

Tasmanian Timber Awards

9 August 2019 | Tailrace Centre Launceston



**TASMANIAN FORESTS
& FOREST PRODUCTS
NETWORK**

Presented by:



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& FOREST PRODUCTS
NETWORK**

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Tasmanian Forests and Forest Products Network would like to acknowledge the hard work put into this evening with special mention to:

———— *Working Group* ————

- Eva James** Co-Chair, *AKS Forest Solutions*
- Tammy Price** Co-Chair, *SFM Environmental Solutions*
- Denise DeBattista**, *Arbre Hub*
- Jim Wilson**, *Forico*
- Therese Taylor**, *TFFPN*
- Naomi Will**, *EventSphere*

———— *Judges* ————

- Julian Amos
- Mark Cocker
- Robin Dickson
- Stacey Gardiner
- Michelle Harwood
- Bryan Hayes
- Greg Hudson
- Alastair Morton
- Damian Peirce
- Evan Rolley
- Tony Stonjek
- Greg Unwin
- Peter Volker
- Stephen Walker



Distribution and Logistics Excellence

This award recognises an individual or organisation who demonstrates excellence across a range of skills within the sector of distribution and logistics.

Finalists

Les Walkden Enterprises

Les Walkden Enterprises (LWE) provides distribution and logistics capacity to many industry participants and for a variety of products. As one of the state's largest transport operators, LWE is an innovative organisation with the ability to provide cost effective solutions to supply chain needs from stump to mill to point of sale.

LWE has been a significant partner in the harvesting and distributing of forest products on behalf of Sustainable Timber Tasmania for many years and has provided successful solutions for the use of harvest residues by securing markets for boiler fuel, calf bedding and landscape mulch when sales of this product were difficult.



Neville Smith Forest Products

Traditional methods of sorting customer orders (also known as 'picking and packing') has historically been dictated by minimum order quantities and freight costs per pallet. These factors often deterred clients whose on-site stock capacities are less than the minimum order quantities required.

Neville Smith Forest Products (NSFP) implemented a system and demonstrated their ability to accommodate customer needs and stock capacities with the introduction of their pick and pack distribution centre at their Mowbray dry mill.



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Environmental Excellence

This award recognises an individual or organisation that demonstrates excellence in environmental management within the Tasmanian Timber Industry.

Finalists



Forico

Forico Pty Limited (Forico) is Tasmania's largest private forest management company consisting of 175,000 hectares of land, of which 93,000 hectares is in plantation. Approximately 80,000 hectares of the managed estate is natural forest and is maintained and enhanced for conservation and biodiversity values.

Managing of the entire 175,000 hectares of the estate, Forico clearly communicates to all stakeholders with environmental management being one of the fundamental strategic priorities of the business.

Richard Morgan Kevin Morgan

Richard Morgan has for the past 5 years overseen the harvesting of Radiata pine on the Henty Sand Dunes.

This operation involved very stringent soil management prescriptions applied by the Forest Practices Authority. Richard was able to safely supply a weekly cut order, whilst maintaining outstanding management of these soils.

Richard has spent much of his adult life working in Tasmania's forests, from his early years in mature age forest harvesting in the North East of Tasmania where he worked on all aspects of forest harvesting operations.



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Environmental Excellence

This award recognises an individual or organisation that demonstrates excellence in environmental management within the Tasmanian Timber Industry.

Finalists



Warren French Architect and Valley Workshop

Warren French Architect and Valley Workshop are a design and innovative building group specialising in light weight, bespoke, hyper-insulated, prefabricated flat packed buildings. The business is delivering a hyper insulated building system made of large timber modules.

Headed by a father-daughter team, the business incorporates architects, inventors and builders. The homes designed and built are the epitome of craftsmanship, natural light, proportion and building innovation. The wall module system has membranes for condensation control and as such are achieving up to 9 star without the risk of ventilation issues due to condensation.



