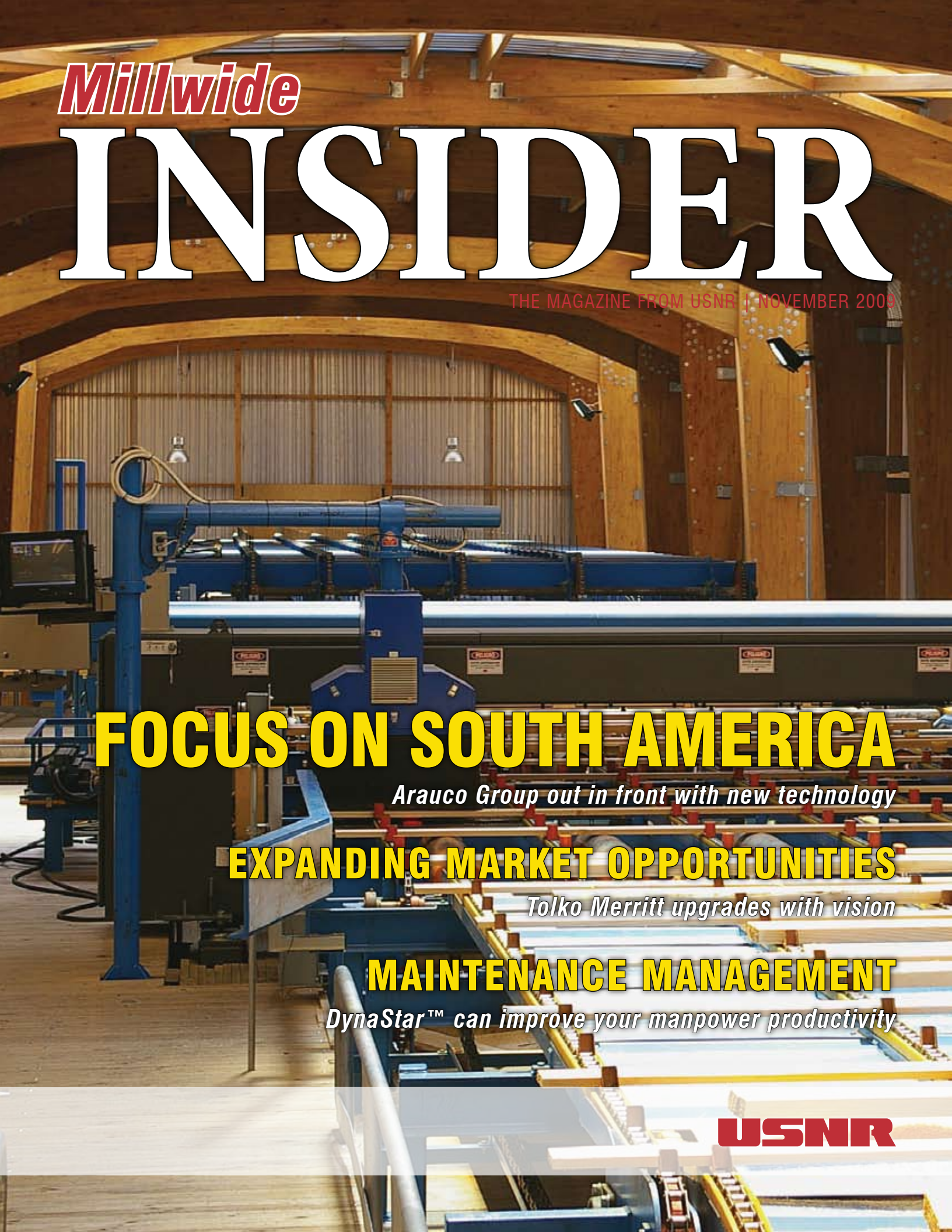


Millwide INSIDER

THE MAGAZINE FROM USNR | NOVEMBER 2009

FOCUS ON SOUTH AMERICA

Arauco Group out in front with new technology

EXPANDING MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

Tolko Merritt upgrades with vision

MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT

DynaStar™ can improve your manpower productivity

USNR



Millwide
INSIDER
NOVEMBER 2009

SUBSCRIPTIONS
Tel.: 250.833.3028
subscriptions@usnr.com

EDITOR
Colleen Schonheiter
colleen.schonheiter@usnr.com

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR
Sonia Perrine
sonia.perrine@usnr.com

Partnering – achieving common goals.

USNR has enjoyed worldwide success through adapting our product designs to meet the needs of wood processors in global markets. And key to learning about the unique requirements of customers in far off regions has been the strategy to develop partnerships with well-known and respected agencies in those areas. Our partners are well aware of the intricacies of dealing with the cultural diversities that can make or break relationships with new customers. Most important of all they understand what the customers in their locations are up against when it comes to market demands, and they can also help us weave our way through such issues as governmental laws and design requirements that may differ from those we are familiar with in North America. In this issue we tell you about two projects in South America undertaken by USNR and Solecia, one of our partners in this region.

One of our North American customers, Tolko Industries, is also a partner with us in the continuing development of automated grading technology. Tolko has worked with us recently to overcome the challenges associated with the mountain pine beetle infestation in BC, adapting technology to detect the damage the beetle has done in pine lumber. At the same time the LHG has helped Tolko to broaden its horizons and expand its grades to enter new markets.

For your maintenance regimes we bring you DynaStar™, a program that helps effectively manage both your personnel and equipment resources. And we tell you about a new program we've implemented to assist mills to restart after a shut down to get back to the business of making lumber.

Sincerely,
Colleen Schonheiter
Editor

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USNR LOCATIONS

Woodland, WA
Headquarters
360.225.8267

Parksville, BC
250.954.1566

Eugene, OR
541.485.7127

Plessisville, QC
819.362.8768

Jacksonville, FL
904.354.2301

Salmon Arm, BC
250.832.7116

Painesville, OH
440.352.9381

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Arauco continues its growth in S.A.

NEW COLLABORATIONS OFFER NEW SOLUTIONS

Arauco is one of the largest forest industry enterprises in Latin America comprising large plantations that supply raw materials to its pulp mills, sawmills and panel operations, and markets its products to over 50 countries worldwide. With 14 sawmills, 12 in Chile and 2 in Argentina, Arauco has a production capacity of 3.4 million m3 of sawn timber, positioning the company as the major wood producer in the southern hemisphere. Additionally, the company owns 5 remanufacturing facilities, 4 in Chile and 1 in Argentina, producing high quality products such as solid and fingerjoint mouldings, as well as precut pieces.

