

Time to invest in efficiency

The past year has been tough in the extreme for the industry but it is interesting that many mills, although hard hit, also saw it as an opportunity to invest in tools and equipment to optimise efficiency and give them a competitive edge once trade picks up.

CNC Design has recently installed four of the latest 3D scanning and optimisation systems from Perceptron USNR – the strength of the kiwi dollar against the US dollar, making it the best possible time to invest in this advanced technology.

3D scanning gives a true reading of both sides of the log profile and provides highly accurate data, allowing mills to identify the true through-put conversions from log to lumber and find out how good their recovery rates are.

There are other light curtain scanners being used but the Perceptron technology has the advantage of being unaffected by ambient light – this makes it very accurate and flexible for diverse mill conditions.



Pukepine Sawmills (New Zealand) was one of the companies that took the decision to invest. As Jeff Tanner says, “It was a critical decision to install 3D scanning with the industry in a negative situation. The projections supplied were realistic and we are now exceeding forecasts. Our log data has identified sweep and taper and we are achieving sustained consistent accuracy with each operator over all shifts. Our payback will be recovered within a year and could have been sooner if the market was more buoyant.

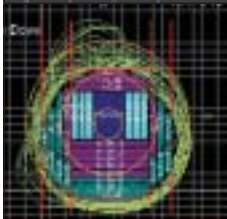
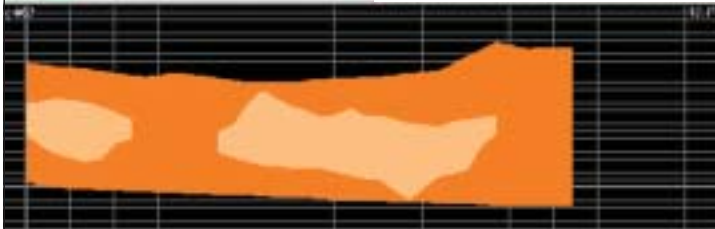
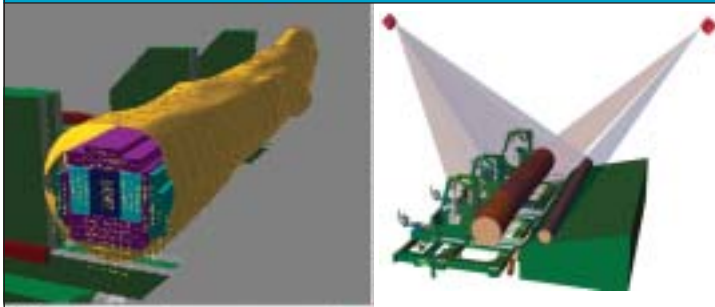
The system is reliable and has given our staff a lift in moral.”

In Nelson, Weyerhaeuser has undergone a substantial mill upgrade with scanning and optimisation being a critical element. Matt Bond reports that the company has achieved a significant lift in the conversion from logs to lumber. “We scan our logs prior to cutting and simulate the cutting pattern to obtain the best conversion. This simplifies the operator decision and gives consistent cutting patterns. With the built-in decision facility, we have increased our hourly through-put and recovery. I know the capability is there to push the system more and gain further improvements.”

Tony Davies-Colley at TDC Sawmills has also seen increases in through-put and yield since installation of the scanner, “Without good information about data in and data out you are running blind. Now, we are able to pinpoint our recovery and have accurate information on log volumes.”

PERCEPTRON USNR

3D LASAR CARRIAGE OPTIMISATION OFFERS SIMULTANEOUS FRONT AND BACK SIDE SCANNING



- Scans the log in the stop-n-loader
- Presets the knees for the next log
- Establishes up to 3 grade zones in the log

- Most successful Carriage optimization system in NZ and USA.
- Increases production, recovery and yield all within attractive payback periods.
- Provides consistently accurate results through operator changes.
- Long and reliable history with proven technical experience.
- Smooth installations and fast commissioning.
- Professional and reliable service available 24/7.
- With the strong NZ \$ it's a great time to buy.
- Call today for customer performance testimonials.

For more information and details how we can help you please contact;

Jon Marwick
+64 9 274 1280
www.cncdesign.co.nz

CNCdesign
Machine Automation Solutions