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Pentarch Forest Products Value Adds with New Technology

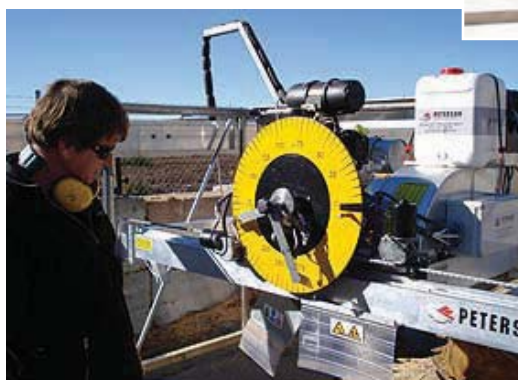
As an extension of its Geelong log yard, Pentarch Forest Products has installed a saw milling facility that will produce specialist sawn lumber to add to the company's product resources.

Currently, a percentage of all volume accumulated for export will be rejected due to specification shortfalls; this volume would normally be traded in conjunction with in spec cargo. "The objective of the new facility is to value add to this product and provide both export and domestic market opportunities," stated Matthew Deretic, Pentarch Forest Products' National Resource Manager. "The sawmill is portable in design and employs automatic swingblade technology, the unit is able to make horizontal and vertical cuts, change the size or depth of the cut and offers the flexibility of removing the previous board cut at the touch of a button," commented Matthew.

The unit was designed, manufactured and modified for Pentarch's special needs by New Zealand's Peterson Portable Sawmills, which has had more than 30 years experience in the production of specialist portable sawmills.



L to R: Des Jeffree, and Chris Browne, Managing Director of P&B Engineering which manufactures the Peterson Sawmill.



Pentarch's Des Jeffree overseeing operational trials in NZ.

The project will include existing Forest Product resources such as AMS, which currently operates the log yard, and will in turn provide specialist logistics support such as product storage and movement.



Des Jeffree

Automatic Swingblade Mill SPECIFICATIONS TABLE	
Motor	38hp Kohler (Petrol)
Blade	10" (254mm)
Maximum Cut	10" x 10" (254mm x 254mm)
Double Cut	10" x 20" (254mm x 508mm)
Max. Log Diameter	5' (1.5m)
Max. Log Length on Std Tracks	12m (37.5')
* Average Production	10-12 cubic metres per day

*Production Nos. may vary due to species and cut size

"Cross utilisation of skills will help build this project," commented Matthew, and support other disciplines such as, bulk cargo shipments via our liner service and our movement into the area of containerised cargo."

The unit will have specialised housing to ensure security and all-weather production and is expected to be fully operational by August.