



Heikki Vilppo has worked for Valmet and Komatsu for 42 years. For many years, his work involved regular contact with the former Soviet Union and Russia. Few people know Russian forestry as well as Heikki.

ProSelect



Safe choices for your profitability

We care about you.

Our goal is to make your working day as safe, problem-free and profitable as possible. ProSelect offers you specially selected products that fulfil our strict quality requirements. Original spare parts, accessories and consumables designed for your Komatsu machine. Why take a chance? Let your Komatsu remain a Komatsu.

ProSelect products can be ordered from your service shop.



OLA BOSTRÖMHEAD OF MARKETING,
KOMATSU FOREST

Together we create profitability

The Komatsu Days event recently concluded, and proved very successful yet again. It's great that we can receive so many visitors here in Umeå from so many parts of the world.

For those of you who didn't have the chance to visit us, there will be plenty of other opportunities at the various international trade fairs. We hope that you'll take one of those opportunities.

One of the new products presented during Komatsu Days was the Komatsu 931XC, an eight-wheeled harvester. It was great to be able to show our innovative prowess by presenting a completely new harvester with unique characteristics.

Another new product was the addition of a new smaller head to the harvester line-up, primarily intended for lighter thinning in the Nordic countries. And we continue to develop our forwarders. The Komatsu 875 is a new forwarder in a brand new weight class and the Komatsu 855 has been upgraded to a new version. We've also had important confirmation that all the new harvesters launched last year have been very well received by all who are using them.

The environment is an important part of the forestry industry and it's an area where we have high ambitions. Engine technology is one example where we've invested heavily in reducing emissions and increasing fuel efficiency. This is something that I believe we excel at and which we will continue

to work on.

As well as launching a number of new products, we would also like to be a partner that works closely with our customers. We're focusing on your profitability when we offer products and services that we know create value in your business. Our Customer Care concept, which includes MaxiFleet, ProAct2.0, ProSelect, and training courses, brings greater peace of mind and long-term profitability to machine ownership.

Looking at the global market for forestry products, we're seeing signs of a general recovery following a number of years of reduced demand. Signs that include major industrial investments in South America, and Finland and Sweden as well, increased housing construction in the USA, and several new paper mills for manufacturing hygiene products. Here at Komatsu Forest, we're following the positive trend and working toward a leading global position. Recently, for example, the number of machines being delivered to Australia, the USA, and Russia increased. We're also very pleased to have reached agreement with Brazil's Fibria, one of the world's largest pulp and paper companies, on a huge deal in which we are to deliver many machines, but perhaps more importantly also supply a complete full service and maintenance package. This is yet further proof that we offer attractive products and services.

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JUST FOREST INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE

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Contact: Telephone +46 90 70 93 00 Internet: www.komatsuforest.com Production: TR, Skellefteå **Printing:** Ågrenshuset, Bjästa, Sweden **Paper:** Multi art matt 115 g

Circulation: 40,000

Languages: Swedish, Finnish, English, German, French, Portuguese, Spanish, and Russian. The content may be quoted if the source is cited.

KOMATSU

Corporate Headquarter Umeå, Sweden Phone: +46 90 70 93 00 E-mail: info@komatsuforest.com Postal adress: Komatsu Forest Box 7124, 907 04 SE-Umeå, Sweden EIGHT WHEELS
DONE RIGHT

The new **Komatsu 931XC** is a powerhouse with great stability and low ground pressure. Eight wheels with a unique double suspension bogie system provide maximum mobility and performance in steep terrain and on soft ground that is difficult to traverse.

Highlights KOMATSU 931XC

POWERFUL STAGE IV/FINAL

ENGINE that fulfills the strictest emission requirements.

POWERFUL CRANE with high slewing torque.

THREE-PUMP HYDRAULICS enable the use of several crane and head functions simultaneously.

DOUBLE SUSPENSION. Rigid articulated joint and swing axle combined with a bogie mounted on the swing axle.

HIGH-PERFORMANCE
OPERATOR ENVIRONMENT with
spacious cab, good visibility, low
noise level.

KOMATSU COMFORT BOGIE

with concealed portals, bogie casings integrated with the rims, for good ground clearance.

KEYLESS SYSTEM for remote control of heating and main circuit-breaker.

THE CAB AND CRANE can rotate 360 degrees.



THE KOMATSU 931XC is built to handle demanding logging in challenging terrain. As a complement to the highly popular Komatsu 931, with its new three-pump hydraulics and new cab, the Komatsu 931XC with DSB, where DSB stands for double suspension bogie, is a new, smart solution for eight-wheeled harvesters. With a new solution for eight wheels, a strong engine, new hydraulic system, and comfortable cab, it offers the perfect conditions for effective production even in challenging terrain.

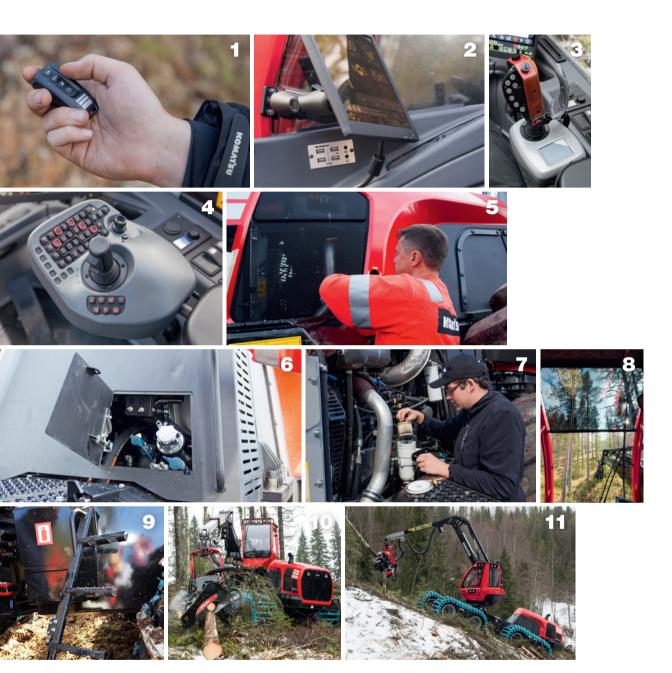


One advantage of an additional pair of wheels is even better stability. Stability at all times is essential if the operator is to be able to maintain productivity regardless of the terrain. The Komatsu 931XC has a unique solution compared to other eight-wheeled harvesters.

