

STA Review

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January 2008

STA Extraordinary General Meeting

Mesyuarat Luarbiasa Umum STA telah diadakan pada 15 Januari 2008 di Wisma STA, Kuching untuk mempertimbangkan pindaan ke atas Memorandum dan Artikel Persatuan.

■ The STA Extraordinary General Meeting was held on 15 January 2008 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The meeting was attended by representatives of 85 Member Companies. The purpose of this meeting was to consider and vote the proposed amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Association. ❁



Left: Datuk Leo Chai, STA Chairman delivering his speech



Right: Members at the meeting



Left: Collection of ballot papers

Financial Contributions and Presentation of Scholarships

■ On 22 January 2008, STA through its wholly-owned company, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd made a financial contribution of RM300,000.00 to 14 private Chinese Secondary Schools in Sarawak and to the Sarawak United Association of Private Chinese Secondary Schools Management Board at Wisma STA, Kuching. The same financial assistance was also provided to the schools and the Management Board in 2006 and 2007.

This financial contribution is intended to assist the schools in providing better facilities for the students, to improve their upkeep and to help the Board of Management to organise training courses for the teachers to upgrade

their skills.

The contribution to the Sarawak United Association of Private Chinese Secondary Schools Management Board was to help the Association successfully organised the First Teachers' Training in 2007 which was conducted by the New Era College of Peninsular Malaysia.

Another financial contribution was made to Mr. Salleh Manju, a Forest Department Sarawak staff seconded to STA Training Sdn Bhd, another wholly-owned company of STA. His house was gutted by fire on 3 October 2007 and the contribution was intended to assist him in the reconstruction of his house.

At this event was also the
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Left: Dato Henry Lau presenting the STA Scholarship to Cik Nurafiza Binti Aman

Below: Encik Abdul Gafar Bin Mahdi receiving the STA Scholarship from Dato Henry Lau



Above: Dato Henry Lau presenting the STA Scholarship to Ms. Jocelyn Anak Jonip

Left: Dr. Yasuo Yoshida (Daiken Miri) and Mr. Keiichi Hino (Daiken Sarawak) presenting the Daiken Scholarship to Ms. Liew Cai Foon



Pada 22 Januari 2008, STA, melalui anak syarikatnya, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd telah memberikan sumbangan sebanyak RM300,000.00 kepada 14 buah sekolah menengah swasta Cina di Sarawak dan juga Lembaga Pengurusan Persatuan Bersatu Sekolah-Sekolah Menengah Swasta Cina Sarawak dan RM10,000.00 kepada Encik Salleh Manju, kakitangan Jabatan Hutan Sarawak yang dipinjamkan kepada STA di mana rumah beliau telah terbakar pada 3 Oktober 2007.

Bersamaan dengan acara ini juga, STA dan Daiken Corporation telah menganugerahkan biasiswa. STA melalui STA Mutual Sdn Bhd memberi biasiswa kepada pelajar tempatan yang menjalani kursus yang berkaitan dengan perhutanan dan industri kayu di Universiti Malaysia Sarawak dan Universiti Putra Malaysia. Biasiswa Daiken yang diuruskan oleh STA pula ditawarkan kepada pelajar yang melanjutkan kursus yang berkaitan dengan perhutanan dan industri kayu di institusi pengajian tinggi tempatan.

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presentation of scholarships by both STA and Daiken Corporation. STA through STA Mutual Sdn Bhd, provides scholarships to local students pursuing degree courses related to forestry and timber trade industry at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). Thus far, five STA scholarships had been awarded to students pursuing the course of B. Sc. Degree in Science and Management of Plant Resources at the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, UNIMAS and of Forestry Science Degree at the Faculty of Forestry, UPM since 2005. The three recipients for the scholarships presented on this day were Ms. Jocelyn Anak Jonip, Encik Abdul Gafar Bin Mahdi and Cik Nurafiza Binti Aman who are currently

pursuing their degree at UNIMAS.

