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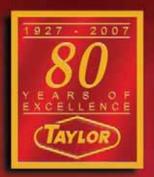


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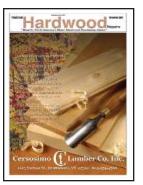
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#### The Cover

Cersosimo Lumber Company has grown to become the largest Hardwood producer in New England. With three sawmills, total kiln capacity of 5 million board feet and with extensive timber holdings, the potential for additional growth looks bright.

The company's team of dedicated and experienced employees, working closely with a customer base of professional wholesalers, has resulted in a real winning combination for both company and customer. This unique relationship between customer and supplier assures



Cersosimo Lumber Company the ability to respond to the changing requirements of our industry both domestically and globally.

Founded in 1927 by: O.L. MILLER 1894-1963

The **National Hardwood Magazine** is the product of a company and its affiliates that have been in the publishing business for 80 years.

Other publications edited for specialized markets and distributed worldwide include: Forest Products Export Directory • Hardwood Purchasing Handbook • Dimension & Wood Components Buyer's Guide • Import/Export Wood Purchasing News • Classified Exchange • Imported Wood Purchasing Guide • Green Book's Hardwood Marketing Directory • Green Book's Softwood Marketing Directory • The Softwood Forest Products Buyer

Paul J. Miller	Publisher
Paul Miller, Jr	President
Wayne Miller	Vice President
Gary Miller	Vice President - Editor
Terry Miller	Vice President
Doug Knowles	Canada/Lake States, Vice President - Editor
	Phone: (705) 750-1940 FAX: (705) 750-0677
	Email: dgkwood@yahoo.com
Carolyn Higginbotham	Marketing Director
Sue Putnam	Editor
David Owens	Associate Editor
John Gray, Jr	Art Director
Walter Lee	Asst. Art Director
Tammy Daugherty	Production Manager
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Lisa Carpenter	Circulation Manager

#### ADVERTISING OFFICES:

1235 Sycamore View, Memphis, TN 38134 901-372-8280 FAX 901-373-6180 Reach us via the Internet at: www.nationalhardwoodmag.com e-mail addresses: ADVERTISING: tammy@millerpublishing.com EDITORIAL: editor@millerpublishing.com SUBSCRIPTIONS: circ@millerpublishing.com EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENTS: Chicago, Los Angeles, High Point, Grand Rapids, Portland, Toronto Controlled circulation postage paid at Memphis, TN (USPS #917-760)