In 2004 Arauco's Nueva Aldea industrial complex was a greenfield project with a total investment of more than $1.5 billion US. This complex is the newest and biggest that Arauco operates in Chile, comprising a plywood mill (200,000 m3 of plywood/year), log merchandizer (more than a million m3/year of logs), reman plant, energy co-generation plant and a pulp mill (600,000 tons/year). The sawmill operates at speeds to 140 LPM. It produces some 36,000 m3/month of lumber in two shifts, the highest throughput in Chile.

Recognizing the benefits of top quality equipment and technology in its mills, Arauco chose Solecia and Newnes to supply the trimmer/sorter/stacker line. This combination offered an integrated solution with local supply of several pieces including conveyors, bin steel and installation services that added up to a cost effective solution. Additionally Newnes had developed a good reputation with Arauco Group after supplying several lines since 1994 that offered the high quality results Arauco was looking for.

Started up in March 2005, the trimmer line features a low profile trimmer and 48-bin sorter (recently upgraded from 30). At the time it was the fastest ever sawmill board handling line in Chile.

Arauco was well satisfied with the result; the mill runs at its design capacity, and the trimmer optimizer line operates at 95% or greater uptime. The line started smoothly and aftersales support has been excellent. Training was done in the Newnes classroom in Salmon Arm as well as on site, and covered all aspects of operation and maintenance of the systems. The operators have since been able to transfer their training to other mills in the Arauco group as well as to new personnel.

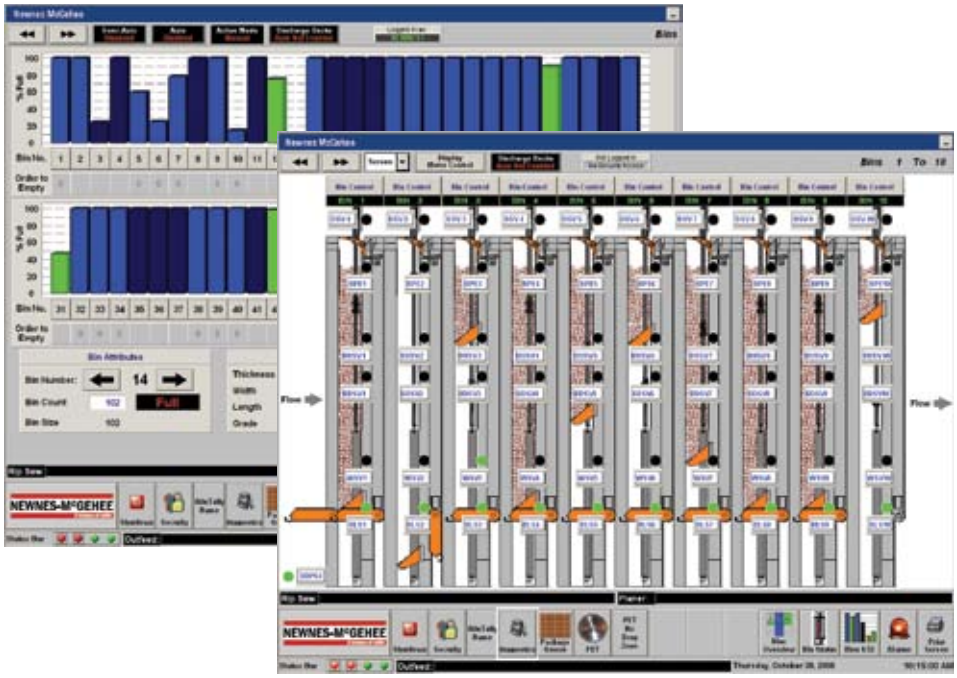
New Viñales mill project

Building on a history of successful collaboration, Arauco once again chose Newnes and Solecia to supply its latest sawmill trimmer/sorter/stacker line, this time adding USNR's MillExpert trimmer optimization to the mix.

Arauco is a major player in the South American forest industry, having undertaken many mega-projects in the region. It continues its tradition of steady growth with its latest venture.

For years Arauco's Viñales mill was one of the least efficient operations within Arauco Group. The company chose to replace the entire line of old equipment with new technology. Significant to achieving increased efficiency, part of the project involved exchanging its manual lumber handling for an automated approach. The company is building a co-generation plant at the same site and the resulting increase in production will generate more fuel for the power plant. The new sawmill is in the process of starting up with training also underway.

Viñales promises to be the fastest line in Chile. It features the first 3D scanner in a trimmer optimizer and the first Revolver lug loader for the Arauco mills. USNR's portion of the supply involved personnel from several divisions; mechanical and controls was designed by the Newnes-McGehee division and optimization provided with collaboration from Parksville and Eugene locations.



Mechanical supply

The center and edge boards will be discharged to a landing table to be deep-piled, and then fed to a radius back unscrambler and Revolver lug loader. The Revolver is outfitted with a rotating overhead holddown; with the mill's product mix this design will accommodate products for the required range of 25-100mm (1-4") thicknesses. The multi-saw lineshaft trimmer is fitted with 16 saws including opposing upper and lower precision end trim (PET) saws. This configuration allows for an increased range of PET trim lengths without the necessity of installing an additional trimmer. Unique in Chile, the 48-bin pusher-lug style sorter has two dropouts to divert lumber to a resaw. A radius back unscrambler will elevate the boards to the bellcrank stacker with a magazine stick placer.

Controls features

Arauco selected the WinTally™ system for its sorter management and production reporting. WinTally features real-time and long term database storage of board and package details with flexible reporting capabilities. The product-based system allows for the set up of new products at any time. Each product can be assigned to a unique bin, a set of continuous bins, or can be mixed with other products in a bin by defining the percentage fill for each product. Sort decisions are performed in the WinTally computer rather than the PLC for a more integrated tally system. Performance is improved with less data sent to the PLC.

The sorter controls include an auto bin discharge workstation comprising an LCD touch screen monitor located for the stacker operator. The workstation provides full control over the floor chains and sort bins. The operator can run the floor chains in manual or automatic mode, can see what products are in the bins, and can choose which bins to dump in several modes including full auto, selectable auto or manual. It also allows him to adjust piece counts in the active bins.

Trimmer optimizer with 3D scanning

The MillExpert Trimmer optimizer analyzes scanned lumber in 3D. It is configured for top and bottom scanning utilizing Chroma+scan 3150 sensors for 8.5mm (0.33") scan density. With this system no extra light curtain (or Plan View) sensor is required. This dense 3D scan data combined with high speed computer processing yields trim decisions that maximize value from each board.

