

Newsletter 194

26 January 2015



Dear Members,

SAWPA wishes you all a prosperous and peaceful 2015

EU “BIOCIDAL” PRODUCT REGULATIONS

SAWPA was recently alerted to the latest European Union regulations covering preservative treated wood. SAWPA members exporting or intending to export treated wood products to Europe may want to acquaint themselves with these regulations. An extract of the regulation can be requested from SAWPA. For additional information members can also refer to <http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/information-on-chemicals/biocidal-active-substances>

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2014

The Minister of Environmental Affairs made regulations pertaining to environmental impact assessments, under section 24(5) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No,107 of 1998) in GoN 982 of 4 December 2014. In addition the Listing Notices 1, 2 and 3 containing the list of activities and competent authorities identified in terms of sections 24(2) and 24D of the NEMA Act were also made in GoN 983, GoN 984 and GoN 985 of 4 December 2014, respectively.

The regulations and listing notices became effective on the 8th of December 2014. Members interested in obtaining copies of the EIA regulations and Listing Notices can contact SAWPA for a copy.

SAWPA REQUESTS REGISTRAR TO REVIEW LABEL AND CERTIFICATES

SAWPA sent a letter to the registrar of the Fertilizer, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act 36 of 1947 requesting the registrar to consider a proposal regarding changes and additions to the labelling and registration requirements of wood preservatives.

In the letter we raised our concern on the lack of sufficient information found on the labels and the L registration certificates issued which in some cases have led to non-approved, substandard and unacceptable products being marketed to the locally regulated industrial wood preservation industry.

The proposed changes or additions in essence asked for the label and certificates to clearly indicate whether the chemical preservative registration is for non-industrial (non-SANS and DIY), or for Industrial Wood preservatives (SANS and certified). The labels and certificates must also clearly state the intended purpose or end use class, application methods, criteria for approved applicators or treatment plants as well as the trade requirements/restrictions for timber that has been preservative treated.

The purpose of the request to the registrar could be seen as twofold.

1. To ensure that only approved and compliant proven preservatives are supplied and used for industrial timber preservation
2. To assist in restricting the illegal treatment and sale of products not complying to the Compulsory and SANS standards on the open market.

RESTRUCTURING OF REGULATORY BODIES

An article published in the Business Day of 20 January titled *Regulatory bodies face restructuring*, indicated that agencies that fall under the Department of Trade and Industry are being restructured to make them directly accountable to the department rather than their own boards of directors. The article listed those regulatory bodies that have already undergone the restructuring but also named the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications to undergo the process during 2015.

According to the Business Day the Deputy Director General said that an assessment found that not only did the boards of directors of these agencies incur unnecessary expenses, but they impeded the swift decision-making necessary for regulators and the industries they regulate. She was also quoted as follows “We want the structures that make it easier for these entities to be effective and not be stifled”.

Let's hope that the imminent restructuring at the NRCS will also have an effect on their efficiency as far as regulating VC 9092 and stopping the ever increasing illegal timber treatment sector.

CALL FOR 2014 ANNUAL STATISTICS ON TREATED TIMBER VOLUMES

SAWPA sent an e-mail request to all treatment plants on the 22nd of January regarding the collection/submittal of your 2014 treated timber production volumes to your respective certification body representative. This is a friendly request and reminder for your support and cooperation. We would like to have the 2014 statistics finalised and available to industry by the end of March 2014. Should anyone be hesitant or have concerns about this process, please do not hesitate to contact SAWPA in this regard. We would also like to thank those who have already responded to the request sent on the 22nd.

SAWPA PROMOTION DONE IN 2014

| <u>Month</u> | <u>Promotional activity</u> |
|------------------|---|
| January: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Co-placed an advert in the SA Forestry Calendar for 2014 as part of the Wood Foundation- Listed SAWPA under various categories on the forestry.co.za and timber.co.za (SSA) websites |
| February: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Placed editorials the SA Roofing and Timber IQ magazines- Placed ad in SA Building Review- Presented a talk at the 4th Wood Conference in Cape Town |
| March: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Placed ads and editorials in the Timber IQ, Wood SA & Timber Times and To Build magazines |
| April: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Placed ads in the Earthworks and To Build magazines |
| May: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Placed ad in Timber IQ magazine- Procured 2000 SAWPA branded bottle opener/key holders for promotional gifts- Placed ad and editorial in “The How to of Building” guide |
| June: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Placed ads in the 2014 Woodex for Africa Exhibitors magazine and the Interbuild sales catalogue- Attended and exhibited at the 2014 Woodex for Africa exhibition- Renewed our 10 category listing on the “Agri24” website: www.agri24.co.za- Reprinted all SAWPA DIY Brochures for stock |
| July: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Placed 3 strip ads and an article on the 2013 treated timber statistics in Wood SA & Timber Times- Placed ad and editorial in the To Build magazine- Placed banner on the To Build and SA Roofing websites to run for 6 months- Placed ad in the Forest Directory |
| August: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Attended and exhibited at the Cape Construction Expo as well as the Interbuild show in Johannesburg- Placed ad in Earthworks magazine- Placed editorial in SA Roofing magazine- Placed ad and an editorial in PUBLICWORX annual construction guide |
| September | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Placed ads in the Wood SA & Timber Times, Home Handyman and Timber IQ magazines- Collaborated with The Home Handyman magazine and Sponsored a Wendy House to an orphanage- Booked a space on the 2015 Wood SA Desk Calendar |

- October:**
- Placed a strip ad in The Home Handyman Magazine
 - Sponsored the publication of The Guide to Thatching which will include a SAWPA add
 - Placed ads in the Timber IQ, SA Roofing, and Earthworks magazines
- November:**
- Renewed placement of our logo as well as unlimited category listings on Forestry SA website
 - Placed ads and editorials in the To Build, Top Roof and Home Handyman magazines
 - Distributed +/- 1600 calendars to members, architects, co-ops, town planner and landscapers
 - Re-ordered 1000 rolls of the on product safety labels
 - Placed ads in the Eastern Province Homemakers Fair magazine
- December:**
- Placed ads in the Earthworks and Timber IQ magazines
 - Booked a page on the Wood SA & Timber Times 2015 tent calendar
 - Placed strip ad with 4 page DIY deck building article in The Home Handyman magazine
 - Booked ad space on the 2015 Forestry SA desk calendar
 - Booked ad space on the 2015 Timber IQ year planner

SAWPA EXHIBITING AT UPCOMING EVENT IN FEBRUARY

SAWPA will be exhibiting at the 2015 Johannesburg Homemakers Expo being held in the Dome from the 26th of February to the 1st of March. This will be our first attempt at exhibiting at an expo aimed at the general public. We are optimistic that this will help educate and create awareness with the man on the street on treated timber and its attributes and possible end uses. We hope to see some of our members at the stand.

NEWSLETTER OFF-CUTS

- Hits to the SAWPA website during December 2015 were 33515.
- Mr. Henk Zonnestein, the regional chairman of SAWPA in the Southern Cape, and a well-known and longstanding and respected industry role player with a wealth of knowledge and experience is seeking an employment opportunity in the industry. Interested parties can contact SAWPA for Henk Zonnestein's details.
- "The Fire Managers Handbook on Veld and Forest Fires" is available from the South African Institute of Forestry (SAIF). The order form can be accessed at www.saif.org.za/index.php?page=forestry-handbook or you can contact Corine Viljoen at saif@mweb.co.za
- Please note that our official website is now www.sawpa.co.za address. The old address www.sawpa.org.za will for a transitional period, still be accessible but will only serve as a reference to the new link's site.

BRUCE BREEDT

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