The first recipient of Daiken Scholarship is Ms. Liew Cai Foon who is currently pursuing her first degree course at UNIMAS. Daiken Corporation made a financial contribution of 4 million Yen or approximately one hundred and twelve thousand Ringgit Malaysia, raised through the Mutual Aid Society of Daiken Corporation. The Fund administered by STA will be utilised to provide scholarships to deserving students from Sarawak pursuing study courses related to forestry and timber industry at local institutions of learning. Through these scholarships, Daiken Corporation hopes to contribute towards the development of skilled and knowledgeable human resource to help towards sustaining the timber industry in Sarawak. ❁

Right: Mr. Salleh Manju receiving the contribution from Dato Henry Lau



Left: Mr. Ling Beng Hui presenting a memento to Datuk Leo Chai

Below: Group photo with the representatives of the Private Chinese Secondary Schools and various scholarship recipients



STA Panel Products Committee Discussion

■ The STA Panel Products Committee met on 25 January 2008 in Miri for a discussion that was chaired by the Committee Chairman, Mr. Stephen Lau.

During the discussion, there was an exchange of market information.

Some other issues discussed included the current log situation and guidelines for prices of concrete panels, structural panels and floor base panels. The plywood market situations in the various regions of the world were reviewed and discussed at length. ❁

Third Wood Residues Committee Meeting

■ The Third Wood Residues Committee met on 23 January 2008 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The meeting was presided by Mr. Keiichi Hino, the Chairman of the Committee.

The Committee discussed the current

wood residues situation in the State where currently, the sawmills are operating at 50% of their normal capacity due to weak demand for timber products by Middle East and Japan and also the exportation of wood residues. ❁

Jawatankuasa Hasil-Hasil Panel STA mengadakan sesi perbincangan pada 25 Januari 2008 di Miri. Ahli-ahli bertukar maklumat pasaran. Isu-isu lain yang turut dibincang termasuk situasi bekalan balak dan garis panduan untuk harga panel konkrit, panel struktur dan panel lantai.

Mesyuarat ketiga Jawatankuasa Sisa Kayu STA telah diadakan pada 23 Januari 2008 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Mesyuarat membincangkan situasi bekalan sisa kayu dan pengeksporan sisa kayu.

Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan STA akan diadakan pada Isnin, 31 Mac 2008 di Wisma STA, Kuching.

NOTICE

STA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Date: Monday, 31 March 2008

Time: 10.30 am (Registration starts at 9.00 am)

Venue: Level 4, Wisma STA, Kuching

As this is an election year, nomination forms will be sent out together with the Notice of Meeting of the AGM during the first week of March 2008.

Malaysia's National Single Window for Trade Facilitation

Kementerian Perdagangan Antarabangsa & Industri mengadakan satu taklimat tentang Tingkap Tunggal Nasional untuk Kemudahan Dagangan Malaysia pada 16 Januari 2008 di Kuching.

Tingkap Tunggal Nasional (NSW) merupakan sistem elektronik yang membolehkan penukaran dokumen dagangan elektronik, secara selamat dan cekap melalui satu pusat kemasukan untuk membolehkan pertukaran maklumat import, eksport dan transit secara lancar.

NSW adalah

- Hanya sekali penyerahan data dan maklumat;
- Hanya sekali pemprosesan data dan maklumat; dan
- Satu keputusan untuk perlepasan dan kelulusan Kastam.

Maklumat lanjut boleh didapati di laman web www.nswtf.gov.my

■ The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) organised a briefing on Malaysia's National Single Window for Trade Facilitation on 16 January 2008 in Kuching. Participants were briefed by Mr. G. Alagasan, Senior Director, Investment Policy and Trade Facilitation Division, MITI on National Single Window for Trade Facilitation: A Vision and Overview and Ms. Emelin Chong, Business Development Manager, Dagang Net Technologies Sdn Bhd on National Single Window for Trade Facilitation of Malaysia - Systems Demonstration.

The National Single Window (NSW) is an electronic system that enables a secure, safe and efficient electronic exchange of trade-related documents through a single point of entry in order to expedite the smooth flow of information of goods either for import, export or transit. The NSW is

- A single submission of data and information;
- A single and synchronous processing of data and information; and
- A single decision-making for Customs release and clearance.

The objectives of NSW are;

- To enhance trade efficiency and national competitiveness through simplifying, standardising and harmonising trade procedures and in general, the Government Delivery System.-
- To enhance efficiency of the entire Trade, Logistics and Supply Chain Management by capitalising on a common

electronic platform.

