

AUSTIMBER

New concept at AUSTimber 2012

A NEW concept will be implemented at AUSTimber 2012 with in-forest static displays. This has never before been attempted at AUSTimber or in Australia and the organisers are confident this will be an added benefit to exhibitors and visitors. This opportunity is available because of the advantageous positioning of the AUSTimber site within the forest and with clear paddock in close proximity.

The in-forest static displays provides exhibitors and visitors with more options, as visitors will be able walk around the expo site to view exhibitions through either the in-forest walk or the outdoor static displays. Potentially a product best-suited to an in-forest display will be positioned within the in-forest area and another product more suited to an outdoor static display could be viewed there – providing exhibitors two vantage points for different product offerings.

AUSTIMBER 2012 will be a compact and comprehensive site. Sawmill displays will have the option to be use either outdoor or indoor exhibitions. In essence,

exhibitors have the opportunity to capture as much of the visitor attention just from the walk-through traffic.

AUSTimber2012isalsoproviding exhibitors the opportunity for live demonstrations to display a variety of harvesting:

- pine harvesting in first thinnings
- later thinnings
- clear felling
- cut-to-length blue gum harvesting
- tree length blue gum harvesting
- in-field chipping
- mulching and bio-fuel production

In addition AUSTimber 2012 intends having displays for live demonstrations of timber haulage units, including the opportunity for exhibitors to take potential buyers over a haul route, plus vintage equipment, fire-fighting equipment and yes, there's more to come!

"After inspecting the sites set aside for AUSTimber 2012 I am really looking forward to the event, and I am left in no doubt that it will be much bigger and better than 2008. To have everything in the one area is fantastic and will benefit both visitors and exhibitors and ensure maximum value is

gained by all." Brenton Yon, National Sales Manager Komatsu Forest Pty Ltd

David Quill, General Manager said: "We encourage everyone to take a walk around the website and look at the site plan. The site has been designed to ensure visitors are channeled through all exhibition sites. Everything is in close proximity within easy walking distance, with the maximum walking distance only 1.6kms and there are dedicated parking areas for exhibitors. "The site has been developed taking into account the feedback we received from the last event in 2008 and recent visits by various exhibitors and other industry visitors. Our mission is to make sure AUSTimber 2012 site meets the needs and benefits all exhibitors and visitors."

The site plan was launched in December at a media briefing in Mount Gambier and via the AUSTimber 2012 E-News to email subscribers. To view the site map just go to www.austimber2012.com.au and to be first in the know of AUSTimber 2012 planning subscribe to their newsletter via the website.



■ Concept image of visitors at the in-forest static display envisaged for AUSTimber 2012.

Concerted effort to achieve site improvements

THE SITE for the static displays at AUSTimber 2012 has been a subject of a concerted effort by the management committee for some time to ensure it meets the 'traffic load' for the expo. The site was leveled and cultivated as far back as the winter of 2009, when it was sown down to pasture, which unfortunately failed due to excessive rains.

The site was replanted in 2010 with further cultivation and fertilising, but owing to the totally infertile nature of the soil the resulting pasture has not met expectations for the anticipated traffic load for AUSTimber 2012.

To address this concern, AUSTimber's General Manager, David Quill, and Site Manager, Ian Tyler, recently met with Stephen Van Schaik (Managing Director of Van Schaik's Bio Gro) and Rick Jordan (General Manager of Advantage Ag – a subsidiary of Bio Gro) to discuss what could be done. As a result of this meeting a program has been put in place to address the nutritional issues and to establish and manage the pasture base.

"We are pleased to announce that Van Schaik's Bio Gro, in conjunction with Advantage Ag have offered their support in the form of a sponsorship package of goods and services. Utilising professional advice from Advantage

Ag's agronomists and products supplied by the Bio Gro companies, we are now confident that by March 2012 the site will be in the condition required to cater for the event and activities. We will provide visitors to our site with regular updates as the new ground cover is developed," David said.

Advantage Ag is a Mount Gambier-based consultancy and agronomic business specialising in soil and plant nutrition and pasture management; and is a division of Bio Gro. Van Schaik's Bio Gro has a number of facilities in both South Australia and Victoria, with its largest organics processing facility conveniently located within 5km of the AUSTimber site. It has developed from a small family company into a large national organisation employing in excess of 100 people. Bio Gro's primary focus is to compost and process upwards of 150,000 tonnes per annum of organic and forest residues. The end products are high quality materials that are supplied into the horticultural, agricultural and landscape markets.

AUSTimber 2012, 29-31 March, Mount Gambier, South Australia
www.austimber2012.com.au



■ (Left to right): Van Schaik's Bio Gro Managing Director Stephen Van Schaik and General Manager, Advantage Ag, Rick Jordan, meet with AUSTimber Site Manager Ian Tyler and General Manager David Quill to discuss development of the Expo Site.

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