

Machine Stress Rated Lumber Producers Council MSR Update

Spring Issue

March 1998

Gearing Up for the MSR Workshop May 7-8

The MSR Lumber Producers Council will present its Fourth Annual Workshop on May 7-8. "We are looking forward to our best Workshop ever," says Mike Casey, MSRLPC President. "We have an excellent slate of speakers to educate us on issues of interest to our industry."

This year, the program will be in conjunction with the Canadian Wood Council's Annual General Meeting, and a joint session with CWC and MSRLPC will be held on Friday. The joint session will feature a panel discussion with Lynn Michaelis, top economist at Weyerhaeuser, and Neal Vandenburg, President of The Structures Group Southwest. The joint session will be held on Friday of the Workshop.

Joist MacMillan. He will join Walter Boyles of Timber Products Inspection to present this interesting session.

Business Partnerships

David Gould, President of Wood Structures in Biddeford, Maine, and 1998 President of the Wood Truss Council of America, will address the advantages of developing strategic business alliances with customers and suppliers.

Vision 2000

Jake Kerr of Lignum will join us again this year, with key insights on our industry's future.

For registration information and a detailed schedule of events, call Kathy James at the MSRLPC office at 406/761-8786.

"Lumber Industry Manufactured Finger Joints is a topic that requires an in-depth discussion at this time. There may be need to upgrade standards."

Sherm Nelson, P.E.

"The key over the next number of years will be to be quick on your feet and to spot the right trends."

Jake Kerr, Lignum

Key Session Preview:

MSR Product Development

Brad Shelley of West Coast Lumber Inspection Bureau, and Bill Galligan, retired from Frank Lumber Company, will provide insight on challenges facing MSR research and product development. Galligan says, "the efficiency of a grading system can be linked to the market. There are two extremes, the niche market and the commodity market. What is your company's vision?"

Fingerjointing

"What a great idea (lumber industry manufactured fingerjoints) — Let's discuss what it takes to make it plausible," says Sherm Nelson, P.E., retired from Trus

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, May 6, at 1:30 p.m.** The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Workshop at the Delta Vancouver Airport Hotel, in the Viscount room. **All are welcome and encouraged to attend.**

Don't forget - The MSRLPC office moved last year! Please mark your records that our new address is:

**MSR Lumber Producers Council
P.O. Box 1625
Great Falls, MT 59403
406/761-8786 • 406/761-3297 (fax)**



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

Letter to the Editor

The article by Mike Momb about post-frame in your October issue is excellent. One of Mike's statements made me think of an area that needs research. He spoke of savings when purlins are spaced 30" o.c. In the midwest, most post-frame buildings use single ply trusses, rather than the two ply trusses which are common on the west coast. With single ply trusses, purlin spacings of greater than 24" o.c. make the top chords of the trusses larger and can eat up all the potential savings.

This is a product of the equations in the NDS, which TPI has adopted. Frankly, I don't believe that in reality the purlin spacing is as critical as the equations indicate. There is also no question in my mind that the diaphragm strength of the roof material is a critical factor which the current equations totally ignore.

So this is an opportunity for fruitful research. I'm forwarding a copy of this fax to TPI and WTCA. The Canadians do great research, too. Maybe an international team can be formed to fund some testing.

*Pat McGuire, P.E.
Borkholder Buildings
Nappanee, Indiana*

President's Message

by Mike Casey

Just a reminder that in April we will be conducting by fax our annual nominations and election of officers to serve on the Board for 1998-99. The Board consists of eleven (11) members in total - nine (9) regular or full producing members, and two (2) from any other class of membership (associate, professional). Each year three (3) vacancies from the regular membership on the Board are filled, as are both associate members.

I would encourage anyone who is interested in serving on the Board of Directors to please contact me (604/893-2967) for further information on what might be involved. The more people we have participating, the greater our success!

Welcome New Associate Members

Northern Forest Products Association

Prince George, B.C.

Qualtim

Madison, WI



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