- To reduce the transaction costs and complexity of international trade and facilitate trade and investment in Malaysia.
- To integrate and provide a seamless platform for the ASEAN Single Window and international Cooperation and data exchange.

Through the adoption of the NSW, paperwork will be reduced. The data originating from one application can be re-used for another application and thus reducing or eliminating the need to duplicate the data entry process. This in turn would further improve data accuracy and significantly reduce errors in data entry. The declaration submissions are faster and less resource is used as no further data entries would be required. The approval process would now be more transparent. Delays in processing and decision-making will be easily noticeable under the new environment as users can track and trace the movement of documents. The NSW will form part of ASEAN Single Window. The services currently available are the Electronic Customs Declaration, Electronic Funds Transfer Duty Payment, Electronic Manifest, Electronic Permit and Electronic Preferential Certificate of Origin.

The NSW comes on stream in 2008. The first phase which came into operation on 1 January 2008, will involve the roll out of the existing applications where users will be able to submit applications through a single platform for Customs declarations, duty payments, application for permit, manifest registration and certificate

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of origin. Existing system of current users can be integrated and linked to the NSW. The second phase will be the enhancement of existing services, additional applications and services and connectivity to ASEAN Single Window.

There are two categories of users, the existing Dagang Net

users and new users. For existing Dagang Net users, no new registration is required. A single sign-on ID for all services subscribed by the company will be issued. New users can subscribe online at www.nswtf.gov.my. Further information can also be obtained from the same website. ❁

PSMB Employers Circular No. 7/2007

■ The STA Secretariat has received a circular No. 7/2007 from the Human Resources Development Berhad (PSMB), Kuala Lumpur regarding the new set of forms that is to be used for the application of training grants. The new set of forms will come into force on 1 July 2008.

As an encouragement to the employers who make HRD levy contributions to utilise this fund for retraining and upgrading skills of their workforce, PSMB had designed a new set of forms. This set of form is a more user-friendly

when applying for training grants under the SBL, SBL-Khas and Joint Training Schemes. The old application form, PSMB/SBL/1/01 will not be accepted from 1 July 2008 onwards.

The current procedure for the application of training grants remains unchanged. All application forms must reach PSMB before the commencement of training.

For more information and soft copies of the new application form (in English and Bahasa Melayu), please log on to the PSMB website www.hrd.net.com.my ❁

MIFF 2008

■ The Malaysian International Furniture Fair (MIFF) 2008 will be held from 4 to 8 March 2008 at two venues namely the MATRADE Exhibition and Convention Centre (MECC) and the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC). With the theme, "Captivating Designs, Pioneering Innovations, Globalised Networks", visitors can expect to be enthralled by a wide variety of products with captivating designs and pioneering innovations.

MIFF 2008 is set to be even

bigger and better than previous to host a variety of the world's finest furniture. It is expected that furniture from about 500 exhibitors from Malaysia and around the region will be showcased at this Exhibition.

MIFF 2007, which spanned five days, attracted 7,266 international buyers from 135 countries and a total of 19,518 visitors generating US\$667 million (RM2.33 billion) in sales.

Further information can be obtained from www.miff.com.my ❁

Urusetia STA menerima surat pekeliling dari Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad, Kuala Lumpur mengenai borang-borang baru untuk permohonan bantuan latihan. Borang-borang ini akan digunakan berkuatkuasa 1 Julai 2008.

Pameran Perabot Antarabangsa Malaysia 2008 akan diadakan dari 4 hingga 8 Mac 2008 di dua tempat iaitu Pusat Pameran dan Konvensyen MATRADE dan Pusat Dagangan Dunia Putra bertemakan "Rekabentuk yang Mempersona, Inovasi Perintis, Rangkaian Global". Maklumat lanjut tentang pameran tersebut boleh diperolehi di www.miff.com.my

Jabatan Kastam DiRaja Malaysia telah mengumumkan bahawa tempoh percubaan masa operasi Pelabuhan Senari Bintulu telah dilanjutkan sehingga 30 Jun 2008.

