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US opens to fish firm

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

A chronic over-fishing of natural seafood stocks was increasing demand for seafood from land based aquaculture systems, managing director Perry Leach said.

Cell Aquaculture recently signed an operating agreement with US firm Delta Aquaculture Services.

Cell has 50 per cent equity in the US company and a place on the management board.

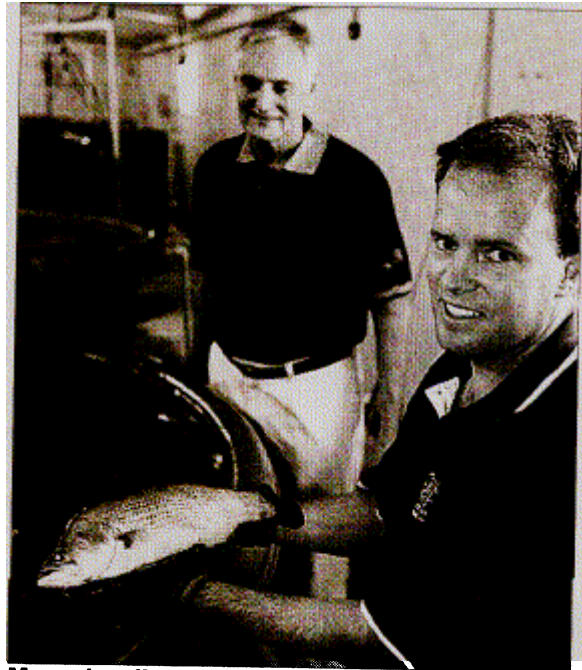
Mr Leach and property developer and fresh food distributor David Kingston will join the board.

"This is a major step in our goal of growing high-quality premium fish everywhere in the world in a controlled, 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 has expanded since listing on the Australian Stock Exchange in July last year, and has built a production complex in the Netherlands.



Managing director Perry Leach watches as technician Matt Love shows off a barramundi.