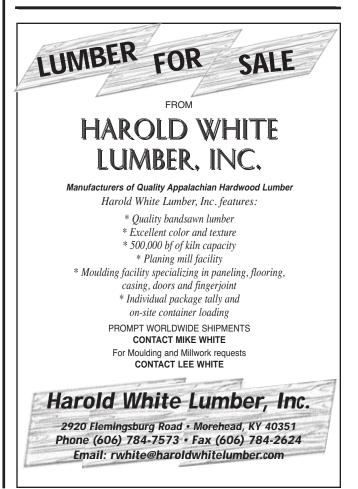
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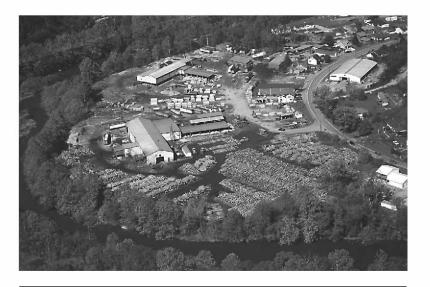
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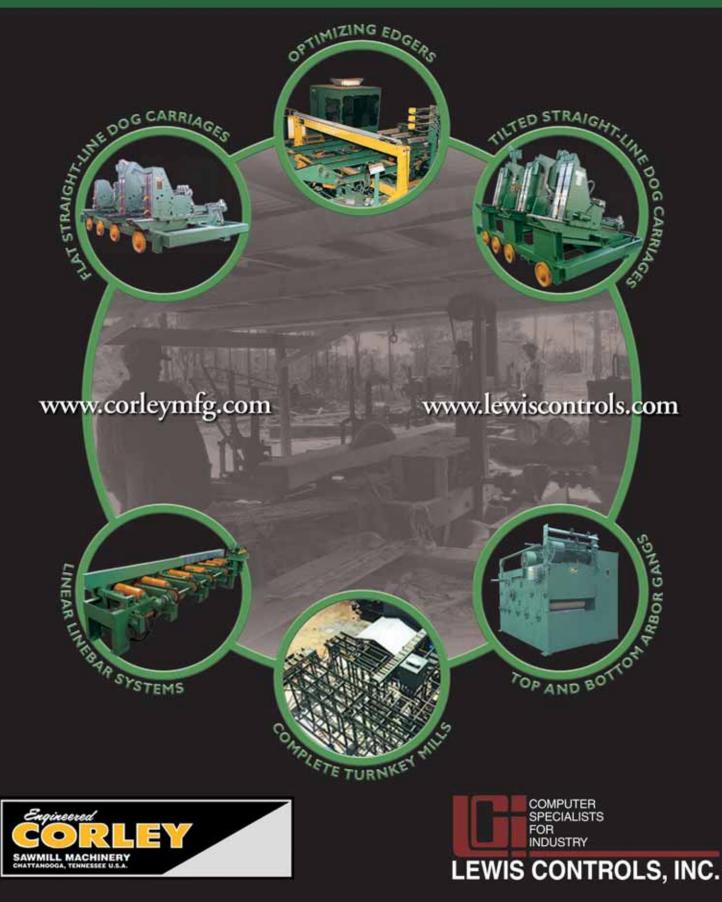
\*We recently acquired a new Hardwood lumber concentration yard in Marion, N.C., which will produce an additional 15,000,000 board feet of kiln dried lumber annually.\*

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your 'Hardwood Green Book' as well. So, we're happy with our Ad program in your publications and we would recommend to any Hardwood lumber company that's looking for new customers to advertise in your magazine to help them obtain new customers." D

Steve, Ben and Tony Bruggeman Bruggeman Lumber, Inc./BTS Lumber, Inc. Sand Springs, Iowa

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# HARDWOOD CALENDAR

#### NOVEMBER

Wood Component Manufacturers Assoc., Fall Conference and Plant Tour, Grand Rapids, Mich. Contact: 770-565-6660. Nov. 5-7.

Midwest Industrial Woodworking Expo, DeVos Place, Grand Rapids, Mich. Contact: 828-459-9894. Nov. 8-9. Penn-York Lumbermen's Club Meeting, hosted by Coastal Lumber, Uniontown, Pa. Contact: 607-594-3321. Nov. 19.

#### DECEMBER

Lake States Lumber Assoc., Board of Director's Meeting, Best Western Midway, Wausau, Wis. **Contact: 906-774-6767. Dec. 5**. Canadian Lumbermen's Association Hardwood Bureau Meeting in conjunction with the Wholesale Lumber Dealers Associations' Christmas Festivities. Doubletree Interna-tional Plaza Hotel, Toronto Airport. **Contact: 613-233-6205** or www.cla-ca.ca. Dec. 5.

Southwest Club, Windsor Court Hotel, New Orleans, La. Contact: 601-765-8892. Dec. 10.

#### CALENDAR - Continued

Kentucky Forest Industries Assoc., Kentucky Master Logger, Carter Caves State Resort Park. **Contact: 800-859-6006. Dec. 12**.

West Side Hardwood Club Annual Christmas Luncheon, Eden Park Country Club, Pine Bluff, Ark. Contact: 870-367-2436. Dec. 13.



Appalachian Lumbermen's Club meeting, Holiday Inn Select, Hickory, N.C. Contact: 828-397-7481. Jan. 8.

