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Issue 189

STA dan Rakan2

STA Annual General Meeting and STA Council Meeting No. 2/2014

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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STA held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 28 March 2014 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The AGM was attended by representatives from 190 Member Companies.

During the AGM, the Report of the Council on the Working of the Association in 2013 by STA Chairman, Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, was delivered by Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong, STA Honorary Secretary and followed by the election of the new Council Members and Office Bearers at the end of the Meeting.

The Meeting also dealt with matters related to the Association's wholly-owned companies, namely STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Training Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd and STA Ventures Sdn Bhd.

The STA Council Meeting No 2/2014 was held immediately after the AGM. The following are the thirty seven (37) newly-elected Council members:

Office Bearers

STA Chairman: Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik
 STA Vice Chairman: Tan Sri Datuk Sir Tiong Hiew King
 STA Vice Chairman: Tan Sri Datuk Ling Chiong Ho
 Honorary Secretary: Dato Lau Lee Kong, Henry
 Honorary Treasurer: Mr Choo Kwong Hui, Philip

Council Members and Category Chairman

Forest Plantation	Mr Ling Kwong Hung, Peter (Category Chairman) Datuk Haji Abdul Hamed Bin Haji Sepawi * Mr Liew Vun Fong Mr Tiong Chiong Ong *
Furniture & Other Woodworking	Mr Yek Siew Liong (Category Chairman) Mr Cheng Hwa Tang, Desmond
Hill Logging	Dato' Sri Law Kiu Kiong (Category Chairman) Tan Sri Datuk Ling Chiong Ho * Dato Lau Lee Kong, Henry * Mr Lau Ching Hoo, Joseph Mr Lau Puong Ying Mr Law Hui Kong, Kenny Mr Ling Chii Huo Mr Ling Ting Sie Mr Ting Jack Hui Mr Yong Nyan Siong

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Editorial Board

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Log Marketing	Tan Sri Datuk Lau Hieng Wui, Jimmy (Category Chairman) Tan Sri Datuk Sir Tiong Hiew King * Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik * Temenggong Lau Lee Ming, Vincent * Dato' Tiong Ing Mr Ho Yam Kuan * Mr Lau Hui Yew, Robert Mr Ling Chai Hoe Mr Ling Lu Kuang Mr Yaw Chee Chik * Ms Lau Kor Ping Ms Lau Kor See, Adeline Ms Wong Haw Ing, Audrey
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Panel Products	Mr Lau Lee Kiong, Stephen (Category Chairman) Dato Wong Kuo Hea * Mr Lau Hui Siew, John Mr Wong Haw Yeong, Patrick * Mr Yii Heng Kee, Alvin Mr Ling Chiong Sing *
Sawmilling	Ms Wong Haw Bing, Annie (Category Chairman) Mr Lau Ngi Chong Mr Lau Swee Nguong Mr Wong Hee Sing Ms Lau Mei Nah, Loretta
Swamp Logging	Mr Choo Kwong Hui, Philip (Category Chairman) Mr Ting Kai Hoon
Timber Products Marketing	Mr Teng Kheng Hong, Augustine (Category Chairman) Mr Hii Hium Ung Mr Kong Chung King Mr Lau Tee Mei Mr Teng Kheng Huh, Patrick

The above 37 elected Council members and the 12 Permanent Council members shall constitute the Council for the years 2014 and 2015.

* *Permanent Council Member*



Did you know that.....

PEFC has endorsed the China Forest Certification Scheme (CFCS), allowing the PEFC labelling of wood products that meet the CFCS' criteria. The Chinese certification scheme meets PEFC's Sustainability Benchmarks concerning forest management and Chain-of-Custody certification. About 2 million hectares of forests in China have the CFCS certification.

Source: *Fordaq*, 4 March 2014

Did you also know that....

In Indonesia, higher taxes will be imposed on forest clearing for businesses in sectors such as mining, plantation and forestry. Under the new regulations, a 10% tax will be imposed on logs from natural forests while a 6% tax will be imposed on wood from industrial plantation forests. For every cubic metre of wood cut either for plantation forest or mining purposes, operators will need to pay compensation of 100% to be multiplied by the reference price set by the Ministry. A fee of IDR 250 (EUR 0.02 USD 0.02) to IDR 5,000 per permit per hectare will also be collected from natural forest utilization permit holders. With the new regulations in place, land clearing will be more costly for business operators.

