



CITW

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REMINDER – TAKE

NOTE

Monday October 21, 2002:
CITW Fall Committee
Meetings Renaissance
Vancouver Hotel
Harbourside 1133 West
Hastings St., Vancouver,
BC.

SEPTEMBER - ALL QUIET ON TREATED WOOD FRONT.

This past month has been relatively quiet for most on the treated wood news front. With the news release in August of Florida's panel of doctors reiterating the safety of treated wood and the city of Toronto deferring action on CCA treated wood structures, it would appear that most negative reporting was nipped in the bud. A few environmentally friendly journalists tried to rekindle some interest but that rapidly fizzled; and, an Ottawa lady tried to make an issue over her deck but with the exception of those involved

that seems to have barely raised a ripple with media or interest groups.

It would appear from all reports that the 2002 summer has been a good one for the production and sales of treated wood.

CITW BRIEFS THE O.A.S.B.O. HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDING COMMITTEE

This committee of the association of Ontario School Boards was, at their request, briefed by Paul McKeogh, CITW's executive Coordinator, on the safety, viability and efficiency of Pressure Treated Wood. This was an opportunity to re-affirm that the change to the new preservatives was a transition to a newer more environmentally friendly product and not a ban. It was further reiterated that CCA products remain safe for use and that there was no health or safety reasons to remove

any structures presently constructed with CCA treated wood.

The presentation was well received and there were no difficult or aggressive questions. It would appear that none intended to make any drastic changes unless the EPA/PMRA review raised safety issues.

EXPORT AND IMPORT OF HAZARDOUS WASTES REGULATIONS.

The goal of the Regulations Amending the Export and Import of Hazardous Wastes Regulations, which came into force August 15, is to ensure that the current manifest tracking and classification requirements for the international movements of hazardous wastes are maintained. The primary

function of a waste manifest is to trace the movements of hazardous wastes and hazardous recyclable materials from their point of origin to the site of disposal or recycling.

The *Canadian Environmental Protection Act 1999* gave Environment Canada new authority to regulate interprovincial movements of hazardous wastes and hazardous recyclable materials, following which the government announced its intention to transfer the manifest tracking requirements from the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations (TDG Regulations) to regulations under CEPA.

This approach is reflected in the new TDG Regulations under the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act*, which came into force August 15, 2002. The new TDG Regulations do not include specific sections concerning the manifesting of hazardous waste, nor do they continue to define waste for the purpose of controlling wastes and recyclable materials as a separate category of dangerous goods.

To maintain the status quo under the Export and Import of Hazardous Wastes Regulations (EIHWR), these requirements must now be directly included in the EIHWR. In addition, the new TDG Regulations modify the way in which miscellaneous

dangerous goods are classified - which must also be addressed in the amended EIHWR.

Environment Canada has initiated consultations on planned *major* amendments to the EIHWR that will implement enhanced authority to control imports, exports, and transits of hazardous wastes and hazardous recyclable materials under CEPA. However, these major amendments are not expected to be in place until mid-2003. The amendments to the existing regulations ensure there is no regulatory gap.

CITW is participating in this activity through an industry group which includes the major industrial users of treated wood.

QUEBEC INTRODUCES NEW PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT CODE.

Quebec's Ministère de l'Environnement published a notice in the July 3 edition of the Gazette of the draft *Pesticides Management Code and Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the application of the Environment Quality Act - under the Pesticides Act*. The regulation proposes a series of measures to minimize damage to the environment due to the storage, sale, and use of pesticides and to reduce the risk of contamination of surroundings and of exposure of adults and children to pesticides.

The regulation also integrates certain provisions of the *Regulation respecting the application of the Environment Quality Act* and the *Regulation respecting the use of DDT* under the *Environment Quality Act* to establish installation standards for:

- the safe storage, loading and unloading of pesticides; and,
- buffer zones alongside watercourses, bodies of water, and wells.

In addition, the legislation provides standards for the use of pesticides and prohibitions for the use of certain pesticides in public, parapublic, and municipal green spaces, and certain areas used by children. The Ministry also published July 3, the draft *Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting permits and certificates for the sale and use of pesticides* under the *Pesticides Act*. The purpose of the regulation is to harmonize the classes of pesticides with those of the federal *Pest Control Products Act* and update the classification criteria to maintain access to products presenting the least risk for users and the environment.

The new regulation will have a financial impact on farmers and forest managers because of the creation of a new subclass

of certificate. The initiative could also have a financial impact, in particular, on pesticide retail businesses, and their employees, where a new examination for the issue or renewal of certificates could be prescribed.

For more information contact: .Jean-Francois Bourque, Ministère de l'Environnement (418) 521-3829; email: jean-francois.bourque@meiiv.gouv.qc.ca
Access the Gazette: <http://publicationsduquebec.gouv.qc.ca/enifratne/index.html>

Access the existing federal Pest Control Products Act (PCPA) at: <http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/P-9/index.html>

THE CANADIAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION (CCC) – CAN ADD RISK PROTECTION TO YOUR EXPORT CONTRACTS.

