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Firmly planted: Our long-standing business relationship with Arauco stretches back over four decades.

IT gives everyone at Turner & Coates immense pleasure to announce that we have been awarded a contract to inspect and expedite a consignment of new, state-of-the-art equipment, by Chilean pulp, paper and engineered wood company, Celulosa Arauco y Constitución.

Founded in 1968 to produce and manage renewable forest resources in the Bío Bío region of Central Chile, Arauco is now firmly established as one of the world's largest forestry businesses, not only in terms of forest surface and industrial facilities, but also in relation to its proven efficiency, certified production standards, commitment to innovation and social & environmental responsibility.

Along with its subsidiaries, Arauco produces, exports and sells timber-based products in five of the world's seven continents, via a global network of representatives, agents and offices located in twelve countries including the United States of America, Canada and China. This worldwide network is reinforced by efficient management of the company's unparalleled logistics and distribution chain which includes transport, shipping, storage, foreign trade and service, delivering high quality products to more than 3,500 customers through some 220 major seaports worldwide.

A subsidiary of Chilean energy giant Empresas Copec, headquartered in Santiago, Arauco maintains 30 production facilities in Chile, Argentina, Brazil,

Arauco and Turner & Coates put pen to paper

Uruguay, the United States and Canada. Moreover, the company is now one of the globe's five major producers of renewable forestry resources, to develop products that are present in the daily lives of millions of people worldwide.

Arauco operates primarily in the pulp, panels and sawn timber sectors on a multi-national scale. The company's pulp division provides long and short-fibre bleached pulp, which is used as raw material for manufacturing printing and writing paper, as well as toilet tissue and wrapping. The company's panels division handles the production and distribution of plywood panels, medium density fibreboard (MDF), hardboard and mouldings.

The sawn timber division provides various sizes of sawn wood and remanufactured products for use in the furniture, packing, construction and refurbishing industries. Arauco also operates a forestry division that supplies and sells sawn logs, pulpable logs, posts and chips. As of 2016, the company benefited from more than one million hectares of tree plantations in its native Chile, as well as the neighbouring nations of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay.

This latest contract to inspect and expedite new, state-of-the-art equipment from Valmet in Brazil represents a welcome extension to a long-standing partnership that stretches back over four decades. As a responsible company committed to high standards in environmental stewardship, Arauco seeks to minimise the ecological impact of its day-to-day operations at all times. In view of this, the company is now in the process of upgrading the existing equipment at its Valdivia and Arauco Line 1 mills, to eliminate non-desirable emissions and ensure that the mills themselves are both odourless and environmentally-friendly.

Built in 2004, Valdivia is a pulp mill and biomass-fuelled electricity generating station located in San José de la Mariquina, Central Chile. In addition to wood pulp production, the site also generates 61 MW of electricity from the burning of volatiles and black liquor - a waste by-product resulting from the kraft process of digesting pulpwood into paper pulp.

Turner & Coates was assigned by Arauco to inspect and expedite both the existing equipment at the Valdivia pulp mill, as well as new power and utility machinery from Finland, in order to further develop the plant. As part of this project, we also helped to coordinate the shipping process.

Located 30km west of Chillán and 420km south of Santiago, the Itata sawmill and greenfield pulp mill plant was opened in Spring 2006. Again, we were contracted to provide full inspection and expediting services on existing plant equipment, as well as new power and utility machinery coming from Europe, which included turbo-generators, power and recovery boilers and wood-handling apparatus.

In our 40-year association with Arauco, we have also worked on many other projects, including the inspection and expediting of kraft machinery at the Alto Paraná Mill in Misiones, Argentina, and the upgrade of the Nueva Aldea mill at Chillán. In 2010, we were also tasked with inspecting and expediting emergency replacement parts from Scandinavia, in order to repair one of the recovery boilers at the Arauco mill in Constitución, which had been damaged by the devastating earthquake which occurred in the February of that year.

"Our strong association with Arauco is a source of pride for everyone at Turner & Coates," says company MD Neil Coulborn. "Our latest project for them is an exciting one, scheduled for completion in 2017."

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