



global-mark



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# Global-Mark Pty Ltd

## Summary Report

### Sustainable Forest Management

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**Responsible  
Wood** RW/1-44-2

This document is external





Document Information and Revision History of Template

<b>Document Number &amp; Name</b>	AS 4708 / NZS 4708 Summary Report
<b>Original Author(s)</b>	Wayne Tibbits

Revision	Date	Author(s)	Notes
0	5 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	Dr W. Tibbits	Initial release in new format. Excludes personal information of confidential nature from content.
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	Comments
Certification standard	AS 4708:2013
Client Name / Business name	Reliance Forest Fibre Pty Ltd
Business address of the client	Offices of estate manager, AKS Forest Management Services Pty Ltd at 1/167 Westbury Road, Prospect, TAS 7250. 30 Patrick Street, North Hobart.
Name of the Certification Body	Global-Mark Pty Ltd
Names of review team members:	Jonathan Tibbits, Wayne Tibbits [audit team leader]
Dates of review:	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2019. <b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019.</b>
Scope of activities within the scope of certification	Entire set of criteria in standard. Coupes from the estate that are ready for harvest are in a temporary transfer arrangement to the Defined Forest Area of AKS Forest Solutions Pty Ltd. After harvest they are handed back.
Type of review:	<input type="checkbox"/> Stage 1 pre-certification; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stage 2 certification; <input type="checkbox"/> Surveillance post certification; <input type="checkbox"/> Re-certification; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Follow up or special audit</b>
Scope of the audit / review including sites visited	Entire set of criteria in standard. Coupes from the estate that are ready for harvest are in a temporary transfer arrangement to the Defined Forest Area of AKS Forest Solutions Pty Ltd. After harvest they are handed back.
Global-Mark summary of the main findings	<p><b><i>Text that appears such as black, bold and italic relates to an off-site follow up. This was conducted off-site after the certification audit. It was done to assess the organisation's corrective actions to some matters of minor nonconformance detected at stage 2.</i></b></p> <p>AKS Forest Management Services Pty Ltd [AKSFMS] is a company set up to be the Forest Manager for the estate of Reliance Forest Fibre Pty Ltd [RFF] is that owned by Global Forest Partners. AKS Forest Management Services Pty Ltd [AKSFMS] is the company set up to be the Forest Manager for this estate.</p> <p>Hence, any reference throughout this report to the client, the organisation, or the Forest Manager will only be referring to RFF with AKSFMS as the estate manager. This is to avoid any confusion surrounding the ownership and control.</p> <p>This organisation and scope of certification should not to be confused with two existing AS4708 certifications by Global-Mark. RFF has a separate group scheme under AS4708 certification. Related to AKSFMS is AKS Forest Solutions Pty Ltd [AKSFS] that has a separate forest manager AS4708 certification</p> <p>However, there are some overlaps in resources in terms of shared office facilities, some people work for both organisations, and that AKSFS being already AS4708 certified is currently temporarily including and managing for harvest in its DFA a small part of the DFA that would normally be that of AKSFMS. Upon completion of harvest, these areas are removed from the DFA of AKSFS and returned to the DFA of AKSFMS, thereby ensuring seamless ongoing management under the requirements of AS4708. Consequently, there is no active harvest activity in the DFA of AKSFMS although there are active silviculture and reestablishment activities.</p> <p>Nature of the DFA can be summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total area (ha) is 29,632. Of this about 25,000 is stocked, and productive but unstocked is 2,000 [comprising 1,307 critically fire damaged, and remainder fallow,].</li> <li>• There are about 1,700 coupes. Ages range from 0 to 40 years. Sizes range from &lt; 0.5 to over 100 hectares. Species are: <i>E. nitens</i> [about 1,200 coupes], <i>E. globulus</i> [about 400 coupes], and the remainder as mixed species coupes <i>E. regnans</i>, <i>E. obliqua</i>, <i>E. delegatensis</i>, and <i>P. radiata</i>.</li> </ul>



