

# MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY

## SCHOOL OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

NAME : ANTHONY K NJUGUNA  
REG. No : BBIT/09/05350  
COURSE : BUSINESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
UNIT CODE : BIT4107

### PROJECT TITLE:

THIKA TIMBER YARD MANAGEMENT INFORMATION  
SYSTEM

This project is submitted in partial fulfillment of requirement for the Mount Kenya University award of BACHELOR OF BUSINESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

## CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study.

Thika timber yard was established in the year 1998 under the (Kenya forests Program) So as to address wood and timber needs within the Thika region. From its humble beginning Thika timber yard has evolved and developed into a respected yard that is poised to meet the challenges of the timber industry in the rural areas of the county. Within the timber yard various activities take place the activities include;

#### **Log sorting and barking**

On arrival at the yard storage, logs are sorted and stored according to species, diameter, length and end-use, etc. Sufficient quantities are stockpiled to ensure the yard's continuous operation, particularly during adverse weather conditions when log extraction and supply from the forests may be adversely affected.

#### **Log sawing or breakdown**

Before the log is presented to the head rig for breakdown, it is cut to the longest permissible straight length with a cut-off saw, whereupon it is loaded onto the head saw carriage and positioned in such a manner as to allow the operator to achieve a sawing pattern, which will result in the optimum production of saw timber with the minimum of waste. The pattern of cut is largely determined by the dimension and condition of the log, as well as the market requirements for the widths and thicknesses of the lumber.

#### **Sorting and grading**

The sawn and trimmed timber is sorted according to thickness, width, length, quality, grade and species depending on the market requirements; such an activity may be undertaken manually or, in the case of mills where low-cost labour is not available, by mechanized sorters. Grading is a means to segregate the lumber according to the overall quality, direction of grain, presence of knots and defects, as well as general appearance, etc.

To protect the sawn timber against attack from fungi and insects, as well as to inhibit the tendency of air-dried lumber to check and split, the ends may be brushed either manually or mechanically dipped in a suitably prepared chemical solution. Wax or paint is applied to the end-grain of lumber to be air-dried, either by brush or spraying, so as to act as a sealant in order to