



Oregon Wood Innovation Center

Connecting people, ideas, resources

COMING OWIC EVENTS:

- **February 29: The Lacey Act: A Brief History and New Requirements**, Portland, OR
- **April 11-13: Managing the Woody Biomass Supply Chain – Impact on Your Business**, Seattle, WA
- **April 26-27: Selling Forest Products**, Corvallis, OR

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OWIC Strategic Directions & 2011 Annual Report 'Preview'

We just wrapped-up the sixth year of operations for OWIC. We saw a significant increase in requests for contract testing for entrepreneurial start-ups and existing firms. Many of the projects were related to new product development – and that's a very welcome sign that perhaps Oregon's forest industry is slowly beginning to pull out of the recession.

The outcomes and impacts of some of these projects include:

Color Change and Dimensional Stability of Edge-Glued Panels

Scott Leavengood and Gary Breed (undergraduate student worker) worked on a project for 9Wood, Inc. in Springfield, OR, to determine if changes in temperature and humidity would affect the color and stability (such as warp) of a new edge-glued ceiling panel product they were developing. Jonathan Gates, with 9Wood, Inc.'s R&D department (and one of our alums),

stated that the project was very helpful to them in demonstrating due diligence to the customer. For example, one shipment of panels arrived at the customer's facility with a significant amount of 'blushing' (cloudy discoloration of the finish). 9Wood was able to respond specifically and scientifically to the customer's detailed questions and concerns about performance. As such, they were able to main-

third party is huge for making the sale and keeping customers satisfied."

Reducing Warp in Hemlock Lumber

One of our undergraduate students, Danny Way, had a summer internship with Hampton Affiliates in Randle, WA. Faculty members David Smith and Mike Milota assisted Danny with a project that involved measuring the acoustical properties of hun-

dreds of green hemlock 2x4s to determine if grade loss due to warp was related to acoustical properties. The bottom line was that he was trying to help the company find a quick and cost-effective way to sort lumber for

OWIC Hiring Undergraduate Student Research Project Coordinator

The Oregon Wood Innovation Center is hiring a new research assistant to help with coordination of undergraduate research. The position will have responsibility for coordinating and mentoring undergraduate student research related to industry-sponsored contract projects and assisting in the activities of OWIC. This position will also increase the ability of OWIC faculty to respond to forest industry research projects. To review the posting and apply, go to <http://oregonstate.edu/jobs/>. Apply to posting #0008629. Closing Date: 04/01/12. OSU is an AA/EOE.

tain good customer relations by demonstrating they had 'done their homework' with respect to how varying temperature and humidity conditions affected the surface appearance and dimensional stability of the panels. As Jonathan stated, "Being able to show the customer that we have tested our product with a reputable

drying. You can see him talk about his experience in a *You Tube* video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o7tQasTPy9U>

Exploring New Markets

Several years ago, Chris Knowles, Scott Leavengood and PhD student John Tokarczyk, assisted the Oregon Woodland

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Cooperative by preparing a report to suggest new markets and services they might consider for their members. The cop leaders state they have used the report we provided in several ways: "Through you we were able to hire Louis Leatherman [former grad student] ... he was the one who actually contacted New Seasons and began the firewood program for us. Last year we grossed over \$35,000 in bundled wood sales. We are on track to double our 2011 sales and other store chains are beginning to look hard at our products." "...we have found that your report - particularly the section on value-added wood (i.e. furniture and cabinetry) - has given us better perspectives on this area of potential income. Our current partnership with Northwood's Figured Woods

(producing and marketing burls, turning blocks, figured lumber, etc.) certainly reflects the influence of your involvement. The sections on sort yards, small/portable mills, and combinations of the two have been very useful in helping us sort through the options for not only log/lumber marketing, but also for other products such as firewood.... you inspired us to innovate!"

Improving the Exterior Performance of LVL

Lech Muszyński, Jeff Morrell, and graduate research assistant, Mike Burnard, assisted an Oregon plywood firm develop and test laminated veneer lumber (LVL) bonded with an adhesive designed to provide resistance to insects and fungi. This innovative approach is an alternative to pressure treating

LVL with water-borne chemicals. As of early 2012, the new product has been sold in export markets for over a year.

Dimensional Stability of Fire-Kilned Douglas-Fir vs. Green Douglas-Fir

Sustainable Lumber Company (SLC) contacted us to validate customer comments that their lumber was surprisingly stable in-service. We cycled 1x12s between wet and dry conditions and measured the change in width. Ryan Palma with SLC reported that, "...your research was very helpful. We have been passing on the results to all our customers. We also decided to build a kiln after receiving your final results... and now we have 12 guys manufacturing flooring, doors, and cabinets for us."



Danny Way Measuring Acoustical Properties

Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance

Scott Leavengood and several colleagues in the College of Forestry are participating in a 5-year, \$40 million research and outreach project funded by USDA. The project is one of the largest ever funded by USDA. Washington State University is the lead institution on the project. The Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance (NARA) project is focused on developing a biofuels industry in the Northwest. The specific emphasis is the use of biomass for jet fuel. Scott's role, as the Extension & Outreach representative for Oregon, will be to disseminate information about the project as it progresses and to help identify potential 'NARA communi-

ties' (communities in Oregon with good potential for locating a new biofuel processing facility). Then he will coordinate dialogue between the research team and these communities.