What makes the Komatsu 931XC the most stable harvester is its double suspension. This is based on the well-proven concept of a rigid articulated joint and swing axle which when combined with the cab's tilt cylinders provides superior stability whether using the crane at full reach or repositioning the machine. This is

a concept that has proven the most effective for several decades. As well as the swinging rear axle, the Komatsu 931XC has a bogie that is mounted on the swing axle. This gives the harvester unique handling characteristics as the machine follows irregularities in the terrain exceptionally well.

The crane on the Komatsu 931XC offers high slewing torque, which is an advantage in steep terrain, and the high ground clearance maintains good mobility even in challenging terrain.



- Keyless system that can remotely control the heating and the main circuit-breaker/lighting. Coded by operator so that you are automatically logged in to MaxiXplorer with the appropriate operator profile.
- 2. MediaZone with USB connectors, 3.5 mm stereo connectors, Bluetooth, and handsfree functionality.
- 3. Integrated touchpad for easy navigation of the control system.
- 4. Komatsu Comfort Controls EME, which are adjustable and ergonomically designed.
- Simple daily service as all service points are easily accessed.

- 6. Fuel and hydraulic oil are easily refilled while standing next to the machine.
- 7. Filter placement makes servicing easy and minimizes downtime.
- 8. Good upward and downward visibility. Curved windshield.
- 9. Movable ladder with warning sensor in parking position.
- The cab and crane can be rotated 360 degrees. Large work area increases timber concentration and thereby forwarder productivity.
- 11. Powerful crane with high slewing torque.

GOOD COMFORT is a product of good stability. With less shaking, jolting and side-to-side rolling, operators are able to produce throughout their shifts, and with good mobility in steep terrain they can log effectively even when ground conditions are not exactly the best.

When it comes to cab comfort, there are many new features that combine to create a sustainable work environment. The cab is spacious in all directions with an ergonomically designed seat that can rotate a full 180 degrees. High air flow creates the right indoor climate and both upward and downward visibility are good. The cab can be equipped with several different joystick alternatives and for easy two-way communication the machine is fitted with Media-Zone, a centrally-located media hub with USB connectors, 3.5 mm stereo connectors, Bluetooth, and handsfree functionality.

Naturally, the double bogies on the Komatsu 931XC also mean that the machine has low ground pressure as the weight is distributed over a larger area. And low ground pressure means less ground damage.

This is important under certain conditions,

such as on wet and soft ground. In certain circumstances, this also reduces the need for tracks and chains, which has a positive effect on fuel economy.

The Komatsu 931XC has a Stage IV/
Final engine that fulfills the most stringent
requirements for minimized emissions of
environmentally-hazardous particles and
nitrogen oxides. The ultramodern engine
technology also ensures reduced fuel consumption and a considerable reduction in
noise thanks to variable fan control. Engine
power is fully leveraged by the unique interaction between the engine, control system,
and transmission.

In order to better utilize the diesel engine's performance and to improve the machine's handling in steep terrain, the system automatically increases torque and thereby traction just before the machine reaches its maximum capacity. This enables the harvesters to pass obstacles with considerably greater ease compared to machines with conventional hydrostatic transmission systems while also offering lower fuel consumption.

The transmission even acts as an intel-

ligent differential lock that not only prevents individual wheels from spinning, but also adjusts the power transmission to each wheel to achieve optimal contact with the ground, which provides increased mobility.

ANOTHER EXPLANATION behind the harvester's high work capacity is the three-pump hydraulics, split into two circuits with separate pressure levels. The system's power is coordinated with that of the diesel engine and has a hydraulic flow capacity of 736 l/min. The end result is that the operator can use several crane and head functions together with maximum hydraulic power, such as to slew the crane, feed a log, and maneuver the machine.

When it comes to service and maintenance, the Komatsu 931XC has a number of smart solutions that make the operator's work day easier, more convenient, and more productive. All service points are easily accessed to minimize the time spent servicing the machine. The daily inspection is carried out easily and effectively without the need to open hoods and the service points have been gathered into groups.



Double suspension entails a rigid articulated joint and swing axle combined with a bogie mounted on the swing axle. Provides maximum mobility and comfort on steep inclines and soft ground.

Reliable and profitable

Productivity, quality, and reliability. That is what you can expect from the versatile **Komatsu C123** head. This is also what makes this head a dependable partner that always delivers.

AN IMPORTANT FACTOR behind this high productivity is the feed roller design. The rollers center the stem and provide an effective feed while simultaneously saving fuel as the clamping pressure can be kept low. The feed roller design enables reliable and accurate length and diameter measurements. Other advantages include cast metal delimbing knives for maximum durability.

Another characteristic that makes the Komatsu C123 so effective is the Constant Cut saw unit, which guarantees the correct cutting speed throughout the entire cutting cycle. This means there is never any risk of running the chain too fast, thereby increasing productivity and minimizing chain shot and splitting risks. A new larger, more effective, and more reliable multi-tree ac-

cumulator is available as an option.

The robust frame design and extra large tilt angle mean that the C123 is productive even at long reaches and in steep terrain.



CAST DELIMBING KNIVES for increased durability

STRONG AND ROBUST FRAME DESIGN

HIGH TRACTION due to three feed wheels

FOUR MOVING KNIVES
EXTRA LARGE TILT ANGLE

PRECISE LENGTH MEASUREMENT
VERY FIRM STEM HOLDING
CONSTANT CUT SAW UNIT
ECO-GLS LUBRICATION SYSTEM

as an option

MULTI-TREE ACCUMULATOR as an

EASY ACCESS service points

option



Constant Cut lifts to new heights

FASTER CUTTING, greater reliability, and reduced risks of chain shot and splitting. The Constant Cut saw unit lifts the Komatsu to even greater heights.

Constant Cut provides a more constant cutting speed for the chain by continuously adjusting the bar feed pressure throughout the entire cutting process. If the chain speed is too high before cutting begins, the chain may run too fast, which significantly increases the risk of chain shot. Constant Cut eliminates this risk and a steady, optimal speed of 130 feet per second (40 m/s) can be maintained throughout the entire cutting cycle.

To attain a more constant cutting speed, the hydraulics that guide and control the cutting process have been moved from the valve assembly to the saw motor. This also means less and simpler maintenance of the valve assembly and a longer service life for hydraulic components.