 $^{od}$ 

National Hardwood Lumber Assoc. (NHLA), 14-week Hard-wood Lumber Grading Class (NHLA Inspection School), Memphis, Tenn., Contact: <u>m.bartee@nhla.com</u>. Jan. 9-Apr. 11.

Canadian Kitchen Cabinet Assoc. 14<sup>th</sup> National Forum, Saskatoon, SK. **Go to website www.ckca.ca. Jan. 30-Feb. 3**.



Indiana Hardwood Lumber-men's Assoc. Convention and Exposition, Hyatt Regency, Indianapolis, Ind. **Contact: 317-875-3660. Feb. 6-7**.

Appalachian Hardwood Manu-facturers Inc. Annual Meeting, Marco Island Marriott, Marco Island, Fla. **Contact: 336-885-8315. Feb.20-24**.

•



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"The biggest improvement is accurate costing, without which we wouldn't have attempted international sales. We look at our costs daily, by grade and species, and can catch problems early." **Mike Stumm, IT & Admin Manager Webster Hardwoods** 

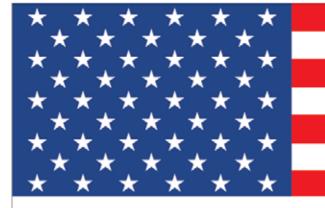


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# JSA. Tremis

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#### SOUTHEAST

White Oak continues to be the shining star for lumber producers contacted in the Southeast. While the housing market continues to falter, the remaining species — including Red Oak, Poplar and Ash — are struggling.

"It's hard for me to understand," said an Alabama lumber manufacturer. "FAS Red Oak is dead in the water, while White Oak is real hot. I don't know what's causing it. We have an election year coming up, and I don't see much improvement for another year and a half."

The source said the housing market might not be the deciding factor in the overall fate of the forest products market.

"Housing starts are not affecting it as much as some folks think," he said. "In our area, there's still a world of building going on, both commercial and residential. It's hard to put a finger on it. Not any one thing is telling you what caused this predicament with Red Oak."

An Arkansas lumber manufacturer said the market in general has not been good, but appears to be leveling out.

"White Oak is doing well, but the rest of the species are slow," he said. "We can move them, but it's not at a good price. It's got to be the housing market. Everything was going along pretty well until the housing market started slowing down."

On the other hand, the Arkansas source said the Hardwood flooring

Please turn to page 92

#### LAKE STATES

Those contacted in the Lake States region said selling anything other than White Oak and Walnut has been a struggle as of late. While White Oak and Walnut are quickly selling out, other items "can't be moved no matter what the price," said a source at an Indiana distribution/concentration yard

"Our challenge is to go out and find the items that are at least moving and get the best price you can," the contact said. "In this market, you're not going to get the price that you want."

Some sources blame the media coverage of the struggling housing market, which they say are causing problems in consumer confidence.

"If consumers can gain confidence, that would make a difference," said the Indiana contact. "Our ideal customers are end users — kitchen cabinet, flooring, moulding, millwork and door manufacturers. But, if there's somebody buying Hardwood lumber, we're going to talk to them."

A Michigan wholesaler said he considered the current market "status quo," noting depletion in the amount of Hard Maple available.

"Hard Maple has not been sawed and it's starting to get quite tight," he said. "Soft Maple's been doing good for quite some time, while the green and kiln-dried (markets) seem to be coming out of their funk. I think it will stay pretty much status quo for the rest of the year."

Please turn to page 94

WEST COAST

Sources contacted on the West Coast credit the downturn of the housing market as the main factor behind a similar slowdown in the lumber industry.

A California wholesaler said the forest products market has "slowed down considerably" in the last several months, despite a fairly profitable start to 2007.

"I think everybody's reading the same newspapers," he said. "The housing market is definitely a factor. You can drive around and see a lot of houses for sale. That wasn't the case a year or a year and a half ago."

Despite there being a lot of houses for sale, the source said there is still business to be had — albeit not at the numbers they once were.

