CUTTING MANUAL LABOUR IN TREE REMOVAL

CASE STUDY: RUTHERFORD TREES



“IT’S FASTER, TAKES MANUAL HANDLING OFF YOUR CREW, AND TAKES ON JOBS YOU COULDN’T DO BY HAND”

– NICK ROWBERRY, OWNER

INTERMERCATO
GRAPPLES

WORKFLOW TRANSFORMATION:

FROM HEAVY MANUAL HANDLING TO EFFIENCY, SPEED AND SAFETY

Prior to Rutherford Trees equipping their fleet with Intermercato grapples, operations relied heavily on manual labor. Technical trees required tedious piece-by-piece hand-rigging; ground crews had to manually drag heavy logs to the chipper or truck, limiting capacity and driving up site fatigue.

Adding the Five-Finger grabs to the fleet has transformed their daily workflow with speed and safety. The grapple securely holds, then safely lower the cut limbs to the ground. This allows a single operator to feed chippers and load trucks effortlessly while keeping ground crews out of harm's way.



THE FLEET:

ZOOMLION ZE55GU
GRX25-5 FIVE-FINGER
WITH WD9 ROTATOR

CATERPILLAR 303.5E CR
TG16PROSR5 FIVE-FINGER
WITH WD9 ROTATOR

CATERPILLAR 308 E2 CR
TG28SR5 FIVE-FINGER
WITH WD14 ROTATOR

WHY IT WORKS ON SITE

7 YEARS, 3 EXCAVATORS, 1 TRUSTED ATTACHMENT

REMOVING MANUAL LIMITS

Replaces slow hand-rigging and heavy manual dragging with controlled, excavator-led dismantling and effortless site cleanups.

UNLOCK NEW BUSINESS POTENTIAL

Enables the team to safely take on more complex, limited-access jobs that were previously too impractical or unsafe to tackle by hand.

PROVEN FLEET DURABILITY

Built over 7 years of daily heavy use and validated through repeated fleet additions with zero major issues beyond standard routine maintenance.

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THE VERDICT

*"It makes removals **faster,** the crew does far **less heavy lifting** and manual handling. It lets you **take on jobs you couldn't do by hand.***

*Apart from normal servicing, we haven't had any major issues **over 7 years of heavy daily use.***

*If another contractor was on the fence about getting one, I'd tell them **do it. It's made our work safer and more efficient every day."***

– Nick Rowberry, Rutherford Trees



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RUTHERFORD TREES

Bellarine Peninsula
rutherfordtrees.com.au

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www.grapples.com.au

sales@grapples.com.au

1300 88 21 61

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