

# Logging camp earns award

by Steve Pilkington

Tundra Times reporter

In an industry where showing up for work can be hazardous to an employee's health, safety measures are usually the topic of conversation after an accident or a death.

But a small logging plant in Ketchikan recently gave the logging industry something new to ponder. And it received an award in the process.

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— Brent Allison

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"This plant went 100 days without any accidents," said Brent Allison, vice president of human resources for Klukwan Forest Products Inc.

According to Allison, going 100 days without any sort of accident is highly unusual in the logging business.

This small plant, located in the midst of the Tongass National Forest in Ketchikan, is run by 130 loggers and it handles logging, road construction and other operations which have very dangerous histories for the careless.

"It's incredibly dangerous. Unfortunately we have about eight people a year killed in our industry. It's one of those occupations," Allison said.

Recently, the Ketchikan plant run by Klukwan was given an award to recognize its safe practices.

"This award is something special for a location," he said.

Klukwan Forest Products also has an award system where an employee gets a bonus \$150 if they haven't had an accident during the previous quarter, Allison said.

KFP hopes that, by awarding a bonus and recognition for safety, the average number of people killed in the logging industry will no longer be a concern, he said.