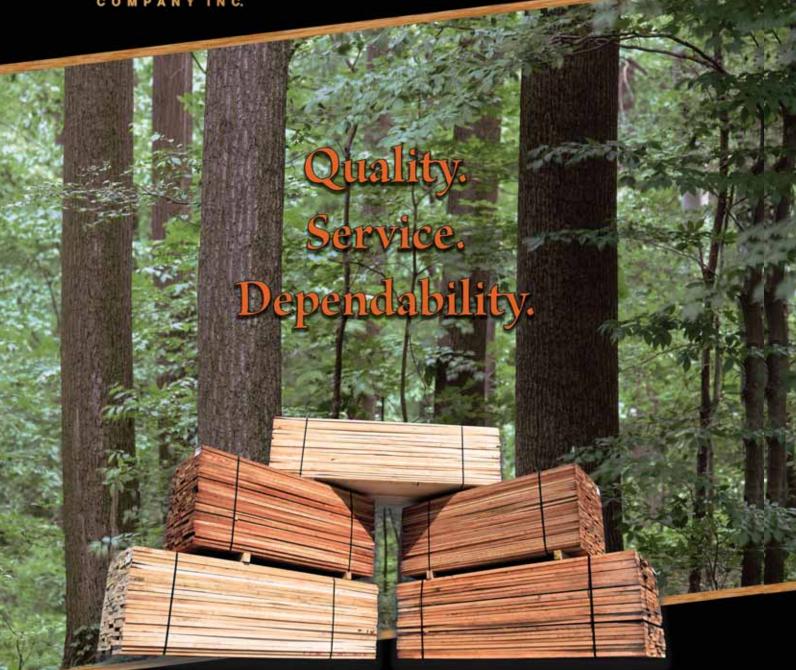
"Cherry, Walnut and Genuine Mahogany are just as active as they were," he said. "Oak and Maple have slowed down some, but houses are still going up here. We're looking for a fairly decent year, and so far, it's steady."

A Washington-based Alder manufacturer said he hasn't experienced any setbacks from a slowing housing market.

"For everything to be going along as good as it is, we're pretty happy about it," he said. "It's not the manic pace it has been, but everything's available that people need. There's a balance between supply and demand which is healthy."

The source said the Alder lumber





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# **Canadian Trends**

News from suppliers about prices, trends, sales and inventories.

#### QUEBEC

Ash demand is far from overwhelming, however, supplies are limited, resulting in a relative balance with the market's interest. Green Number 2A and Better Aspen on the other hand is described as stable. Supplies match the demand for green stocks, with prices being kept steady.

Area suppliers advise, that increased interest in Birch, along with limited production, have tightened supplies of green Yellow Birch. Prices have firmed, particularly from the low side. Demand for kiln dried Yellow Birch has also improved.

Some forecasted reports on the Eastern Canadian Hardwood industry predict that the strengthening dollar will keep a lot of Canadian lumber out of the U.S. markets, thus limiting Canadian production. Hard Maple and Yellow Birch shortages may cause production increases to fill the demand. The strong Canadian housing market should provide outlets for lost sales to the U.S., and exports overseas may be challenging.

Statistics Canada reported that Canadian lumber production has continued its downward spiral since June. Signs on both sides of the border indicate that an end to the slump is nowhere in sight. Summer production was at its lowest level for most months in five years as forestry companies continued to adjust to decreasing demand from the U.S. home construction market. Sawmills produced 6.1 million cubic meters of lumber in June, down 2.4 percent from May and 8.4 percent from June 2006. In the first six months of this year, production was down by 9.5 percent to 38.6 million cubic meters. With housing starts not expected to increase until late 2008 or early 2009, the bottom won't be reached for a while, say some economists.

The Statistics Canada results didn't fully reflect market conditions, according to some economists, considering that U.S. housing starts were down 20 percent recently to 1.45 million units. That's primarily because producers have been running at capacity to feed a hot pulp market.