New multi-tree accumulator

A NEW multi-tree accumulator is now available for the Komatsu C123, the Komatsu C144, and the Komatsu C93. It offers greater efficiency and greater reliability.

The new multi-tree accumulator is larger than before, enabling it to handle 25 percent more from tip to tip. And despite being larger, the accumulator is lighter.

The new design is cast and has a protected valve, which increases durability, and the new damping plates make multi-tree accumulation quieter.

New ultra productive head

Nimble, light, and strong – and offering unmatched capacity. That is the combination that characterizes the new **Komatsu S82** two-wheel drive head. This is also what makes it effective for demanding thinning assignments in dense stands.

THE KOMATSU \$82 can even handle the forests that are the most difficult to delimb. One of the reasons is that the two-wheel feed allows the stems to turn in the head, even those that are forked or very crooked.

An important function is Flex Friction Control, which enables good delimbing and energy-efficient feed force. Flex Friction Control senses the stem's position relative to the frame and adjusts the knife pressure accordingly. The sensor, which is located in the vertical knife, controls the delimbing knives' contact pressure against the stem and ensures the lowest possible friction between the stem and the head. MaxiXplorer provides the operator with the ability to adjust the stem's position in the feed path according to tree species and diameter. The stem moves easily through the head and is pressed up against the frame under control. The minimized friction provides more power for delimbing while reducing energy consumption. The head has good measurement accuracy.

THE KOMATSU S82 also has a Constant Cut saw unit to ensure the correct cutting speed, an optimal 130 feet per second (40 m/s), throughout the entire cutting cycle. This both increases productivity and minimizes chain shot and splitting risks. Naturally, the S92 can be equipped with a multi-tree accumulator, which further increases production

capacity. In order to minimize unnecessary leakage and downtime, the head is equipped with ORFS couplings.

Smart hose routing, a well-protected head computer, and simple servicing are factors that minimize unplanned downtime. The head can also be equipped with either manual or automatic chain tensioning, an extra measurement point for even greater measurement accuracy, and different feed rollers.

The result is a head with a fast feed and rapid cutting, high reliability, and reduced maintenance.



Highlights KOMATSU S82

TWO-WHEEL FEED optimizes productivity

EFFECTIVE MULTI-TREE
ACCUMULATOR as an option

EASY SERVICE and maintenance with optimized access

SMART HOSE ROUTING

minimizes downtime

ROBUST CONSTRUCTION, high-strength steel frame

FLEX FRICTION CONTROL

senses the stem's position and adjusts the contact pressure of the knives

MANUAL OR AUTOMATIC CHAIN TENSIONING available as an option

CONSTANT CUT ensures the right cutting speed throughout the entire cutting cycle

ALTERNATIVE FEED ROLLERS increase flexibility

OPTIONAL EXTRA MEASURING POINT for increased measurement accuracy

ORFS COUPLINGS reduce leakage and downtime

Together for your profitability

The best way to make day-to-day work easier for machine owners and operators while also making it possible to produce more at a lower cost is to focus on the total cost of ownership of a forest machine. Knowledge, information, and the right approach can create high efficiency and greater peace of mind.

With our Customer Care concept, we strive to help make sure vour working day offers as much peace of mind as possible while minimizing problems and maximizing profitability regardless of where in the world you operate. We achieve this with products and services that together create the best conditions.



ProSelect

Carefully selected spare parts, equipment, and consumables, as well as clothing and accessories. This encompasses equipment such as grapples and cranes, spare parts such as bars, chains, and hoses, and consumables such as lubricants, filters, and more. This range is carefully selected by qualified experts, which means that we assume responsibility for ensuring the right quality, optimal functionality, and maximum service life.

With ProSelect, you can rest assured that your machine will continue to operate optimally. These products offer a longer service life and peace of mind knowing that your machine will continue to produce as expected. Moreover, assembly is easier and quicker and the parts fit properly and are complete.

ProAct 2.0

With its four cornerstones, **inspection**, **maintenance**, **training**, and **follow-ups**, ProAct 2.0 makes machine ownership easier and more profitable, bringing greater peace of mind.

In the inspection, we check the machine's condition and determine a custom service interval to ensure full utilization of the machine's capacity.

Maintenance entails preventative service and support tailored to the machine owner's particular circumstances. Training means that the machine owner's knowledge is raised to match that of our experts. Follow-ups keep track of the machine's key data and these regular checks can be made in the machine, on a computer, or directly from a smartphone.



YOUR SUCCESS - OUR FOCUS

So that machine owners can achieve the best overall economy in their machine ownership, we offer services that help optimize each machine's uptime. More predictable costs provide machine owners with greater peace of mind.

PEACE OF MIND, PROXIMITY, AND KNOWLEDGE

Modern technology can enable a machine owner to access information about their machine and its production. By working in close concert with us, and by sharing knowledge and experience and taking a proactive approach, we can ensure the long-term sustainability of your machine ownership.

PROSELECT, TRAINING, PROACT 2.0, MAXIFLEET

We have services to ease your working day. MaxiFleet is a tool that presents and analyzes machine and production information, ProAct 2.0 is a solution to optimize maintenance, ProSelect guarantees the quality of spare parts and accessories, and training increases competence.

CHOOSE KOMATSU and you are always in good hands. By investing in development, service, support, logistics, and innovative services, we want to bring greater peace of mind and profitability to machine ownership. Customer Care embodies our concept for proximity, knowledge, and peace of mind that is always on hand to minimize problems and maximize profitability in your day-to-day operations.

In modern forestry, owning a highly productive forest machine is simply not enough. Many other factors are equally important in securing your success. Here, of course, we are referring to access to ser-

vice, a spare parts supply chain, production follow-ups, and work methods. Everything boils down to ensuring successful long-term ownership throughout a machine's entire service life.

In concrete terms, this means focusing on preventative service and maintenance and buying the right spare parts and consumables to avoid unplanned downtime. Maintaining continually high uptime is key. This can also require ensuring the right machine settings. Minor adjustments, such as fine-tuning the saw speed or crane speed, can have a major effect on both productivity and the total

cost of ownership. Methodology training is another factor that can increase the chances of harvesting those extra stems every hour.

