

COMPAC'S KIWI TECHNOLOGY FUELS GLOBAL EXPANSION PLANS

Auckland NZ: 29 May 2007: Compac Sorting Equipment is adding South and Central America to its global expansion plans, opening a record new number of sales and service centres to service the region's fruit and vegetable sorting industry.

Mr Bob Shaw, Compac's general manager, says despite the strong dollar the privately-owned company is still growing at 15-20% a year and the company is actively pursuing an international growth strategy.

The company is working with local partners, establishing joint ventures in Argentina and more recently in Brazil. Another joint venture manufacturing company is underway in Uruguay and later in the year Compac will establish a sales and service company in Chile

"This region provides enormous growth potential for us and the expansion is a logical progression from our commitment to dedicated North American offices in Visalia, California and Vero Beach Florida," says Mr Shaw.

Since Compac's dramatic impact onto the international fruit sorting scene over 15 years ago, helping Californian packhouses save a large proportion of its frost-damaged citrus crop, its electronic sorting, grading and packing technology and sophisticated blemish grading has notched up sales across stone fruit, citrus, tomato and vegetable markets.

It also supplies New Zealand designed and manufactured machinery and software to over half of Washington State's apple packing industry.

Mr Shaw says Compac is fast becoming the supplier of choice in both North and South America.

The South American expansion forms part of Compac's global network, which includes a joint venture manufacturing base established with Sorma in Europe, also another manufacturing company in Korea and distribution network development in South Africa, and an expanded sales and service office in Australia.

The company employs 110 people at its Auckland site with a total staff of over 200 world-wide.

More information:

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About Compac Sorting Equipment:

Manufacturers of high speed, accurate sorting systems for fruit and vegetables, Compac is a world leader in fruit sorting technology, through on-going commitment to research and development.