



Australian Forest Contractors Association

ForestFit Q&A

Why have the Growers signed this Memorandum of Understanding?

Growers recognise the benefits of ForestFit™ to provide independent third party assurance that forest contracting businesses have systems that meet a national Standard.

The MOU demonstrates their support to facilitate ForestFit adoption by contracting businesses. This includes amending their own internal systems and processes to eliminate duplicated compliance activities.

Why has AFCA signed the MOU?

We have been listening to the frustrations of contracting businesses for many years about duplicated audits, unnecessary downtime and overstepping of boundaries.

ForestFit™ has been designed by and for contracting businesses to strengthen risk management and performance. It is world leading and creates a mechanism for the professionalism and sophistication of contracting businesses to be acknowledged and rewarded. The MOU documents our shared position that there is a better way to manage the partnership between Growers and their contractors.

What is the ForestFit Standard?

A national Standard in which a forest contracting business can benchmark their business, work health and safety and environmental management systems.

What is ForestFit Certification?

The independent third party audit process that a forest contracting business can voluntarily undertake to provide an assurance to themselves as owners, customers and stakeholders that critical business, safety, environmental and other operational risks are effectively and properly managed.

What is the ForestFit Training Program?

Designed particularly for small and medium sized business owners, leaders and emerging leaders to strengthen their strategic and operational planning, implementation and review of business systems and practices.



What is the National Optimal Auditing Pathway?

The lines between the contractual management performed by Growers and the operational risk management outsourced to contracting businesses have become blurred. This increases the risk for both parties and gives rise to potential for duplication at one extreme, and a failure to address risk properly at the other. The National OAP will focus on redrawing the boundaries so everyone is aware of their individual roles and responsibilities and able to get on with the job at hand.

National OAP Pilot

The Pilot project is testing and validating where the separation between contract management and operational risk management roles and responsibilities lie. It identifies what changes are needed to current arrangements and how those changes can be made.

What are my options if my Grower is not currently a signatory to the MOU?

Contracting businesses that want to be involved with the OAP should talk to their Grower or contact the ForestFit team.

Who is paying - is this just extra costs for contractors?

There is a cost involved in undertaking ForestFit™ certification in both time and money. The agreement between AFCA and the Growers is that contractor costs associated with participation must be consistent with how other auditing processes are currently managed.

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