A valuable foundation for creating effective machine ownership that offers peace of mind and long-term sustainability is the information that MaxiXplorer continually gathers about the machine's status and production. Services such as MaxiFleet, ProAct 2.0, and ProSelect can provide you with an overview and control while training makes it easier to achieve long-term profitability in your machine ownership.





MaxiFleet is a tool for visualizing machine data and automatically gathering information. Machine owners and operators can easily see everything from production and machine follow-ups to fuel consumption and many other key indicators.

This web-based fleet management system offers completely new opportunities to coordinate machines by localizing them, displaying their status, and monitoring production and machine information. MaxiFleet can be accessed from any smartphone, tablet, or computer with an Internet connection.

Training

When you buy a new machine, you should always attend basic training, which gives you a good foundation for the future use of your purchase. You gain an understanding of the machine's design and functions, the control system, how to maintain the machine, and much more.

We also offer further training tailored to your needs. Everything to optimize the use of your machine.



Get the most from your machine

Why should a machine owner stick to **the ProSelect range**? The answer is pretty simple. Let the experts choose the right equipment, spare parts, and consumables so that your Komatsu machine remains a Komatsu. And so that you can be sure to get the most from your machine.

The lowdown on PROSELECT

PROSELECT is a range of specially selected products that fulfill Komatsu Forest's strict quality requirements. Original spare parts, equipment, and consumables designed for your Komatsu machine, as well as work and leisure wear, smart accessories, and branded clothing for the next generation of forest machine operators.

ALL PRODUCTS can be ordered from your nearest service workshop.

CHOOSING SPARE PARTS, equipment, and consumables is so much more than simply comparing prices. Making the right choice is easy with the ProSelect range of carefully selected spare parts, equipment, and consumables, all specially chosen to fulfill Komatsu Forest's strict quality requirements.

In the long run, the right quality, optimal functionality, and maximum service life result in even greater machine uptime and the most favorable total cost of ownership over the machine's entire service life.

During the design phase, all machine components are carefully selected, designed, and dimensioned to ensure that the machine works as a whole with maximum functionality. When equipment needs

replacing or a spare part is required, you need to make a smart choice if your machine is to continue producing as expected. ProSelect guarantees the best quality and functionality in relation to price. Moreover, the machine will demand a higher price in the used machine market.

ANOTHER ADVANTAGE of the ProSelect range is that you can be sure that assembly will be easier and quicker, and that the parts will fit properly and be complete. Which is pretty important once you've received a spare part and are ready to replace the old one. Naturally, no one wants unplanned downtime to last longer than absolutely necessary.

MAXIFLEET

continues to develop...

MaxiFleet is under continual development, in close collaboration with users. The system now offers better opportunities to analyze the machine and the design has been refined to make it even easier to use.

MAXIFLEET IS THE WORLD'S FIRST web-based fleet management system for forest machines. The system makes it possible to search, compile, and present all machine and production data that the machine generates, with MaxiXplorer as the information source. This provides maximum control of machine health, both inside and outside the cab, making work easier, more convenient, and more enjoyable. MaxiFleet is easily accessed from a computer, tablet, or smartphone, keeping your machines close to you – at all times no matter where you are.

MaxiFleet is not a static system. Instead, it is under continual development with the regular implementation of both improvements and new functions, all in close collaboration with users. Users always automatically gain access to the latest updates, functions, and versions at no extra cost.

Did you know that:

- MaxiFleet is offered in three different versions with different functions – Base, Advanced, and Advanced Plus.
- MaxiFleet enables remote connection to your machine and a technician can remotely provide training, conduct troubleshooting, adjust machine settings, update software, and more.
- MaxiFleet has been introduced in Sweden, Norway, Finland, Russia, Germany, France, the Netherlands, England, Australia, and Brazil.
- MaxiFleet can be accessed from any computer, tablet, or smartphone with an Internet connection.
- A number of instructional videos for MaxiFleet are available at komatsuforest.com.

The new functions enable users to analyze their machines in depth with detailed analyses such as production follow-ups and operational monitoring – encompassing the engine, battery, head, and scale – now available. All analyses can be filtered by date/time, operator, and assignment. Using key data, MaxiFleet can now warn you if a machine is not performing optimally.

Another new feature is access to the in-depth analysis function from the overview page. Even warnings from the machine are displayed here, including descriptive texts. Such as if a large share of logs fall outside the measurement window or idling time has become excessive.

Milestones are also shown in the detailed machine analysis. A milestone symbolizes a major event in the machine's life cycle, such as service, operator training, or head replacement, and this makes it easier to monitor a machine's performance before and after a major change.

The administration pages have a new layout that, among other things, makes it easier to update company settings, such as addresses and telephone numbers, create new assignments, add/remove users, update user information, and manage user access rights.



HEIKKI'S JOURNEY

42 years with forest machines

The company Valmet was a very popular employer in Finland in the 1970s. When Heikki Vilppo graduated from technical college in 1974 and took a job at the company, he could never have guessed that he'd staked out his career path for many decades to come upon signing the employment contract.

initially, Heikki vilppo's day-to-day work was very much about thorough research and testing. Much from those early days seems to have rubbed off on him, including his attention to detail and a genuine interest in heavy machinery and design challenges. Forest machines played only a minor role in that research and testing work. Back then, the same factory also manufactured aircraft, railroad cars, locomotives, and forklift trucks, but the deciding factor for Heikki's future was that the Valmet Group had already realized that forest machines were a future growth industry.

Finland's enormous neighbor to the east, the Soviet Union, was facing huge changes when Heikki made his way there on business at the end of the 1980s. A few

collaborative projects from the Soviet era were under way, aiming to establish joint manufacturing operations that combined Finnish technical know-how with Russian technology.

Running the projects required both great knowledge of the designs and diplomatic leadership. Heikki managed to achieve good results already during the first project. SOFIT, Soviet Finland Technology, which was founded near St. Petersburg, resulted in the production of more than one hundred harvesters and forwarders in a very short space of time.

AS HEIKKI'S GRASP of the Russian language improved, business opportunities in

Russia increased in appeal. Machines that were manufactured at the factory in Umeå, Sweden, began conquering Russia, but not near the Finnish border as one might expect, but far to the east, where Siberia ends and massive, unmapped forests stretch all the way to Khabarovsk. A place several time zones away from everything saw the acid test for Heikki skills at selling the red machines.

