

Certification in New Zealand

The following is a chart outlining the current status of certification in New Zealand. (Source: NZ Forest Industries Council)

	ISO 14000 EMS	Forest Stewardship Council
Carter Holt Harvey Pulp & Paper	Kawerau Tissue Plant - 48,000MT	
Weyerhaeuser NZ	Forestry operations - 78,000 ha (current harvest 495,000 m3 pa)	
Rayonier Southland	Forestry operations - 34,000 ha (current harvest 400,000 m3)	Forestry operations - 34,000 ha (current harvest 400,000 m3) [There has been a recent announcement that this will be relinquished at the end of 1999]
Timberlands West Coast	Forestry operations - 160,000 ha (current harvest 200,000 m3)	Undergoing initial assessment
PF Olsen & Co	Forestry operations - 45,000ha (current harvest 300,000 m3)	
Fletcher Challenge Forests	Waipa Processing Plant Sawntimber 190,000 m3 Remanufactured 20,000 m3	
Craigpine		Forestry operations - 2,500 ha Sawntimber 50,000 m3
Niagara Sawmilling		Sawntimber 40,000 m3
Millstream Lumber		Sawntimber 35,000 m3
Stoneyhurst Timbers Ltd		Sawntimber 40,000 m3
"TOTALS"	Forestry operations - 317,000 ha Current harvest - 1,395,000 m3 Tissue - 48,000 MT Sawntimber - 190,000 m3 Remanufactured - 20,000 m3	Forestry operations - 36,500 ha Current harvest - 400,000 m3 Sawntimber - 165,000 m3

recent events

CRI funding under spotlight

Crown research institutes and other recipients of \$600 million in government research funding have been put on notice to make themselves more relevant to business. The warning, conveyed in the knowledge economy package unveiled by the government recently, was linked to the performance of the \$300 million Public Good Science Fund, which has directed the majority of its grants towards primary sector research by crown research institutes.

The government has noted it was spending large amounts on what amounted to commodity research and the country was not getting adequate returns. It now sees Technology New Zealand, the fund's agency with a record of successful high-tech research collaborations with business, as a key

part of its research and development sponsorship.

Initiatives aim to boost FCL

Fletcher Challenge Ltd has reported group net earnings of \$101 million in the June 1999 year compared to \$193 million a year earlier. The company reported that the lower earnings resulted from events largely beyond its control, including the depressed New Zealand economy last year, low Asian economic demand and grim commodity pricing in pulp, paper and oil sectors. The group has undertaken a review of its operations to combat and has put in place a series of initiatives designed to lift its performance, FCL chief executive Michael Andrews said.

The group proposes to merge its paper operations with a Canadian subsidiary and the result will see FCL

become a focused building products and forestry company. Fletcher Challenge Forests reported a continuation of falling commodity prices as a result of the Asian economic downturn, with the average realisation from forestry sales in New Zealand and South America falling to \$69 a cubic metres from \$77 a cubic metres the previous year. The company had offset this with increased manufacturing of wood products, with 50 per cent of its logs down processed.

New Carter Chief

The new chief executive of Carter Holt Harvey, Chris Liddell, is forecasting a brighter future for New Zealand's second largest company. Following a tough 1998/99 year and three or four years of restructuring, CHH has shown some signs of improvement in the financial results reported for the three month period