Canada's two leading lumber producing provinces – British Columbia and Quebec – both recorded lower pro-

Please turn to page 97

#### **ONTARIO**

While reductions in sawmill production have led to more consistency in markets for key species and grades of green lumber, kiln dried stocks are still subject to downward pressure. This is particularly so for ample inventories of kiln dried No. 1 and 2 while Hard Maple combined with lackluster demand are keeping prices unsettled. Reports on log decks are varied. Some sawmills are running handto-mouth with supplies, while others indicate their log inventories are sufficient for the time being. Those short on logs cite either recent wet weather conditions, lack of qualified loggers, or unfavorable economic lumber markets.

Activity surrounding Basswood stems from longstanding buyer/seller agreements. Finding new business is described as difficult for wholesalers. Similar results are noted for kiln dried Basswood.

Production for the regionally important species, Hard Maple, remains controlled and is generally in line with demand. With the ample supply on inventory this causes stiff competition for available business. Prices have responded to the pressure by trending downward in recent activity. Supplies of both green and kiln dried Soft Maple are sufficient to meet demand, resulting in mixed pricing.

Red Oak suppliers say it's a challenge to move the full run of developing kiln dried 4/4 Select and Better production. Although demand for green Select and Better almost matches with sawmill output, the availability of kiln dried stocks is running ahead of market demand. Sales operations have a portion of their kiln dried 4/4 Select and Better production reserved for established customers at stable pricing. However, developing markets for extra volumes is difficult, and often involves incentive pricing. Concessionary prices, it is reported, only capture existing business from other suppliers, but have generated muchneeded cash. These prices have also increased downward pressure on Select and Better pricing in general.

Oak strip flooring manufacturing is sufficient to meet market demand for most items, even though housing

Please turn to page 98

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## **Eye** On Technology

#### AWMV INTRODUCES SINGLE HEAD **RESAW FOR E430 EDGER**

AWMV Industrial Products, a division of Wood-Mizer Products Inc. based in Indianapolis, Ind., recently introduced the Single Head Resaw and Setworks for the E430 Edger. The new products are designed to increase production and profitability for commercial lumber operations.



The Single Head Resaw (SHR) is a utility saw that remanufactures boards and cants, and reclaims slabs to convert them into finished products such as pallet stock, fencing, flooring blanks, cabinet and furniture parts. The compact machine has a heavy-duty saw head that tilts eight degrees to allow angle cuts for lap siding and moulder blanks.

The SHR features a steel feed track, the same thin-kerf technology featured on all AWMV and Wood-Mizer bandmills to ensure maximum yield and productivity. The equipment is designed for both small and large sawmill operations.

The E430 Edger also carries a setworks option, which consists of a six-button control panel, LED display board readable up to 100-feet, and a six-button wireless remote. AWMV Industrial Products supplies narrow-band, thinkerf sawing technology and related equipment to the commercial lumber industry.

For more information, call 1-800-522-5705, or visit www.awmv.com.

#### McDonough Launches New Edger Division

McDonough Manufacturing Co., located in Eau Claire, Wis., recently launched a new line of edgers and gangs to better serve its customers' complete log breakdown needs. McDonough will build both optimized and conventional

#### Installation, Products and Services

edgers and gangs to compliment its existing line of resaws, bandmills and carriages.

Hugh Hawley and Steve Mockler have been pegged to run the new division, with Mockler handling edger design as senior engineer. Hawley, vice president of engineering and design, has over a decade of experience on the sawmill floor and in the edger design and manufacturing shop. Mockler has spent nearly that long as an edger and gang design engineer.

McDonough Manufacturing delivered its first optimized transverse edger system, which features a high-speed infeed table, optimized three saw edger and short-coupled wing style outfeed, to Allegheny Wood Products, located in Princeton, W.Va. The system also features COE Newnes McGehee scanning and optimization and will be upgradeable to utilize BIOSCAN technology, a proprietary technology from CNM that uses vision technology to enhance edging decisions based on visual defects. Concept Systems of Albany, Ore., provided the controls for the system.

