



global-mark



Global-Mark Pty Ltd

Summary Report

Sustainable Forest Management



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

This document is external





	Comments
Certification standard	AS 4708:2013
Client Name / Business name	Reliance Forest Fibre Pty Ltd
Business address of the client	AKS Forest Management Services as property manager at 1a/176 Westbury Road, Prospect 7250, and 4 Reiby Street, Ulverstone 7315
Name of the Certification Body	Global-Mark Pty Ltd
Names of review team members:	Jonathan Tibbits, Wayne Tibbits
Dates of review:	Wednesday 11 th , Thursday 12 th with closing meeting only on Friday 13 th March 2020.
Scope of activities within the scope of certification	Management of a Forestry Right with plantations, predominantly <i>Eucalyptus nitens</i> .
Type of review:	<input type="checkbox"/> Stage 1 pre-certification; <input type="checkbox"/> Stage 2 certification; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Surveillance post certification; <input type="checkbox"/> Re-certification; <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up or special audit
Scope of the audit / review including sites visited	Launceston office [Prospect], Ulverstone office, forest field sites, selected criteria 0, 1, 2, 8 and 9.
Global-Mark summary of the main findings	<p><u>Audit criteria:</u> This was the first post-certification surveillance review since the organisation achieved initial AS4708 certification in 2019. It occurred over two full days, and then a closing meeting on the third morning. It focused on three of the nine criteria that area related to cultural and social/economic values as well as the management aspects of the forest management system, including internal audits, corrective and preventive action, management review and stakeholder consultation processes. It included visits to seven sites to assess forest operations/conditions on the second day. The team of two auditors went to separate locations in the field. Hence, half of the audit duration was devoted to forest operations.</p> <p><u>Stakeholder feedback:</u> This audit was not required to include any attempted consultation with stakeholders. However, it did cover general aspects of the stakeholder consultation and complaints handling processes.</p> <p><u>Certification Body findings:</u> During this audit Global-Mark's audit team reviewed all 15 previous audit findings [all observations] from the initial AS4708 certification in 2019. An evaluation finding rated as an observation is one that does not warrant nonconformity but is identified by the audit team as an opportunity for improvement. The audit team closed 12 of these. During this audit Global-Mark's audit team also identified and raised five new findings [one as minor non-conformance and others as observation]. The one minor non-conformance finding was closed during the audit, as the client presented a corrective action plan for the minor non-conformance matters, in which the forest manager identified the root causes of the non-conformance matters, enabling Global-Mark to conclude that the forest manager has identified the root causes of the non-conformance matters that provides action to prevent recurrence.</p> <p><u>Certification scope:</u> The audit team notes that during 2020 there will be a significant increase in the defined forest area. In January 2020, Reliance Forest Fibre concluded the purchase from RMS Timberlands Australia Pty Ltd its AS4708 certified defined forest area. It has named this additional area as the 'Celestial' estate. At the time of this audit the forest manager did not yet have its system ready to bring this estate into its scope.</p> <p><u>Positive implementation and effectiveness of the client's forest management system includes:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use of smart technologies such a drone to very accurately map site preparation areas. 2. Contractors keen and willing to participate in the audit process. 3. The forest manager uses a spreadsheet with modeling of to burn



	<p>or not burnt and corresponding impacts on carbon remaining.</p> <p><u>In terms of areas for potential improvement we note:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clarify procedure whether rejug test and settle load on log truck is best done with load strapped or unstrapped? 2. Market forces dictate operation timings at sites, impacting need at times to suspend operation. Example coupe CC145C. 3. Keep up reminding contractors of basic principles of preventing pollution of forest sites. <p>We believe that the organization listed above at the site(s) listed above has the capability to systematically meet the requirements of AS4708 for the activities, products and sites listed on the Global-Mark certification scope.</p>
Brief description of the FMUs [Forest Management Units] and Defined Forest Area [DFA]	Predominantly <i>Eucalyptus nitens</i> plantations.
Guidance as to how to obtain further details of the DFA may be accessed	Maps of the defined forest area publicly available, as follows. See the website = https://relianceforestfibre.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Reliance_Forest_Fibre_2019-DFA.pdf
The area of the DFA as advised to the Scheme Owner	Total area 30,794.3 hectares. Forestry Right on Sustainable Timber Tasmania land = 29, 545 hectares. Species <i>E.nitens</i> = 18,752, <i>E.globulus</i> = 5,606, other <i>Eucalyptus</i> = 2,134, <i>Pinus radiata</i> = 28.

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.



Photo - Native vegetation pocket taped for protection in field.

End of summary report



Document Information and Revision History of Template

Document Number & Name	AS 4708 / NZS 4708 Summary Report
Original Author(s)	Wayne Tibbits

Revision	Date	Author(s)	Notes
0	5 th July 2019	Dr W. Tibbits	Initial release in new format. Excludes personal information of confidential nature from content.
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