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Image Credit: (L - R) SFM Environmental Solutions, Victoria Cleaves



Image Credit: (L-R) Sam Elphinstone, George Harris, Mechanised Logging Pty Ltd

Forest Growing and Management Excellence

This award recognises an individual or organisation who demonstrates excellence across a range of skills within the sector of forest growing and management.

Finalists

Forico

Forico Pty Limited (Forico) holds dual certification to the world's best forest management standards including Responsible Wood, FSC (Forest Management) together with its Environmental Management System (EMS) certified to ISO14001.

Forico actively supports the Tasmanian Forest Practices System and is as an industry leader based on performance. In addition to this, Forico have a Zero Harm policy statement and are deploying a range of initiatives within the business as a collaborative approach with service providers to deliver a step change in safety performance at an industry level.



Jason Lawson Sustainable Timber Tasmania

Jason Lawson demonstrates commitment, innovation and excellence in the area of forest growing. Jason strives for excellence in the regeneration of Tasmania's forests with his vast knowledge of the mix of species in the Derwent and Huon areas. Jason's experience with regeneration allows him to plan for future forests with an appropriate seed mix.

The key to successful regeneration is not just getting the right mix of species, but also to ensure Sustainable Timber Tasmania is putting back what has been removed and that there is a mix of major and minor species specific to the area.

Jason's high standard of work in this area is testament to the successful regeneration of areas and the compliance with environmental practices.



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Harvesting Excellence

This award recognises an individual or organisation that demonstrates excellence across a range of skills within the sector of forest harvesting.

Finalists



Andrew Clark **Les Walkden Enterprises**

Andrew has been employed by Les Walkden Enterprises (LWE) since 1991 and is an integral part of the company's harvesting operations.

In his current role, Andrew manages nine harvesting operations, totalling some 450,000 tonnes per annum. In addition to this, Andrew co-ordinates in conjunction with the northern office, fifteen cartage operations with a total capacity of around 700,000 tonnes per annum.

Beaumont Timber Harvesting

Beaumont Timber Harvesting, based in the North-West of Tasmania has successfully transitioned from a small operation to a large operator in both the harvesting and haulage sections of their business.

The business has developed their operating capacity significantly and in recent months and have been consistently cutting at or above their contract volume.



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Harvesting Excellence

This award recognises an individual or organisation that demonstrates excellence across a range of skills within the sector of forest harvesting.

Finalists



Mechanised Logging

Mechanised Logging Pty Ltd (Mechlog) has developed and streamlined their work systems to ensure they continue to deliver excellence in timber harvesting services.

The systems developed by Mechlog involve the high level of contracting services provided including the professionalism of their personnel. Mechlog has provided a sound, reliable and professionally managed harvesting service over an extensive period of 25 years in Tasmania.

Tony Stonjek AKS Forest Solutions

Tony Stonjek, as the Forest Director of AKS Forest Solutions, is one of the longest serving Forest Practices Officers in the State. Tony has an extensive history in the industry and has demonstrated his commitment to systems excellence, including environmental and workplace health and safety practices by pursuing AFS Forest Management Certification.

Tony's commitment to excellence has provided an (almost) unscathed report card once Forest Management certification was achieved in 2013 until the present.



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Innovation Award

This award recognises an individual or organisation who has created a unique innovation in any area of the Tasmanian Timber Industry.

Finalists



Arbre Forest Industries Training and Careers Hub

Arbre Forest Industries Training and Careers Hub (Arbre) have developed the concept and supported the successful implementation of the Cadet Forester Program (CFP), which was established to overcome the shortfall of professional foresters currently needed to work in Tasmania's forest industry.

Trainees commence on an Australian School Based Apprenticeship as year 11 and 12 students - or an adult traineeship for all other applicants. Trainees are directly employed by individual companies, or by a group training organisation for shared work placement.

Australian Research Council Training Centre for Forest Value

Working closely with 10 different industry organisations, the ARC Training Centre for Forest Value is progressing 16 different innovative R&D projects across the full value chain of the industry from forests to end-users.