"Russia has always surprised me, often with its generous hospitality. One example was when we were in the middle of the taiga and tundra in the Sakha (Yakutia) Republic, where the greatest natural resource is diamonds. Back then, in the 1990s, this rich republic started to mechanize its forestry," Heikki explains.

As an expert in forest machines, Heikki spent a week with the minister of forestry

When dawn broke, the minister said in passing that for their part the purchase of 50 machines was now a fact.

Heikki Vilppo at one of the many villages in the Sakha Republic in eastern Siberia that he visited in the early 1990s.



flying from village to village over the roadless wilds.

"There, the only thing they knew about Finland and the Finnish was that we are big on saunas. So the minister had asked the villagers to build a sauna for the last night of our visit. In a sauna hastily built from fresh logs and with the heat in excess of 212°F (100°C), resin was dripping from the ceiling and the forest scents almost knocked us out."

"The atmosphere was fantastic. Outside it was -40°F (-40°C), biting cold. The only sign that something historical was taking place in this remote village was a thick cloud of steam hovering over the taiga. After the sauna, we sat down to dinner. The plates set in front of me and the minister were replete with the best cuts of a holy beast, bear. The others ate more standard fare. We sat at the table for a long time and the feast continued into the wee small hours. When dawn broke, the minister said in passing that for their part the purchase of 50 machines was now a fact," Heikki ends.

The first machines from the SOFIT project ready to ship to customers in Russia. The carrier was from the Russian Harkov tractor factory while the crane and hydraulics were manufactured in Sweden.

A brief history of KOMATSH FOREST

1961 Finnish Valmet starts forest machine production. Swedish Umeå Mekaniska starts manufacturing delimbers.

1986 Valmet acquires Umeå Mekaniska.

1994 Valmet becomes SISU Logging and a few years later Partek Forest.

2004 Partek Forest is acquired by Komatsu Ltd.

1964 Finnish Valmet delivers the first loader to the then Soviet Union.

1979 Forest machines are presented for the first time at a trade fair.

1981 The 448 processor and the 886 forwarder are exhibited.

1984 Successful testing results in an

order for more than 300 machines for the Soviet Union.

The late 1980s sees discussions begin on the assembly of machines in the Soviet Union. The project is named SOFIT. The carrier is a Harkov tractor, customized with a cab, crane, transmission, and head from Valmet.

1991 The SOFIT project collapses along with the Soviet Union.

The 1990s sees increased Russian interest in the cut-to-length system, which results in a number of machine deliveries.

Today Komatsu Forest is represented by offices in Moscow and St. Petersburg, as well as by a large number of dealers throughout the country.

Confidence and trust play a major role

According to Tabeel Trading's Managing Director Steve Witherow, their purchases of eleven Komatsu Forest machines over the last 18 months revolve around the two key points confidence and trust.

THE GREEN TRIANGLE AREA of Australia has been through downturns but has reinvented itself with a vibrant export market, showing strong growth over the last two years in blue gum and some expansion in pine operations as well.

"The timber industry has been very good to us and it's probably the cleanest, greenest thing we could ever be involved with," says Steve Witherow.

Steve runs a successful forestry logging/ chipping/haulage business and it is more than just utilizing machines ... it is about the people, the business relationships, the trust, and the confidence. With a current workforce of 108, the obvious question is how do you keep track of things? And his reply says it all.

"Good people. You can't run a business like this without good people, and that's my main focus. It's not about the machinery, it's about the people, and everyone is equally important and family is most important."

And that includes a long-standing business relationship with Komatsu Forest.

STEVE AND HIS recently deceased father

John created a sustainable and successful logging business after moving to Mt Gambier for the salvage operation just after the Ash Wednesday fires of 1983.

"It all developed from there," says Steve. When the fire salvage work finished, they moved into green plantations.

"Our first harvester in 1986 was a Kato excavator with a Steyr processing head; it was very early days for mechanization. We were just producing long length pulp, and Moreland Logging had kicked off with the first Komatsu Forest products, the Valmet GP940 mounted on a Sumitomo excavator. From there it started to develop even more as manufacturers caught up with everything that we (contractors) wanted as they were pretty dirty and rough bits of gear at that point in time," Steve recalls.

TABEEL'S FIRST Komatsu (Valmet) came in 1988, a Valmet 892 forwarder. That was the start of the Komatsu Forest Australia connection.

"That was when we met Brenton Yon and it just grew from there. Since then, we've had nearly every model they've made, from single grips to twin grips to their forwarders – even their Timbco range of feller-bunchers. We also run quite a number of Peterson machines, which are now under the KF banner in Australia."

Steve explains that it wasn't just about buying equipment from Komatsu Forest.

"It's more a long-standing business arrangement that's worked for both companies. In some cases they may not have









Tabeel Trading also runs quite a number of Peterson machines, which are now under the Komatsu Forest banner in Australia.

the best product, but they are probably the best company for us to be dealing with."

When asked whether there is any particular model that has stood out over the years, he doesn't hesitate.

"At one point, we purchased four black 911 harvesters. I got one machine to run through two contracts ... it did a 10-year contract! We traded it in and bought it back twice. And we have still got it today. So, it's really been a classic as we traded it in and bought it back twice. It's a training machine for operators to learn in. When they first released the series, we jumped on them because they were very productive and for their time they were very advanced," says Steve.

Steve also says that Komatsu Forest's backup and support are standout services.

"If you have a problem with a particular item of equipment, they work on the

problem and come up with a solution. They're not just about selling machines and leaving you with a heap of problems. They support their product. They are a tight crew from top to bottom, so if you have an issue they get the message fairly quickly. Yes, Komatsu Forest Australia have been good to deal with."

Steve also wants to mention the Komatsu Forest technicians.

"They're the unsung heroes and they don't get a lot of mention. These machines are so technically advanced today that you need the technicians to be there to get them online. They're a very important part of the purchase decision, too. You look at who is who, who is available for support, where the spare parts are going to come from. All these things in some way help make your decision ... and Komatsu Forest have been good at them most times."

Steve's shopping list at **KOMATSU FOREST**

Tabeel Trading's purchases of 11 machines over the last 18 months.

- 4 X 895
- 1 X 931.1
- 1 X 931
- 1 X 951
- 1 X S132
- 1 X S92
- 1 X 5000 PETERSON
- 1 X 6800 PETERSON
- 1 X 6910 PETERSON
- 1 X PC220LC-8

FORWARDERS FOR THE FUTURE

The Komatsu 875 is a brand new forwarder in a class of its own. With a chassis, powertrain, and crane designed for a 17.6-ton (16-tonne) load, it takes productivity to a whole new level.









