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PRESS RELEASE

NZ–India FTA Opens New Opportunities for Wood Processing

The Wood Processors and Manufacturers Association of NZ (WPMA) has welcomed the entry into force of the New Zealand–India Free Trade Agreement on 20 October 2026, saying it will help strengthen New Zealand's position in one of the world's fastest growing markets.

WPMA Chief Executive Mark Ross said the agreement is timely for New Zealand's wood processing and forestry sector, with more than 95% of current wood product exports to India becoming tariff free immediately and tariffs on almost all remaining wood trade being phased out over seven years.

Based on current industry export volumes to India valued at approximately \$193 million, the removal of existing tariffs of 5 percent on logs and pulp and 10 percent on wood products will deliver more than \$10 million annually in cost savings and additional revenue opportunities for New Zealand exporters across the wood processing and forestry sector.

WPMA acknowledges the work of the New Zealand Government and trade negotiators in delivering an agreement that creates meaningful opportunities for New Zealand's wood product exporters to India.

WPMA – who we are:

WPMA is an industry membership association representing companies involved in the wider wood processing and manufacturing industries, including sawn timber, pulp and paperboard, manufactured and engineered wood products, along with bio-forest products. Our vision champions wood processing and manufacturing as the core to New Zealand's economic growth, regional development, and sustainable environment.

Media Contact

Mark Ross

Chief Executive, Wood Processors and Manufacturers Association of New Zealand

E: mark@wpma.org.nz

M: 027 442 9965