#### **USNR ANNOUNCES SEVERAL NEW INSTALLATIONS**

USNR, a world leader in sawmill equipment headquartered in Woodland, Wash., recently delivered its cutting edge technology to several Hardwood sawmills.

Beasley Forest Products, based in Hazlehurst, Ga., ordered a USNR 3D LASAR scanning and optimization system to be installed on a Cone Machinery carriage. The company is strategically located within five miles of three major rivers, which provides them with an abundant supply of Hardwood.

Hawkeye Forest Products purchased a USNR YieldMaster G3 carriage optimizer for the existing carriage at its mill in Trempealeau, Wis. The second-generation family run business manufactures various Hardwood lumber.

Rex Lumber invested in a new USNR Triple Length Continuous (TLC) dry kiln system complete with a green fuel burner for its Graceville, Fla., plant. The mill is also extending the length of an existing USNR dry kiln to convert it to a second TLC kiln at the same site. The company is adding extra drying capacity to handle the additional production expected from implementing a second shift.

Summit Forest Products, located in Markleysburg, Pa., recently purchased a 3D Smart TriCam optimizer system to use with their new lineal edger/gang from T.S. Manufacturing.

Weyerhaeuser, based in Wright City, Okla., ordered a USNR 3D Smart TriCam scanning and optimization upgrade on an existing double length infeed. High-performance computer hardware with faster operating speeds will permit the mill to realize the benefits of the latest version of MillExpert optimization software.

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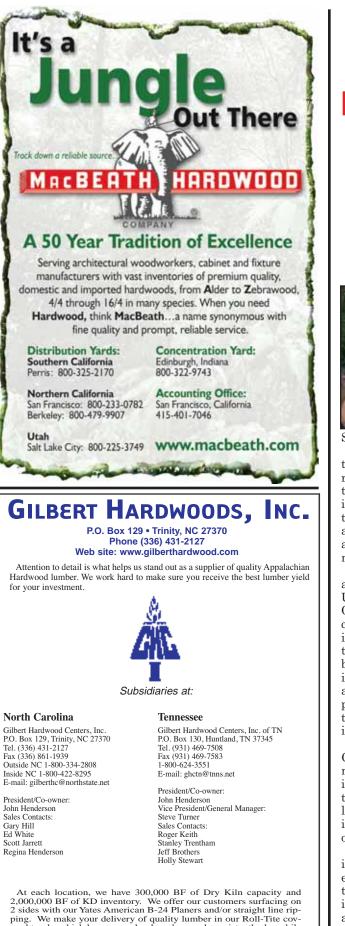
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## A News

#### **Plan Ahead For Next Hardwood Event Of The Year**



by MARK BARFORD **Executive Director** National Hardwood Lumber Assoc. Memphis, Tenn.

Did you miss the Hardwood event of the year? You did if you weren't at NHLA's Annual Convention & Exhibit Showcase in Washington, D.C., recently.

Often called "the family reunion of the Hardwood industry," NHLA's Annual Convention is an opportunity to reconnect with old friends, make new friends, new customers and new vendors, and discuss the future of the industry. Without a doubt, this has been a tough year for the industry, but the changes and challenges are not going away. The Convention touched on the same major forces affecting the industry: globalization, sustainability, and modernization.

Our two keynote speakers were not only experts in globalization but drivers of the process. Gen. Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.) enthralled the crowd of more than 800 at Opening Session with his personal views on a rapidly changing world. He assured the crowd that the Hardwood industry is not immune to the rapid changes occurring in the world's economic landscape. It can succeed, however, by embracing change. The U.S. and Canada, as welcoming, open societies which encourage and reward excellence and innovation, are uniquely situated to compete and prosper in the economy. Shying away from change, a tactic embraced by the long-gone Soviet Union, is damaging in a world where adaptability is essential.

Colonel Oliver North echoed many of the same themes. Col. North has spent much time overseas with the young men and women serving in the military; he urged the industry to hire these returning servicemen. In an industry where finding a qualified workforce is a constant challenge, what a great idea it is to hire an employee whose idea of "on the job stress" goes well beyond what the rest of us deal with on a daily basis.