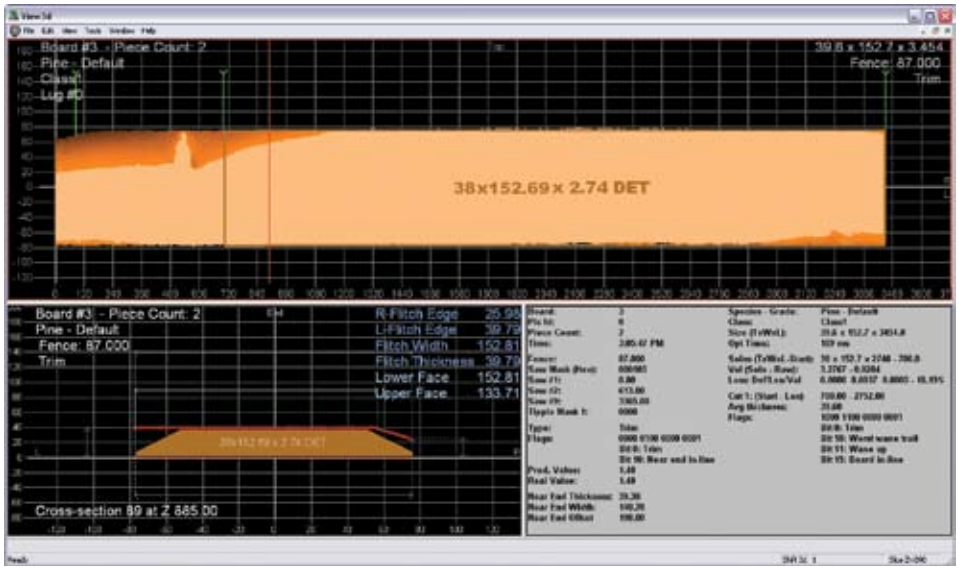
USNR's Allen Larsen was in charge of managing the optimization piece of the project. "This was the first project that combined elements of optimization and controls from both the Newnes and traditional USNR product lines." Allen is well versed in the features of the MillExpert trimmer optimizer. "This is a mature, feature-rich solution, and the Viñales mill is taking advantage of many of the available features including random-width shop rules products combined with dimensional products, random length products, precision end-trimming, grader input, and intelligent saw selection."

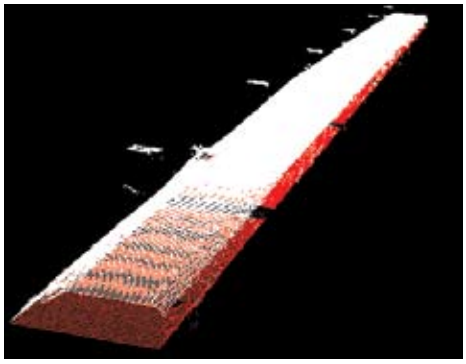


He went on to explain, "One of the strengths of the MillExpert platform is its versatility in that we can easily add in support for a new sensor such as Chroma+scan, and integrate it with other systems such as the Newnes GMR (grade mark reader) and WinTally system."

USNR's John Jacques was responsible for overall management for the Viñales project. He appreciates the services that Solecia provides including a single point of contact for South American projects in terms of local supply of some of the materials and resources, as well as communication between the parties involved. "They understand the products and diversity of processing requirements of each of the customers in that region, and provide full integration of our equipment. Their prompt response to questions or challenges really helps when time is an issue."

With this project Arauco continues its steady growth in South America. USNR and Solecia are pleased to have been able to combine their skills and expertise to provide new solutions to this marketplace.





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Partnering in South America

BUILDING MILLS AND FRIENDSHIPS

USNR's Newnes-McGehee division and Solecia S.A. of Concepción, Chile have enjoyed a successful business relationship since the early 1990's. With many millions of dollars worth of projects to their credit, this alliance has benefited both organizations and a host of wood processing operations throughout South America.

Solecia has been in business for more than 60 years, originally founded and owned by an association of Swedish exporters. During the 1970's the company turned its focus to the forest and woodworking industries representing several Scandinavian and European manufacturers of equipment and technology. Solecia's ownership has since changed hands but remains privately held.

Today Solecia represents several Swedish, German, and Canadian companies in South America including manufacturers of log handling and sawmilling equipment, controls and optimization systems, chippers, screens, biomass production and handling equipment, and sawmill tool maintenance equipment. With some of its own manufacturing as well as equipment supply from its associates, Solecia also serves the plywood sector, pulp mills, log merchandizing and more. The company employs a staff of 15 engineering and administrative personnel, and sub-contracts many additional workers for equipment and building manufacturing and installation.

Solecia began its relationship with Newnes Machine of Salmon Arm, BC Canada aiming to round out a complete scope of supply to the lumber manufacturing industry. Newnes' lumber handling and trimmer optimization technology was successfully introduced in South America with the project Horcones 1 for Aserraderos Arauco S.A. in 1994. Joint projects that Newnes and Solecia have undertaken together include the following:

- Arauco S.A.:
  - Horcones 1, 1994: 100 LPM sawmill with log sorting line, output of 400,000 m3/year
  - Valdivia, 1995: 120 LPM sawmill, output of 420,000 m3/year
  - Horcones 2, 1997: 120 LPM sawmill, output of 300,000 m3/year
  - Misiones, Argentina, 1997: 120 LPM sawmill, output of 350,000 m3/year
  - Nueva Aldea, 2003: 140 LPM sawmill, output of 450,000 m3/year
  - Viñales, 2009: 160 LPM sawmill with anticipated output of 420,000 m3/year
- Maderas Prensadas Cholguán S.A., Chile, 1999: 120 LPM sawmill, output of 280,000 m3/year
- Berneck, Brazil, 2005: 120 LPM sawmill, output of 330,000 m3/year
- Urufor S.A., Uruguay, 2008: 120 LPM sawmill, output of 300,000 m3/year

In addition to the above, Solecia has been involved in the following major projects with other associates over the past 2 decades:

- Log merchandizing plant, output of 1,000,000 m3/year of logs for Arauco company
- El Colorado sawmill project, output of 380,000 m3/year of sawn lumber for Arauco company
- JCE sawmill, output of 120,000 m3/year for JCE S.A. company
- Mininco log merchandizer plywood mill, output of 700,000 m3/year of logs for CMPC Maderas company
- Biomass handling system for an energy plant at Forestal y Papelera Concepción S.A. company

General Manager Enrique Villalon of Solecia is profiled on the last page of this issue. He has been involved with projects with Newnes since the relationship between the companies began, and made the following comments about his experience working with this supplier.