Extension of Working Hours at Senari Port and Bintulu Port

■ The Royal Customs Department Malaysia in a letter (Ref. KE.YB(05)651/03 Klt. 1. Sk 2 (20)) dated 28 January 2008 announced that the "trial run period" of operating hour for Senari Port and Bintulu Port had been extended until 30 June 2008.

Amendments had been made to

the operating hours. The operating hours during this "trial run period", 1 February 2008 to 30 June 2008, are as follows:

Monday - Friday
8.00 am - 9.00 pm

Saturday, Sunday and public holidays
8.00 am - 1.00 pm

Malaysia's Overseas Marketing, Trade & Investment Missions for 2008

■ The following are the Marketing and Trade & Investment Missions planned by the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) and the Malaysian Industrial Development

Authority (MIDA) for 2008. For further information, please visit MIDA's website at www.mida.gov.my or MATRADE's website at www.matrade.gov.my ☛

Berikut adalah jadual Misi Dagangan & Pelaburan anjuran MATRADE dan MIDA untuk 2008. Untuk maklumat lanjut, sila layari laman web MIDA di <http://www.mida.gov.my> atau laman web MATRADE di <http://www.matrade.gov.my>.

No.	Date	Event	Lead Agency
1.	May 2008	Marketing Mission to Bostwana, Ghana and Angola	MATRADE
2.	May 2008	Specialised Marketing Mission to Europe	MATRADE
3.	18 - 25 June 2008	Trade & Investment Mission to China <i>Cities: Qingdao, Chengdu, Nanjing, Shenzen</i>	MATRADE
4.	June 2008	Marketing Mission to Miami and Mexico	MATRADE
5.	June 2008	Specialised Marketing Mission to Thailand	MATRADE

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Timber Industry Training Course for 2008

■ The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) aspires to produce skilled and knowledgeable human resource in the wood-based sector in the aspects of processing-related activities, timber trade and factory management.

Towards this end, STIDC will be offering the following courses for the year 2008. These courses will be held at Pusat Latihan Perkayuan PUSAKA, Tanjung Manis (PLPPTM)

and Kompleks Industri Perabot PUSAKA Kota Samarahan (KIPPKS). For further information, please contact STIDC at:

Wisma Sumber Alam, Jalan Stadium Petra Jaya, 93050 Kuching, Sarawak
P.O. Box 194, 93702 Kuching, Sarawak
(Attn: Industrial Training Section)

Tel: 082-443477

Fax: 082-449184

Website: www.pusaka.gov.my

Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA) akan menjalankan kursus-kursus berikut pada 2008. Kursus-kursus ini akan diadakan di Pusat Latihan Perkayuan PUSAKA, Tanjung Manis (PLPPTM) dan Kompleks Industri Perabot PUSAKA Kota Samarahan (KIPPKS). Untuk maklumat lanjut, sila hubungi PUSAKA.

A. COMPETENCY BASED TRAINING

No.	Activity	Duration	Date
1.	Introduction to Furniture Making Techniques	10 weeks	24 March - 23 May 2008
2.	Introduction to Wood Carving Techniques	10 weeks	24 March - 23 May 2008
3.	Wood Anatomy & Identification	3 weeks	7 April - 25 April 2008
4.	Furniture Design & Manufacturing	17 weeks	9 June - 29 September 2008
5.	The Sarawak Log Grading Rules	3 weeks	9 - 27 June 2008
6.	Wood Carving Design & Manufacturing	17 weeks	9 June - 26 September 2008
7.	The Malaysian Grading Rules	7 weeks	7 July - 22 August 2008

B. TECHNICAL SHORT COURSE

No.	Activity	Duration	Date
1.	Introduction to Sarawak Log Grading Rules	3 days	22 - 24 April 2008
2.	Introduction to The Malaysian Grading Rules	3 days	27 - 29 May 2008

MTIB's Training Programme for 2008

Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia (MTIB) menawarkan program latihan berikut bagi 2008. Program-program ini akan dijalankan di Pusat Pembangunan Latihan Industri Kayu (WISDEC) di Kompleks Perabot Olak Lempit, Banting, Selangor. Untuk maklumat lanjut, sila layari laman web MTIB di www.mtib.gov.my atau hubungi alamat yang diberikan.

