

Springdale logging company named Atlantic Contractor of the Year

CORNER BROOK

A company that harvests timber for Corner Brook Pulp and Paper has been named the best overall logging contractor in all of Atlantic Canada for 2004.

D and T Mechanical Limited of Springdale, which operates for most of the year in and around the Deer Lake area, was selected for the Atlantic Canadian Contractor of the Year Award at the annual meeting of the Canadian Woodlands Forum (CWF) held in Moncton, N.B. earlier this month.

The CWF is an association of forest products companies - including paper mills and sawmills, as well as logging and forest road construction contractors and forestry equipment suppliers.

Dennis Young, owner of the company which regularly employs between 30 and 50 people, was among the 340 people who attended the annual meeting and awards luncheon and accepted the honour from Drew English of the CWF.

D and T Mechanical Limited was nominated by Corner Brook Pulp and Paper for the Atlantic Canada award after it was named the paper company's contractor of the year in January. Peter Robichaud, CWF co-ordinator, then visited the operation in February to conduct an on-site evaluation.

"All of our contractors are expected to maintain very high standards in terms of safety, environmental management, quality and productivity," said Pat Tompkins, Corner Brook Pulp and Paper's woodlands manager. "Dennis Young's award is a strong endorsement of our company's operating standards. He is an excellent contractor and very deserving of this prestigious award. The competition for this award was tough and in 2004, he was the best - not just in Newfoundland and Labrador, but in all of Atlantic Canada, and we're proud of him."

Young, who began his forestry career working for his father in 1982, was first offered a pulpwood harvesting contract with Corner Brook Pulp and Paper in 1999. In 2004, he harvested more than 120,000 cubic metres of wood and built 70 kilometres of forest access road. Young's current fleet of equipment includes seven harvesters, six forwarders, four excavators, three tractor trailers and other equipment and vehicles to support



Submitted Photo

D and T Mechanical Limited of Springdale has been named the 2004 Atlantic Canadian Contractor of the Year by the Canadian Woodlands Forum (CWF). Dennis Young, left, owner of the contracting company that harvests timber for Corner Brook Pulp and Paper, accepted the award from Peter Robichaud, CWF co-ordinator, during the forum's recent annual meeting in Moncton, N.B.

the operation.

"Dennis was nominated because of the progressive, positive approach that he takes with all aspects of his operations," said Dwight Pickett, the paper company's operations supervisor who nominated Young for the Atlantic award. "Corner Brook Pulp and Paper is recognized for the tough operating standards that it requires its contractors to work under and Dennis is regularly around the top of the list in whatever category is being evaluated. He is constantly focused on continual improvement.

"Dennis takes great pride in the fact that his job sites and support facilities are always kept tidy and clean and have really become the benchmark for what Corner Brook Pulp and Paper now expects from other contractors. He is also among the company's best contractors in terms of maintaining his equipment."

In 2004, D and T Mechanical's employees worked the entire year without a single lost-time injury and have

accumulated a total of over 175,000 hours worked since their last lost-time accident. This was accomplished while conforming to the guidelines of both the ISO 14001 and the CSA Z-809 environmental standards all the paper company's contractors are required to adhere to, even while regularly operating in some of the steepest, toughest terrain in western Newfoundland.

"This is really a result of planning, good supervision and employee training and has made Dennis' operation a regular stop for customers, students, and other visitors from the public who want to visit the company's operations," added Pickett.

D and T Mechanical is also a company with a heart. Along with its other contributions to various organizations, Young's operation has donated more than \$11,000 in the last three years to the Canadian Log-a-Load for Kids Program, a national campaign to raise money for children's hospitals.