

STA dan Rakan2



May 2008

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Issue 119

This monthly news bulletin is produced by Sarawak Timber Association (STA) to disseminate information to our counterparts on training, research and other relevant areas.

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The news bulletin is circulated to designated readers free of charge.

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NEW STAFF FOR STA TRAINING SDN BHD



Picture: Two new trainers, Mr Ken Fergusson (left) and Mr Johnny Kon (right)

Meranti plywood from Malaysia may be downgraded to the lowest of the durability classes i.e. Class 5 by European Union (EU) if the proposed draft EN636 Plywood Specifications (Foreign Standard) is adopted.

This is a great concern to the plywood trade in Malaysia. At the state level, the Forest Department Sarawak, the Sarawak Timber Industry Corporation Development and the Sarawak Timber Association is to launch a study on this issue to resolve the downgrading of Meranti plywood.

Mr Johnny Kon, a

retired staff from Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd who has extensive knowledge in timber, log and standing tree identification has been employed to assist in a project. A mill and log pond survey will be carried out with the aim of gathering information on the 99 species that form the bulk of the plywood manufactured for the European market. Apart from that, he will be assigned to design and conduct the standing tree and log identification courses for the Company.

Establishments the Planted Forest Skills Sets, STAT is offering two Certificates, namely

Certificate in Clear-fell Site Preparation and Certificate in Mechanical Site Preparation (Excavator). A trainer from New Zealand, Mr Kenneth Fergusson arrived in Kuching early this year to start training for these skills sets. Mr Fergusson has vast experience in land clearance and silviculture and had worked in the Solomon Islands and New Zealand. His last three years had been spent with Industry Training Works, Carter Holt Harvey (CHH) where he worked as a trainer developing forestry skills for people entering the forest industry.

MEDIA APPRECIATION NIGHT



Picture: (left) Representatives from the media and STA having fun in one of the games

Did you know that...

According to the Global Markets for Chain-of-Custody Certified Papers study by Pira International, the global paper market is to rise by 2.3% by 2012. However, global consumption of FSC paper (certified under the Forest Stewardship Council programme) is forecast to rise by 48.7% to almost 6.5mn tons and global consumption of PEFC paper (certified under the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification) is predicted to surge by 92.7% to almost 2mn tons by 2012. Demand for certified papers is forecast to grow continuously by 2012, driven mainly by demand from end consumers.

Source:
MTIB News Extract
21 May 2008

Picture: (Right) Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Chairman of STA presenting a mock cheque to Mr Nganten Sukit



STA held a Media Appreciation Night on 23 May 2008 in Wisma STA. Among those present were Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Chairman of STA, Datuk Leo Chai, the Immediate past Chairman, Mr Philip Choo, Honorary Treasurer and Mr Philip Lau Buong Hoo, Chairman of Moulding Category. About 70 representatives from the media and Secretariat staff attended the event.

Datuk Wong, in his welcoming speech said that the Association hopes to foster closer networking and co-operation with members of the media in future community-based projects and bring greater benefits to the society through its wholly-owned companies, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) and STA

Training Sdn Bhd (STAT). STAT had been set up to assist in the development of trained human resource in the forestry and timber industries while STAM provided services to communities, not only in urban areas but also rural areas. STAM had made financial contribution to various charitable trusts and organisations. It also made financial contributions to support community service projects implemented by its member companies for the benefit of community residing in the vicinity of timber concessions. STAM is currently providing scholarships to students pursuing degree courses related to forestry and the timber industry at the Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

(UNIMAS).

The Association contributed RM5,000.00 to Kuching Journalists Association during the function.

Kuching Division Journalists Association (KDJA) Vice President Mr Nganten Sukit in his speech thanked the Association for hosting the event and donating RM5,000.00 to the association's fund. He assured STA that the fund would be fully utilised in activities that would enrich members and the public.

Participants were entertained to games, karaoke and lucky draws.

SAFETY AND HEALTH TRAINING

Addexcel Sdn Bhd, a safety and health training and consultancy company will be organising the following courses:-

1. Chemical Health Risk Assessment
Mandatory for company store, use, process, transport and handling chemical.
2. Steam Engineer Course (1st & 2nd Grade)
Open for registration: Part A (Practical Mathematics), Part B & C

For further information, please contact:-

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FOREST PRODUCTS 2008

The Forest Research Institute Malaysia together with Universiti Teknologi Mara will jointly organise a National Conference on Forest Products 2008 (NCFP 2008) with the theme "Towards Competitiveness and Sustainability". Details as below:-

Date: 29 - 31 October 2008

Venue: Kuala Lumpur (to be informed at later stage)

Registration Fee: RM600/person; students RM350/person;

Group registration (3 or more) RM550/person;

Post-Conference Tour RM50/person

Among topics to be delivered are:-

- supply and demand of forest resources;
- new processing technologies;
- wood protection and quality;
- furniture design and high-end products;
- reconstituted wood products;
- pulp, paper and energy from biomass;
- agriculture and wood biomass utilisations;
- product certification and quality assurance;
- branding, marketing and trade.

For enquiries, please contact:-

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The Secretariat NCFP 2008

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Did you also know that...

To ensure continuous high coverage of forests in Laos, a new forest protection legislation will be enforced in the country by the Forestry Department of the Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry. The law, which has 130 articles, forbids the logging, selling and buying of endangered timber species without the permission of the government, besides banning citizens from setting up homes in forest-classified areas. The legislation also covers wildlife, soil erosion, water resource, and environmental protection.

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To All Our Dayak Friends



*From: Chairman, Council Members, Members and
Management of STA*