More information at:

[http://
www.nararenewables.org/](http://www.nararenewables.org/)

One upcoming activity related to the NARA project is a symposium in Seattle. The symposium titled, Managing the Woody Biomass Supply Chain – Impact on Your Business will be held April 11-13 at the Red Lion on Fifth Avenue in Seattle. The event is organized by the long-standing International Wood Composites Symposium in collaboration with NARA. To register and view the complete

agenda, visit the website at:

[http://
www.woodsymposium.wsu.edu/](http://www.woodsymposium.wsu.edu/)

This year's keynote speaker is Mike Jostrom, Director of Renewable Resources for Plum Creek Timber Company, who will talk about "Resolving Feedstock Conflicts Between Traditional and Emerging Industries." In addition to the keynote address, Wednesday & Thursday sessions will include more than 30 presentations, a networking reception, poster session and vendor displays. On Friday, two optional tours will be offered: Tour 1 includes stops at Seattle Steam in downtown Seattle and zHome in Issaquah, WA; tour 2 will visit NewWood Manufacturing in Elma, WA.

The Oregon Wood Innovation Center

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Please Join Us!

The Lacey Act: A Brief History and New Requirements

Forest Products Industry Webinar S E R I E S



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STOEL RIVES LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Complimentary! SAF and CLE credits pending

Wednesday, February 29, 2012 • Noon PT 1 p.m. MT 2 p.m. CT 3 p.m. ET

Please join the [Oregon Wood Innovation Center](#) and [Stoel Rives LLP](#) on Wednesday, February 29, 2012 at 12 p.m. PT, for this exclusive hour-long seminar on **The Lacey Act: A Brief History and New Requirements**. Special guest speaker, [Gary Lougee](#), will delve into an explanation of the guidance that APHIS has provided to the public, including updates and frequenting asked questions to help allay many industry concerns. This presentation will provide you with:

- Overview of the Lacey Act
- New 2008 requirements
- APHIS explanation, updates and FAQs

Introduction and Welcome

[Christopher Knowles](#) is an Assistant Professor in Forest Products Marketing at [Oregon State University](#) who works with the [Oregon Wood Innovation Center \(OWIC\)](#) where his role is to help improve the competitiveness of the Oregon forest products industry. The function of OWIC is to be the key link to innovation related resources for people in the forest products industry.

Presenter

Gary Lougee is a Lacey Act Staff Officer with the APHIS. Gary is a frequent presenter on the Lacey Act and its effects on various industries. The APHIS works to protect animal and plant resources in the U.S. from agricultural pests and diseases.

Space is limited! If you are able to participate via webinar, [please register here](#). Webinar instructions will be sent to all attendees prior to the event day.

If you are local and prefer to attend in person, [please register here](#) by Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

When: Wednesday, February 29, 2012
Noon - 1 p.m. PT

Where: Stoel Rives LLP
900 SW Fifth Avenue
19th Floor
Portland, Oregon 97204

Parking: Parking validations will be provided for most nearby parking garages.

Cost: Complimentary

Questions? Please contact Trina Gremaux at tcgremaux@stoel.com or (503) 294-9226



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Forest Legality Alliance Meeting

In December 2011, the Forest Legality Alliance held their annual member's meeting at the World Resources Institute in Washington, D.C. The two-day meeting included sessions that focused on updates on global timber trade policies including the U.S. Lacey Act and legislation in the European Union, updates on outreach efforts of the Forest Legality Alliance, technical developments impacting Lacey Act declaration, and market responses to legality policies. The Forest Legality Alliance is actively seeking to engage professionals in the forest products industry and academic institutions with expertise in forest products and wood science. Chris Knowles,

with the OSU Department of Wood Science and Engineering was invited to participate in the session focused on technical developments impacting Lacey Act declaration. Chris discussed the role that wood identification plays in product declaration and assuring legality. His talk focused on the challenges of accurately identifying wood species, with a particular focus on the challenges associated with species from tropical forests.

After the conclusion of this meeting, the Department of Wood Science and Engineering at OSU was invited to join the Forest Legality Alliance with a role of ensuring that the limita-

tions of wood science are being considered in international policies such as The Lacey Act. The Department also participated with members of the Forest Legality Alliance to develop a proposal submitted to the National Science Foundation that, if successful, will establish a national research network focused on issues around the elimination of illegal logging and trade of illegal wood products.

You can find more information about the Forest Legality Alliance at: <http://www.forestlegality.org/>.

To subscribe to this newsletter send an email to [Chris Knowles](mailto:Chris.Knowles@oregonstate.edu) with "subscribe to newsletter" in the subject line.

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Previous issues of the OWIC newsletter are available at: <http://owic.oregonstate.edu/newsletter/>

