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For immediate release

## New National Plantations Strategy Coordinator

The plantation timber industry is delighted to welcome the appointment of Mr David Thompson as the new National Plantations Strategy Coordinator for *Plantations for Australia: The 2020 Vision*.

Mr Thompson is based in Armidale, NSW and has qualifications in rural science and economics as well as extensive experience in rural industries including forestry through his work with the Centre for Agricultural and Regional Economics and the Northern Inland Forestry Investment Group.

Mr Thompson's knowledge and experience in measuring and documenting the contribution of the forest and wood products industry to regional economies will greatly assist him in the task of communicating the benefits of plantation expansion.

*Plantations for Australia: The 2020 Vision* is a strategic partnership between the Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments and the plantation timber growing and processing industry (A3P & AFG).

The overarching principle of the strategy is to enhance regional wealth creation and international competitiveness through a sustainable increase in Australia's plantation resources, based on a notional target of trebling the area of commercial tree crops by 2020.

The National Plantations Strategy Coordinator position is jointly funded by the *2020 Vision* partners. The key tasks of the position are to:

- monitor, promote and facilitate implementation of the strategy by governments and industry; and
- liaise with stakeholders about the benefits, expected outcomes and implications of *Plantations For Australia: The 2020 Vision*.

### Further information

[www.plantations2020.com.au](http://www.plantations2020.com.au)

Warwick Ragg, Chief Executive AFG – 0427 411 215

Richard Stanton, Manager A3P – 0421 310 758

David Thompson, National Plantations Strategy Coordinator – 0419 681 818



A3P – Australian Plantation Products  
and Paper Industry Council



AFG - Australian Forest Growers