

Machine Stress Rated Lumber Producers Council MSR Update

Summer Issue

June 1998

1998 Fourth Annual Workshop: Best Ever

The MSR Lumber Producers Council held its Fourth Annual Workshop May 7-8 in Vancouver, B.C. The **150** attendees learned about several topics, which were targeted to mill personnel, management, and customers. One theme that came out in almost every session was that our businesses are changing! Everyone involved in business today needs to be continuously thinking about what can be changed and how to do things better. For more details about the workshop, see page 3.

1998 Board of Directors

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***Mike Momb**, Apex Roof Truss, Inc.

***Wayne Burt**, EB Eddy Forest Products Ltd.

***David Milton**, Ontario Lumber Manufacturers Association

*elected in 1998



Several attendees of the workshop attended a tour of the University of British Columbia's Research Forest.

Workshop Attendee Feedback

"I enjoyed meeting the lumber suppliers who sell me my MSR products. They were really interested in my thoughts as a user of MSR lumber on usage, quality, and marketing. We as a user have a lot of input toward how MSR is brought to the market place."

Roger Gibbs, Lumber Specialties (Dyersville, Iowa)

"I gained significant benefit from attending this year's workshop. In particular, I enjoyed the presentations by Bill Galligan and Sherm Nelson. The chance to hear the perspective of those who have spent entire careers in our industry was a valuable experience."

Ross Theilen, Weyerhaeuser

President's Message

by Jim Kaake

Another workshop has come and gone, and it was a tremendous success. Several times, I heard the comment that our workshop just keeps getting better every year. The Workshop Committee of Mike Casey, Barry McKinney and

Griffin Jones did an outstanding job of organizing the event. I would like to extend a special thanks to Mike Casey, immediate Past President of MSRLPC and Chair of the Committee, who dedicated a great deal of time and effort to this Workshop.

The MSRLPC's top priority is marketing, and we will be taking on many activities this year to promote MSR use. We are looking forward to the Building Component Manufacturers Conference (BCMC) show in Cincinnati, October 14-16. We are considering participation in the Wood Solutions Fairs, which are sponsored by

several lumber industry associations, and promote the use of wood to architects and engineers. The National Frame Builders Association will be having their show in March of 1999, and we are determining how to participate in that show. We also will be developing a web site this year.

We will continue to focus on involving more producers and customers in our association. The more we work together, the more we can accomplish! Five companies have joined MSRLPC since March.

I am looking forward to serving as President of MSRLPC, and especially encouraging participation from the Southern mills. This will be a challenging year, and all of us can benefit from working together to meet our common goals. Please feel free to contact me (JAKaake@GAPAC.com or 404/652-5750). You may also contact any of the MSRLPC Board members listed on the first page of this newsletter. We need your feedback to in order to serve our membership most effectively.

Calendar of Events

July 24-25: WTCA's Board and Committee meetings, Portland, ME, 608/274-4849.

August 16-22: International Fire Code Institute's Annual Meeting, St. Paul, MN, 612/292-1900.

September 6-11: International Building Code Officials Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, 562/699-0541.

September 13-17: BOCA Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, 708/799-2300

September 26-29: SFPA's Fall Board Meeting, Myrtle Beach, SC, 504/443-4464.

September 30: Wood Solutions Fair, Los Angeles, CA, 613/747-5544

October 4-8: SBCCI Annual Conference, Orlando, FL, 864-281-1006

October 14-16: WTCA's BCMC, Cincinnati, OH, 785/843-3781.

November 10: Wood Solutions Fair, Phoenix, AZ, 613/747-5544

Welcome New Members

Sun State Components of Nevada, Inc.

North Las Vegas, Nevada

The Truss Company, Inc.

Las Vegas, Nevada

Riverside Forest Products

Williams Lake, British Columbia

Crown Pacific Limited Partnership

Bonnars Ferry, Idaho

Tembec Forest Products

North Bay, Ontario

Committee Chairs

Marketing

Mike George,
Weyerhaeuser

Jim Kaake,
Georgia-Pacific

Membership

Mike Casey,
Weldwood of
Canada

Newsletter

Griffin Jones,
Lignum Ltd.

Technical

Ross Theilen,
Weyerhaeuser

Web Site

Ross Theilen,
Weyerhaeuser

Workshop Highlights

Several of the Workshop speakers provided outlines and copies of their overheads. Please contact Kathy James at MSRLPC (406/761-8786) if you would like to receive further information.

Lynn Michaelis, Weyerhaeuser

Lynn Michaelis said that demand cannot get any better than it is now, but the next three to four years will be difficult for the lumber industry from a margin perspective. Key factors: Significant increases in supply, lumber capacity is expanding, and log prices have doubled. He says, "Here's a history lesson: Prices work! Every time the government tries to fix a problem, they make it worse!"