For over 50 years, the Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC), Canada's export contracting agency, has been reducing risk for buyers and sellers by building contracts that have the best possible terms and conditions. A contract is an agreement—enforceable by law—that represents the parties' intentions and documents their responsibilities. When agreements cross borders and jurisdictions, however, both buyers and sellers need additional protection from perceived risks. Satisfaction with both

product and payment is most likely when all parties perform in accordance with the mutually understood terms and conditions outlined within the contract. In export contracting, where the risk is perceived to be higher, exporters will often be asked to post performance bonds to guarantee that the contract terms and conditions will be fulfilled. As Prime Contractor in an export contract, CCC offers buyers a 100% guarantee that contract terms and conditions will be met, which can result in the waiver of such bonds.

CCC offers exporters the following tips for negotiating a risk-reduced contract. Prepare for the possibility that one or both parties may not perform in accordance with contract terms:

- Include recourse options and remedies in the event of contractual default.
- For disputes, specify the rules governing arbitration, the arbitrator and the country of arbitration.

Use clear language to avoid misunderstandings:

- Define product specification requirements, payment terms and overall contract objectives.
- Identify remedial action or penalties for terms or conditions that are not met.

Investigate the pitfalls that can lead to possible shipping delays in foreign markets before signing an export contract:

- Identify all required

export permits.

- Develop delivery schedules that can accommodate unexpected delays at the border, particularly in regulated markets.

Minimize the risk of non-payment in cases where a buyer perceives that the product fails to meet the specifications:

- Define the process for product inspection and acceptance.
- Establish a method of payment that satisfies the exporter's risk tolerance and takes into account whether or not the product has been manufactured to prescribed specifications in the past.

For more information about building risk protection into your export contracts, contact Canadian Commercial Corporation, tel: **(613) 996-0034**, toll-free in Canada **1-800-748-8191**.

OPPORTUNITIES IN EUROPE?

The domestic U.K. construction industry is experiencing a period of rapid change, most evident in the new housing market. A shortage of skills, rising construction costs, defects associated with on-site wet trades and new building regulations that stipulate increased thermal insulation have

all contributed to a shortage of new homes.

This has, in turn, created a trend toward off-site production and a demand for new, innovative products that “de-skill” the construction site yet meet the new standards. Framing systems, particularly wood frames, are becoming more accepted. In the short-term, Canadian manufacturers will be well positioned to supply this market while domestic manufacturers are gearing up to meet demand. Long-term success, however, depends on developing supply partnerships with small to medium-sized homebuilders that lack their own manufacturing capabilities. A number of other opportunities are worth exploring: lightweight cladding and roofing systems, mechanical systems, prefabricated and panelized components as well as value-added wood products such as windows, doors and flooring.

Market access

considerations: While certain large retailers, merchants and builders are willing to buy goods directly from an offshore manufacturer, conducting business in the U.K. often

requires a local partner. Such partners provide vital insight into British business practices, market characteristics and strategies, as well as legal, financial and importation procedures. Companies must be prepared to invest time (2 to 3 years) and resources to build contacts and product awareness. Canadian firms must ensure that their products conform to European, or, if not available, British standards. To become regular suppliers to leading DIY outlets, timber exporters must have their products certified by the Forest Stewardship Council or equivalent.

Many domestic and international manufacturing firms with integrated distribution operations are well established in the U.K., and competition between them is fierce. Canadian wood products face intense competition from softwoods originating in Scotland, Scandinavia and the Baltic States, and hardwoods from the Far East and South America. Many wood promotion agencies maintain well-funded and active representative offices in the U.K., but a similar marketing presence by Canadian wood

associations is noticeably absent.

For more information, contact Jason Kee, Business Development Officer, Canadian High Commission, London, tel.: **(011-44-20) 7258-6664**, fax: **(011-44-20) 7258-6384**, e-mail:

jkee@canada.com

Web site:

www.infoexport.gc.ca/uk

NOTES

- **CITW Fall Committee meetings** Renaissance Vancouver Hotel Harbourside 1133 West Hastings St., Vancouver, BC, Monday October 21, 2002.
- **CWPA 23rd Annual Meeting**, same venue, October 22nd & 23rd, 2002.
- **CSA 080 Meeting**, same venue, October 24th, 2002.
- **Construct Canada/Homebuilder & Renovator Expo** dates at the South Building of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre: Wed. Dec.4 and Thurs. Dec.5 - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fri. Dec.6 -9a.m. to 1p.m.
- **Wood Solutions Fair**, Congress Centre Ottawa, Ontario, Tuesday, December 10, 2002.

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