



## Media Release

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### **New mill a boon for Green Triangle region**

The National Association of Forest Industries (NAFI) congratulates South West Fibre Pty Ltd on the opening today of its new mill at Myamyn, Victoria.

“This processing facility is a boon for the Green Triangle, representing a \$32 million investment in the region and providing employment for as many as 400 people in processing, harvesting and haulage,” said NAFI CEO Allan Hansard.

“South West Fibre is to be commended for its foresight in developing the mill – the region’s first blue gum processing facility – and having it operational and ready to take advantage of increasing economic activity as the Australian and global economies emerge from the recession.

“The mill will play a critical role in processing the rapidly increasing volume of plantation logs from the Green Triangle for export markets or domestic markets. Estimates are that the availability of plantation logs from the Green Triangle will increase from its current level of around 1 million tonnes to 3 to 4 million tonnes by 2012.

“The forest industry in the Green Triangle region has experienced some economic setbacks in recent months. However, this mill will provide a significant and ongoing contribution to the local economy by sourcing its timber locally from blue gum plantations in the Green Triangle and assist in overcoming these setbacks in the industry.

“This is a significant investment milestone for the forest industry as the industry continues to work toward the development of over \$6 billion worth of new processing facilities and the creation of 6000 new jobs throughout rural and regional Australia.”

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