David Gould, Wood Structures

Partnerships are everywhere. David Gould encouraged attendees to take another look at what they are doing, and consider developing partnerships in all aspects of business, from the small details to the major purpose of the company. He gave a variety of examples how partnerships can help us become more efficient, as small as the shuttle service from the hotel, and as large as the airline industry mergers we have read about in the news. This carries over to the truss industry and the lumber industry. He asked what we are doing now, and how can we change the way we work together to do it better?

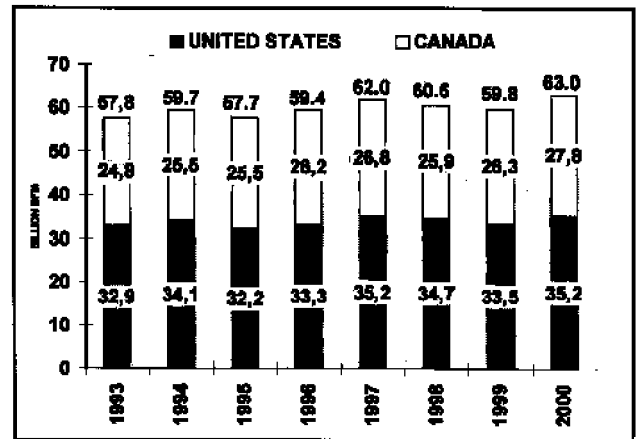
Neal Vandenburg, Structures Group Southwest

Neal Vandenburg provided a user's perspective as far as building products. His company continually analyzes the most cost efficient system for erecting structures. The good news for the lumber industry: Most wood erectors that are using steel would like to go back to wood. The biggest impediment to the use of wood is the lack of stable cost.

Les Jozsa, Forintek

Until hearing Les Jozsa's presentation, no one realized that the topic of wood quality could be so much fun to learn about. With countless props, Les entertained everyone in the audience, no matter how much knowledge they had on the topic. "A comprehensive knowledge of the characteristics of any material is essential to its best utilization," says Jozsa. The presentation just scratched the surface of the topic. For more information about Jozsa's work on wood fiber quality, contact Forintek at 604/224-3221.

MSR Lumber Producers Council
Lumber Production in North America



Graph courtesy Donohue.



Les Jozsa "works the crowd."



The following items are available through Kathy James at the Business Office:

1997 MSR Lumber Production Surveys ★ Final Workshop Registration List

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



Specific Gravity Determines Compression Perpendicular and Shear Values for Selected Species and Grades of MSR and MEL

By Dick Enlow, Georgia-Pacific

For most grades and species of lumber that is machine graded as MSR or MEL, design values for compression perpendicular ($F_{c\perp}$) and shear (F_v) are set at the same values published in the NDS for a No. 2 visual stress grade of the same species. However, there are currently three species groupings (shown in the table below) that have been granted a higher specific gravity for select MSR and MEL grades. The American Lumber Standards Committee (ALSC) has approved these values based on an extensive set of tests performed according to the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards. These tests confirmed a higher specific gravity was justified without continuing daily quality control. The ALSC also allows individual mills to qualify for specific gravity values other than those published in the NDS design value tables through mill qualification and continuing daily quality control.

Species	Grade	Specific Gravity	Comp. Perp ($F_{c\perp}$)	Shear (F_v)
SPF North	$\geq F_b$ 2400f, 2.0E	.50	645 psi	90 psi
ESLP	$\geq F_b$ 1650f, 1.5E	.46	555 psi	85 psi
SYP	$\geq 1.9E$.57	805 psi	100 psi

See Table 4C, Footnote 2 of the 1997 Edition of the Supplement to the National Design Standard for Wood Construction published by the American Forest & Paper Association.

SPF North = Spruce Pine Fir (North)

ESLP = Englemann Spruce • Lodgepole Pine

SYP = Southern Yellow Pine

In addition, Western Wood Products Association (WWPA) and West Coast Lumber Inspection Bureau (WCLIB) have been granted the change that SPF South MSR lumber 1.2E and higher will require daily QC of specific gravity. MSR grades of 1.2E to 1.9E will have an assigned specific gravity of .42. For lumber 2.0E and higher, the assigned specific gravity will be .50.

The higher specific gravity can benefit truss design engineers by increased plate holding or tooth withdrawal values for their plated joints. The higher compression perpendicular values can result in increased strength, sometimes a limiting factor in long span truss designs. The MSR Lumber Producers Council will be adding this information to our educational brochure table of MSR Lumber Design Values upon reprinting.



MSR Lumber Producers Council

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