

# CITW Facts by Fax

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### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FORGING AHEAD WITH HAZARDOUS WASTE REGULATIONS

The federal government is expected to follow Ontario's lead and introduce tough new hazardous waste regulations by the end of 2002.

Environment Canada and the Hazardous Waste Task Group (HWTG), in collaboration with the Canadian Council of Ministers of Environment (CCME), are currently developing new regulations that would reclassify previously considered non-hazardous wastes as hazardous.

It appears that the federal government will emulate the Ontario government and adopt a tough new leaching procedure to determine if wastes are hazardous. The Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) is a test that predicts the concentration of chemicals that may leach from waste in landfills.

At the same time, the federal government is also forging new regulations to control inter-provincial/territorial movements of hazardous wastes and hazardous recyclable materials. The proposed regulations are intended to harmonize the domestic definition of hazardous wastes and hazardous recyclable materials while ensuring that interprovincial shipments to proper facilities can be tracked. A mechanism for issuing permits for environmental safety is also expected to be part of the package.

The CITW is keeping a close eye on these developments and working hard to ensure that the federal government will maintain a non-hazardous status for treated wood products. CITW is working with the preservative suppliers and the major industrial users on this issue.

### FEDERAL COMPLIANCE ORDERS IN FORCE

Armed with new powers granted under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act 1999 (CEPA), federal enforcement officers can now order companies suspected of illegal activities to immediately cease and desist. They can also

compel business to take actions to correct violations or even go so far as to oblige them to take steps that will prevent breaches.

"These new powers give our enforcement officers effective tools to deal directly with polluters and put an immediate stop to actions harming our environment," noted Federal Environment Minister David Anderson.

The enforcement of the new powers, officially called Environmental Protection Compliance Orders (EPCOs), will be overseen by Margot Priest, the new Chief Review Officer. Assisting her will be Review Officers Louis LaPierre and John Roe.

The officers, who will be operating at an arm's length from Environment Canada, have a mandate to conduct reviews of EPCOs under dispute. EPCOs will be reassessed if individuals are not satisfied with the terms or conditions imposed by the EPCO. They will also be reviewed if individuals believe that EPCOs have been unjustly imposed or if they disagree with the scope of the order.

### CANADA-WIDE STANDARDS

A Canada-wide standard encompassing dioxins and furans has been reached, announced recently Federal Environment Minister David Anderson. The agreement was signed at the beginning of May by all inter-territorial and provincial governments, except Quebec.

The agreements were developed by the Canadian Council of the Environment under the framework of the Canada-wide Accord on Environmental Harmonization and the Canada-wide Environmental Standards Sub-Agreement.

Also covered by the deal are petroleum hydrocarbons in soil, mercury in dental amalgams and mercury-containing lamps.

### CITW HELPS LAUNCH ENVIRONMENTAL FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

The CITW recently joined hands with the Canada Sports Friendship Exchange Programs



#### Tree Canada

Children from across Canada watch attentively as Dick Irvin and Geraldine Doucet plant one of the CITW trees in Montreal, Quebec.

(CSFEP) and the Tree Canada Foundation to launch the Bob Beale Memorial Tree Plant Fundraising Program.

In a moving ceremony held in Montreal before 150 people from across the country, three large trees generously donated by the CITW were planted in honour of Bob Beale as well as two of his most fervent supporters: program co-founder Peter Bronfman and the inimitable hockey announcer Danny Gallivan.

Bob Beale founded a unique exchange program that used sports to bring together more than 31,000 youngsters over the past three decades from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds. The CSFEP hosts non-competitive friendly games along with cultural outings in a bid to foster friendship, respect for diversity and a better understanding between Canada's two official language groups.

The Tree Planting Fundraising Program will help teams finance a part of the exchange while making a positive contribution to the environment. Participants will sell sponsorships for trees for \$3, with a dollar heading to the participating group, a dollar to Tree Canada and a dollar to CSFEP so that they can increase the number of exchanges they support annually. A Tree Canada Cup will be awarded to the group that raises the most money each year.

"The trees CITW donated to honour three outstanding Canadians, provide an excellent way to launch a national program that supports youth, unity and the environment," remarked Gilbert Paille, Tree Canada Foundation Vice-Chairman.

The Tree Canada Foundation is a non-profit organization that aims to educate Canadians about the environmental and economic benefits of trees. The Foundation, through working partnerships and with the support of corporate sponsors, has planted nearly 74 million trees since 1992.

## WORKING GROUP FORGED TO DEVELOP INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

An International Standards Organization meeting held in Nara, Japan last May led to the establishment of a multilateral working group with a mandate to draft international standards for pressure treated wood, reports CITW executive director Henry Walthert, who attended the proceedings.



