



**HARDWOOD PLYWOOD AND
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FLITCH AND PANEL DISPATCH

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NEWS NUGGETS - USGBC Delays Vote on New LEED Rating System, Settlement Reached on FEMA Trailers, Hardwood Federation Names Cole Executive Director.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - International Woodworking and Supply Fair (IWF).

ASSOCIATION NEWS

HPVA 2012 - 2013 LEADERSHIP - **Brian Beakler**, Armstrong World Industries, 2011 -2012 HPVA Chairman of the Board announced that **Tim Heidt**, The Penrod Company, would be serving as the 2012 - 2013 **HPVA** Chairman beginning on July 1, 2012. **Dennis Bradway**, Mannington Mills, Inc. has been selected as the 2012 -2013 **HPVA** Vice Chairman of the Board. **Greg Lottes**, President and CEO of Danzer Americas, will be taking the Board seat of **Ulli Kaempfe**, also of Danzer, who served as **HPVA** Chairman in 2007. **Pat Lynch** is the new Board member representing Roseburg Forest Products. A chart of the 2012 - 2013 HPVA Board of Directors Structure is available: access <http://www.hpva.org/>

HPVA AND IWF 2012 - **HPVA** and the Hardwood Forestry Fund will be exhibiting at the International Woodworking Machinery & Furniture Supply Fair (IWF) at the Georgia World Conference Center in Atlanta on August 22-25, 2012. **HPVA** will be providing a workshop on "How to Order Engineered Hardwood Products to Maximize Value" with **Richard Poindexter**, Columbia Forest Products, **Allen Hubbard**, Veneer Technologies, and **Brian Sause**, HPVA Laboratories, as presenters. More information on the fair is available at <http://www.iwfatlanta.com/>.

HPVA WORK GROUP STATUS - The **Lacey Act Work Group** is reviewing the ANSI standard update, incorporating the new EU Timber Regulation. The objective is to make this a universal standard as it will fully follow the ANSI consensus process. The **LCA Work Group** has approved a scope of activity with the primary objective stated in the first sentence: "*Provide support of the data generation process to develop credible LCA (Life Cycle Assessment) information for hardwood veneer, hardwood plywood and engineered wood flooring that can be utilized to generate an EPD (Environmental Product Declaration) for our industry.*" The **Log Availability Work Group** will soon have its first organizational conference call. **Pat Lynch** will chair this work group. Access <http://www.hpva.org/> for additional information.

HPVA TRADE FLOWS 2011 REPORT - The 41-page North American Trade Flows 2011 report, published in May of 2012, is now available for non-members at \$100 a copy (print and a PDF). The report covers imports and exports of hardwood logs, hardwood veneer, and hardwood plywood from and to the US, Canada, and North America.

LACEY AND ILLEGAL LOGGING

MARK-UP ON LACEY ACT BILLS - The House Natural Resources Committee started mark-ups in early June on H. R. 3210, so-called the Relief Act, and H. R. 4171, so-called the Focus Act. The legislation would undermine the Lacey Act and its enforcement. While some changes may be necessary, the streamline fixes, based on the bipartisan dialogues between Sen. Wyden and Sen. Alexander, appear to be the better approach as outcomes would maintain the integrity of the 2008 Lacey Act. *HPVA, 6/6/12.*

FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY OPPOSES HOUSE BILLS - Thirty-eight organizations signed a 6/4/12 letter to the US House of Representatives in opposition to H. R. 3210, The Retailers and Entertainers Lacey Implementation and Enforcement Fairness Act, and H. R. 4171, The Freedom from Over-Criminalization and Unjust Seizures Act, both of which weakens the Lacey Act. The letter emphasized the importance of the forest products industry to the US economy and stated that, prior to the 2008 Lacey Act, the estimated costs of illegal logging to the US forest products industry was about \$1 billion annually in lost export opportunities and depressed US wood prices. *Hardwood Federation Coalition, 6/4/12.*

HPVA URGED HOUSE TO VOTE AGAINST BILLS - In a letter to the US House of Representatives, **HPVA** urged rejection of H. R. 3210 and H. R. 4171. Specific information was provided on the effects of illegal logging on the US hardwood plywood industry. The dramatic growth of imports from China since 2001 can be associated with China being the largest consumer of illegal logs. The cost advantage to China has had consequences not only for US hardwood plywood manufacturers, but also for industries such as domestic furniture manufacturers, who, unfairly, have to compete with overseas furniture containing hardwood veneer and plywood components made from illegal logs. *HPVA, 6/6/12.*

NEWS NUGGETS

USGBC DELAYS VOTE ON NEW LEED RATING SYSTEM - The US Green Building Council (USGBC) announced that it will delay until June 2013 balloting on "LEED 2012", the next generation rating system for green building guidelines. According to GreenSource.com, the move resulted from "a growing outcry from architects and other building industry professionals" who thought that the 1) proposed changes were too much, too fast, especially in a weak market, 2) some changes required more refinement such as in the Materials & Resources category, and 3) means to achieve the new credits would not be widely available until November of 2012.

SETTLEMENT REACHED ON FEMA TRAILERS - A class-action settlement has been reached to resolve nearly all the remaining claims over allegations that government-issued trailers exposed Gulf Coast residents to hazardous formaldehyde fumes in FEMA trailers following hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Nearly two-dozen trailer manufactures agreed to pay \$14.8 million to resolve the claims. It has been estimated that 60,000 plaintiffs could benefit. It so the average payout would be about \$247 per plaintive before fees extracted by plaintive attorneys. *Washington Post, 5/29/12.*

HARDWOOD FEDERATION NAMES COLE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - Dana Lee Cole has been named the third Executive Director of the Hardwood Federation (HF) and will begin serving in the role June 25, 2012. Current Executive Director Deb Hawkinson, after five years at HF, has accepted the position of President at the Forest Resources Association. Since 2004, Cole has been Vice President of Corporate Affairs and Corporate Board Secretary at the 11,000-member National Association of Manufacturers (NAM). *Hardwood Federation, 5/31/12*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

International Woodworking and Supply Fair (IWF) - August 22-25, 2012 - Georgia World Congress Center - 285 Andrew Young International Blvd. - Atlanta, Georgia.