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US deal hauled in

By FLEUR MASON

BARRAMUNDI from Hamilton Hill business Cell Aquaculture are heading to the US.

Managing director Perry Leach said a chronic over-fishing of natural seafood stocks was increasing the demand for seafood from land-based aquaculture systems.

Cell Aquaculture recently signed an operating agreement with Delta Aquaculture Services in the US. It has 50 per cent equity in the US company and a seat on the management board.

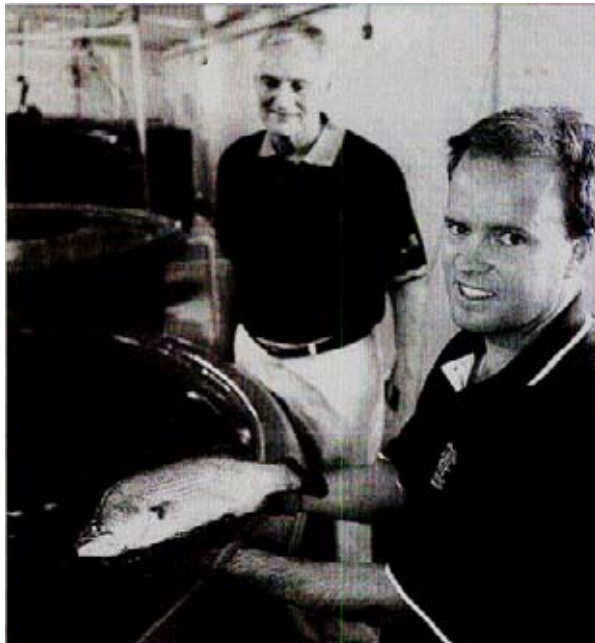
Mr Leach and property developer and fresh food distributor David Kingston will join the board.

"This is a major step in our goal of growing high-quality premium fish everywhere in the world in a controlled and environmentally-sustainable environment," Mr Leach said.

"This alliance will clearly establish Delta as a major player in the seafood and aquaculture markets of the Americas."

He said the local company would take the risk out of growing fish by providing plant, fish and consulting services to Delta.

Cell Aqua continues to expand since listing on the Australian Stock Exchange in July 2005.



Perry Leach with technician Matt Love.
Picture: Martin Kennealey