



## FIEA Technology Events Planner 2017

Forest Industry Engineering Association (FIEA) technology events for forest products companies continue to set the benchmark for the local industry. Record numbers of delegates over the last two years, increased participation from leading technology providers and companies continuing to link in their own practical workshops and meetings means that the technology events continue to grow – and add value to all those participating.

Based on detailed discussions and feedback from the wider forest products industry, FIEA technology related events for 2017 have now been scheduled and are described below. Events planned include;



**DATES:** 1-2 March 2017, Rotorua, New Zealand  
7-8 March 2017, Melbourne, Australia

**WEB:** [www.forestsafety.events](http://www.forestsafety.events)

In 2015 at the 2nd FIEA Forest Industry Safety Summit series, we **hosted 500 forestry** contractors, managers and owners as well as health and safety leaders, CEO's, harvest planners and transport operators. For 2017, this biennial conference series aims to bring change to forestry work places and businesses.

This, the industry's 3rd biennial Forest Industry Safety Summit, will again bring to local companies the very latest tools, technologies, systems and advice to implement practical safety solutions into their businesses.



**DATES:** 20-21 June 2017, Rotorua, New Zealand

**WEB:** [www.harvesttech.events](http://www.harvesttech.events)

The first inaugural harvesting event for local logging contractors and key suppliers ran two years ago, June 2015. The event SOLD OUT! It was the largest gathering yet seen in New Zealand of forestry managers, forest owners, harvest planners and logging contractors at one place at one time. The focus for the 2015 event was on innovations around increased mechanisation of steep slope harvesting. Two years on, advances and practical lessons on logging steeper terrain will again be covered in Rotorua. Based on feedback from local contractors, the 2017 programme though will cover much more.

It's being expanded in 2017 to cover; new technologies and operating practices in smallwood lot harvesting, harvest planning, advances in the mechanisation and automation of harvesting operations, the practical use of data collected being collected from harvesting operations, improving data exchange and communications in more remote locations, eliminating log sorts and landing sizes, international developments in new harvesting equipment and issues around attracting the right people into the industry.



**DATES:** 20-21 September 2017, Melbourne, Australia  
26-27 September 2017, Rotorua, New Zealand

**WEB:** [www.woodtech.events](http://www.woodtech.events)

In September 2015, FIEA's WoodTECH conference series achieved a record turnout of sawmillers from throughout Australia and New Zealand. Over 350 delegates from all major sawmilling companies in the region in addition to leading technology providers from throughout Australasia, North America and Europe converged on Melbourne, Australia and Rotorua, New Zealand.

WoodTECH 2017 again will be attracting scanning and sawing technology leaders, innovators and practitioners from around the world. An independent platform will be provided to showcase the very latest in wood scanning, sawmilling and mill optimisation technologies, lumber sizing, mill maintenance and troubleshooting systems as well as a range of informative case studies where sawing efficiencies and improvements in mill productivity have been achieved.

The ForestTECH series has been run annually since 2007. It is now firmly established as the technology event where forest resource managers, remote sensing and GIS specialists and inventory foresters from throughout Australia and New Zealand meet. It has become the annual platform for showcasing; new remote sensing technologies, advances in satellite imagery, mobile communications developments, systems for improving data collection, analysis and reporting, disseminating results from research and in-forest trials and the integration of this into operational, strategic and financial planning.

ForestTECH 2017 will again be building on this theme with an increased emphasis on how forestry companies can better use the ever increasing volume and quality of data that is being collected from a myriad of new platforms and sensors.

## Other Technology Events Planned with Innovatek in 2017



### **Agriculture + Horticulture + Forestry**

Now in its 5th year, MobileTECH has firmly established itself as the major cross-industry technology event in New Zealand. It is designed for the forestry, agricultural and horticultural industries. The annual programme provides a platform for change within the primary sector. Over 320 people attended last year's event. It's now the one event every year where technology developers, engineers, entrepreneurs, innovators and the next generation of industry leaders can meet, learn, discuss and showcase the very latest technologies that are driving business change.

The theme for MobileTECH in 2017 is disruptive innovations. It will focus on new innovations that have been developed and successfully implemented by land based industries using mobile technologies, apps, cloud computing, the internet of things, robotics and automation.

**DATES: 22-23 March 2017, Rotorua, New Zealand**

**WEB: [www.mobiletech.events](http://www.mobiletech.events)**



**DATES: 20-21 April 2017, Kelso, Washington, USA**

**WEB: [www.steepslopelogging.events](http://www.steepslopelogging.events)**

Following on from the huge success of the steep slope logging conference held in New Zealand in 2015 (at which a large number of North American logging contractors and forestry companies attended), a one-day conference and field visits were set up for the first time in Canada. It ran in Vancouver in March 2016. Over 250 loggers attended. It was a first for North America.

Interest from US foresters and loggers has been so strong that the second International Steep Slope Logging conference focusing on winch assisted harvesting will be running in Kelso, Washington, USA. It's being run jointly by Innovatek together with North America's leading trade publications, Logging and Sawmilling Journal and TimberWest.

### **"Advantages of Timber in Mid Rise Construction"** **2nd Annual Changing Perceptions Conference**

**DATES: 29 September 2017, Hamilton, New Zealand**

**WEB: [www.innovatek.co.nz](http://www.innovatek.co.nz)**

During 2016, mass timber grew in leaps and bounds internationally in commercial building. To keep pace with these global advances many leading architects, engineers and wood manufacturers attended a one-day conference in Rotorua last year on changing perceptions in wood building. Internationally, and locally more and more building developers are capitalising on engineering timber components in new commercial buildings.

The 2nd Annual "Changing Perceptions Wood Building Conference" organised by Innovatek will further demonstrate the advantages for developers and tenants of using more timber in mid-rise construction. Lessons learnt in the engineering and project management of new builds is providing real new advantages for everyone. More and more "mass timber" developments being engineered and delivered – now is your chance to learn what the advantages are for everyone involved. **To register for updates or learn more about this conference please contact us.**

### **Sponsoring or Exhibiting?**

Mark these dates into your diaries. If interested in sponsoring or being involved with displays at any of these planned events in 2017 (best to book early as these are sold out every year), please contact FIEA's Sponsorship Manager,  
**Gordon Thomson**  
**Tel: +64 7 921 1384, Mob: +64 27 275 8022**  
**Email: [gordon.thomson@fiea.org.nz](mailto:gordon.thomson@fiea.org.nz)**

Longer term sponsorship and branding opportunities can also be discussed.

### **Wanting to Present?**

If interested in presenting at any of the 2017 FIEA events listed, in the first instance please contact  
FIEA Director,  
**Brent Apthorp**  
**Tel: +64 3 470 1902, Mob: +64 21 227 5177**  
**Email: [brent.apthorp@fiea.org.nz](mailto:brent.apthorp@fiea.org.nz)**

### **Wanting to Attend?**

Subscribe to updates on the relevant event website.