Source: Kompas, 6 March 2014



Briefing on “Sustainable Forest Management and Certification” in the Heart of Borneo – Sarawak

A briefing on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and Certification in the Heart of Borneo (HoB), Sarawak was organised by Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) on 17 March 2014 at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. The Briefing was attended by thirty seven (37) representatives from various government agencies such as FDS, Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB), Yayasan Sarawak, member companies of Sarawak Timber Association (STA), STA Secretariat, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and a freelance consultant on certification.

Mr Michael Ngelai of FDS gave an introduction on the background of HoB including the national commitment on the HoB initiative to the participants of the briefing. The HoB declaration was signed among Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei in 2007. The HoB framework is instituted at the international, national and state levels. The State cabinet has endorsed and approved the “Strategic Plan Framework” for the implementation of HoB projects in Sarawak. Under the decision and directive of the State Government, collaboration among all stakeholders within the HoB

areas shall be enhanced to promote forest certification for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and to make use of the HoB initiatives as a tool for reputation and image management of the forests in Sarawak.

The HoB initiative for Sarawak covers an area of around 2.1 million hectares which is administered by the State Government. This area includes Permanent Forest Estates (PFE), Totally Protected Areas (TPAs) Licences Planted Forest (LPF), Forest Timber Licences (FTL), Oil Palm Plantations, Alienated lands and Native Customary Right (NCR) lands.

During the Briefing, STA and its representatives re-iterated to the Director of Forests, the need for enabling conditions on SFM i.e. appropriate duration of tenure for Forest Timber Licence, availability of technical assistance and relevant guidelines, etc.

FDS also circulated a draft on the Guidelines for Forest Management Certification to representatives of all timber licensees at the briefing. Comments and feedback will be gathered during a follow up meeting with FDS scheduled to be held in June 2014.

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Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management) Course

The final subject for the 3rd Cohort of the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management), Managing Certified Forests was conducted from 3 to 7 March in Deramakot Forest Reserve, Sandakan, Sabah. This subject was attended by twenty (20) students of the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science and one (1) student of the STA Sustainable Forest Manager programme.

Mr Peter Lagan, the Assistant District Forest Officer (ADFO), gave a brief introduction on Deramakot Forest Reserve. This subject was conducted by Mr Gan Boon Keong, technical consultant for Logfisher

International Sdn Bhd who is also working with SIRIM Malaysia.

Topics covered in this subject included the following:

1. Overview of assessment criteria and how they are assessed
2. Reduced Impact Logging (RIL) and its role in sustainable management
3. Pre-harvest assessment
4. Post-harvest assessment

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Malaysian Timber Council Timber Talk series on Cross Laminated Timber

As part of its Timber Talk series, the Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) organised a talk on Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) – A Breakthrough in Smart Construction at Menara PGRM, Kuala Lumpur on 20 March 2014. The talk, presented by Mr Mann Young, Head of CLT Business for Land Lease in Asia was focussed on its FORTÉ project in Melbourne, Australia.

CLT is fabricated using small sections of timber bonded together with permanent adhesives. Imperfections in the original timber, such as knots, are removed in the factory to reduce variability and enhance structural performance. CLT differs from glulam in that it is formed into panels rather than beams, hence the layers of timber (lamellas) are bonded perpendicularly to one another, resulting in structural strength across two dimensions, and improving structural integrity and dimensional stability. As an engineered timber product, with the cross-grain movement controlled by the cross-lamination, it is broadly dimensionally stable and shrinks less than standard solid timber construction. Its low weight means that a high degree of offsite manufacture is possible. Relatively large pre-manufactured panels can be transported to site for fast on-site, factory-quality construction. Offsite manufacture and speed of construction can reduce costs significantly.

According to Mr Young, the recently completed FORTÉ project in Melbourne, Australia, designed and built by Lend Lease is the world's tallest apartment building. This had been made possible through a coordinated transfer of knowledge to Australia and has set a precedent for the introduction of CLT construction technology to other new markets in the region.

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In this subject, students were required to understand the process of the certification cycle based on the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification [MC&I] (Natural Forest) with the objective to build systematic and standardise control of forest management in order to achieve Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) as well as to increase the value of timber.

Students also learnt to make appropriate certification decisions, taking into account the Final Assessment Report incorporating Client's and Peer Reviewer's comments and recommendations as well as the Evaluation Report by the Malaysian Timber Certification Council management.