Innovation is evident in the conceptual approaches to their projects, the methodologies employed, and the technologies developed. In all instances, the research complies fully with the University and individual industry organisation environmental, health and safety policies and practices.



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TIMBERLANDS
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Innovation Award

This award recognises an individual or organisation who has created a unique innovation in any area of the Tasmanian Timber Industry.

Finalists



Graeme Elphinstone Elphinstone Engineering

Graeme Elphinstone has been designing and manufacturing log transport equipment, on vehicle weighing systems, winches and transportable weigh bridges for use, not only in the Tasmanian forest industry, but Australia wide since 1976.

A winner of the coveted BHP Steel Award, Graeme has continually innovated all designs with safety in mind be it safer ways of carting logs, greater safety for the general public or greater safety for the equipment operators.

Forico

Forico Pty Limited (Forico) is transitioning the purchase of hardwood pulpwood logs from harvest and haulage contractors in north west Tasmania from green metric tonnes to bulk cubic metres. In a first for the Oceania region, Forico deployed the hardware and software of a commercially available product, the LogMeter 4000™, from Woodtech Measurement Solutions in Chile.

This innovative technology assists Forico with international supply chain competitiveness, reduces the required number of log truck movements and delivers better value to the entire supply chain.



TIMBERLANDS
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Innovation Award

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Finalists



Mark Gilbert Mark Gilbert Guitars

Mark Gilbert has sought to promote Tasmania, and Tasmania's unique Special Timbers in particular, as the defining characteristic in solid-body electric guitars of the highest international standard.

Mark crafts his guitars to custom made orders to individual personal preferences of his clients, some of which are among leading performers around the world.

The work is backed by the Tasmanian Chain of Custody system, which is locally managed by Fine Timber Tasmania, and integrated within national and international certification bodies for forestry and timber products.

Neville Smith Forest Products

Neville Smith Forest Products (NSFP) have encouraged the use of innovative technology since its establishment in 1924.

The decision to introduce a zero-waste regime at the Mowbray dry mill included the installation and commissioning of two state-of-the-art timber processing units - the Nova pellet production facility (pellet mill) and the Mahild drying kiln.

As well as introducing a zero-waste regime, NSFP introduced highly accurate timber processing equipment into the Southwood green mill to provide the best value recovery results for maximising the finite resource of Tasmanian oak.



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TIMBERLANDS
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Innovation Award

This award recognises an individual or organisation who has created a unique innovation in any area of the Tasmanian Timber Industry.

Finalists

Serve-Ag trading as EE Muir and Sons

Serve -Ag, trading as EE Muir and Sons has been offering products and innovation to the Forest Industry for over 25 years.

The Company is Australia's largest family owned Agribusiness and has been operating since 1927. The Company's head office is based in Laverton, Victoria and the business has around 40 branches operating across Australia. EE Muir and Sons have a dedicated forestry division employing eight staff in strategic forestry locations.



SFM Environmental Solutions

Innovation is a word that is used regularly within SFM Environmental Solutions. Two examples of this is the Hydrowood Project and more recently the salvage harvesting of forests considered lost in the recent devastating bushfires.

The Hydrowood Project is a highly innovative venture that utilises specialised equipment to recover standing timber from underwater lakes, giving exclusive access to a unique subset of Tasmanian's highly valued special timbers which were submerged in past years during the creation of Tasmania's hydro-electric schemes.



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Finalists



TimberLink

In 2018, TimberLink launched at its Bell Bay site and was the first mass media campaign by a softwood timber manufacturer anywhere in the country.

The revolutionary ‘Made of Tasmania’ campaign has been shown on TV screens, newspapers, billboards and websites across the state. Research conducted by the Company in late 2017 showed the majority of Tasmanians weren’t aware plantation pine they used everyday was a local product - a product planted, nurtured, harvested and manufactured right here in Tasmania.

