

Newsletter 207

2 December 2016



Dear Members

SAWPA would like to wish all our members and their loved ones a very happy and restful holiday season.



Please note that the SAWPA offices will be closed from 15 December 2016 to 3 January 2017.

IMPORTANT – NRCS LEVY CONSULTATION MEETINGS – FEEDBACK

The NRCS held levy consultation meetings in Pretoria, Durban, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town with the objective to propose and discuss the 2017 levy increase. SAWPA attended the first meeting that was held on 11 November 2016 at the NRCS offices in Groenkloof, Pretoria. To motivate the proposed levy increase the NRCS presented annual financial figures for the last couple of years as well as their budget for the current 2016/17 financial year. The proposed increase for 2017, which found favour with all stakeholders present, is 6% and is based on the CPI figures for September 2016. Should the Minister of the DTI approve this it would mean that the current type 5 levy of R1.12/m³ treated timber effective from 30 September 2016 (see newsletter No. 206 of 18 October 2016) will increase by 6% towards the last quarter of 2017.

Time was allowed for the NRCS and industry stakeholders to raise and discuss matters related to levy payments and declarations. Any operational matters had to be taken to the relevant operational department at a later stage. The NRCS management present did, however, acknowledge that they have operational and system constraints, but ensured the meeting that they were working hard towards fixing this soon.

The NRCS reported poor levy returns on past and current figures presented, and issued a stern warning to all companies who have not submitted declarations and made payments, or who have under-declared on levies due. According to the NRCS they will soon introduce a system that will be investigating and auditing all declarations and levies due, past and present. Any company found to be at fault will have its issued LOA withdrawn. The NRCS issued an invitation to all companies to make use of the present amnesty period to ensure that all due declarations are submitted and paid.

In the case of the treated timber industry, the agreed date from which levies became due was 1 January 2015. This means that all plants in operation and treating at the time should to date have submitted declarations and payments for periods 15A, 15B and 16A (pro rata for plants operational after the agreed date). The NRCS has provided SAWPA with generic type 5 declaration forms. Members who have not received the declarations for the given periods can visit our website or contact SAWPA for copies of the declarations forms. It is important, however, to note that when using the generic forms, the plant details and specific JDE or HEF number issued by the NRCS need to be completed on the form, and if the unique client reference numbers are not known, Magda Spies from the NRCS must be contacted at magda.spies@nrcs.org.za (012 482 8890).

The following issues were raised with the NRCS during the meeting, which the NRCS undertook to look into:

1. Many SAWPA members have not received their declaration forms from the NRCS, and as a result have not declared or paid levies to date. The NRCS responded by saying that the problem lies with incorrect email

and postal addresses supplied on the initial applications and requested SAWPA to assist them to update the contact details of the SAWPA members.

2. In some cases where declaration forms have been received by treaters, the forms did not provide for the type 5 levy relevant to the industry. The NRCS undertook to ensure that in future the type 5 levies will be provided for on the declaration forms, and they will also make the generic versions of the forms available to SAWPA for distribution to members who have not received the forms.
3. The annual increase dates are gazetted on different dates from one year to the next, which is confusing. The effective dates for levy increases need to be standardised so that they become effective on a specific fixed annual date and remain so for a full 12-month period from the fixed date, e.g. from 1 January to 31 December of a given year, or alternatively from 1 July of a given year to 30 June of the following year. This will ensure that the effective dates for new levies coincide with the six-monthly payment periods. The NRCS undertook to improve their current system and to look into this proposal.

WISCHUAL app for BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

Wischual launched a business-to-business mobile app for the Building and Construction Industry. This is a first in South Africa and allows buyers and suppliers to connect by providing information on company products and services. SAWPA uses the app to showcase members' products and services to professional engineers, planners and technologists thereby helping them to make informed decisions about treated timber.

To download the app free of charge, visit the App Store or the Google Play Store, and search for "Wischual" or "Buildconstruct". Once installed, look for SAWPA listed under "Construction Services" and "Associations".

Please see the Wischual banner below should your company wish to participate and be listed on the app.



SAWPA PROMOTIONS IN 2016

We are ever thankful and fortunate to have a very healthy promotional budget provision, and as such SAWPA was able to embark on a number of promotional efforts during 2016. These can be viewed in the attached table that gives a summary of the efforts.

NEWSLETTER OFFCUTS

- SAWPA has received a consignment of product safety warning labels, and members are urged to make use of these labels supplied free of charge to members. Orders can be placed with Sue at sawpa@global.co.za.

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

	Print Media — Adverts, Editorials, Brochures, Website listings and Exhibitions
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SA Building Review Vol. 4 2016: Advert and editorial - Landbou Weekblad – Classified advert
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Timber iQ: Advert - Buildaid's Building & Pricing Guide: Advert and three-page editorial - Wood SA & Timber Times: Advert - South Magazine: Advert
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To Build Magazine: Advert - Digest of SA Architecture 2016: Advert - Sponsorship of ITC Awards
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wood SA Trade Buyers Guide - Green Home: Advert - Timber iQ: Advert - Earthworks Magazine: Advert - Farmers Review: Advert
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Radius magazine: Advert - Earthworks Magazine: Advert - Agri24 Website: Multiple category listings and banner advert - Promotional gifts purchased (key holders and styluses)
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WoodEX for Africa Exhibition: Exhibitors stand - Forestry Directory 2016: Advert - Timber iQ: Advert - South Magazine : Advert - Specifile Website: Listed on website (included SAWPA brochures) - SA Home Guide: Banner on website - Farmers Weekly Website: Banner advert and listed on "Industry Organisations" "Agricultural Equipment" - Promotional gifts purchased (card holders with post-its)
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Homemakers Exhibition Port Elizabeth: Exhibitors stand - Bespoke Magazine: Advert - Export Directory African Markets: Advert and editorial - Wood SA & Timber Times: Advert - To Build Magazine: Advert and editorial
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cape Construction Expo: Exhibitors stand - Interbuild / WoodWorld Expo: Exhibitors stand - Timber iQ + editorial - ProLandscape magazine: Advert and editorial - Free app on "Wischual"
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wood SA & Timber Times - Safety labels for members reprinted
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Green home magazine: Advert - Green Building Handbook: Advert - SAWPA calendar printed and posted - Wood SA desk pad: Advert - Wood SA desk calendar: Advert - ProLandscape magazine: Advert - Leading Architecture magazine: Advert - Timber IQ Website: Advert - Construction World magazine: Advert - Free banner on African Construction & Totally Concrete Expo website
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Timber IQ Website: Rotating web banner - To Build: Advert - Architecture SA: Advert - www.forestry.co.za: Renewed listing - www.timber.co.za: Renewed listing - Wood SA: Advert
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Timber iQ: Year planner advert - Timber iQ: Advert