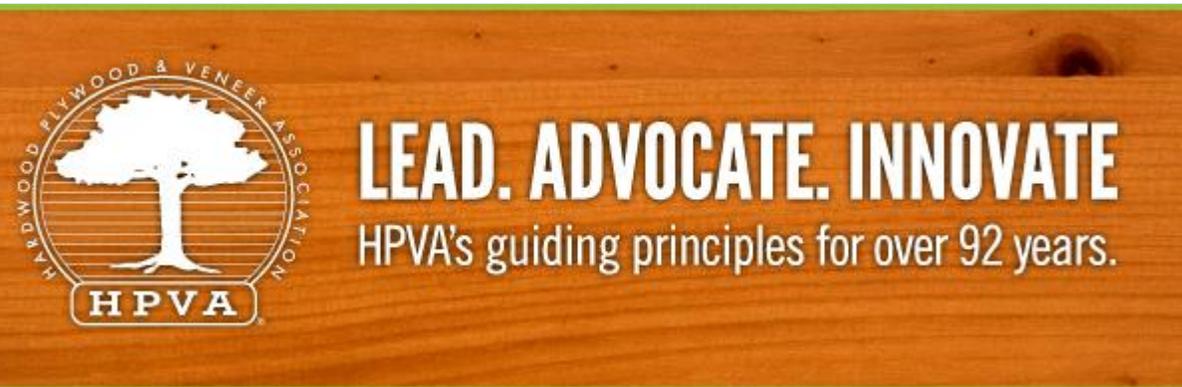


Volume VI, Issue XI: CARB to adopt changes?, more growth in housing, Interpol seizes timber, veneer labels for Jim Beam

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## ➔ REGULATORY NEWS



### **CARB Formaldehyde Meeting: Changes Coming?**

The August 1, 2013 CARB meeting in Sacramento was well attended by major wood product and related stakeholders and US EPA representatives. The primary purpose of the meeting was to provide a forum to **discuss the similarities and differences** between the current CARB formaldehyde regulations and the proposed EPA rule. While it is too early to predict the final decisions by California authorities, it appears that CARB is inclined to adopt many of the changes that EPA has proposed.

*Source: **CARB**, August 1, 2013.*

## ➔ HOUSING TRENDS



## More Growth In 55+ Housing

The rise of existing home prices is helping the 55+ housing market for single family homes. **Builder confidence continued to improve** in Q2 2013, according to the latest NAHB 55+ Housing Market Index (HMI). This is the seventh consecutive quarter of growth.

All components of the HMI index grew vs. year ago: present sales climbed 24 points to 54, expected sales for the next six months increased 25 points to 60, and traffic of prospective buyers rose 26 points to 48.

"Builders and developers for the 55+ housing sector are feeling optimistic," said Robert Karen, chairman of NAHB's 55+ Housing Council.

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Source: *NAHB*, August 8, 2013.

## ➔ INTERNATIONAL TRADE

### Interpol Seizes \$40 Million In Illegal Timber

An Interpol investigation in Latin America seized \$40 million of illegally harvested timber, mostly from Venezuela. 292,000 cubic meters - **nearly 20,000 truckloads - of wood and wood products were confiscated**. Interpol's Operation Lead, conducted with the help of Costa Rican and Venezuelan authorities, has delivered results. An earlier phase of the investigation resulted in \$8 million of timber seized and nearly 200 people arrested for illegal logging and forest crime.



Source: *Interpol*, July 26, 2013.



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## ➔ ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



## Warming Planet May Be Good For Trees

How does climate change impact our forests? Research led by Trevor Keenan of Macquarie University in Sidney suggests that trees in some parts of the world may need to pull less water out of the ground to achieve a certain amount of growth. Some scientists have stated that this might be a result of the rising level of carbon dioxide in the air. If this is the case, **global warming may actually benefit some forests**. The downside: less atmospheric moisture means less rain for agricultural crops.

*Source: [TimberBiz](#), July 18, 2013.*

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## Wood Veneer Labels For Jim Beam

Jim Beam's Limited Edition American Stillhouse Clermont Kentucky Bourbon Whiskey will launch with **wood veneer labels!**

"The prospect of making a label that would be a genuine wood material as opposed to a faux wood appearance has been of interest to us for a long time," says Shawn Nevitt, printed packaging manager for Jim Beam. "The barrel aging process is so special that a veneer label just seemed to fit." The wood veneer labels are manufactured using cherry hardwood veneer backed with a thin film.



*Source: [Label & Narrow Web](#), August 6, 2013.*

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