Introduction to Forest Operations and Technology is a comprehensive presentation of modern forest technology as well as the environment and operations within which these technologies are used. Though the book has been written from a Nordic point of view, its scope is rather global in many aspects regarding forest operations in circumstances of any kind. A short introduction to all major timber harvesting systems in the world is also included. Introduction to Forest Operations and Technology can be used as a textbook in any college or university providing education in forest sciences. Due to its rather pragmatic approach, it can also be used as an introductory book on forest technology for practical foresters or anyone else interested in forest operations. The book has originally been published in Finland in 2003 and was translated to Russian in 2005. The earlier editions (both Finnish and Russian) are still available at Metsäkustannus Oy. Taking into account all editions and language versions more than 4000 books have already been sold.

A new updated English version has been published in October 2010. The translation from Finnish to English has been carried out by Meeri Pearson, an American born forest scientist who has lived in Finland for over ten years. Following translation, the English manuscript has been proofread by Prof. Dennis Dykstra from the USDA Forest Service, Prof. Reino Pulkki from Lakehead University, Ontario, Canada and Prof. Tomas Nordfjell from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU).

The book contains more than 140 illustrations as drawn pictures of machines and methods, photos, figures and tables.

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The policies and strategies laid down for sustainability combined with the rugged terrain, low level of technology available and other resource constraints pose considerable challenges to utilization of forest resources. It is in this direction, that my colleagues and myself are most happy with the holding of this Seminar in our country. Forest Information Technology has helped to create favorable basic conditions for more sustainable and efficient forest management. Many forest operations have started to apply a “portfolio approach” to manage diverse forest ecosystems with multiple revenue streams from different timber tree species, Non-Timber Forest Products, and ecosystem services while minimizing the vulnerability for pest & diseases as well as market risks. Although, there is already an increasing demand for Forest Information Technology, as one of our market surveys has conveyed, there is still a large potential of... Advances in robotics may aid forest operations to improve productivity and cost effectively manage the growth and harvesting of logs... The greatest market drivers for the introduction of robotics include the current shortage of skilled personnel willing to undertake forestry operations, and an increasing cost of regulatory compliance. This paper identifies areas of potential advantage for robotics in the forest sector; and begins the debate on the impact on forestry workers from the introduction of such devices. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 23 New Zealand forestry staff involved in forest operations, to gain an understanding of their reaction to, and perceptions of, the potential use of robotics in forestry.