



**HARDWOOD PLYWOOD AND
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FLITCH AND PANEL DISPATCH

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THE RECOVERY - A MIXED BAG - Housing Starts Rise in July and Sales Fall, Furniture Orders up in June, Softwood Lumber Exports set 10-Year Record.

NEWS NUGGATS - Certified Green Building Area to Greatly Increase, Emission Trading Driving Forestry, Congress Weighs in Against EPA Rule, New Wood Based Research Centers.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - CHPVA 2010 Fall Conference, HPVA/NBMDA/NAFCD 2010 FALL CONFERENCE, HPVA 2011 SPRING CONVENTION.

ASSOCIATION/INDUSTRY NEWS

EARLY REGISTRATION CLOSING SOON FOR THE **HPVA** FALL CONFERENCE - Reserve at the Broadmore Hotel in Colorado Springs by contacting the hotel direct at (719) 577-5775 or (866) 837-9520 or visit www.distributormarketplace.org. **Be sure to ask for the special NAFCD/NBMDA room rate. Early registration ends September 15, 2010, after which meeting registration fees will increase \$100.** **HPVA** will be meeting with the North American Building Material Distribution Association (NBMDA) and the North American Association of Floor Covering Distributors (NAFCD) on **November 16-18, 2010**. Featured will be two **HPVA** sponsored workshops: How to Sell and Market Hardwood Plywood, and How to Sell and Market Hardwood Engineered Flooring. Each workshop will be offered twice: at 1:45 - 3: 45 PM on Nov. 17, and again on Nov. 18.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY EVENT - The U. S. Department of Commerce is holding the eighth in a series of Sustainable Manufacturing American Regional Tours (SMART) on September 14, 2010 at the MeadWestvaco Headquarters in Richmond, VA. There is no charge to attend the Energy Efficiency and Sustainability in the Forest Products Sector tour, featuring both forest products and governmental participants. The purpose is to highlight energy efficiency progress in the forest products sector, to demonstrate how this can lower costs and enhance competitiveness, and to make companies aware of the availability of governmental and other resources.

ROBERTS PLYWOOD GOES SOLAR - On July 24 the Roberts Plywood facility at Deer Park, New York, became solar powered. A 51 KW solar system was installed on the building roof using German solar panels and inverters. The installation earned a federal tax credit and a generous rebate from Long Island Power.

HPVA MEMBERS RECEIVE GIFFORD PINCHOT AWARD - Anderson Floors and Columbia Forest Products were given Gifford Pinchot awards that recognize industry efforts to replace natural resources as a means to provide for tomorrow's forests. The presentations were made in behalf of The Hardwood Forestry Fund.

SYMPATHY FOR A CANADIAN COLLEAGUE - Gaëtan Lauzon of the Canadian Hardwood Plywood and Veneer Association has advised that Mr. Pierre Beaulac lost his mother on August 4th, 2010. HPVA extends understanding and compassion to the children, grandchildren, and extended family in the loss of Anne-Marie Jutras Beaulac.

THE RECOVERY - A MIXED BAG

HOUSING STARTS RISE IN JULY AND SALES FALL - Housing starts rose 1.7% in July to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 546,000 units; however, the gain occurred entirely on the multifamily side, with single-family housing production falling 4.2% to 432,000 units. Sales of newly built, single-family homes declined 12.4% in July, the lowest rate for new homes on record. NAHB Chief Economist David Crowe said, "The housing market is clearly in a holding pattern. That said, NAHB does not project that a double-dip recession is in the cards." *NAHB, 8/17/10 and 8/25/10.*

FURNITURE ORDERS UP IN JUNE - Furniture factory orders in June were up 9% from the same month a year ago; however, they were down 3% compared with May of 2010. June shipments were 7% greater than May 2010. While 2010 figures continue to outpace 2009 figures, they still lag behind 2008 performance. *furniture today.com, 9/2/10.*

SOFTWOOD LUMBER EXPORTS SET 10-YEAR RECORD - U. S. overseas exports of softwood lumber soared to a 10-year high in the first half of 2010 on the back of huge shipments to Japan. Random Lengths reported exports were up 41% at 276 million board ft., compared with the first six months of 2009. Exports were up 68% to China as that country moved ahead of the Dominican Republic as the second most common destination. *ttjonline.com, 9/1/10.*

NEWS NUGGETS

CERTIFIED GREEN BUILDING AREA TO GREATLY INCREASE - Certified green building area will increase 780%, from approximately 6 billion square feet in 2010 to 53 billion square feet in 2020, according to a prediction from Pike Research in a new report. Most of the space – 80% – will be commercial and will be certified by LEED in the U. S. or BREEAM in Europe. Programs in China and India are projected to be responsible for 30% of new certifications. *buildinggreen.com, 8/1/10.*

EMISSION TRADING DRIVING FORESTRY - Farmers in New Zealand have started planting forests on land previously used to graze livestock in response to the nations emissions trading scheme. Up until 2009, deforestation was on the increase in New Zealand with 30,000 hectares lost between 2005 and 2009. The government estimates that forests that are planted to earn carbon credits will result in 30,000 hectares being planted each year, compared to just 3,500 hectares in 2009. *businessgreen.com, 8/19/10.*

CONGRESS WEIGHS IN AGAINST EPA RULE - 106 members of Congress have expressed their concern over the EPA's proposed Boiler Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) initiative and the adverse impact that the rule may have on forest products jobs. This congressional effort has been widely applauded by industry. "AF&PA fully supports efforts aimed at protecting the environment," said AF&PA President and CEO Donna Harman. "Yet by mandating billions of dollars in upfront investments where they may not be needed – and at a time when our economy continues to struggle – the EPA's current approach will cause huge job losses." *wbpionline.com, 8/25/10.*

NEW WOOD BASED RESEARCH CENTERS - Oregon State University and Virginia Tech have been chosen by the National Science Foundation to lead new industry/university cooperative research focused on wood based composite materials. The \$2.2 million five-year research initiative will facilitate the work of six faculty members and three graduate students at each of the two universities. *wbpionline.com, 8/23/10.*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Canadian Hardwood Plywood and Veneer Association (CHPVA) 2010 Fall Conference - October 27-29, 2010 - Hilton Suites Toronto/Markham Conference Centre, Ontario, Canada - Tel. 1-905-470-8500.

HPVA 2010 FALL CONFERENCE with the North American Building Material Distribution Association and the North American Association of Floor Covering Distributors - NOVEMBER 16-18, 2010 - The Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, CO.

HPVA 2011 SPRING CONVENTION - **NEW DATE** - MAY 2-4, 2011 - Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress, Orlando, Florida.