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## NEW SEED COATING PLANT IN NEW ZEALAND

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Cimbria has successfully installed a new seed coating plant at H&T Agronomics, situated in the town of Feilding in the Manawatu region of New Zealand's North Island.

H&T Agronomics was founded in 2003 and is headed by Paul Oliver and Duncan Thomas, who are qualified and experienced in agronomy and also specialise in seed enhancement products that bring together the very best technologies from around the world. Their aim is to bring new, innovative technology to New Zealand's farmers, a major part of which is their seed enhancement programme.

Cimbria Australia Pty Ltd had the task of convincing H&T that we had the best seed coating experience and technology, and that we were able to design, supply and commission a new plant in an existing building using a Cimbria Heid CC150 Centricoater with a specification to fulfil their current and projected requirements. Prior to ordering the new Centricoater, H&T had visited the operations of South Island Seed Dressing and Storage Co. Ltd. in Ashburton, New Zealand, where there is a Cimbria Heid CC50 Centricoater plus other Cimbria processing equipment.

The CC150 Centricoater is the largest Centricoater in New Zealand and has a belt feeder and dosing system consisting of two flow meters, one direct dosing pump, one pump-supplied glass cylinder, the option of inline mixing, one variable powder feeder, two 200-litre pre-mix tanks, two 400-litre pre-mix tanks, plus preparation for the future addition of hardware. All

this equipment can be controlled by single or staged dosing recipe software.

The seed to be coated is conveyed into the Centricoater's pre-bin using a new Cimbria Heid pendulum bucket elevator fitted with a vibratory feeder. This ensures a very good and efficient gentle handling feed system with minimum seed loss on clean-down, as well as maximum seed hygiene.

Some of the seed types handled and successfully coated to date are: rye grass, tall fescue, plantain, chicory, clover, maize, wheat, barley, sorghum, brassicas, oats, rye corn, fodder beet, sugar beet, lucerne (alfalfa).

H&T feedback and strategies as follows:

"Yes, the new plant is performing nicely, and we have put a decent volume through it with no hiccups"

- We champion Innovation, Technology and Communication – and our Cimbria equipment matches all three superbly.
- We have a look at each of the species of pastoral, forage and arable seed that we are involved in and enhance the best genetics we can find with crop protection, bio-stimulant and polymer products to add value for the New Zealand farmers.
- We call this process and its results "H&T Optimised".

None of this would be possible without the Cimbria CC-150 and its multiple dose line technology.



*Paul Oliver and Duncan Thomas - Happy Centricoater owners*

Where others are still formulating slurries and single applications, we have the ability to apply multiple seed enhancement products in the right order and with the accuracy we require.

We are utilising trace element, bio-stimulant and modern polymer technologies to chase improved plant health, yield and flowability. H&T are investigating powder coating and other technologies, and evaluating new enhancement processes that will be a world-first if successful. Watch this space!

Cimbria Australia Pty Ltd is looking forward to being part of any future processing technology that H&T will find necessary to implement, whilst in the meantime providing support for their current plant.