	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total DFA size in hectares is 24,697 stocked, productive but unstocked is 2,092 [comprising 1,307 critically fire damaged, 985 fallow,]. These total 26,989. Roads, native forest and other total 1,195. So, 28,184 hectares is the grand total.</li> </ul> <p><u>Regional office Hobart:</u> A brief visit to this office confirmed the space occupied by the Southern Regional Manager is in shared room of a building occupied by other forestry organisations - Private Forestry Tasmania, Forest Practices Authority, and Esk Mapping. Southern Regional Manager has original of his FPPs there. He produced map books of all coupes in southwest and southeast. About one third of area down south. No function for meetings at this site. Use Wi-Fi of Esk Mapping.</p> <p><u>Stakeholder feedback:</u> This audit included consultation via phone and email with a sample of stakeholders obtained from the list of Reliance Forest Fibre Pty Ltd. It took place the week after the audit's closing meeting, during which the client was advised that this would happen and additional audit evidence may be gathered from consultation and used in this report. Our summary of this process is as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four stakeholders were contacted. They represented affected and interested types. Their interests spanned all four values [cultural, economic, environmental and social].</li> <li>Feedback was received from two. This was over the phone. At the time of completion of the report we had no feedback from the other two, who required contact by email.</li> <li>Both sets of feedback comments indicated that: they were aware of the organisation Reliance Forest Fibre Pty Ltd, there were particular aspects of forest management to which the stakeholders had strong interest and potential impact, and that there were no reasons as yet to make any complaints, disputes or grievances against the forest manager.</li> <li>These stakeholders expressed the importance of RFF continuing to remain aware of and control the potential impacts on the stakeholder's interests from use agricultural chemicals, control of fire, processes affecting biodiversity, log trucks on roads and neighbour concerns.</li> </ul> <p>The client has a small yet very experienced and committed team.</p> <p>During the audit we identified five minor nonconformance matters. <b>These are shown in red colour font.</b> One was closed during the audit and the other four need corrective action before certification can be recommended. <i>A corrective action plan as supplied and implemented by the organisation has been reviewed by Global-Mark. All four findings [No 3, 8, 10 and 11] were closed at follow up, deeming actions effective and sufficient to prevent recurrence.</i></p> <p>We believe that the organization listed above at the site(s) listed above will have the capability to systematically meet the requirements of the Australian Forestry Standard and for the activities/products and sites listed on the Global-Mark scope of certification.</p>
Brief description of the FMUs [Forest Management Units] and Defined Forest Area [DFA]	Principally <i>Eucalyptus nitens</i> [Shining Gum] plantations. Some plantations of other <i>Eucalyptus</i> species. Very small component of native forest not for wood production.
Guidance as to how to obtain further details of the DFA may be accessed	These are available form the website of Reliance Forest Fibre Pty Ltd.
The area of the DFA as advised to the Scheme Owner	Geographic spread across all regions of Tasmania. Total area of 29,000 hectares.



**Review team declaration:**

We confirm that for the purpose of this review:

- We did not have any conflict of interest with and are fully independent from the company listed above.
- The review team had sufficient resources, and competences to complete its review and reach its conclusions summarised here.
- We had the appropriate credentials to perform this review in accordance with Global-Mark Pty Ltd and applicable accreditation requirements.

**Comment and disclaimer on this report:**

- This summary report does not and should not be seen as advice. Please consult a qualified advisor or consultant for advice.
- Due to the sampling nature of third party business reviews, the time available and samples size, some issues, nonconformance, non-compliances or improvements might not have been identified in the present audit summarised reported. This does not imply that these issues do not exist, or are in conformance or compliance. Employees, management and other stakeholders of the organization need to and are responsible for, continuously identifying and taking necessary controls to ensure continued conformance with the standard.
- Readers of this report should make judgement taking the above into account.
- The summary report has been prepared for the abovementioned client/ business to make publicly available without request.

**End of summary report**