Highlights KOMATSU 875

LARGE LOAD with 17.6-ton (16-tonne) capacity

INCREDIBLE CRANE power in both lifting and slewing

LONG REACH with 28-foot (8.5 m) crane with single telescope

STRONG POWERTRAIN with high power output

NEW, ATTRACTIVE, and smart

SERVICE FRIENDLY with large hatches and easily accessed

service points

FLEXIBLE BUNK with FlexGate

GOOD CAB COMFORT with good visibility and low noise level

KOMATSU COMFORT RIDE cab suspension as an option

FUEL-EFFICIENT STAGE IV ENGINE

and FlexBunk

THE KOMATSU 875 is built around a sturdy and highly durable chassis with a boat-shaped underside. Combined with Comfort Bogie, it offers excellent ground clearance, which contributes to its favorable mobility and stability.

The large bunk is characterized by its flexibility and many options. One option is FlexGate, which can flex out of the way if struck by the crane and offers better bunk visibility. Another option is FlexBunk, with its adjustable stakes.

Equally important for effective forwarding is a strong, fast, and nimble crane with a long reach. The hydraulics are generously sized with a large capacity and the crane delivers an impressive gross lifting force of 106,950 lb-ft (145 kNm). The new, powerful crane also has an impressive slewing torque that offers exceptional performance in steep terrain. The crane option with a single extender has a reach of 28 feet (8.5 m). The single extender cuts the crane weight, leaving more force to lift timber instead.

The crane also has a reliable pillar and hose routing solution, as well as a new

Combi outer boom with a long reach and protected hose routing, which together make for easy servicing. Moreover, you can choose to add an accurate crane scale.

The Komatsu 875 has a powerful powertrain with high engine output and impressive traction.

THE POWERTRAIN delivers the greatest torque at low engine speeds and automatically adjusts to changes in the load depending on the terrain, obstacles, inclines, and crane loads. Interaction between the engine, transmission, and control system are optimized to deliver exceptional mobility.

The powerful Stage IV engine utilizes effective SCR technology that not only minimizes emissions and fuel consumption, but also offers extremely high performance. The power is derived from fuel injection and emission control technology that fulfills the latest environmental requirements. The generously sized cooling system ensures sufficient capacity no matter what.

Although the Komatsu 875 is basically a new forwarder, the first thing you notice is



the attractive design. And this new design is not only handsome. It is also smart, which makes the forwarders even easier to use in the forest. Open the electrically powered hood, which also acts as a service platform, and you will find all the filters gathered together for easy access. Inspection points for oil levels in the engine, differential, and transmission are also strategically located to simplify maintenance.

A sustainable operator environment is important for making every day productive. The new forwarder features a cab that is spacious in all directions. The feeling of space inside the cab is striking. In addition, visibility is good both sideways and

1. Filters gathered together and easily accessed.

- 2. Liquids easily refilled.
- 3. Electric hood opening and hood guard as standard.
- 4. Easily accessed dipsticks for the most important inspection points.
- 5. New tank design with good service access.
- 6. Automatic central lubrication.
- 7. Good access for cleaning the radiator.
- 8. Optimized engine layout keeps things neat and tidy under the hood.

upward, making crane operation easier and more relaxing. The seat is ergonomically designed and specially developed for forest machines. Naturally, Komatsu Comfort Ride cab suspension is available as an option. Add to this the many features that make everyday life in the cab more comfortable and you have a world-class cab environment.









A FLEXIBLE MONEY MAKER

The new Komatsu 855 is the number one versatile forwarder that delivers profitability no matter what. And you can tell just by looking at it.



NEW CRANE with new Combi outer boom

HIGH CAPACITY hydraulics

NEW, ATTRACTIVE, and smart

SERVICE FRIENDLY with large hatches and easily accessed service points

LARGE AND FLEXIBLE bunk

GOOD CAB COMFORT with good visibility and low noise level

COMFORT RIDE for the best cab suspension (option)

ENGINE that fulfills environmental requirements

PROTEC SCALE, compact crane scale with protected hose routing (option in Europe)

MAXIXPLORER control system with Production Follow-ups and Operational Monitoring option

THE KOMATSU 855 has many new features, but the first thing you notice is the new, attractive, and smart design, which makes this forwarder even easier to use in the forest. Daily service and maintenance are conducted quickly and easily. The new service hatches are large and strategically located. Open the electrically powered hood, which also acts as a service platform, and you will find all the filters gathered together for easy access. Inspection points for oil levels in the engine, differential, and transmission are also strategically located to simplify maintenance.

The Komatsu 855 has a new, nimble, and weight-optimized chassis with exceptionally good obstacle clearance. Komatsu Comfort Bogie, which delivers superb

mobility and stability, and a bogie lift are available as options.

The load capacity is 15.4 tons (14 tonnes) and the generous bunk is characterized by its flexibility and many options. One option is FlexGate, which offers better visibility from cab to bunk. Another option is FlexBunk, with its adjustable stakes.

The powerful Stage IV engine uses effective SCR technology with no emissions recirculation, which is the key to the combination of high power output and low fuel consumption. The power is derived from fuel injection and emission control technology that fulfills the latest environmental requirements. The generously sized cooling system ensures sufficient capacity no matter what.

























The powertrain delivers the greatest torque at low engine speeds and automatically adjusts to changes in the load depending on the terrain, obstacles, inclines, and crane loads. The ingenious transmission solution, with a large hydrostatic pump, ensures optimal interaction between the engine, transmission, and control system to deliver exceptional mobility.

Effective forwarding also demands a strong, fast, and nimble crane with a long reach. The hydraulics are well-sized with a large pump and a large valve, laying the foundation for good crane handling characteristics. The crane, with a gross lifting force of 95,800 lb-ft (130 kNm), has a reliable pillar and hose routing solution and a new Combi outer boom with a long reach and protected hose routing, which together

make for easy servicing. Moreover, you can choose to add a compact and well-integrated crane scale, ProTec Scale.

