

Machine Stress Rated Lumber Producers Council MSR Update

Winter Issue

February 2005

A Message from the President

Stewart Garden, P.Eng. • Canadian Forest Products Ltd.

Greetings from Vancouver –

2004 is a year that will be talked about for decades to come! Roller coaster price fluctuations for MSR lumber left all stakeholders guessing on what was next in the marketplace. Record housing starts and demand for MSR lumber created levels no one expected to see. Exchange rates and the U.S.-Canada trade file also impacted the market and again left stakeholders focusing on what they knew best.

Industry consolidation in Canada was another major milestone. Seven large producers became three larger producers as size, synergies and efficiencies were targeted as the next steps in the growth of the industry.



The Council fulfilled our commitments to promote the product through our workshop, the print media, industry events and involvement with other associations. We expect 2005 to be another strong year in the marketplace and the Council will maintain our high profile for MSR lumber.

Although our 2004 production survey has not yet been conducted, the general feeling is we have experienced another year of strong production growth absorbed by increased market demand in the component and engineered wood industries. Most of us are anticipating the same in 2005.

Best wishes to all for a happy and successful new year! Happy selling!||

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Stewart G.

11th Annual Workshop Scheduled

The 11th Annual MSR Lumber Producers Council Workshop will convene June 7-9, 2005, at the Marriott Grand Hotel in Point Clear, Alabama. Held in conjunction with the Southern Pine Inspection Bureau, the workshop schedule includes meetings on June 8 and tours and dinner on June 9.

Reservations at the Marriott Grand Hotel can be made by calling 1-800-544-9933. Workshop regis-

trants must mention the “2005 MSR Lumber Producers Council Workshop” in order to get the event room rate of \$209 per night. For more information about the accommodations available at the historic Marriott Grand Hotel, visit www.marriottgrand.com.

Additional details about the Workshop will be posted on the MSRLPC web site at www.msrlumber.org as they become available.||

Inside this issue: Wood Solutions Fair Summaries • Transversal MSR Grader • MSRLPC Update & Plans for 2005
BCMC 2004 Recap • Tsunami Relief • New Members • Calendar of Events



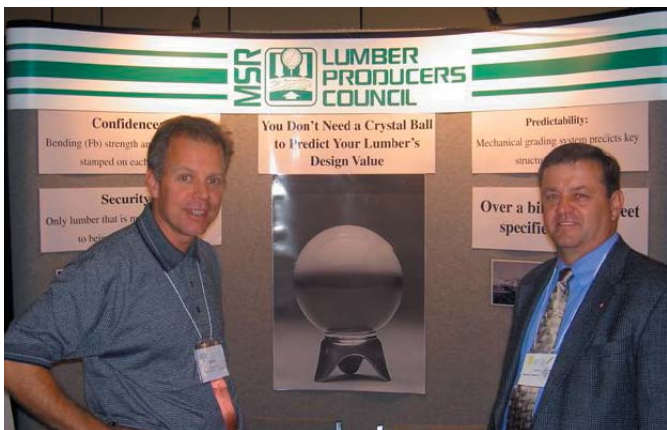
W E S T R E S S Q U A L I T Y

MSR Lumber Producers Council Enjoys Presence at Wood Solutions Fairs in U.S. & Canada in 2004

Toronto, Ontario

Members of your BOD were hard at work this past September at the Toronto Wood Solutions Fair. The MSR Lumber Producers Council was among 40 exhibitors taking part in this important event to promote the use of wood in residential and commercial construction projects. The Greater Toronto Area is one of the fastest growing regions in Canada with great opportunities for increasing wood frame construction projects. The event attracted 900 engineers, architects, students and building material specifiers, and we were able to speak with many of them on the advantages of specifying and using MSR lumber. The level of knowledge we observed among attendees confirmed the importance of promotional activities for MSR lumber carried out by the Council.

Board members Bruce Baird of Tembec and Stewart Garden of Canfor spent the day at the booth, and were impressed by the dozens of lectures and high caliber of speakers participating at the Fair. Many contacts were made with current and potential users of MSR lumber, and we felt the day was extremely worthwhile and important to the Council. We plan to continue participating in at least two Wood Solutions Fairs each year as part of the Council marketing program to promote MSR lumber.



The photo above shows Stewart with speaker Al Rozek, Executive Director of the National Lumber Grades Authority in front of the Council's show booth. Al is an MSR lumber manufacturing pioneer and is a supporter of Council activities. ||

Phoenix, Arizona

The DoubleTree Paradise Valley Resort located in Scottsdale, Arizona, was the site of the Phoenix Wood Solutions Fair on October 14. The resort atmosphere and facilities created a casual opportunity for interaction among attendees.

The opening was very energetic with a significant amount of activity in the display area. The accommodations provided were on two levels with the lecture halls and registration on the upper level and the luncheon buffet and display area on the lower level. The lectures were well attended throughout the day, and the luncheon was well received.

It is important to note that the Phoenix housing market is very robust and one of the largest active markets in North America. This year the Phoenix area has surpassed Philadelphia as the fifth largest city in the United States. Phoenix is a mature MSR market and at any given time one can find product from Canada and the Northwestern and Southern United States producing areas.

It was one of the first days of fall where the temperature was less than 100 degrees, which may have influenced a lower turn out. The attendance was slightly off from the pre-registered estimate of 400. ||

MSRLPC Welcomes New Members:

- Boscus Canada Inc
- Skana Forest Products Ltd
- S Huot Inc
- Strober Organization/
US Components
- Dynalyse AB

MSR Lumber Producers Council Plans for 2005 Marketing



There is much in store for the Council in the new year ahead. In light of the 2003 MSR production report that exceeded two billion board feet, the demand for the product is obvious. In preparation for continued marketing efforts in 2005, the following has been planned:

- MSRLPC's print ads will be updated this year and will run in various industry publications.
- The photos and information displayed in the Council's tradeshow booth will be updated for use in 2005.
- MSRLPC will be exhibiting at the Building Component Manufacturers Conference (BCMC), October 12-14, 2005, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- The Council will again participate in Wood Solutions Fairs this year.

