



Dear Members,

LATEST SUBSTANTIVE WAGE AGREEMENT – SAWMILLING SECTOR

The latest substantive agreement on wages and conditions of employment for the Sawmilling Chamber, of which all wood preservation plants form part, was recently signed by the parties to the agreement and is available on our website. It includes the minimum wages and other terms and conditions of employment for the period 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2013. To download, click “Information”, “Topical and Safety Issues” and then at the information pertaining to Bargaining Council for the Wood and Paper Sector click on “*Substantive Agreement on Wages and other Conditions of Employment for the Sawmilling Chamber*”. In summary, minimum wages have been increased by 7.25%, with effect 1 July 2013, with a minimum wage set at R2 230 per month.

LATEST WASTE REGULATIONS

On the 23rd of August 2013 the new Waste Classification and Management Regulations was published through Government Notice 634. The purpose of the Regulations is to regulate the classification and management of waste, to prescribe general duties of waste generators, transporters and managers such as record keeping, prescribe requirements and timeframes for the management of certain wastes, requirements for disposal of waste to landfill, etc. It also gives the implementation and transitional provisions applicable from the date of commencement. Members are urged to get acquainted with the regulations and are welcome to contact SAWPA for a copy.

STATISTICS FOR 2012

Following a lapse of 1 year and although it took a better part of the year to collect and verify the data received for the 2012 production year, the 2012 statistics is finally available. Even though the statistics is finalized and made available through SAWPA, it remains Industry statistics and we would like to thank all the treatment plants, members and non-members for partaking and making their information available for the statistics. A special thank you also goes out to the SABS and SATAS for their assistance in collecting and collating the data. Every effort will be made to have the 2013 statistics finalised within a shorter time, preferably by the end of the 1st Quarter and would like to urge treaters to start preparing and collating the data so that it can be available within the first weeks of 2014. Those members who attended the recent regional meetings and saw the summarized presentation of the draft statistics will also note that the figures have drastically been altered as we were able to pick up on some errors with the initial data submitted which was subsequently reviewed and corrected. Please contact Sue for a copy of these Stats.

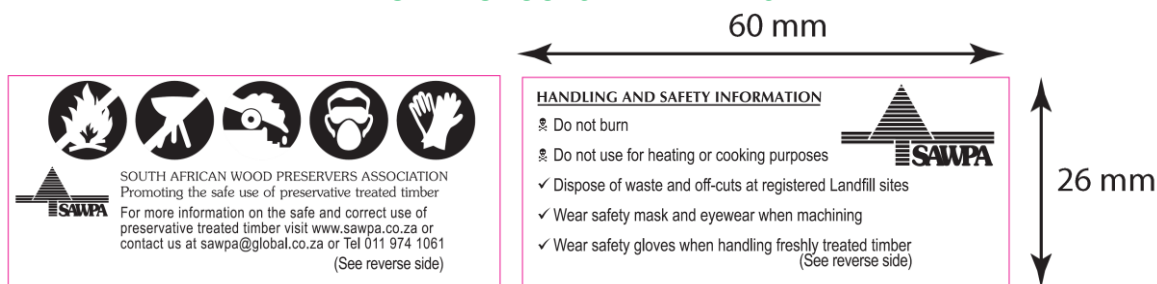
NRCS LEVY AND FEES

The latest amended Regulations relating to the payment of levy and fees with regard compulsory specifications was published through Government Notice 723 on the 4th of October 2013. Members will be pleased to know that the proposed increase gazetted in September 2012 of R 1. 11c per m³, which we opposed in a meeting with the NRCS in Dec 2102, has been amended back to the originally agreed upon levy of R 1. 04c per m³. The fee for the application of approval of a manufacturing facility is R 1 060.00, and will be applicable only to those plants who have not submitted an application for approval to date. For all those plants that have already submitted their applications from as early as January 2010 up to the 4th of October 2013, the application fee applicable at the date of submission will remain valid as the NRCS has not commenced the processing of the applications and there has been no further progress from them.



SAWPA WILL BE HOSTING A STAND AT THE CAPE CONSTRUCTION EXPO from the 31st to the 2nd of NOVEMBER AND WILL ALSO DELIVER A PRESENTATION ON WOOD PRESERVATION ON THE OPENING DAY IN ONE OF THE 4 WORKSHOPS HOSTED OVER THE 3 DAYS. THE INSTITUTE FOR TIMBER CONSTRUCTION (ITC) AS WELL AS THE INSTITUTE FOR TIMBER FRAME BUILDERS (ITFB) WILL ALSO HOST STANDS TO PROMOTE THEIR RESPECTIVE INDUSTRIES.

ON-PRODUCT SAFETY LABELS



An Executive Committee decision was taken on the 18th of September 2013 that SAWPA will for the interim continue to supply the safety labels to our members at no costs. The decision will be reviewed on a periodic basis and will depend on the availability of funds. Please note that the labels will however only be supplied to members on request and therefore you are required to contact the SAPWA office and request more rolls. Your order will then be forwarded to your postal address. Members are encouraged to make use of the offer and demonstrate our duty of care and responsibility in informing the end user of the handling and disposal information for treated timber.

TALKING ROT

- Hits to the SAWPA website during August and September were 47009 & 49209 respectively.
- The CPI for August 2013 was 6.4
- The 2014 SAWPA calendars have been printed and we are in the process of distributing them to approximately 1600 recipients made up of our members, architects, engineers, co-ops, and other interested parties. Please be on the lookout for your copy and if you have not received one by mid or towards the end of November please let us know.

BRUCE BREEDT

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