"It has been a very good and profitable relationship since the times of Newnes Machine Ltd., then CAE, COE and now USNR. The people from Salmon Arm including sales staff, project managers and technicians have been very professional, and through the years it has been well understood that our companies share common interests as partners in the South American marketplace. Working in South America is quite different compared to North America and other continents. Solecia has found in Newnes and now USNR, the right partners to develop and maintain good relationships with our customers, resulting in the reputation that we enjoy today in the market."

Villalon has made development of the forest industry in South America his life's work since leaving university. He went on to comment about the changes he has seen over the past 2 decades. "Since 1990 the forest industry in South America has developed a lot considering that early in the 90's most of the operations in Chile, Argentina and Brazil were done manually with very poor and low level technology. In Uruguay there was virtually no forest industry at that time. Due to the nature of our forests with fast-growing species and large land areas devoted to plantations, the industry focused on substantial operations for solid wood production. The idea was to produce large volumes as the main business model, and that is why the industry very quickly developed a high production concept with the highest possible yield. This started first in Chile early in the 90's and then progressed to Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay where the names of the species differ, with even faster growing rates and similar product quality, so consequently did the marketplace."

"Today the industry in South America enjoys very high standards in terms of speeds, yields and technologies thanks to the commitment of the forest owners which are mainly large local or multi-national companies, and the solutions that suppliers like USNR provide to this market."

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Getting through tough times

UPGRADES EXPAND MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

"Adopting complex technology causes growing pains, but we've had very good support. The benefits from the LHG's grade accuracy outweigh any issues we've had."

Tolko's Nicola Valley Division recently received upgrades to its Lineal High Grader (LHG) that has paved the way for improved grade recovery and new market opportunities.

The Nicola Valley mill is located in BC's southern interior at Merritt. Its log diet is mostly S-P-F for the manufacture of construction lumber. Currently about 15% of its fiber is fir and it plans to increase this to 25% in the coming years as it contends with a reduction in pine availability due to the mountain pine beetle infestation in the region.

First steps

In 2004 the Nicola mill invested in geometric optimization (profile scanning) to assist graders in the planermill, and chose the Lineal High Grader (LHG) from then Coe Newnes/McGehee. The sourcing committee at Nicola reviewed competitors' products but recognized that the LHG had greater future capability and chose to install it at their site.

At the time the LHG was installed, 65% of the mill's logs were pine with very little beetle-kill in the mix. Planermill grade optimization was relatively new and mill management was pleased with the results achieved. The mill reduced its trim loss and increased grade recovery. It was able to increase operating speed while reducing the manpower requirement by one grader per shift. And it realized greater consistency in finished lumber packs, a key benchmark with its customers.

Challenge begets change

Times change and the beetle has now cut a wide swath through the once pristine pine forests of BC. Today the Nicola operation sees beetle damage in 80% of the pine it processes, hence the need to utilize more advanced technology to offset the challenges.

In 2008 the mill upgraded to add vision technology. This upgrade allows the LHG to accurately grade for many more defects and the mill was able to increase its production speed by 5%. More recently, the latest software release V6.0 was installed on Nicola's LHG. The primary focus of this software release is to increase usability and to put some automatic performance checks in place. Vision images are now displayed in the user interface for each board. Process control alarms alert the operator if the trend of production is outside of what has been set up as reasonable grade and trim loss targets. Alarm paging allows the LHG to send an e-mail notification if certain alarms are set off, particularly convenient when used in conjunction with "smart" phones because the recipient can be on the move and still receive the notification. Planer set-up monitoring alerts operators if the LHG detects consistent board wedging, excessive eased edge and planer snipe. A high pressure air blast clears debris from bottom sensors when it is detected.

Don Willson is Quality Assurance Supervisor at Nicola, overseeing kiln drying, grades, and products. He handles product development, and working together with Tolko's sales team keeps an ardent eye on markets looking for opportunities to improve the mill's bottom line. In this role Don is keenly aware of what his customers want and expect, and it is his goal to meet those expectations. Don made the following comments regarding the added functionality, "It is easy to set up the grade inputs. We can program in a new grade and don't need to train the graders to recognize it. There are so many grades it is physically impossible to manually grade them all."

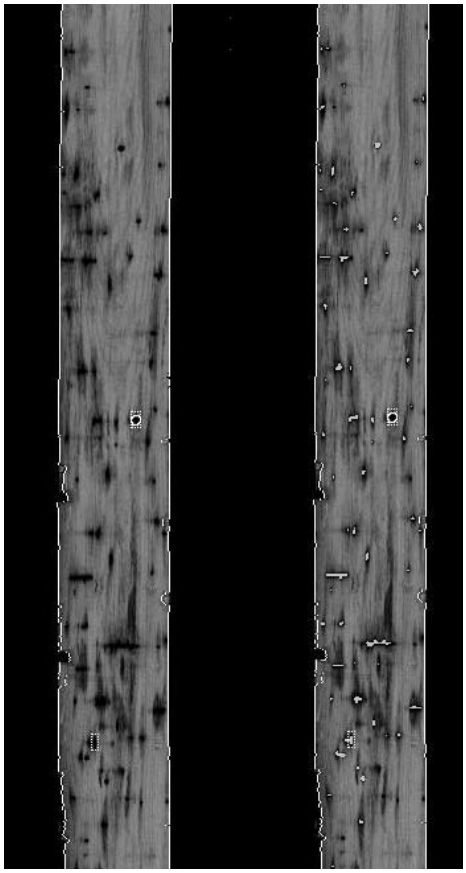
The mill can cut-n-two for tallies (orders) or for value using price tables. It can customize its tallies to recover higher grades more accurately. With the added capability the LHG provides Don has been able to expand the mill's markets by producing more and higher value grades. He commented that the mill is currently limited only by the number of sort bins it has to sort all the grades.

Reducing costs

Today the Nicola mill employs 2 graders per shift, constrained by downtime caused by the Domino printer. But that will soon be resolved with the upcoming November 2009 installation of the new ID Printer developed by USNR, and Don is looking forward to that day. "When the Newnes printer is installed we should be able to operate with only one grader per shift." At the Nicola mill graders are required to grade only for incipient decay, timber breaks, bug holes and species.



Detecting bug holes is currently in LHG development.