■ The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) is offering the following training programmes for 2008. The programmes will be carried out the Wood Industry Skills Development Centre (WISDEC) located in Kompleks Perabot Olak Lempit, Banting, Selangor. For further information, please visit MTIB's website at www.mtib.gov.my

or contact:

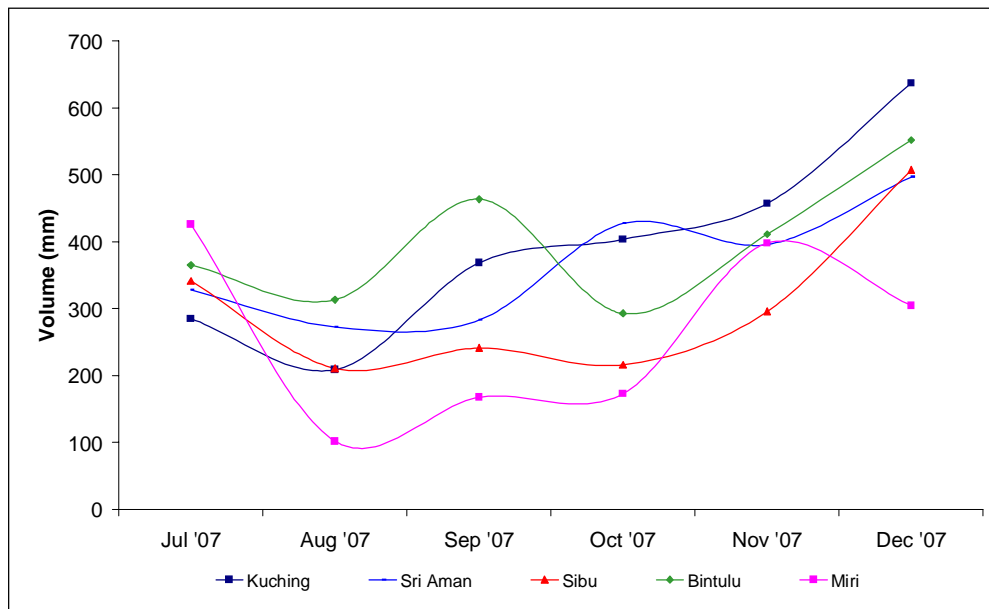
Ketua Pusat
Pusat Pembangunan Kemahiran
Industri Kayu
Lot 167, Jalan 3
Kompleks Perabot Olak Lempit
42700 Banting, Selangor
Tel: 03-3149 2924
Fax: 03-3149 2122
Email: wisdec@mtib.gov.my

No.	Activity	Fee (RM)	Duration	Date
1.	Identification of Malaysian Timber	700	4 days	25 - 28 March 2008
2.	Timber Drying	1,500	15 days	7 - 26 April 2008
3.	Introduction to Malaysian Grading Rules	525	3 days	8 - 10 April 2008
4.	Machining Technology and Operation of Wood Working Machine	700	4 days	6 - 9 May 2008
5.	Safety and Health in the Wood-Based Industry	525	3 days	21 - 23 May 2008
6.	Wood Technology	525	3 days	10 - 12 June 2008
7.	Furniture Production Management	525	3 days	8 - 10 July 2008
8.	Forest Plantation	525	3 days	22 - 24 July 2008
9.	Application of CAD in Furniture Design (Advanced)	700	4 days	5 - 8 August 2008
10.	Furniture Making (Garden Furniture)	700	4 days	12 - 15 August 2008
11.	Furniture Making (Sofa)	700	4 days	4 - 7 November 2008

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No.	Date	Event	Lead Agency
6.	6-18 July 2008	Trade & Investment Mission to Japan, Republic of Korea and Hong Kong <i>Cities: Kobe, Yokohama, Seoul, Hong Kong</i>	MIDA
7.	24 July - 2 August 2008	Trade & Investment Mission to ASEAN <i>Cities: Manila, Jakarta, Hanoi</i>	MATRADE
8.	July - August 2008	Specialised Marketing Mission to Beijing & Shanghai	MATRADE
9.	August 2008	Marketing Mission to Kazakhstan	MATRADE
10.	August - September 2008	Marketing Mission to Hungary and Poland	MATRADE

Rainfall : July - December '07 Kadar Hujan Bulanan



Source : Malaysian Meteorological Services.

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