

AUSTIMBER

At last ... a logging breakthrough!

Things are really moving on the logging scene at Nelson. Our contractor, Mr. Charles McDonald has introduced a Log Forwarder, the first ever in a saw log operation in Australia.

In support of Mr. McDonald's revolutionary move the Company engaged a Swedish Logging Training Firm – Nordfor Limited, to teach our fallers the accepted Swedish falling techniques revolving around the use of a Forwarder.

Sixteen fallers attended a two week school at Nelson and are very enthusiastic about the new system. Without doubt the new method will make falling a safer and less arduous occupation.

Text and photos from "Cross Section" magazine, Softwood Holdings Limited, autumn/winter edition, 1972



■ The Leyland Mammoth Major. Fully laden this vehicle with trailer can carry up to 10,000 super feet of log, the largest capacity being used in our Industry.



■ Lars Johnson presents Adrian Stratman with the Nordfor Tree Falling Prize – a Swedish Breaker Bar.



■ Jim Millard at work. Note the safety helmet and other safety aids.



■ Our group of fallers have a spell. Back – Adrian Stratman, Less Little, Tom Holme, Jason Mason, Marco Paulic, Lars Mason. Front – Keith Simpson, Jim Millard.

Making good use of local knowledge

MANAGEMENT OF AUSTimber 2012 in Mount Gambier (South Australia's timber capital) will be undertaken entirely by local people. Analysis of the 2008 event highlighted the need to make use of local knowledge and expertise to bring together an international event of this magnitude.

Following are members of the all-important team:

- David Quill (general manager)
- Brian Farmer Chief executive officer Forestry SA - major sponsor)
- Barry Fennell (director Australian Forest Contractors' Association (AFCA))
- Steve Witherow (director Tabeel Trading Pty Ltd)
- Libby Ditcham (administration manager)
- Ian Tyler (site manager)
- Karyn Roberts (guest services)
- Allan Gray (tours and partners' program)
- Anne Hinkly-Tyler (marketing)



Flight path to AUSTimber 2012

REX AIRLINES has stepped up to the plate in a bid to help ensure that AUSTimber 2012 in Mount Gambier is bigger and better. The regional airline has backed a request to work with AUSTimber to ensure adequate air transportation is provided to Mount Gambier from both Adelaide and Melbourne for delegates and visitors to the 2012 event.

AUSTimber general manager David Quill held talks with Sandi Watkins, State manager of Rex Airlines in Mount Gambier, in late December to determine possible solutions to the transport difficulties experienced with the AUSTimber 2008 event.

"Rex understands the importance of the conference to the local Mount Gambier region and will do all it can to schedule additional services. We will also look at bringing in aircraft from other parts of the Rex network if the existing surplus aircraft in Melbourne and Adelaide is not sufficient," said Warrick Lodge, Rex's general manager - Network Strategy & Sales.

Significant increases in air seat availability, coupled with planned coach services and improved accommodation management, are all part of the planning for the 2012 extravaganza.



■ Rex Airlines gives AUSTimber 2012 a flying start.