

NEWSLETTER — December 2009

“Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year to all our members and timber colleagues”

December 2009 Welcome to the second edition of ‘**SPLINTERS**’ keeping our members informed of TMA issues.

Membership

10 new members have joined in the last three months as we continue to increase our profile and status in the timber industry. Membership is now 80 and growing!

Australian Wood Panels
APTL Beam Builders
Arch Chemicals (Associate member)
Bendigo Truss
Boral Timber
Disprax (Associate member)

ITI (Vic) Pty Ltd
Sitra Holdings Pty Ltd
Wesbeam
Whiteline Timber

New Website www.timber.asn.au

Our new website has certainly raised our profile to the public and to the industry in general. A video describing the TMA is on the Home page and early in the New Year an Exhibitors video will also be installed. It is now very easy for customers to search for timber products by specie and location. Technical information can also be viewed along with links to all Members and Exhibitors websites. Members can now access IR information such as Award rates online along with other useful information. Exhibitors and members can also advertise on our website and should contact Peter Roberts for rates if interested.

Showroom

By the end of December 2009 we will have 43 exhibitors. New displays have been installed by Australian Wood Panels, Bamboo Select, DeckDoc, Demar Timber & H’we, ITI (Vic), Lamcal Builders Supplies, Mountain Timbers, O’Shea’s Timber & H’we, Selleys, Tilling Timber and Wright Forest Products. A new promotion program for the Timber Display Centre will commence in the New Year which will increase the referrals to members. The following analysis shows the number of visitors and the product enquiries for the last five months.

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Total enquiry contacts to the Timber Advice and Display Centre from July to Nov 30 2009 was 1812.

Enquiry Subjects	Total
BEAMS LAMINATED	31
BEAMS MECHANICAL	25
BENCH TOPS / CUPBOARDS	21
CLADDING AND LINING	68
COATINGS / FINISHES	184
PRESERVATIVES	21
DECKING	209
DOOR HANDLES	193
DOORS	37
FASTENERS / CONNECTORS	12
FENCING	67
FIRE RETARDENTS	11
FIRE RETARDENT TIMBERS	29
FIVE STAR RATING INFORMATION	0
CHOOSING A SPECIES (COLOUR)	58
FLOOR LAYING TECHNIQUES	72
FLOORS FLOATING	61
FLOORS STICK DOWN	93
FLOORS T AND G	222
FLOORS PARQUET	57
FLOORS PROBLEMS	73
FRAMING / STRUCTURAL	71
FURNITURE TIMBERS	60
INSULATION THERMAL	64
INSULATION ACOUSTIC	14
MOULDINGS	45
MRTFC	4
PARTICLE BOARD / MDF	18
PERGOLAS AND CARPORTS	31
PLASTERBOARD	1
PLYWOOD	25
PUBLICATIONS	125
Australian Sandards	6
SEMINARS & COURSES	14
STAIRS	16
TERMITES AND BORERS	20
TIMBER DECAY	16
TIMBER TECHNICAL DATA	126
TIMBER GRADING	35
HOW TO CARE FOR TIMBER	44
TREATED PINE / DURABLES	69
CYPRUS PINE	29
VENEERS	4
WHERE AND WHAT TO BUY	163
WINDOWS	18
NOT ASCERTAINED / OTHER	73
SUBJECT TOTALS	2811

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Committee Meetings

The committee meets once a month to discuss industry issues including the financial status of the Association and membership services.

Consolidation

President Ron Caddy and myself are still very keen to develop a united timber industry which can speak as a peak body on federal issues when the need arises. We will continue discussions with FTMA, TABMA Qld, Timber Qld, WADIC and VAFI.

Land Tax

Dialogue with the Shadow Treasurer, Kim Wells is continuing and we have also commenced discussions with Ann Barker, State member for Oakleigh and Deputy Speaker. This follows discussions we have had with the Premier at a function in November where we stated our case that Land tax charges were inequitable for the Timber industry compared to the Fisheries industry which receives exemption. Both industries are recognised as Primary industry.

Fire Service Levy

We encourage members to go to the following site and register their complaint regarding the huge impost the FSL has on their businesses http://www.vic.gov.au/news-detail/fire-services-levy-fsl-and-insurance-discussion-paper.html#utm_source=RSS&utm_medium=RSSnewsfeed&utm_campaign=RSSNovember2009

Regional Meetings

Fair Work Act seminars for members were held in Geelong in September 2009 and Blackburn and Bendigo in October 2009. Further meetings are scheduled for next year as it is important that all our members are kept up to date with the latest industry developments.

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Breakfast Meetings

Our last meeting held on the 9th September 2009 was a presentation by Boris Iskra from TPC Solutions on 'Building in Bushfire Prone Areas'. This was extremely well attended with over 70 members and guests in attendance. Our next scheduled meeting is at 7.30am, 9th February 2010 with Kayt Watts, CEO Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) as our guest speaker. The venue is Bruce County Hotel, 445 Blackburn Rd, Mount Waverley.

Annual Industry Charity Dinner

The Minister for Agriculture and Small Business will be our keynote speaker at our dinner to be held at the River Room, Crown Casino, Southbank at 7.00pm, 25th March 2010. Proceeds from the dinner will be donated to the Burns Unit of the Royal Childrens Hospital. This is a great night for networking and fellowship with industry colleagues and we look forward to your attendance.

Caltex Fuel Card

All TMA members are eligible to apply for a Caltex Starcard which entitles them to 3.25 cents per litre off the pump price for Unleaded petrol and Diesel and 1.0 cent per litre off Vortex 95 and LPG. Application forms should be available from Caltex later this month. We are also negotiating a price for bulk fuel.

BizSave

BizSave are a large buying group who offer discounts on Electricity, Gas, Phone and other business supplies. We have arranged free membership for all TMA members until March 2010 and encourage you to visit their website www.bizsave.com.au and sign up to obtain a no obligation free quote.

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Austbrokers Phillips

We recommend members obtain a quote for all their insurance requirements from Austbrokers Phillips who are great supporters of our Association. They are currently offering a free appraisal of your Workers Compensation premium, with some members having already received substantial savings.

Bookshop

We have an excellent range of timber publications for sale which would be great 'point of sale' products for you. Check out our book shop on the website www.timber.asn.au for full descriptions of publications available and contact Ingrida for your order form on 9875 5000 or email her at ingridam@timber.asn.au

TMA Christmas Closure Times

We will close for business on the 24/12/09 and reopen on the 4/01/10.

Peter Roberts
Executive Director