



CITW
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Record Attendance Expected at CITW 2005 AGM

Mid-way through March and registered attendance for the CITW 2005 Annual General Meeting, April 3-5, is nearing record numbers with 59 delegates/spouses already on the list.

President Craig Frohlich is looking forward to greeting everyone at the Welcome Reception beginning at 6:30 PM on Sunday evening.

The meeting promises to be full of information including updates on the Environment Canada hazardous waste issue, the TRD implementation program, the TRD certification program,

and changes to the National Building Code of Canada requiring quality marking of pressure treated wood products.

Hugo Lemieux, Canadian Wood Council will be providing delegates with an update on the new code requirements set to be introduced later this year and implemented through various provincial and municipal requirements in early 2006.

Dennis Hayward, Western Wood Preservers Institute will present an update on the Check Mark quality assurance program and the activities of the North American Wood Pole Council.

Herb Estriecher, Keller & Heckman will be in attendance to describe the enormous effort by CITW to successfully influence the development of Environment Canada proposed hazardous waste regulations that would have had disastrous consequences for our industry. In addition, he will provide an update on regulatory activity related to treated wood issues in the United States.

Our keynote speaker, Kevin Burns will entertain and inspire us with his “Instigational” address. All delegates and spouse are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The meeting will conclude with a bus tour of the magnificent Rockies, a gondola ride and dinner on the mountain (7,700 feet) at Kicking Horse Resort in Golden , BC.

Canada Launches LEED Rating System for Green Buildings

LEED Canada for new construction is the Canadian adapted version of the rapidly growing green building system developed by the US Green Building Council. This version was launched December 1, 2004 by the Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC). LEED (leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is a market-driven rating system developed to provide a standard benchmark and third-party certification for the design and construction of green buildings; it is currently a voluntary system. The system is performance-based and it considers factors such as energy efficiency, indoor air-quality, water use, site planning, and use of resources in its assessment of the buildings design and

construction. The Canada Green Building Council was founded in 2002 and has more than 580 leading organizations in its membership.

Perceptions of US Homebuilders Concerning Treated Wood

A research study was conducted by Richard P. Vlosky and Todd F. Shupe of the Louisiana State University Agriculture Centre using the 500 largest US homebuilders as measured by 2001 sales. Homebuilders are important influencers of wood products demand, including treated wood. The objectives of this study were to ascertain homebuilders attitudes and preferences for various home construction methods and their awareness and concern regarding treated wood. Thirty-two percent of respondents had an extremely positive perception of treated wood, while 38% had a somewhat positive perception and only 1% had an extremely negative perception. Approximately 61% of respondents felt that

treated wood does not pose a threat to humans in outdoor application and is safe if handled and disposed of properly. Roughly 51% said it is safe for builders to use and a further 42% believed it is safe for children's outdoor play equipment. Finally, 38% believed that treated wood is safe for pets or farm animal exposure and 55% of the respondents would like additional information pertaining to treated wood.

Update on PMRA Pentachlorophenol Re-Evaluation

Re-evaluation note – REV2004-04: *Update on the re-evaluation of pentachlorophenol heavy-duty wood preservatives* was posted online December 6, 2004 by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA).

Pentachlorophenol is one of the three heavy-duty wood preservatives that are undergoing a cooperative re-evaluation between the PMRA and the US Environmental Protection Agency

(EPA). The other two preservatives are creosote and chromated copper arsenate (CCA). The EPA's preliminary health and environmental risk assessments for pentachlorophenol have already been released. Comments were due January 31, 2005; the penta task force has already responded on behalf of the industry.

February Deadline to Comment on Initial Stage of CEPA Review

On December 14, 2004 a notice of the CEPA Review website was posted on the CEPA Environmental Registry by Environment Canada. Information relating to the activities of the Parliamentary Review of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*(CEPA 1999) were posted.

Environmental protection policies and legislation – including CEPA 1999 should reflect the following key attributes according to the sites “scoping paper”:

- Effective decision-making incorporating a clear national agenda supported by federal-provincial-territorial co-operation and well functioning partnerships;
- timely access to information about the state of the environment and human health and effective mechanisms;
- sound science and technology research and development to support informed decision-making and stimulate innovation;
- performance promotion to respective rules, incentives, compliance promotion and enforcement, all premised on a “smart regulation” approach; and
- ongoing education and engagement of all Canadians.

CITW attended an information meeting in

Montreal, early February 2005. A formal review of the act by parliamentary committee is expected by March 31, 2005. This review's expected to last for one year and the government will then have a further 150 calendar days to respond to the committee's recommendations. In the event of a new or amended CEPA, the changes will be introduced early 2007 with Royal Assent likely in 2008.

Upcoming Events

North American Transmission and Distribution Conference & Expo: Toronto, Ontario: May 10-11, 2005

Canadian Wood Council Annual General Meeting: Calgary, Alberta: April 28-29, 2005

AWPA Annual General Meeting: New Orleans, Louisiana: May 15 -17, 2005