Tony Morriss Sustainable Timber Tasmania

Following on from the successful development of the Edocket sawlog App, Tony has researched and developed an Eweight version of this system, enabling electronic weight dockets to be created via a mobile phone App to reduce paper dockets and improve the transfer of live docket information between the Forest Manager, Harvest/Cartage contractor and customer.

The system has revolutionised the transfer of information through the supply chain, improving Chain of Custody documentation and creating data management efficiencies.



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TIMBERLANDS
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Finalists



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Headed by a father-daughter team, the business incorporates architects, inventors and builders. The homes designed and built are the epitome of craftsmanship, natural light, proportion and building innovation. The wall module system has membranes for condensation control and as such are achieving up to 9 star without the risk of ventilation issues due to condensation.

Mervyn Jones Wood Pellets Tasmania

Mervyn Jones has had a long association with Scottsdale Hop Growers and was on the journey from hops to wood pellets. Mervyn is both passionate and informed on the subject of biofuels and wood pellets and has confidence that there is a future for the pellet industry in Tasmania.

Mervyn has worked with East Coast Wood Shavings in Queensland undertaking consultancy in 2007 linking their shaving business to a pelleting operation.



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Regional and Community Development

This award recognises an individual or organisation who demonstrates excellence within their community that promotes charitable outcomes.

Finalists



Neville Smith Forest Products

Neville Smith Forest Products (NSFP) contribute to the community in a multitude of ways, however this commitment was demonstrated during the January 2019 Riveaux Road fires. NSFP maintained the employment of around thirty staff members who were at risk of being stood down as a result of fire damage to their infrastructure.

Staff worked tirelessly to ensure the mill was operating as soon as it was safe to do so. With capped insurance funding and no clear date set for the recommissioning of the Southwood green mill, NSFP publicly guaranteed the ongoing employment of the Southwood staff regardless of the timeline for the repairs. On the 20th of May 2019, the NSFP staff members at Southwood returned to work.

Oakdale Timber

Oakdale Timber sources raw materials from Sustainable Timber Tasmania customers to manufacture wood products making them an integral link in the forest industry supply chain.

Oakdale are a long-standing contributor to the Tasmanian timber industry with their role of processors and retailers of Tasmanian hardwood, which includes Hydrowood and engineered timber materials.

Oakdale create purpose and opportunity for people with a disability who can take part in meaningful employment using Tasmanian timbers. They provide a supportive environment for people with a disability and provide them with opportunities to learn skills.



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Skill Development and Training Excellence

This award recognises an organisation's commitment to ongoing skill developments and training of their workforce.

Finalists



Mechanised Logging

Training and skill development are at the core of Mechanised Logging Pty Ltd (Mechlogs) operations and assists the company to deliver a consistently high service.

The company values 'personnel' as its greatest asset. Mechlog invests in training and coaching to provide a skillful workforce. A positive work culture is achieved through Mechlog's policy of personnel that are informed, consulted, skilled and engaged to perform their work role. The result is a positive and rewarding work environment.

TP Bennett and Sons

TP Bennett and Sons is a fourth-generation family business operated in the Southern Forests for over 60 years. For a business to continue to grow and be successful, it needs to be supported by its employees – and as such investment is made in the greatest asset of the business – the employees.

In the business today, TP Bennett and Sons employees a full-time trainer and assessor to manage training paths and provide guidance and mentoring to enable employees reach their full potential - and formal recognition for their skills.



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Timber Processing Excellence

This award recognises an individual or organisation that demonstrates excellence within the sector of timber processing.

Finalists



Britton Timbers

Britton Timbers stock more than 50 quality Australian and Imported species. The company partners with timber craftspeople and design professionals working on projects ranging from residential to large-scale commercial fit outs.

Britton Timbers imports and exports specialty timbers worldwide and supplies international customers with premium PEFC certified Australian species such as Tasmanian Oak, Blackwood and Myrtle.

Neville Smith Forest Products

Neville Smith Forest Products (NSFP) imparts excellence in timber processing at every aspect of their business.