For more information or to get involved, email msrlpc@msrlumber.org or call 888/848-5339. ||



BCMC 2004 Recap: *Revved Up in Charlotte!*

The 2004 Building Component Manufacturers Conference (BCMC) was "Revvin' Up the Component Industry" October 6-8 at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, NC. The annual tradeshow, which featured suppliers from the building component manufacturing industry, was once again a tremendous success.

With a record breaking year in exhibit space, 2693 attendees and exhibitor personnel had the opportunity to take in an 86,450 square foot show floor filled with educational, technical and manufacturing possibilities. With an ever-changing industry, the show floor at BCMC is the place to keep on top of the new and innovative ideas and trends of the future.

"Once again BCMC exceeded our expectations. I cannot imagine anyone in the component industry not attending!" said Ray J. Noonan Jr. of Cascade Manufacturing Company.

Mark your calendars now for next year's show, taking place October 12-14, 2005 at the Midwest Airlines Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. For more information about the BCMC show, visit www.bcmshow.com. ||

CRIQ Introduces the TMG-16 *First Direct Measure System*

CRIQ Machine Design's Transversal MSR Grader (TMG) is the industry's first direct measure transversal grading system. It can grade 2x3's, 2x4's and 2x6's ranging from five to 15 feet long, at a speed of 240 logs per minute. Some of the features and benefits of the TMG-16 include:

- Three grades can be processed simultaneously.
- Possible selection of sources and species for production underway.
- Screen display of percentage of boards produced per grade.
- Screen display of average MOE for each grade produced and display of source.
- Board data history file and detailed production report that can be exported to Excel.
- Correlation coefficient of over 0.89 for all board widths and lengths.
- Boards do not jam in system.
- System not affected by multi-species production or variations in moisture content of boards produced.
- Minimal space required for installation.

Watch CRIQ Machine Design's web site, www.criq.qc.ca, for further details about this system. ||



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

23-25: WTCA Open Quarterly Meeting, Atlanta, GA. For more information, email wtca@woodtruss.com or phone 608/274-4849. Everyone is welcome to attend.

March

8: Wood Solutions Fair, Westin Bayshore Resort & Marina, Vancouver, BC. For details visit www.cwc.ca or email wsf@cwc.ca.

18: WTCA Regional Workshop & Conference, New Orleans, LA. For more information and to register, contact Anna at WTCA, 608/310-6719 or astamm@qualtim.com.

31: Wood Solutions Fair, Sheraton Ferncroft Resort, Boston, MA. For details visit www.cwc.ca or email wsf@cwc.ca.

April

1: WTCA Regional Workshop & Conference, Las Vegas, NV. For more information and to register, contact Anna at WTCA, 608/310-6719 or astamm@qualtim.com.

May

4: WTCA Legislative Conference & Open Quarterly Meeting, Washington, DC. For more information, email wtca@woodtruss.com or phone 608/274-4849. Everyone is welcome to attend.

4: Wood Solutions Fair, Burton Manor, Detroit, MI. For details visit www.cwc.ca or email wsf@cwc.ca.

June

7-9: 11th Annual MSRLPC Workshop, Marriott Grand Hotel, Point Clear, AL. See page 1 or visit www.msrlumber.org for details.

21: Southern Forest Products Association (SFPA) 2005 Mid-Year Meeting, Omni Hotel at CNN Center, Atlanta, GA. For details call Tami Kessler at 504/443-4464 ext. 222.

23-25: Forest Products Machinery & Equipment Exposition (EXPO 2005), Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, GA. Detailed information about the

show is available at www.sfpa.org/expo, including a floor plan and list of confirmed exhibits.

August

17-19: WTCA Open Quarterly Meeting, Denver, CO. For more information, email wtca@woodtruss.com or phone 608/274-4849. Everyone is welcome to attend.

September 29

9: Wood Solutions Fair, Long Beach Convention Center, Long Beach, CA. For details visit www.cwc.ca or email wsf@cwc.ca.

October

12-14: Building Component Manufacturers Conference, Charlotte Convention Center, Milwaukee, WI. Visit www.bcmshow.com.

15: WTCA Open Quarterly Meeting, Milwaukee, WI. For more information, email wtca@woodtruss.com or phone 608/274-4849. Everyone is welcome to attend.

November

2: Wood Solutions Fair, Ottawa Congress Centre, Ottawa, ON. For details visit www.cwc.ca or email wsf@cwc.ca.

9: Wood Solutions Fair, Nashville Convention Center, Nashville, TN. For details visit www.cwc.ca or email wsf@cwc.ca.

December

1: Wood Solutions Fair, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN. For details visit www.cwc.ca or email wsf@cwc.ca.

Tsunami Relief Effort:

The most effective way to assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Visit www.usafreedomcorps.gov or www.redcross.ca for more information about donating to relief efforts.

Mission Statement: The Machine Stress Rated Lumber Producers Council has been formed to promote the benefits of Machine Stress Rated lumber for the purpose of increasing the usage and acceptability of our product. It is the intent and mission of the Council to improve, promote and advance the common interest and general welfare of all phases of the Machine Stress Rated lumber industry. We intend to engage in market promotion, collection of information, product research, and aid our grading agencies in forming proper rules and standards which will further the business of the general membership of the Council.