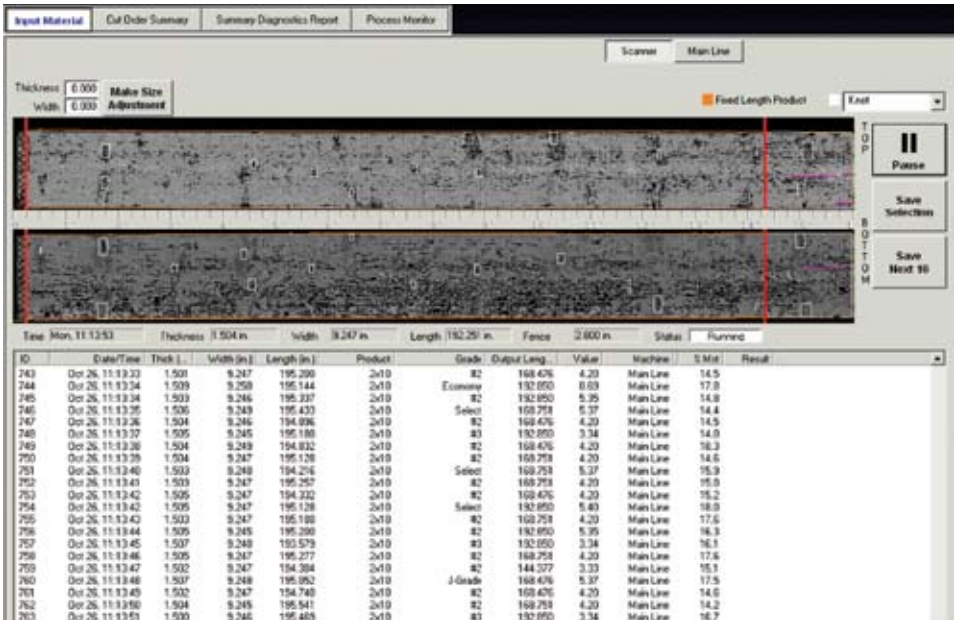
Making progress

Since the installation of the LHG the Nicola mill has agreed to become a beta test site for many new developments in the product. Don recognizes that continued development of the technology is essential to remaining competitive – for both the mill and for USNR. Some enhancements currently in development include classifying bark ringed knots and bug holes, essential in appearance grading on decking products. Another is recognizing what is being termed as "ugly board". This is a board that just barely meets requirements for a grade, but would not be of the appearance the end user would expect. With the new software the mill can configure the LHG to downgrade a board if it meets the "ugly board" criteria.

Getting results

Don appreciates the ongoing support he has received from USNR since the LHG has been installed. "Adopting complex technology causes growing pains, but we've had very good support. The benefits from the LHG's grade accuracy outweigh any issues we've had." Don explained that before implementing the LHG the graders were pushed to their limit, and if they were unsure about a piece they would downgrade it. He calculates they had 5%+ offgrade in their packs. With the LHG they have been able to pull 15% of their pieces that would have been in lower grade packs back up to higher grades. Now the lumber packs are consistently 2-2.5% offgrade, well within the allowance by the grading agency. Don commented that the vision upgrade has greatly increased the consistency in their packs, and that is what is most important to him. With consistency customers always get what they expect.

With the LHG's vision and software upgrades the Nicola mill has been able to increase its speed, increase grade recovery, and at the same time lower its costs. The mill is now able to pull out many more grades at a time allowing it to enter new markets, and keep its customers satisfied with consistency in its lumber packs. These factors have helped the mill survive through these tough times.



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USNR offers replacement parts on many brand-name industrial components for your equipment.

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Kiln components
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PLC components
Motion controllers, electronic eyes, switches, drives, servo motors, actuators, encoders, cables, displays, motor controls, relays, networking components, programmable controllers, buttons, 3D sensors, consoles

Pneumatic components
Cylinders, air bags, air springs, valves, dryers, filters, regulators, lubricators, separators, motors, fittings, distributed I/O components, seals, O-rings

Set collars
Set screw, clamping

Sheaves
Sheaves, pulleys, step pulleys

Sprockets
Chain sprockets, belt sprockets, gears

Valves
Hydraulic, pneumatic, servo valves, manual, motion control, seal kits



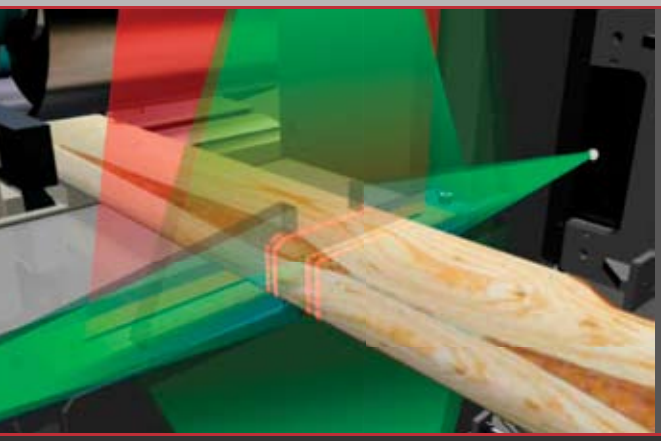
LHG

On Target.

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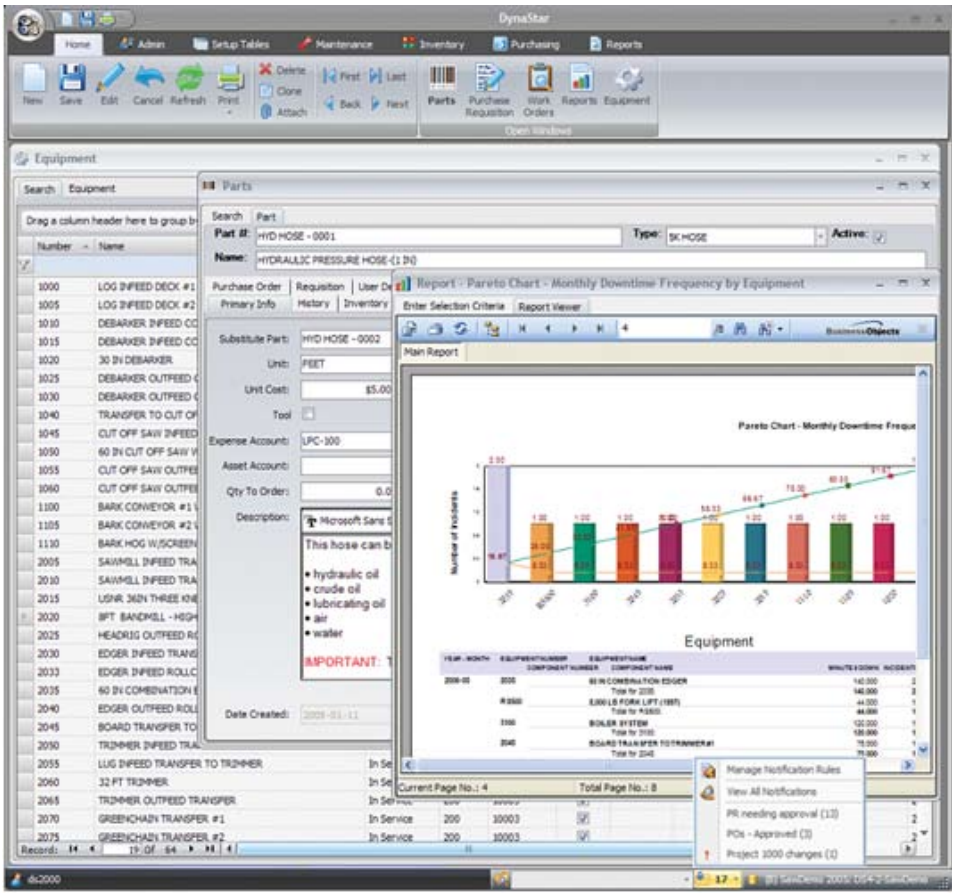
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DynaStar is a very powerful asset management software solution that was designed to help plants improve productivity and manage their inventory and equipment maintenance routines. DynaStar's pre-configured modules fully integrate the activities of purchasing, inventory control and maintenance. Now even small and mid-sized operations can afford the functionality to improve the efficiency of their manpower and extend the life of their equipment.