A sustainable cab environment is also important if the operator is to work productively day after day. The cab is spacious in all directions and provides a striking feeling of space. Visibility is good both sideways and upward, making crane operation easier and more relaxing. The catalytic converter for exhaust emissions fits fully inside the compact engine hood, ensuring good forward visibility. The seat is ergonomically designed and specially developed for forest machines. The cab has central locking and a start button, MediaZone (media hub), and a powerful PC with an optional touchscreen. Another option is Comfort Ride cab suspension, with upgraded cylinders.

- 1. Front blade (option), more flexible and new design.
- 2. Service hatches, larger and more easily accessed.
- 3. Filters, easier to access.
- 4. New tank design with good service access.
- 5. Dipsticks are easier to access.
- 6. Radiator, larger and more efficient.
- 7. Automatic central lubrication (option), now also encompasses crane tilt if fitted.
- 8. Engine hood, electrically powered and more spacious.
- 9. Fast crane with optimized geometry.
- **10.** Engine layout keeps things neat and tidy under the hood.
- 11. Spacious cab with good visibility.

NORWAY

Ingvild Skeie wonders whether divine power was at work every day she operates her brand new Komatsu 855.1 in the forests of Norway's Romerike.



Reunited with a favorite machine

OTHERWISE, BACK in 2012, how else could her current employer, Holmgren AS, have given her the exact same old but excellent Komatsu 840.3 forwarder that she'd used several years earlier as an apprentice at Næss Skogsdrift?

"To say I was surprised to be reunited with my old forwarder after so many years and from so far away is an understatement. I was very keen on that 840.3 machine," says Ingvild Skeie.

THE EXPLANATION is pretty simple. In

the interim, Holmgren bought this particular used forwarder from Næss Skogsdrift. So the connections between the machine, Ingvild as an apprentice, and her later employment at Holmgren are purely coincidental.

"Regardless, I've now got a brand new Komatsu 855.1 forwarder, which is just what I wanted. I've been good at telling my colleagues just how great my old machine was," she says and laughs.

Ingvild feels very much at home in this male-dominated profession, and envisions a bright future. She hasn't regretted for a single day her decision to enter the forestry industry and her career as a machine operator.

"I was the only one of four women in my class at Saggrenda College to complete the program and become an apprentice in the forestry industry. Unfortunately, the others guit the course. Traditionally, my family has strong ties to the forestry professions, so for me the choice was easy."

THE PROFESSION IS just as well suited to women as to men, and the work environment is superb, is Inqvild's best advice to all other young women about to choose a

Forwarders are her favorite. Harvesters can be a little monotonous, according to Ingvild.

"I like the variation when operating a forwarder. The 855.1 is the perfect size for several different applications, is extremely stable with the new bogie axles, and navigates and follows the terrain in a completely different way. What's more, Holmgren has invested in the optional Comfort Ride for the new spacious cab. My work day was already comfortable before, but with the new 855.1 it's now first class," says Ingvild.

As a young apprentice, Ingvild Skeie was very keen on the Komatsu 840.3 forwarder. She became even happier when she recently received a brand new Komatsu 855.1.

POLAND





Hard work and stubbornness have paid off for Slawomir Sarnecki. Today, his company has two harvesters and three forwarders operating in the forest.

Labored for 30,000 hours

In 2010, Slawomir Sarnecki bought a new 931 with a 365 head. Together, Slawomir, the harvester, and the head have clocked up more than 30,000 engine hours. Impressive, to say the least.

ZUL IS THE WORD most often heard when speaking about logging in Poland. This abbreviation stands for 'zaklad uslug lesnych', which means forest company. Poland's forests are worked by many small companies, and some of these contractors are true warrior. One of the most prominent is Slawomir Sarnecki.

Slawomir started his forest company in 1995 together with four other people. In the beginning, they used chainsaws and horses and worked in their home region in southwest Poland, the Sudety Mountains. The local terrain is challenging, with steep climbs, clay and rock under foot, and huge trees, mostly spruce and pine. Today, they harvest around 350,000 cubic feet (10,000 m³) of timber annually.

In addition to this, they conduct ground preparation and planting throughout the region. The company's largest customer is the same as for all Polish forest companies, the Polish state. Around 83% of all forestland belongs to the state (about 1 billion cubic feet – or more than 28 million $\rm m^3$ – of timber are harvested annually in Poland, mostly pine but also spruce and deciduous).

HARD WORK and stubbornness have paid off for Slawomir. Today, his company has two harvesters and three forwarders operating in the forest. Their first harvester was one of the very first Komatsu 931 models produced. It was delivered to Slawomir in 2010

together with a 365 head.

This 931 is still owned by the company and has clocked up 30,000 engine hours. Most fascinating, however, is that the harvester is still used with the original head, which has now harvested almost 9 million cubic feet (250,000 m³) of timber.

"In 2009, I decided to buy Komatsu
Forest machines because they have a
good reputation and reasonable pricing with
respect to quality. We work mostly in mountainous areas,
so automatic cab leveling and good stability are musts for us. Back
then, the 365 head was a new model, which concerned us a little.
But as you can see, it's exceeded all expectations," says Slawomir.

Naturally, the equipment's impressive service life wouldn't be possible without proper maintenance.

"Regular lubrication, thorough inspections, and preventative maintenance are key if you want a head to run well for so long," says Slawomir.

Fourth generation forest workers



Sylvasphère has an innovative strategy

THE COMPANY SYL-

VASPHÈRE was founded in February 2012 after Aurélie and Thibault Delesalle acquired the company James Desaivres, a well-known business in Tarn. Thibault, who is an experienced harvester operator, adopted James' basic rule: all production capacity at the same worksite.

At that time, the equipment comprised a Valmet 941 harvester and a Valmet 840.3 forwarder together with a skidder. Each machine had its own operator and work was based mainly on close cooperation with a single client.

With this strategy as a starting point, Thibault wanted to expand the customer base and create new and innovative customer relations. In June 2014, when it was time to replace the harvester, they immediately decided to supplement the new Komatsu 931 and C144 head with the MaxiFleet feature. For

Thibault, the ability to follow production in real time and adapt the forwarding work accordingly and inform customers of the available timber directly from the worksite all represent an important step in the relation between customer and supplier.

"With MaxiFleet, you can also immediately resolve the slightest problem, which means that after a little more than 3,000 engine hours we've achieved efficiency in excess of 90 percent. Production costs are also analyzed daily and corrective measures can be taken in real time," says Thibault.

