

Forest Management System — Summary Audit Report				
Client name:	PF Olsen Australia Pty Ltd	Certificate #	AFS 619635	
Client address	Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe	Website:	pfolsen.com/au	
Audit type:	Certification Assessment	Report date:	21 April 2015	
Standard:	AS4708:2013	Auditor:	Ross Garsden	

This document provides a summary of the findings contained in a report to this client with respect to the implementation of the client's management system as determined during an audit conducted by BSI.

## **Scope of certification:**

The management of softwood and hardwood plantations in Gippsland and Green Triangle Regions of Victoria; Tasmania; Kangaroo Island (SA); and in the south west of Western Australia. The scope of certification includes adjacent areas of native vegetation which are excluded from wood production and managed primarily for conservation purposes.

## **Executive summary:**

This report presents the findings of a Stage Two assessment of the Forest Management System (FMS) operated by PF Olsen Australia Pty Ltd (PFOA) against the requirements of AS4708:2013. The assessment was conducted at the company's Head Office in Melbourne as well as regional offices at Traralgon and Hamilton in Victoria and the contractor's office in Launceston, Tasmania. The assessment included Forestry Investment Trust (FIT) properties in Tasmania, Gippsland and Green Triangle (Victoria) and Border Plantations in the Green Triangle region of western Victoria.

The audit included a review of system documentation and interviews with key staff in the Head Office as well as regional offices in Traralgon (Gippsland, Victoria) and Hamilton (Green Triangle, Victoria. The audit also included an assessment of planning processes and forest management activities and records for a range of sites in Gippsland, Green Triangle and Tasmania.

The key system documents and tools (e.g. Policies and Standards, FIPS and Regional Forest Management Plans) provide the entry to the FMS. The MindMap provides a schematic representation of all system processes and supporting information, such as BPGs, reporting templates and prescriptions. The centrally-managed system provides a degree of uniformity in business processes and PFOA is in the process of making standardised documentation available to all. The development of ProMap is aimed at building a more effective system for managing business processes and supporting documentation.

The centrally-managed system is supported through effective monitoring, auditing and review processes. Although system documentation broadly meets the requirements of the Standard, the audit has identified some areas which warrant attention.

PFOA has demonstrated that the FMS incorporates the requirements of the Standard and procedures for planning and managing forest operations are in place and effective. At a regional level, staff are able to develop tools and techniques that support their needs, and this encourages innovation and improvement. A systematic approach is in place for capturing system improvements that are developed locally and that would benefit the whole business. Some of this 'creativity' is sponsored by FIPS, which (despite being demonstrated as a very powerful tool) at present has some limitations that impede its functionality and universal uptake.

Forest management planning documents and records (including harvest plans) were available for

...making excellence a habit."



review in all areas.

PFOA relies on third parties for some key functions, for example, Midway is responsible for the preparation of Timber Harvest Plans in the Green Triangle Region and New Forests is responsible for arranging sales and marketing. Likewise, contractors are responsible for the development and implementation of their own safety systems which are subject to audit by PFOA.

The audit has identified minor non-conformances relating to:

- Emergency preparedness
- Operational planning and review
- Non-conformance management
- Specifications for contractor activities e.g. construction of roads
- Safety inductions

PFOA has developed action plans to address these deficiencies.

Staff engaged in the audit demonstrated a sound understanding of the FMS and its components and were constructively engaged in the audit process.

The audit has determined that PFOA has developed and implemented a management system that essentially meets the requirements of the nominated Standard, and a recommendation for certification is being made.

## **Defined forest area statement**

The DFA consists short rotation, blue gum plantations in 8 Forest Management Units (FMUs) as follows:

FMU	No of Properties	Area		
Border Plantations - Green Triangle	12	2,444		
FIT - Gippsland	24	5,214		
FIT - Green Triangle	239	67,898		
FIT - Kangaroo Island	31	18,192		
FIT - Tasmania	29	7,551		
FIT - South Coast WA	135	67,165		
FIT - West Coast WA	67	26,932		
Limestone Plantations - WA	7	2,391		
Defined forest area (in hectares):	197,786 ha*			
Advised to AFS Limited on:	9 July 2015			
Certificate expires on:	24 May 2018			

Report prepared by:				
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Name of person who prepared this report	Position			

END OF REPORT