

Newsletter 169

19 November 2010



Dear Members,

SAWPA CALENDAR

Our 2011 Calendar has been printed and all members should receive calendars in the first week of December. These calendars are part of our annual promotional drive and are posted to Architects, Municipalities, Thatch Roof Contractors, Quantity Surveyors, Agricultural Co-ops, Town Planners, etc. This year's theme focuses on the use of treated poles in structures.

PART-TIME WOOD PRODUCTS SCIENCE CERTIFICATE AT STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY, FOR MECHANICAL WOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY

Since 2010, the Department of Forest and Wood Science at Stellenbosch University offers a Wood Products Science Certificate on a part-time basis. The Certificate consists of a minimum of 7 undergraduate semester modules in Wood Products Science selected from 9 modules. Each module covers a specific subject area – these are the same modules presented to undergraduate students in the Wood Products Science degree programme. Modules range from the basic wood science disciplines like wood anatomy, physics and chemistry to applied disciplines like wood products design, manufacturing and finishing. A blended learning approach is used to present the modules – that is where both internet based methods and face-to-face teaching are used. The theoretical part of the Certificate can be completed at the workplace / home and is followed up with practical sessions at Stellenbosch at the end of each semester. The Certificate is aimed at professionals working in the wood products sector and that have an appropriate scientific or technical background education and / or appropriate work experience but do not have a formal tertiary educational background in Wood Products Science. Typical examples might include engineering, production, accounting, technical, or sales personnel at wood products manufacturing companies. Deadlines for 2011 applications are as follows:

1st semester 2011 – 30 November 2010

2nd semester 2011 – 30 June 2011

For more comprehensive information please contact Sue at SAWPA or alternatively you can contact either

Brand Wessels at Tel: 021 808 3319, Fax: 021 808 3603, e-mail: cbw@sun.ac.za or

Tim Rypstra at Tel: 021 808 3317, Fax: 021 808 3603. e-mail: tr@sun.ac.za

STATISTICS FOR 2009

The 2009 statistics has finely been completed (see attached). The statistics once again includes figures from the Forestry and Sawmilling sectors. The preservative treatment volumes are based on actual production volumes recorded at the treatment plants. Due to a misunderstanding the volumes for poles have not been separated into the different species and use categories as in the past but we will endeavour to do so for the 2010 statistics which we hope to have by the end of the first quarter of 2011.

THE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT MADE EASY

After the success of our speaker at our AGM, we thought you may like to click on this website.

http://www.madeasy.co.za/newsletters/newsletter_2/newsletter_2.htm

This interesting newsletter discusses amongst other things Section 113 of the Act whereby you will be held liable if one of your employees 'drops the ball'. In other words, the potential harm that can be caused by an employee is large and it is imperative that every member of staff is made aware of the importance of the Act and how his or her conduct needs to be modified to ensure that the business as a whole does not run into trouble.

TALKING ROT

The SAWPA website has been updated. Please visit the website at www.sawpa.org.za and let us have your comments. SAWPA had 11370 hits on its website during September 2010, and 9746 during October 2010.

DECEMBER BREAK AND SEASONS GREETINGS

Please note that the SAWPA offices will be closing on the 15th of December until the 3rd of January 2011. Bruce and Sue would like to wish all our members a very happy holiday season and our very best wishes for 2011.

BRUCE BREEDT

SAWPA accepts no responsibility for any claim made in this newsletter.