Employing over 65 people between their Mowbray dry mill and Southwood green mill, NSFP ensures their staff have great awareness and knowledge of product quality, workplace health and safety and the required responsibilities to ensure the production of Tasmanian oak timber is efficient and of the highest standard.



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Timber Processing Excellence

This award recognises an individual or organisation that demonstrates excellence within the sector of timber processing.

Finalists

TimberLink

In January 2018, TimberLink at Bell Bay commissioned Tasmania's first Contraflow Kiln (CFK). The kilns use an ingenious system of circulating air through two tracks of timber being pushed in opposite directions, so that heat is recovered from the hot, dry wood into cold, wet wood on the other track.

The system allows the timber to be dried to optimal moisture levels, whilst undergoing much gentler heat-up and cool down phases. This process has several positive flow-on effects. The CFK is improving the quality of structural timber framing and has a reduction of both heat and electrical energy use by more than 30%, relative to drying in traditional batch kilns.



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Photo Credit: Forest Education Foundation

Workplace Health and Safety Excellence

This award recognises an individual or organisation that demonstrates excellence in workplace health and safety management within the Tasmanian Timber Industry.

Finalists



Mechanised Logging

Mechanised Logging Pty Ltd (Mechlog) demonstrates safety excellence through the development of an admirable safety culture which ensures safe work practices that are not just considered as an 'add-on'.

Mechlog's philosophy is "lets talk 'safety' to keep us safe". Safety being at the core of Mechlog's operations is achieving excellence in workplace health and safety. Mechlog are extremely proud of their people - they are engaged, with ownership and accountability towards best practice. Mechlog improve safety through everyone's participation.

Monson Logistics

The transport industry has a high lost time injury (LTI) frequency rate and the fifth highest fatality rate of all industries in Australia. For this reason, Monson Logistics considered addressing safety in the rapidly growing company to be a very high priority.

By adopting a proactive approach to improving work health and safety, Monson Logistics was able to reduce its LTI frequency from a rate that was higher than the industry average in 2017 to zero in less than 18 months, and this rate continues to be maintained.



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Workplace Health and Safety Excellence

This award recognises an individual or organisation that demonstrates excellence in workplace health and safety management within the Tasmanian Timber Industry.

Finalists

Neville Smith Forest Products

Neville Smith Forest Products (NSFP) promotes excellence in workplace health and safety practices across their Southwood green mill and Mowbray dry mill.

In 2015, NSFP contracted Safety Circle to implement multiple Workplace Health & Safety policies and procedures with the intention of reducing workplace risks and ensuring a safe working environment for their staff.

Safety Circle provides organisations and their staff with a risk management tool which trains and upskills workers to understand general workplace risks and how to mitigate them. The tool is aimed to educate business stakeholders in the day-to-day safety procedures and identify preventative strategies that can reduce annual workplace injuries to zero.



E.E. Muir & Sons
AUSTRALIAN OWNED - SINCE 1927

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Photo Credit: SFM Environmental Solutions

Trainee

This award recognises an individual who demonstrates excellence in their commitment to their own skill development and training with in the Tasmanian Timber Industry.

Finalists



Adam Faulkner **Mechanised Logging**

Adam demonstrates excellence as a trainee in forest harvesting and is a new entrant to the forest harvesting sector. Adam is an outstanding ambassador for success in changing careers and acquiring new skills.

Adam always complies with environmental, quality and work health and safety practices. Adam brought a sound knowledge of WHS from his previous employer and was able to rapidly transition to working within Mechlog’s management systems. Adam enjoys learning and is open to guidance and coaching.

Brandon Lane **TP Bennett and Sons**

Brandon joined TP Bennett and Sons in June 2016 after a short period of time in civil construction after leaving school. Having a family history in the timber industry, Brandon was keen to pursue a career in forestry.

Brandon was signed up through MEGT to complete the Certificate III in Harvest and Haulage within three months of the commencement of his employment. Brandon showed that forestry was his true passion and took to the formal learning with great commitment. Having struggled through formal educational processes, the drive and responsibility that Brandon applied to this study was second to none.



