

## MEDIA RELEASE

17 JULY 2017

### Alliance Group early adopter of innovative health and safety technology

Leading food company Alliance Group is investing \$3.4 million in new processing technology as part of a wider programme to improve health and safety at the co-operative.

Forty-nine band-saws featuring state-of-the art safe cutting technology have been installed at eight plants across the country.

Designed specifically for the meat industry, the band-saws are uniquely designed to stop the blade within 15 milliseconds when the unit senses a person, glove or both are in close proximity or in contact with the saw.

This significantly reduces the risk of any potential injury with the risk limited to at worst a small cut.

David Surveyor, Alliance Group Chief Executive, said the installation of the technology reflected the company's commitment to improving health and safety, which was a key component of the co-operative's business strategy.

"The use of standard bandsaws is one of the highest risk activities industry-wide. We want our people to be safer and our business to be stronger and this technology will support that.

"Alliance Group is committed to achieving world class health and safety standards across our co-operative and we are continuing to invest in this area.

"We have made strong progress towards ensuring that safety is embedded in our culture as our absolute number one priority. There is still a long way to go but we are absolutely committed to working with our people, customers and suppliers to make our workplaces safe."

Alliance Group also expects to invest more than \$2 million in a phase two programme, which will see the replacement of 20 larger band-saws as soon as the technology becomes available on those models.

The technology has been rolled out to Alliance Group's plants in Dannevirke, Levin, Nelson, Timaru, Pukeuri, Makarewa, Matura and Lorneville (Invercargill).

**ENDS**

**NOTES TO EDITOR**

Alliance Group is a co-operative owned by approximately 5,000 farmer shareholders and is the world's largest processor and exporter of sheepmeat.



**For further information, contact –**

Sam Halstead  
Telephone: 027 474 6065  
Email: [sam@latitudesc.co.nz](mailto:sam@latitudesc.co.nz)

Chris Bristol  
Telephone: 027 202 2737  
Email: [chris.bristol@alliance.co.nz](mailto:chris.bristol@alliance.co.nz)

[www.alliance.co.nz](http://www.alliance.co.nz)