







Objective 3





Establish experimental veneer-peeling capacity in the South Pacific

Project objectives









Objective 3 – Establish experimental veneer-peeling capacity in the South Pacific

3.1 – Commissioning a spindleless lathe equipment

3.2 – Assessing the potential of a regional trial and demonstration program



3.1 – Commissioning a spindleless lathe equipment

- Lathe equipment suite procured and commissioned at QDAFF
- Lathe modifications carried out at QDAFF
- Peeling facility then established in Fiji

- Overall equipment suite required
 - Pre-conditioner
 - In-feed
 - Lathe
 - Out-feed/clipper
 - Veneer handling
 - Drier
 - Blade sharpener

	Adapted/locally assembled	To be purchased	Probably necessary	Unnecessary
Log debarker				x
Log conditioning			×	
Log in-feed deck	x			
The rotary lathe		x		
Veneer out-feed and clippers	1	x		
Sprayers		x		
Veneer handling equipment and pallets.	x			
Veneer dryer	x			

Pre-conditioner

Heating the stem to soften fibres to simplify peeling

- Boiler driven steam chamber or fire bath
- Optimum solution depends on technical requirements infrastructure present

Stem in-feed

Delivers the conditioned stem to the lathe

• Manufactured locally



Lathe

Peels the stem into veneers





Out-feed/clipper

Receives the veneer from the lathe and clips to desired sheet size

- Rotary clipper
- Clips at set time intervals
- Purchased



Sprayers

Apply fungicide to the veneers

 Manufactured locally from off the shelf components Veneer handling

Moving, packing and processing veneer

- Scissor lift procured locally
- Manual handling



Veneer drier

- Has significant affect on veneer quality
- Large heat source typically required
- Preferred solution depends on infrastructure present and technical requirements - TBC



Blade sharpener

- Commercial operations change blades several times daily
- Blade sharpening by local industry partner under agreement (VTB)



	Adapted/locally assembled	Specification TBC	Ordered (May '13)
1. Stem conditioning		Х	
2. Stem in-feed	×		
3. Lathe			х
Veneer out-feed and clippers			×
5. Sprayers	x		
6. Veneer handling equipment	x		
7. Veneer dryer		Х	
8. Blade sharpener	x		

Lathe procurement

- 11 lathe manufacturers researched
- Potential manufacturers identified in China and Malaysia
- Shanghai WoodExpo 2013 visited
- Manufacturers visited in
 - China (BSY, Jhine, Raute)
 - Malaysia (Tajamas)



- Tajamas preferred manufacturer:
 - Robust lathe construction
 - Hydraulic peeling progression allows robust modification for senile coconut
 - Manufacturer has experience with coconut
 - English-speaking merchant in Australia



6-7 year old lathe peeling coconut

- Lathe ordered to be delivered to QDAFF August 2013
- Lathe modifications to commence immediately once delivered
- Peeling trial 2 to be completed on newly modified lathe by February 2014
- Lathe decommissioned in QDAFF and moved to Fiji Forestry Research Centre (commissioned by July '14)



Objective 3 – Experimental regional peeling



3.2 – Assessing the potential of a regional trial and demonstration

program

- Feasibility of transporting the lathe suite between regional centres will be assessed
 - Technical
 - Economic
 - Physical

- Contact has been made with potential regional collaborators in Taveuni, Samoa, and the Solomon Islands
- Some potential sites visited
- Precedents for remote lathe operations gathered
- Assessment for infrastructure requirement commenced



Key infrastructure requirements

- Organisational
- Transport (road and sea)
- Stem resource
- Electrical power
- Heating/drying



Overall peeling line requirements

- Peeling line requires various individual pieces of equipment
- Specification for each piece of equipment noted
- Either purchase/modify/source locally

	Adapted/locally assembled	Specification TBC	Ordered (May '13)
1. Stem conditioning		х	
2. Stem in-feed	×		
3. Lathe			х
Veneer out-feed and clippers			×
5. Sprayers	x		
6. Veneer handling equipment	x		
7. Veneer dryer		х	
8. Blade sharpener	x		

Equipment	Spindleless lathe	
Name/spec	(example) BSY SL1350/4	
Weight	7000kg	
Shelter	Rain protection but not necessarily enclosure	
Space in transit	3300x1900x1600 (LWH)	
Space in use	3500x2000x1600 (LWH)	
Heat	N/A	
Power	35kW	

Remote lathe operation

- Precedents of remote, regional peeling operations
- 'Low-tech' spindleless lathes in rural locations
- Pre-conditioning and drying requirements for cocoveneer in regional locations will be more onerous than for logs peeled typically







Spindleless lathe peeling on temporary set-up at Shanghai wood Expo

- Lathe suppliers researched and visited
- Lathe ordered for delivery to QDAFF in August 2013
- Veneer clipper ordered
- Veneer production support equipment researched and specification being developed as technical requirements established
- Precedents exist for lathes operating in regional locations
- Specification for overall equipment suite and likely options for regional trials being developed
- Possible regional trial partners identified and key infrastructure requirements for possible site being developed

Summary

- Precedents exist for lathes operating in regional locations
- Specification for overall equipment suite and likely options for regional trials being developed
- Possible regional trial partners identified and key infrastructure requirements for possible site being developed



Assessment of potential regional July 2014 peeling program

* Revised proposal



Questions



centre for sustainable architecture with wood









