



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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## POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA COURSE

Fourteen students have enrolled into the second cohort of the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forestry Management) Course offered by STA in collaboration with Lincoln University of New Zealand. During the orientation week, 8 – 12 September 2008, the students were introduced to the staff and the resources available for their study, and briefed on the requirements of the postgraduate study. They were also taught critical analysis, writing skills, computer skills and

literature review which will be useful for their class assignments and examinations.

On the week of 22 – 26 September 2008, they had their first class on Subject 1 - Forestry in Sarawak and Module 1 - the Global Forestry Industry. The class was conducted by Associate Professor Hugh Bigsby of Lincoln University. This module provides students with an understanding of forests, their use (timber/non-timber), forest types and factors influencing the

location and structure of forests. It also creates awareness to students on the sustainable forest management requirements in Sarawak, roles of institutions, regulations and laws relating to sustainable management. To have a better understanding on the use of basic forestry equipment and make a start on tree identification, they were brought to Semengoh Forest Reserve for a field trip.



Picture: (left) Associate Prof Hugh Bigsby explaining to the students how to use the Multimedia and Research Information Assistant (MARIA); (below) group photo of the class



## WORKSHOP ON INTRODUCTION TO CONFLICT MANAGEMENT FOR NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

### *Did you know that...*

In Russia, production of chipboard, fibreboard, and plywood has more than doubled in a few years. Production has increased the most in European Russia. According to Finnish Pöyry Forest Industry Consulting, German and Austrian companies that focus on the production of chipboard, fibreboard and MDF have built large modern factories in Russia. Also Russian companies have invested in the board industry. In 2000, Russia produced about 1.5 million m<sup>3</sup> of plywood. At the moment, production is already almost 2.8 million m<sup>3</sup>.

*Source:*  
MTIB News Extracts  
(Vol.37/09/08)



*Picture: The speaker, Ms Wiwiek Awiati*

Conflict is a common occurrence in natural resource management. Local communities, NGOs, Government and logging companies usually have very different views as how to manage and utilize resources. Hence, conflict is often inevitable and

unavoidable.

The Association organised a 2-day Workshop on Introduction to Conflict Management for Natural Resource Management on 25 and 26 September 2008 at Level 4, Wisma STA. The purpose of this Workshop was to increase participants' understanding and knowledge of conflicts in the management of natural resource, how to fully analyse the conflicts and decide on appropriate responses to those conflicts as well as to resolve a work-related conflict using knowledge and skills developed.

This Workshop was conducted by Ms Wiwiek Awiati from Judicial Reform Team, Supreme Court of Indonesia and Indonesian Centre for Enforcement Law, with the assistance from Ms Annie

Ting of STA.

A total of 18 participants attended this Workshop. This Workshop provided participants with an understanding of the basic principles, skills, and techniques used in analyzing conflict. During the Workshop, participants examine different conflict management approaches that would enable them to make a decision regarding which approach can be used to the best advantage, learnt negotiation skills so that participants are able to build agreement between conflicting parties and shared experiences and ideas on conflict management. It is hoped that participants can apply the tools and techniques learned during the Workshop to real natural resource conflict situations.



*Picture: Group photo of the participants*

## MTCS NOTIFIED CERTIFICATION BODIES (CBs)

In line with the implementation of the new institutional arrangement for the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) which had taken effect from 1 July 2008, MTCC has notified three CBs to conduct assessment for certification under the MTCS.

The three notified CBs are as follows:

SGS (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.  
(for Forest Management and Chain-of-Custody Certification)  
No. 10-1, 10th Floor, Bangunan Malaysian Re  
No. 17, Lorong Dungun, Damansara Heights  
50590 Kuala Lumpur  
Tel: 03-2095 9200  
Fax: 03-2093 8202 (Contact person: Mr. Amargit Singh)

SIRIM QAS International Sdn. Bhd.  
(for Forest Management and Chain-of-Custody Certification)  
Building 4, SIRIM Complex  
1, Persiaran Dato' menteri, Section2,  
P.O.Box 7035  
40911 Shah Alam, Selangor  
Tel: 03-5544 6408  
Fax: 03-5544 6763(Contact person: Puan Radziah Mohd Daud)

Moody International Certification (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.  
(for Chain-of-Custody Certification)  
75, Jalan Jejaka Dua, Taman Maluri, Cheras  
55100 Kuala Lumpur  
Tel: 03-9283 9881  
Fax: 03-9284 7426 (Contact person: Mr. Chin Miew Lim)

Potential applicants for forest management and/or chain-of-custody certification under the MTCS are kindly advised to contact any of the listed MTCC-notified CBs.

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## STAT NEW TRAINING SKILL SETS

STA Training Sdn. Bhd. (STAT) is offering 2 certificates, namely Certificate in Tree & Log Identification and Certificate in Log & Timber Identification.

This training will be conducted on-site either at the log pond or base camp. The duration of each skill set is dependent on the skills and learning ability of the candidates. A minimum of two (2) rounds of training over a period of

fifteen (15) months is expected. The candidates shall be assessed upon the completion of each skill set.

Each skill set will cover topics such as occupational safety and health, first aid, environmental issues, how to use the appropriate tools for identifying trees, logs and timber species, and techniques and procedures for the

identification of trees, log and timber will be taught. A classroom will be required for part of the theory and the practical will be conducted in the field. Candidates should be Malaysians with the ability to communicate in English.

For further information, please contact either Messrs Peter Peros or Johnny Kon at 082 - 332222.

### *Did you also know that...*

Ghana has become the first country to sign a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) to prevent illegal timber imports from the nation entering the EU.

The landmark legally-binding agreement was signed in Accra by Ghana's forestry minister Esther Obeng Dapaah and Stefano Manservigi, the EU's director-general for development.

It follows nearly two years of negotiations between Ghana and the EU.

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Sarawak Timber Association  
11 Floor, Wisma STA  
26, Jalan Datuk Abang Abdul Rahim  
93450 Kuching  
Sarawak, Malaysia

Tel : 082 - 332 222  
Fax : 082 - 487 888, 487 999  
E-mail: [sta@sta.org.my](mailto:sta@sta.org.my)  
Web site: [www.sta.org.my](http://www.sta.org.my)



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STA dan Rakan2

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## **SEMINAR ON INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION AND MECHANIZATION IN TIMBER INDUSTRY**

The Malaysian Timber Industry Board and the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities will be organising a Seminar on Industrial Automation and Mechanization in Timber Industry. Details as below:-

Date/Time: 4 November 2008, 8.30 am - 4.30 pm  
Venue: Crowne Plaza Mutiara Hotel Kuala Lumpur  
Registration Fee: Free

The objectives of this Seminar are to provide an overview of the current status of industrial automation and mechanization options for the wood-based industry and to heighten awareness on the importance of automation and mechanization in timber industry as a critical tool towards enhancing productivity.

Copy of the Registration Form is available at STA Secretariat. For enquiries and further information, please contact:

Cik Mahsuri / Encik Mazree  
MTIB  
Tel: 03-92822235  
Fax: 03-92846214  
e-mail: [mahsuri@mtib.gov.my](mailto:mahsuri@mtib.gov.my) / [mazree@mtib.gov.my](mailto:mazree@mtib.gov.my)  
website: [www.mtib.gov.my](http://www.mtib.gov.my)