What sets DynaStar apart from other CMM (computer maintenance management) products on the market? DynaStar's wide-ranging functionality is so well designed once users start to work within the various modules they will quickly be amazed at how user-friendly it is. The biggest obstacle users will encounter is realizing just how much it can do for them. Following are some of the key aspects that make it so attractive.

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Each user can set their own preferences for how they would like to view countless aspects of the data, and DynaStar remembers these preferences whenever and wherever the user logs into the system. No need to reset screens in a different terminal. You get the same data you regularly use, displayed in the same way.

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Notifications
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Manage and control all aspects of DynaStar within a single, dedicated module including user accounts, security roles, setup tables, and more. It adds up to more control and less wasted time for managers and administrators. With fully managed error handling, application recovery and configurable logging it is easy for IT staff to administer DynaStar.

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DynaStar is capable of managing the data needs of multiple divisions within a single company, all from a single database. Users can seamlessly access information from multiple divisions or restrict their view to a single division.

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DynaStar offers a simple, yet powerful approach to system security. Managers can easily adjust security levels to adapt to changing personnel roles.

Search tools
Perform queries and searches against virtually any business object stored in the database, including all user-defined fields. Perform ad hoc queries without having to run a dedicated report, then print or export your query results directly to an MS Excel spreadsheet.

User-defined, user-customizable
No-limits user-defined fields (UDF) means you can add any number of UDFs to the system and each is fully searchable. You decide what type of data your users can enter: dates, strings, numerals, true/false, or yes/no.

User Interface
MS Office-style user interface reduces the learning curve for users and maximizes productivity. Windows, taskbars and buttons can be moved, docked, floated and resized.

Spreadsheet-like screens
Screens that look and function similar to a spreadsheet enable you to quickly enter new records, or easily scan through a variety of tables and data. Each screen can be customized to suit your own unique way of looking at things.

- Include or omit fields from any search screen
- Change the order in which fields appear on the search form
- Move columns around and arrange them in any order you wish
- Sort and group on-screen data using any combination of columns

Simple, yet complex
Whether it's a piece of equipment or an invoice it's easy to cross-reference your data to get your work done faster. You can quickly activate and deactivate objects such as account codes, cost centers, parts, equipment, etc. If you no longer use a particular vendor simply deactivate it and it will be hidden from users. You can also easily rename an object and be confident that the integrity of your data is preserved and intact.

Accounting system integration
DynaStar can be integrated with your ERP system so that exports from DynaStar can easily be imported to your accounting system.

Customer driven, always current

DynaStar's countless features are developed courtesy of you, the customer. Incremental updates build on past improvements ensuring the software is never out of date with advances users expect from a top-of-the-line solution. Regular newsletters and e-mails to current software support agreement (SSA) members advise users of these incremental improvements. Periodic version releases accommodate major updates, and are available free of charge to SSA members. As well, DynaStar's online Help keeps a running list of updates and "What's New" features for each new version release and incremental updates. As an example, if you are upgrading to version 4 you can see all the changes that have been made to the system in the interim.

Training

With a system this powerful, a full 3 days of training is recommended. If you are not aware of all the tasks and activities DynaStar can do for you, you can't take advantage of the efficiencies it can afford. DynaStar offers onsite, inhouse and web-based training options.

With so much control and flexibility at your fingertips you'll wonder why you didn't implement DynaStar sooner. There are 6 modules that come with the DynaStar package: Administration, Maintenance, Inventory, Purchasing, Reports, Mobile. You use as much or as little as you choose.

We know how great DynaStar is, but we want you to hear it from customers who use DynaStar every day to make their jobs easier and more effective.

DynaStar Mobile

Now you can take DynaStar wherever you need it for faster inventory cycle counts, easier part disbursements, logging your time, viewing work orders and on-the-go meter reading. DynaStar Mobile's clean and simple interface is compatible with DynaStar V4, and is Wi-Fi capable.





Mobile interface
Large text enables viewing in variable light conditions, while the tabbed layout makes switching between the start up, inventory, or maintenance screens quick and easy.

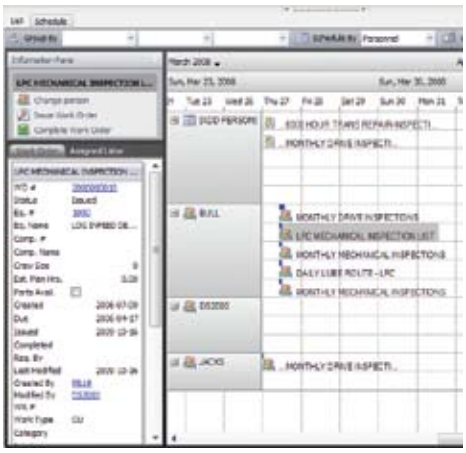
Work orders
Users can retrieve the most up-to-date work order information on the hand held categorized in one of three ways: 1) assigned to me, 2) my craft, 3) my crew. This allows the user to easily retrieve the most relative work order information quickly.

