

We recently interviewed G.L. Kotlyar, the General Director of the "Rosleskhoz mash" Association, on these issues.

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Lesnaya promyshlennost: Director Kotlyar, all our hopes for the rapid development of the Soviet economy, for an increase in production and an improvement in product quality, are pinned on the introduction of the profit-and-loss accounting system. This is the reason behind my first question: what is your opinion of the equipment now at work in the forest in terms of types and quality, and what future developments do you anticipate in this area as a result of the new management system?

G.L. Kotlyar: The country does not have a single forestry equipment engineering system and the "Rosleskhoz mash" plants do not produce all the different models now in operation. Foresters get some equipment from the agricultural, logging and other sectors. We fill in the gaps in large-scale machine-building. We manufacture a number of multi-unit machines based on skidder and forestry tractors. This base unit, by the way, leaves much to be desired both from the technical and the ecological point of view. We also manufacture units for processing low-grade wood and timber of little commercial value.

Now under the new management conditions when we have entered into direct contact with our customers, we have become convinced that even they don't know who produces what and whom they should get in touch with if they have complaints about the quality or technical level of the equipment. We will get back to this point later.