

## Media Release

Wednesday 10 February 2021

### **Neville Smith Forest Products expansion a vote of confidence in forestry's future**

The Australian Forest Products Association congratulates Tasmanian hardwood sawmiller Neville Smith Forest Products (NSFP) on its announcement it is increasing production at its Huon Valley facility.

NSFP yesterday confirmed it will soon be expanding its workforce at its Southwood site by 30 full time positions, a move which AFPA CEO Ross Hampton said showed the innovation and growth potential of Australia's sustainable native hardwood timber industry.

"I am pleased to see that the demand for NSFP's quality, renewable timber products is such that they are growing their workforce to increase production, and creating many more downstream processing jobs across Tasmania," Mr Hampton said.

"NSFP has been operating in Tasmania since 1924, and as it approaches its centenary there, this move shows it is confident about the state's renewable forest industries, which is underpinned by the state's world-leading, best practice forest management.

"I also commend the Tasmanian Government and Resources Minister Guy Barnett for continuing to support the sector and recognise its role as an employer, particularly in regional areas, and the economic contribution in excess of \$1.2 billion the industry makes to the state," Mr Hampton concluded.

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