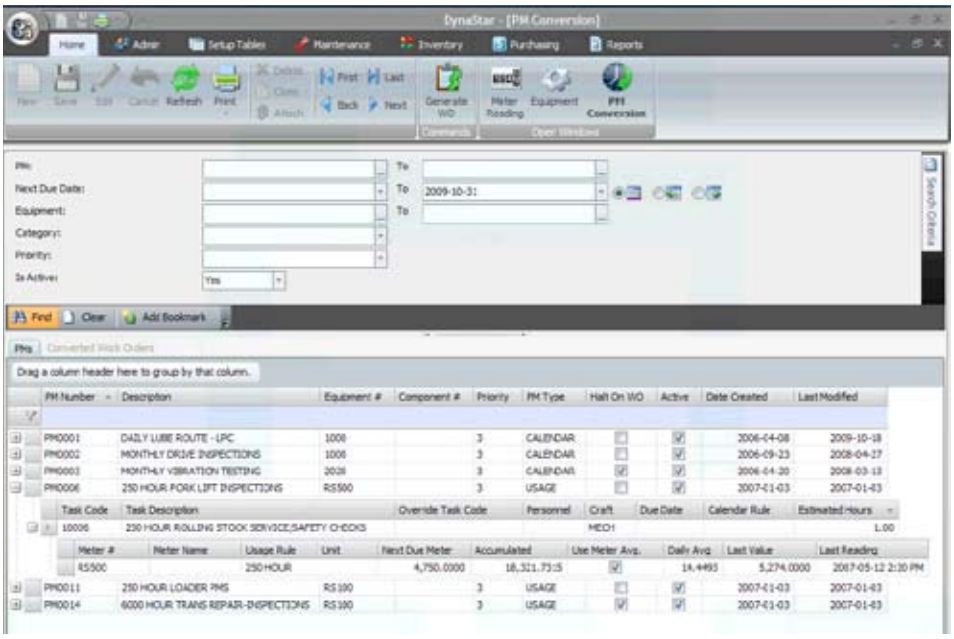
Time entry
Time capture has never been simpler. V4.3 brings with it a new Work Timer feature that allows the user to scan a work order number at the start of the job to start the job timer. When the job is finished scanning the work order number again will stop the timer, making actual job time capturing simple and accurate for costing purposes.

Wi-Fi
A Wi-Fi connection enables the user to download data from, and send data to the DynaStar application without having to dock the unit in the charging cradle.

Security
DynaStar Mobile is just as secure as the main application. The same login is used for both applications, and user permissions from the main application are carried over to the mobile unit once the user logs in.

DYNASTAR USER FEEDBACK: IDAHO FOREST GROUP



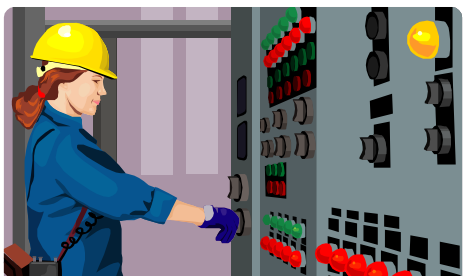


Adam Miller is maintenance manager at the Idaho Forest Group mill in Grangeville, ID. He has been with the mill for 24 months. The DynaStar system had been installed a few years previously, but prior to Adam coming on board the mill had no one fulfilling a maintenance planner role who could "take the reins" with implementation, and so DynaStar was not being used to its potential.

Adam has focused on utilizing the capability that DynaStar affords and describes it as an "awesome tool". One of his tasks has been to set up all the preventive maintenance schedules in DynaStar. "It is a lot of work creating the foundation but we're starting to reap the benefits." Adam described the situation before DynaStar. "When equipment needed emergency repair a maintenance person was called but we didn't capture any data, there was no trending and we couldn't justify staffing levels. Now it really helps us manage both manpower and our equipment maintenance routines."

Adam says his role is essentially "gatekeeper" for the DynaStar system, responsible for the integrity of the data. "It is essential to acquire good data. DynaStar has a lot of reports – it's almost overwhelming." The mill is utilizing the slow market and downtime to finalize implementation. Adam explained they are in the process of barcoding spare parts with about 20% of them barcoded to date.

One of the features Adam finds most helpful is the use of an asterisk (*) for searching. For example if he is looking for all the activities related to the hydraulics he simply has to type "hyd*" in the search field and the system displays all the hydraulics-related activities. He also appreciates the ability to change multiple work orders at once, and the ability to attach documents from another program (eg. MS Word) right into a work order.



Adam had 2 days of training with USNR's Jeffrey Taavettilan-Davis who is the DynaStar "guru" in charge of training, technical support and the overall direction of the program's version roadmap. "Both the Help key, and phone support with Jeffrey have been excellent resources," commented Adam.

The mill is not currently exporting from DynaStar to their accounting system. Adam says, "We have a ways to go before that happens. We need to do a better job of our purchase orders first, so we don't use DynaStar for invoicing or closing out purchase orders but we plan to at some point in the future."

Adam also appreciates the frequent updates to the program. "When I notice something that could be improved I call Jeffrey and he makes a note of it. Then when he updates the program he incorporates the requests from users." This keeps the DynaStar system current and relevant to all users.

DYNASTAR USER FEEDBACK: MEDALLION FOODS

"Medallion Foods is a producer of salty snacks in Northeast Arkansas and has been operating since 1988. Medallion Foods first started using DynaStar in the early 1990's to help manage purchasing and maintenance programs. Recent changes within our organization required us to search for additional cost savings solutions to day-to-day operations in an effort to remain competitive and increase profitability. After reviewing departmental procedures we quickly realized our purchasing and maintenance programs contained opportunities.

"Our existing DynaStar 3.5 version was satisfying our demands, but once we learned a new version was available that provided more flexibility and could expand our capabilities we wanted to learn more. After discussions with USNR we decided to upgrade to version 4.3."

"We setup a week-long training session and rented laptop computers to provide interactive and individualized learning stations. Jeffrey Taavettilan-Davis was our USNR trainer and provided us with an excellent week of training. His system expertise, training methods and overall general business knowledge of version 4.3's capabilities and how they would benefit us was critical to ensure we had a smooth transition. Although several late nights were required to setup the business parameters it was worth the time. Jeff is to be commended, he was very professional and prepared for the task at hand.

"We are still working to identify our new operational needs. Currently we are interfacing with USNR to help with our immediate short- and long-term goals. The USNR support has been second-to-none and we are all excited with the functionality of the software and the overall capabilities. This program will help Medallion Foods become less dependent on old, manual processes and help us move into the 21st century utilizing current technology to help achieve this goal. Thanks Jeff and USNR."

Charlie H. Brown, Plant Controller
Medallion Foods, Newport, AR



Mill Restart Service

CURTAILMENTS AREN'T FOREVER, BUT USNR'S COMMITMENT TO YOU IS

USNR is committed to you and your success. That's why we're looking for ways to help you position your mill to take advantage of the market's eventual return.