Today, Aurélie has joined Thibault in the daily administration of Sylvasphère. Invoicing will be integrated directly with the machine's production using Excel, another option offered by MaxiFleet and which frees up time for other tasks.

Worksite planning with the aid of a handheld GPS unit con-

in the Aubertin family



THE AUBERTIN FAMILY has a long tradition of forest work. And when we say long, we mean really long. It all began back when Nicolas and Mickael's great-grandfather worked with skidding, using oxen.

Nicolas and Mickael's grandfather developed the business with horses and mules, and when their father took over he invested in a tractor equipped with winches and a skidder. Nicolas and Mickael first spent a few years working together with their father, then established the company Sarl AUBERTIN Frères in 2004. The company has developed continually and in 2010 Nicolas decided to invest for the first time in a 931 equipped with a 365 head. In 2014, Nicolas replaced his harvester with

a Komatsu 931.1 and C144 head, which offered increased performance compared to the previous combination.

"When we switched we saw a clear increase in productivity with the C144 head compared to the 365 head. I also like the good measurement accuracy and the simple design. When it comes to the 931.1, the stability and the full-circle slewing and leveling cab provide optimal work comfort and enable the operator to handle challenging situations, especially in steep terrain."

Mickael also chose to follow suit by buying a Komatsu 855 in May 2013. The company continues to develop and has now employed a forwarder operator, Rodrigue, and in November 2015 acquired a new Komatsu 855.1 equipped with Comfort Ride cab suspension.

"I really appreciate the traction of the Komatsu 855.1, the good visibility, the low noise level, and the comfort of the cab, as well as the easily maneuvered crane," says Mickael.

IN 2015, THE BROTHERS visited the factory in Sweden and this further strengthened their choice of Komatsu. There they saw the assembly lines and witnessed the quality assurance employed in the assembly of Komatsu machines.

Nicolas and Mickael's children have already got the forestry bug, and will be the fifth generation to enter this continually evolving profession.

nected to the machine's Maxi N system will enable operators to focus more on production than was previously possible.

A new Komatsu 855.1 forwarder was recently delivered, naturally equipped with Maxi-Fleet and Maxi N. This enables the forwarder operator to see the location and assortment of the timber on their screen and to track the route followed by the harvester. Sylvasphère's customers will be able to see – in real time – stock availability per product at the roadside via their own MaxiFleet profiles and use this information in their logistical planning.

Thibault and Aurélie have also chosen to equip the harvester with Comfort Ride



Aurélie and Thibault Delesalle run the company Sylvasphère and use MaxiFleet in their work to strengthen customer relations.

cab suspension as they are convinced that a comfortable work environment is central to their employees' professional development. In the future, Sylvasphère hopes that this innovative strategy will benefit both the customers and the company.

KOMATSU DAYS



During an intensive week at the beginning of May, more than 700 forest machine aficionados from all over the world gathered in the forest outside Umeå, Sweden. On location in the forest, two brand new forwarders, the Komatsu 855 and the Komatsu 875, were presented together with a new eight-wheeled harvester, the Komatsu 931XC, and various services with a proactive approach to service and maintenance.

Visitors got to see the new machines in action, as well as presentations of the ProAct 2.0 service concept and the MaxiFleet fleet management system. There were also opportunities for test drives and guided tours of the assembly line at the factory.

Would you like to see more photos and videos from Komatsu Days? www.komatsuforest.com/komatsudays























KOMATSU DAYS

























Cab suspension is a game changer



Bill Kirschner Jr. Trucking & Forest Products has made a quantum leap from standard forest machines to the leading edge of cut-to-length technology. His new Komatsu 855.1 forwarder is the first in North America with the Comfort Ride hydraulic cab suspension system.

BILL KIRSCHNER JR. had been hauling wood for 25 years then transitioned to cut-to-length logging five years ago.

"I thought that last machine was really good, but when I told the operator, Larry Poquette, that I had ordered my new Komatsu 855.1, he went online to learn more about it and came back to me excited about the Comfort Ride option," says Bill.

Larry has worked in the forest industry for 47 years. He's a well-known and well-respected operator who, over the years, has become familiar with several forwarder brands.

Larry says, "This Komatsu forwarder is a game changer. It has made a tremendous difference in how I feel about coming to work. It's not as stressful and the machine doesn't pound your body. I'm 62 and I will retire someday, but this Komatsu Comfort Ride has really made a difference in how long I will want to continue to work."

Larry adds, "Without Comfort Ride, retirement would have come a lot sooner for me. Working in the woods, everybody has some aches and pains. I've had back issues and there have been days when it would act up and I felt like I just couldn't go."

"This is a great solution for anybody running a forwarder long term, especially for those with pain issues. The ride almost feels like the rolling motion of a waterbed. It's made a world of difference. Komatsu has really got something here."

Bill states, "I was making money and doing alright, but I am amazed at how much more productive these new Komatsu machines are. Now that I'm in this position, I never want to fall behind on technology."



Bill Kirschner Jr. with sales representative Brad Jackson of Roland Machinery.



Larry Poquette operating the new Komatsu 855.1 forwarder equipped with the Comfort Ride hydraulic cab suspension system.

NEWS



From the left: Giulia Ligazzolo (Italy), Sarksna Guna (Latvia), Andrea Wieser and Oskar Lanzinger (both Italy).

EUROPEAN SKIING COMPETITION IN NORWAY

Komatsu Forest was a gathering point when nearly 1,000 men and women from 21 nations visited Holmenkollen in Norway during the European Foresters' competition in Nordic Skiing (EFNS). The competition took place over three days with both individual starts and rifle shooting on the program, classic and freestyle. A Komatsu 931 with a C144 was parked at the finish line, which attracted a great deal of attention from the participants.

"We want to be where the forest industry meets, regardless of whether that's in the forest, at trade fairs, or during a skiing competition," says Erik Øverbø, Head of Sales at Komatsu Forest Norway AS.

COORDINATED USED MACHINE SALES

Markku Tuomikoski is the new sales manager for the Baltic States, taking over from veteran Heikki Vilppo, who you can read more about on page 14. This will entail the coordination of used machine sales as Markku will be responsible for used machine sales from Finland.



NEXT **GENERATION**

Jim Anderson (Felch, Michigan USA) is a proud Komatsu 931 owner, and hopes that his newborn son, Jack, will follow in his footsteps.

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