

## Newsletter 197

12 June 2015



Dear Members,

### INDUSTRY STANDARDISED REAGENT SHELF LIVES

A concern was raised by Willie Conradie of Timberlife at the first round of SAWPA regional meetings held in March regarding the different and often conflicting shelf life and storage criteria specified by the various chemical companies and certification bodies. It was agreed that an industry norm will be developed which will be made available to all the different stakeholders to work by. The SAWPA Chemical Forum with the guidance of Willie Conradie took an old QC chemical shelf live document developed by the SABS in 1994 and revised it into the attached standardised document for use by treaters, chemical suppliers and certification bodies. This document clearly indicates the specific SANS method, the chemical reagents, its shelf life and storage conditions. Members are requested to introduce the relevant standardised norms to your quality control systems.

### SANS 1288 - PROPOSED AMENDMENT SUBMITTED TO SABS

Members are advised of the attached proposed amendment submitted to the SABS for consideration by the Technical Committee responsible for timber preservation standards. The main purpose of the proposal is aimed at allowing the treatment of difficult to treat sawn timber for H2 purposes. The proposal is twofold in that the first proposal is aimed at allowing envelope treatment of refractory sawn softwood species, e.g. spruce, with light organic solvent preservative. Spruce is increasingly being used in the proclaimed coastal areas where *hylotrupes bajulus* (Italian house borer) and *cryptotermes brevis* (drywood termite) is a specific threat to softwood structural timber, and if left untreated it will in all likelihood be attacked over time, to the detriment of the homeowner. The second proposal deals with the treatment to refusal of sawn eucalyptus timber with water borne preservatives to ensure that at least all sapwood present in the timber is sufficiently protected against *lyctus brunneus* (powder post beetle) attack. Both these proposals are provisional to certain minimum process requirements being met. SAWPA as an association serves as an official voting member and representative of SAWPA members. Any member not serving on SABS TC 218 and wanting to comment on the proposed amendments must please comment to SAWPA by the 26<sup>th</sup> of June. It is important to stress that both these proposals are aimed solely for H2 dry interior above ground applications where fungal decay is not a threat.

### SANS METHOD TO DETERMINE FIXATION OF CCA

With the expected release of the revised SANS 10005 Ed 8 later this year, and wherein it will no longer be a recommendation but a requirement that CCA must be fixed prior to the timber being dispatched, the SAWPA Chemical Forum has developed a test method specifically dealing with determination of CCA fixation. The method will be included into the SANS 5993 method which currently only specifies a method of detecting hexavalent chrome as it makes use of the same reagent chemicals. The revised method will thus cater for both the detection of chrome as well as determining whether the hexavalent chrome has converted to trivalent chrome, i.e. fixation has been reached. The proposed working draft has more or less been finalised and will soon be submitted to the SABS technical committee for further consideration and approval.

## BBBEE CODES – ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION MEETING

Further to our previous newsletter wherein we reported on the clarification notices published on 1 May 2015 and 15 May respectively, the Forest Sector Council secretariat has issued a notice of invitation to all forest related industry members to attend an additional clarification meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 2015 in the SAFCA boardroom at 6 Hulley Road, Isando, where officers from DTI will address those who require additional clarity on the status of the generic codes vis-a-vis our revised Forestry Sector Code. Members who would like to attend are kindly requested to notify the FSCC secretariat at 011 392 1269 or 011 392 1394. The Council has indicated further sessions may also be held in other regions but that the dates and venues are dependent on DTI availability.

## WEBSITE – MEMBERSHIP SECTION CHANGES

Members are advised that the “MEMBERS” section of our website has been revised with some minor changes to the visible layout when visiting the website. The more prominent changes however are seen when one clicks on the word “TREATED TIMBER”, where two areas are then accessed, the first being the link to all members who have requested and provided SAWPA with their individual logos and information to be shown on the SAWPA website for promotional and direct linkage purposes. The second field now boasts lists according to the different regions, and these lists contain all the companies, their contact details, website, treated products standards certified to and the types of preservatives that the companies manufacture and supply.

The purpose of these lists are for users seeking to purchase treated timber to find the closest merchant or retail point. Members are kindly requested to view the lists and see if you are satisfied with the correctness of the detail specified for your own company, and if you require us to alter or add anything, then kindly inform us of the changes required. For instance some of the company sites currently listed may have a centralised sales office which they may prefer to have listed instead of the manufacturing and production facility.

These changes are just the start of revising our website as further upgrades and changes are also under consideration.

## NEWSLETTER OFF-CUTS

- Hits to the SAWPA website in May 2015 was 45346
- BLOEMBUILD EXPO: SAWPA will be exhibiting at this year's Bloembuid Expo held from 23 to 24 July. The Expo is organized by the Free State Institute of Architects and the UFS Department of Architecture and takes place at the Callie Human Centre, University of the Free State.
- SPECIFILE: Since joining Specifile last month we have had a total of 318 views to the SAWPA pages. With time we plan to extend SAWPA and its member's exposure on these pages. If members have any good ideas, then please share them with us.
- SAFETY LABELS: Remember to order your rolls of the safety labels from SAWPA. This is at no cost to SAWPA members. The new addition of SANS 10005 will soon be published wherein the labelling will become a requirement and therefore no longer just a recommendation.
- XIV WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS: A further reminder to those members who may be interested in attending, the World Forestry Congress to be hosted by South Africa in Durban from 7-11 September 2015. Visit the official XIV World Forestry Congress website [www.wfc2015.org.za](http://www.wfc2015.org.za) for more information.

### BRUCE BREEDT

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