

Newsletter 187

3 December 2013

Dear Members,

Wishing all our members and their loved ones a peaceful Christmas and a prosperous 2014.

Please note that the SAWPA offices will be officially closing on the 13th of December 2013 and will be reopening on the 2nd of January 2014

Season's Greetings



CAPE CONSTRUCTION EXPO: 31st October – 2 November

SAWPA and the Institute for Timber Construction (ITC-SA), shared a double stand at the Cape Construction Expo held at the CTICC recently. Although the expo was not as big as expected we believe that it was effective in as far as what we wanted to achieve. We had good interaction with visitors to the stand, including members, industry professionals, and members of the public enquiring about the use of treated timber and SAWPA was able to advise and assist them with their queries. Bruce presented a 45 minute talk on wood preservation and the use of treated timber at one of the 4 workshop areas set up at Expo. We would like to thank Airton Timbers and Somerset Timbers for the sponsored treated timber props displayed in the stand.



RETREATMENT OF CCA TREATED TIMBER

The tests done by Willie Conradie of Timberlife on behalf of the Chemical Forum have been completed. The initial draft report titled "Evaluation of retreatment on the fixation/ leachability of CCA in wood" was submitted to all the CCA manufacturers as well as the SABS and SATAS for their inputs and comments. The test results looks positive, and concludes that previously CCA treated wood (fixed and/or re-seasoned) may potentially be retreated when needed in order to increase the retention, i.e. to reclassify and upgrade the hazard class into a higher risk class. Furthermore the tests showed no significant or adverse effect on the fixation and subsequent leachability of CCA from such re-treated wood. Discussions are under way with the various role players to confirm the results, and to determine how the allowance of retreatment will be implemented and controlled, i.e. establish control measures and any possible provisions. Further tests to ensure all the possible risks and scenarios are covered, including full size samples, may however still be required, but for now initial results are looking positive. It is also envisaged that formal approval will be sought in the sector through a SABS Standards "Sectoral Technical Agreement" (STA) process. SAWPA will keep its members updated on any progress and decisions taken. Members are welcome to contact SAWPA for a copy of the tests report.

NRCS PROGRESS

In the past two weeks we received an e-mail as well as a telephone call from two NRCS officers. The e-mail was from the NRCS specialist officer tasked with processing of the Applications for Approval, which our members submitted between February 2010 and August 2011, in which he indicated that he aims to have all the applications processed by the end of the first quarter of 2014. The second contact, by telephone, was from a senior management officer, who informed us that the senior management of the NRCS is looking into the delays and the soonest implementation and administration of VC 9092. SAWPA believes that should the aforementioned come to realization, the levying of the R1.04/m³ will soon follow suite.

PROGRESS WITH REGARD W.D. GOODWIN COMPLAINT – INFOTOX REPORT AND DETAILED LEGAL RESPONSE

SAWPA recently received both the draft report compiled by INFOTOX as well as the detailed draft legal response letter compiled by ENS Africa. The draft INFOTOX report contains the opinion and view of a local specialist toxicologist, Dr Willie Van Niekerk, following the review of various research studies pertaining to the health risk to children playing on playground equipment made of CCA treated timber. The draft legal response letter compiled by ENS Africa comprises the responses to allegations in Mr WD Goodwin's letters of complaint to the office of the Public Protector, the Medical Research Council, and the SABS TC responsible for Playground Safety Standards. Both the documents are currently being reviewed and meetings will be held with both INFOTOX and ENS Africa to finalize the documents where after it will be submitted to The Registrar of Act 36 of 1947, and all other relevant parties, as well as make it available to our members.

SAWPA PROMOTIONAL EFFORTS DURING 2013

This time last year we listed our promotions which SAWPA had been involved in during the 2012 year. It was very well received. We thought you may like to see a summary of our promotional efforts for this year.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Promotional activity</u>
January	- Co-placed an advert in the "SA Forestry Calendar" for 2013 as part of the Wood Foundation.
February:	- 3-page advertorial in the 800 page "How to of building" published by 'Buildaid' and sold at all Builders Warehouse, Builders Trade Depots and Builders Express stores. - Started the distribution of the on product safety labels to our members - 1 page advert in the "Timber iQ" magazine
March:	- Exhibitor and speaker at "WoodEx for Africa 2013" - 1 page advert in the WoodEx Official Brochure - Obtained listing on www.forestry.co.za website directory
April:	- Obtained listing on the "Home Handyman" website - Double page advert in the "To Build" magazine
May:	- Obtained listing on "SA Agri" (www.saagri.co.za) - an agricultural directory for agricultural needs
June:	- Further 2 category listings on the "Agri24" website: www.agri24.co.za - Printed further 4000 brochures to inform informal caterers on the hazards of burning treated timber
July:	- Further 8 category listings onto the "Afri24" website - Full colour double page advertorial in the "To Build" magazine on "What you need to know when buying treated timber" - East Rand Woodworkers Association monthly meeting - Presentation on Wood Preservation
August:	- Obtained a link on the "To Build" website http://www.tobuild.co.za/directory/017/institutes-and-associations - SAWPA link added to "Agri24" monthly newsletter (distribution 12000 members)

- October:**
- Distributed 1600 Calendars (2014) to members, architects, thatchers, co-ops, and landscapers.
 - Full page advert in "Timber IQ"
 - Exhibitor at the Cape Construction Expo in Cape Town
 - Advert and editorial in "Wood SA and Timber Times"
 -
- November:**
- Full colour double page advert in the "To Build" magazine
 - Pretoria Wood Workers Association monthly meeting – Presentation on Wood Preservation
 -
- December:**
- Half page advert placed in "Earthworks" Magazine
 - Full page advert in "Timber iQ"
 - Advert on the year planners for "Timber iQ" and SA Roofing
 - 3 page article in "SA Roofing" on "The use of preservative treated timber in SA"

You win some, you lose some. We were also given a free editorial in the "Building and Construction Review" magazine for their Oct-Dec 2013 issue. SAWPA supplied the editorial content, which was re-edited by the magazine and sent to print, without confirming the changes with us. The article was atrocious, poorly edited and their spelling left much to the imagination. For example the word 'perfume' was used instead of 'performance.'

TALKING ROT

- Hits to the SAWPA website for October and November was 53 847 and 34 363 respectively
- The 2014 SAWPA calendars have been printed and distributed. Should you not have received your copy please contact our offices.
- SAWPA trademark and tree logo is now officially registered with the CIPC – Members may (and are encouraged to), make use of the trademark and logo on their official documentation and marketing material indicating your membership of SAWPA. We request that you use the correct registered version and ask that you please contact Sue for the correct version.
- **URGENT REMINDER** to members to support the initiative to apply safety labels on all treated timber produced and sold. The labels are available free of charge from SAWPA. All you have to do is contact us and request for more labels when you run out of rolls. The intention is that at least 10 % of your production should be labelled prior to dispatch. This initiative is one of our duty of care responsibilities to ensure the future use of CCA as a wood preservative

BRUCE BREEDT

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