**ISO 2001**  
*Delegates from Japan, Sweden and Germany participate in the ISO TC165 SC1 meeting in Nara, Japan.*

The ISO TC165SCI subcommittee is expected to complete a working document in the coming months. The draft will be distributed to key stakeholders in time for the 6th annual meeting scheduled to be held in Spring 2002.

The CITW is the subcommittee's secretariat and Paul Morris of Forintek Canada is the chairman. Besides Canada, other nations participating in the exercise are Australia, France, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa, Belgium, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States.

## PAPER GIANT FINED FOR RELEASE OF WOOD FIBRES

Forest product giant MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. recently was fined \$140,000 after pleading guilty to releasing wood fibre into the environment between February and September 1998 at its fibreboard mill in Pembroke, Ontario. MacMillan Bloedel sold the mill on September 30, 1998 to Temple Pembroke

Inc., a Texas firm who have since spent millions of dollars on cleanup efforts.

A citizen's group in Pembroke is nevertheless still concerned about emissions from the mill. They claim that odours have not yet disappeared and that their property continues to be showered by particles. In collaboration with the Canadian Environmental Defence Fund, the citizens' group has determined that Temple ostensibly released over 112,000 kilograms of formaldehyde into the environment since 1999, the second highest release of well-known carcinogen in all of Canada according to data obtained from the federal government's National Pollutant Release Inventory. The Ontario Ministry of Environment is currently conducting an investigation on Temple Pembroke for its polluting activities.

McMillan Bloedel is now part of the Weyerhaeuser Company, one of the world's largest integrated forest products firms.

## CANADIAN WOOD COUNCIL

The annual general meeting of the Canadian Wood Council recently held in Kelowna, British Columbia was well-attended, brimming with industry representatives. A slew of presentations were held, with the keynote speaker being former New Brunswick premier Frank McKenna.

The meeting was held in conjunction with Interior Lumber Manufacturers Association Annual General Meeting. CITW members Ian Jones, Bell Pole and Jim Fennell, Selkirk Forest Products were in attendance.

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN POLE & TREATING ASSOCIATION

The Rocky Mountain Pole & Treating Association held its annual meeting in conjunction with the Western Red Cedar Association from June 3 to June 5 in Vernon, British Columbia. Jocelyn Bougie, CITW's Environmental Coordinator, gave a well-received presentation that highlighted industry initiatives and CITW activities. Among the subjects Jocelyn broached were SOP, Assessment 2000, and the TRD implementation plan. He also talked about projects the CITW is involved in such as a zinc-leaching study, a pole longevity study, and a spill-and-fire contingency plan designed to assist treaters with emergencies.

## SOP PROGRESS REPORT

The Industrial Treated Wood Users Steering Committee met on May 28 and May 29 in Edmonton to discuss progress and recommendations streaming out of the Strategic Options Process.

A User Guidance Document providing users with suggested practices for use, storage and handling of pressure treated wood products is nearing completion.

The Steering Committee has also developed a life-cycle analysis methodology which will be tested independently in 2001.

Besides CITW Executive Director Henry Walthert, sitting on the roundtable were representatives from CN Rail, CP Rail, Nova Scotia Power, the Canadian Electricity Association, Alberta Environment, Environment Canada and the Pest Management Regulatory Agency.

## CITW WEBSITE

The website has been restructured and lots of additions have been made to better educate the public. More information will be added shortly. Please do not hesitate to browse and send comments to Marcia Straatsma, Arch Wood Protection Canada Corp. at 905-826-9648 or gmstraatsma@archchemicals.com.

## INDUSTRY LOSES FRIEND

The Canadian wood preservation industry lost a good friend on June 12, 2001 with the sudden passing of Bob Stephens. Bob has seen many sides of the industry having worked for Domtar, Forintek and most recently through his own company R.W. Stephens Consulting. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Canadian Wood Council**  
Semi-annual General Meeting  
October 18-19, 2001  
Montreal, PQ

**American Wood Preservers Association**  
Fall Technical Meetings  
September 16-21, 2001  
Rapid City, SD

**Canadian Institute of Treated Wood**  
Committee Meetings  
October 22, 2001  
Toronto, ON

**Canadian Wood Preservation Association**  
Annual Meeting  
October 23-24, 2001  
Toronto, ON

**Canadian Standards Association**  
CSA O80 Meeting  
October 25, 2001  
Toronto, ON

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202-2141 Thurston Drive  
Ottawa, ON K1G 6C9  
Tel: 613-737-4337  
Fax: 613-247-0540  
Email: citw@fox.nstn.ca  
Website: www.citw.org*