safety performance.

AFCA has attended Freight Week on past occasions, and always found the sessions of interest to our haulage sector. We would like to encourage all of our haulage members in Victoria to attend if possible.

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We have received the following information from Dale Cameron Harvesting Manager for Elders Forestry about a waste thinning job in far North Queensland. The details are.

**Harvest system:** 1-2 rubber-tyre single grip harvesters, OR zero tail swing excavator based harvesters for selective waste-thinning job.

**Harvest Details:** Working in tightly spaced rows of Teak (3.5m wide), and waste-thinning and laying down felled trees into adjacent inter-rows in a herringbone fashion. Felling of trees and manoeuvring of trees into inter-rows is only requirement, no delimiting and/or logmaking required.

Area: Approximately 260 hectares



**Dates:** September 2011 to December 2011 and returning July 2012 to December 2012, depending on how long the job would take and how many machines could be mobilised to the job.

**Payment details:** Rate based on per hectares covered.

**Location:** Mount Ray Tree farm, 45 minutes from Cooktown in far North Queensland.

For more details, contact Dale at Elders, 146 Aberdeen Street, Albany, WA, Australia, 6330  
ph: 08 9892 0917, m: 0429 920 281 or email: [dale.cameron@eldersforestry.com.au](mailto:dale.cameron@eldersforestry.com.au)

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The most important Conference for all haulage operators is the annual Technical and Maintenance Conference

The Australian Trucking Association and the Australian Road Transport Suppliers' Association (ARTSA) have announced the program for the 2011 Paccar and Dealer Technical and Maintenance Conference.



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This year's conference will include sessions on making your fleet safer, interrogating engine management and brake systems and downloading information, maintenance scheduling and cost tracking systems, a Q&A with truck and trailer manufacturers and much more.

The third annual TruckSafe Forum will be a key part of the conference. TruckSafe is the industry's leading business and risk management system.

TruckSafe members will find out about the latest developments in safe work practices, truck maintenance, driver health, and management systems. These are all essential to good risk management and are keys to business viability and success.

This year's Technical & Maintenance Conference will be held at the Australian Technology Park in Sydney from Monday 10 October to Wednesday 12 October.

To find out more about the event visit <http://ataevents.net.au> or call 02 6253 6900

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The following is a timely reminder for us all.

WorkSafe Victoria is investigating the death of a 62-year-old man after a tree fell on him at a farm at Mingay, south of Skipton, in western Victoria recently. The incident happened around 1.30pm on a property near the intersection of 8 Mile Lane and Bradshaws Road.

The contractor was working with two others to remove blue gums on the property, but the tree fell on to a four-wheel drive and the man who was standing nearby. A 27-year-old man who was in the vehicle was taken to Ballarat Hospital for observation.

WorkSafe investigators are carrying out an investigation



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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

