As well as having responsibility for pre-entry and trade training for forestry and timber workers, FITEC will be concerned with forestry education in schools, polytechnics and universities. Its key functions are to:

- maintain a strategic plan to meet sector training and education needs by consulting with employers, education and training providers and funding bodies;
- co-ordinate a framework for forestry sector education and training, providing links between the school, pre-entry, trade, technical and university levels;
- develop and maintain a regional structure of forest industry training and education;
- facilitate the orderly development of high-quality resource materials for schools;
- provide recognised qualifications for skill level training;
- seek Government funding for forestry industry trade training programmes.

In May FITEC announced the appointment of Rod McGowan as its Chief Executive. Mr McGowan brings a strong background in industrial training and sociology to the newly-established position. He was previously training adviser to the New Zealand Dairy Industry Training Council, with special areas of responsibility for development of product skills courses, graduate recruitment and management seminars. He also has extensive experience in the meat industry and was the recipient of a Lincoln Foundation grant to study the impact of new technology in the meat industry.

A network of six regional boards, centred on Whangarei, Tokoroa, Rotorua, Napier, Nelson and Dunedin, is being established to implement FITEC programmes. They will provide a regionally based focus for pre-entry and trade training programmes, and be responsible for the ongoing review and maintenance of a pool of suitably skilled providers to undertake on-the-job training. Membership of the regional boards will be made up of industry, employer, employee and educational representatives.

FITEC, in partnership with the Ministry of Forestry, has embarked on a major project to introduce forestry related materials into schools. This project comprises the design, development and implementation of forestry education packages for schools. Resource materials will be produced under annual themes:

1992 The Forest
1993 Conservation and the Environment
1994 Human Dimension
1995 Processes
1996 Science, Technology and Machinery

The various modules produced under each theme will target school students in five groupings:
- New Entrants to Junior 2,
- Standard 1 to Standard 4,
- Form 1 and Form 2,
- Form 3 to Form 5, and
- Form 6 and Form 7.

All materials will be written by teachers and education professionals. The parameters of the project will be established by an Advisory Board of educationists and forestry experts to ensure they are of the highest possible standard and appropriate to classroom teaching and curricula specifications.
The Ministry of Forestry is pleased to announce the release of a new statistical publication:

**New Zealand Forestry Statistics 1991**

This convenient publication brings together in one place many of the long-term statistical series on New Zealand forestry. Series on the growth of the resource, sawmilling, pulp and paper production, panel products, trade in forestry products, employment, and many more may all be found within it.

A statistical must for anyone interested in tracing through figures on how New Zealand forestry got to its present state!

Copies ($30.00, including GST and postage) may be ordered on the form enclosed with this issue or directly from:

**The Forestry Statistics Section**

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