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Tree Farmer of the Year

This award recognises an individual who demonstrates an excellence across a range of skills beyond best practice guidelines in their field of expertise in tree farming.

The Tree Farmer of the Year award has previously been administered by the Australian Forest Growers whom have recently merged with the Institute of Foresters of Australia and nominated to support the TFFPN Awards Initiative.

— Most recent Tasmanian Awards —

2018 Robert Downie (from Southern Tas)

2015 Roger and Outhay Poltock (from Wilmot)

also National AFG TFOY Award winner 2016

2013 Richard and Rebecca Johnston (from Westwood)



*note years align with national award process



PRIVATE FORESTS
TASMANIA

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Photo Credit: Forico

Outstanding Contribution to the Timber Industry (female)

This award recognises an individual who demonstrates excellence in their commitment to supporting and promoting the Tasmanian Timber Industry.

Finalists



Emma Barker **Sustainable Timber Tasmania**

In 2017, Emma was promoted to the role of Coordinator Forest Management (NW) with Sustainable Timber Tasmania.

Emma continued to perform in her Senior Forest Officer (Land & Property) role as well as her new Coordinator role for 6 months whilst a replacement was found for her Senior Forest Officer role.

During this 6 month period, Emma managed all stakeholder enquiries specific to Land Management in the NW including mining and apiary issues, and provision of FAA's to external stakeholders in the NW and NE regions.

Jillian Aylett-Brown **Mechanised Logging**

Jillian Aylett-Brown is the Director and Business Systems Manager at Mechanised Logging (Mechlog). Jillian's key responsibilities include human resources, health and safety, business development, risk and compliance and communications. In her role, Jillian has made an outstanding contribution to the forest industry through her commitment to health, safety and training.

Jillian is highly capable, self-aware and continually works to improve her skills to benefit her workplace and the industry. Her commitment to her own personal development is demonstrated through her current studies – Certificate IV in Workplace Health and Safety.



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Outstanding Contribution to the Timber Industry (female)

This award recognises an individual who demonstrates excellence in their commitment to supporting and promoting the Tasmanian Timber Industry.

Finalists



Penny Wells **Private Forests Tasmania**

Penny has made a significant and sustained contribution to the Tasmanian timber industry over thirty years of working within and around the industry.

Penny's main contribution to supporting and promoting the timber industry has been to the development and evolution of Tasmania's forest management systems (legislation, policy, plans, planning tools, guidelines etc) that are as practical and pragmatic as possible within the constraints of politics and community expectations.

Penny has been committed to these practical outcomes by developing them in consultation with the industry in a manner designed to reduce costs of compliance as far as possible, while making the forest management systems in Tasmania as efficient as and effective as possible.



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Photo Credit: Anthony Brown, TP Bennett and Sons

Outstanding Contribution to the Timber Industry (female)

Outstanding contribution to the Timber Industry (male)

This award recognises an individual who demonstrates excellence in their commitment to supporting and promoting the Tasmanian Timber Industry.

Finalists



Craig Patmore **Sustainable Timber Tasmania**

Craig has been an outstanding contributor to the Forest Industry during his 39 years of service with Sustainable Timber Tasmania (STT).

Craig has been a training mentor and supervisor for not only people within STT, but contractors working in the industry. Craig has also been a key developer of Forest Practices Training packages delivered to industry over many years.

Craig has always strived to ensure work produced is to a high standard and to ensure the industry brand is held in high regard.

Gerard Bennett **TP Bennett and Sons**

Gerard joined TP Bennett and Sons in July 1989 as a machinery operator and has over the years become a fixture of not only TP Bennett and Sons - but that of the industry.

Gerard's passion and commitment to the industry - and those who work either beside him, are mentored by him, or seek knowledge from him is second to none.

Over Gerard's career, he has been instrumental in many industry forums and more importantly, has become a mentor to many "new kids on the block".



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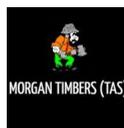
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