Many mills are curtailing operations and reducing personnel while others are experiencing indefinite closures. But when the market returns you'll need to ramp up quickly to get your operation running like the well-oiled machine it needs to be.

We can help you make the transition from shutdown to production go smoothly. Arm yourself with the support you need to achieve a well-coordinated return to business.

USNR will help you prepare your facility and your team to resume production with the following services:

- ► Onsite startup assistance for mechanical, optimization and controls
- ► Equipment inspection and service prior to a scheduled startup date
- ► Machine center retooling to meet evolving market strategies
- ► Spare parts testing to limit future downtime after mill is back in production
- ► Onsite training for existing and new staff

Leading by example

One mill that recently underwent a restart is in BC's Northern region, and USNR was called to assist in restart of the sawmill trimmer line after a lengthy shutdown. Following describes the service assistance that was provided.

Mechanical restart service

The mechanical service technician checked the drive sprockets, bearings and trimmer saw ladders and cycled the cylinders. He noted that during production the 12ft. saw was sticking and after troubleshooting replaced the valve solenoid. At the fence transfer he found that the #4 lift skid was 2" high above the chains, where the required position is 1" above the chains. This was reset to its correct position. He checked and then set fence and trimmer air lubricators to be 1 drop every 8 cycles. He also observed the trimmer in operation, found the board handoff at infeed and outfeed wasn't smooth and made recommendations for smoother flow.

At the sorter he checked the diverter operation and found that several nuts were loose or missing, and repairs were made. The J-hook chain run angle was broken at diverter #16 and diverter #47 also needed repair. He found that the sorter tail end speed up chain drive take-up was broken, the repair was made and excess chain slop was removed.

At the stacker and stick placer he cycled each hopper to test all stick drops. The 14ft. eject would not cycle closed so the valve cartridge was replaced. He lowered the first load and advanced it along the outfeed transfer jump chains and noticed the outfeed transfer chain runs were not level causing the load to skew. He made recommendations for correcting the problem.

The technician also assisted with restarting the edger and gang (from another supplier), and made recommendations for repairs and parts replacements.

Optimization restart service

The optimization service technician was called to assist with restart of the Newnes V6.3 trimmer optimizer. He checked all computers to make sure they booted up correctly. He also cleaned them inside and out, noticing quite a bit of sawdust buildup. He cleaned the decision processor and rerun processor, and replaced a CPU on the rerun processor. He checked the PLC communication with the optimizer. He checked all voltages in the end column for the sensors, and checked their functionality. He found a couple of bad lasers on the bottom row and replaced the identified sensor with a spare. Then he did a laser alignment and calibration and checked timing with the calibration bar during laser alignment.

He cleaned the frame processor master and slave computers and observed a slow spinning fan in the power supply. He recommended it be swapped out. He cleaned the power supply fans for the sensors, cleaned door filters on the end column and reinstalled them. He cleaned and calibrated the touch screen on the operator workstation. He then ran some test pieces to check for thickness and width accuracy. He provided training on calibration and laser alignment with the mill electricians, as well as proper reboot procedures on the frame and decision processors.

He recommended the mill replace the existing DOS-based WinTally system as it is now obsolete and spare parts are no longer available.

With restart assistance from USNR's service team the mill is now back up and running in tip top condition. If you need help with restarting your mill call us today at 800.BUY.USNR to be sure we can meet your schedule.

Sign up today!

Complimentary Subscription



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NEW PROJECTS

Anthony Forest Products in Atlanta, TX is updating an existing Hemco dry kiln with a replacement roof panel system. It is also updating its controls system on two of its dry kilns.

A new Quad Cam Boardfeeder was recently ordered by **Arbortech Forest Products** for its planermill in Blackstone, VA.

Coastal Forest Products in Chapman, AL has ordered a Bucking Optimizer with LASAR scanning.

Gorman Brothers of Westbank, BC has ordered a new MillExpert Carriage optimizer and PLC controls. The new top and front side scanning system will increase scan density, improving the system's accuracy and recovery.

A mill in Arkansas is upgrading its Newnes Edger Optimizer with Newnes LPS3 sensors. The upgrade will allow the mill to achieve 3" scan density.

USNR has received an order from **Kane Hardwood** located in Kane, PA and a member of the Collins group. The mill is upgrading its existing YieldMaster StereoScan system to replace obsolete computer systems with a fully PC-based solution.

USNR's Newnes-McGehee division has received an order from **McFarland Cascade Pole & Lumber** in Tacoma, WA to upgrade its Trimmer optimizer to software version 7.1. This upgrade involves replacing the system's obsolete light curtain with an HDPV (high definition plan view) scanning system and installing new computers and the latest software release.

Rayonier Lumber Company in Baxley, GA will receive a MillExpert upgrade for its Geo2 edger system. The upgrade will replace an obsolete VAX system, allowing the mill to achieve significant improvements in recovery and flexibility.

West-Wood Industries has once again selected a Newnes AddVantage optimizer for its plant in Scoudouc, NB. Newnes developed the AddVantage for the value-added wood processing sector. The optimizer scans boards for chop and/or rip processes.

WKO (Wilkins, Kaiser & Olsen, Inc.) in Carson, Washington, has ordered a new infeed and bridge for its existing planer. The new equipment will be a Coastal-brand design and will help WKO increase production through its planermill. A new USNR primary breakdown was installed in 2008.



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PROFILE

Enrique Villalon is General Manager of Solecia S.A., one of USNR's agents in Chile.

Enrique Villalon began his career with Solecia in 1990 upon graduating with a degree in Industrial Civil Engineering from the Santa María Technical University of Valparaíso, Chile.

His first role was as sales engineer where he learned about sawmilling and wood processing. He went on to become Sales Manager and travelled extensively gathering knowledge about the industry in South America and many regions worldwide.

In 1998 Enrique was appointed manager of the Concepción office, and under his direction the company branched out to building and equipment manufacturing to handle major turnkey projects.

Today Enrique is the major shareholder in Solecia. Along with his formal education he acknowledges the experience he gained as well as technical support received from Solecia's many worldwide partners have contributed much to the success of his business and career.

When he does have spare time Villalon enjoys fly fishing and tennis, along with spending time with his wife of 15 years.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 11-14
Expo-Corma
Concepcion, Chile

NOVEMBER 14-17
Engineered Wood Technology Association
Amelia Island, FL

JANUARY 27-29
International Hardwood Lumber Association
Indianapolis, IN

MARCH 9-11
Wood Technology
Portland, OR

APRIL 28-30
TechniBois
Quebec City, QC

MAY 24-28
FEMADE
Curitiba, Parana
Brazil