The current buzzword in the worldwide Hardwood industry is sustainability. Governments and consumers. especially overseas, are increasingly demanding wood that is sustainable and legal. North American Hardwood is a model of both, but proving it according to conventional certification processes is a challenge. NHLA, along with the rest of the industry, must continue to find ways to

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IT'S A STAIRCASE. IT'S A DINING SET. IT'S A MANTEL, IT'S A BOOKCASE, IT'S A HAMMER. IT'S A BEDROOM SUITE. IT'S A GUITAR. IT'S A HOPE CHEST, IT'S A BASEBALL BAT, IT'S A TOYBOX, IT'S HARDWOOD FLOORING, IT'S A DESK, IT'S CROWN MOLDING, IT'S A CABINET. IT'S WINDOW FRAMING. IT'S A BALLROOM FLOOR, IT'S A PICTURE FRAME, IT'S A CHAIR. IT'S A TABLE. IT'S A FENCE. IT'S A CLOCK.

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**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The Hardwood Council, founded in 1993, is a coalition of 9 Hardwood lumber and product associations. The Hardwood Council provides information about North American Hardwoods to residential and commercial builders, architects and designers.

Contact the Hardwood Council at P.O. Box 525, Oakmont, Pa., 15139. Phone: (412) 281-4980. Fax: (412) 323-9334. Web: www.americanhardwoods.org.

#### Hardwood Council Promotional Efforts Reach Many Audiences

Pittsburgh, Pa.–The Hardwood Council promotional program provides a variety of educational materials to its target audiences of builders, architects, designers, remodelers, and students. Topics range from specifying, installation and finishing to sustainability and green issues.

#### CALL FOR HARDWOOD PROJECTS

The Hardwood Council is always looking for new projects featuring North American Hardwoods for use in promotion and case histories. If you have a Hardwood project that merits attention, consider submitting it to the Council. It's as easy as one click of the mouse. The Council has launched a new "Promote Your Hardwood Project" feature on their Web site at <u>www.hardwoodcouncil.com</u>. Click on the button located on the home page, complete a brief form describing your project, and submit.

It's a great way to showcase your most eco-conscious applications of North American Hardwood – the ultimate green building material – for upcoming case studies and feature articles in trade and shelter publications. We're especially interested in green design projects and projects using locally sourced Hardwoods along with other sustainable materials.

#### COUNCIL CO-SPONSORS BD+C WHITE PAPER

Building Design + Construction (BD+C) magazine has produced a series of white papers, over the past four years, on sustainability and green building. The Council has cosponsored these papers and will continue with this year's publication. This fifth white paper focuses on owners, occupants, and property executives in the eight most dynamic construction sectors: hospitals and healthcare facilities; higher education buildings; schools; hotels and casinos; restaurants; corporate offices; residential; and the general \$501 billion non-residential construction market.

The white papers reach wide distribution. They are polybagged with the October issue of BD+C to 75,000+ subscribers, which includes architects, contractors, engineers, and owners/developers. In addition, BD+C does a mailing to key influencers and decision makers: President and Vice President of the U.S., U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, 50 state governors and their D.C. representatives, plus an exclusive list of about 900 non-government organizations, trade associations, environmental groups, and others. BD+C also distributes copies at shows: U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), American

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# PUTTING YOU FIRST.

[ Shane Cook, Chute Dogger and West Plains Sales Manager, 11 years with North Pacific. ]

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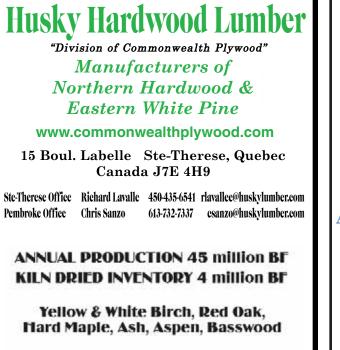
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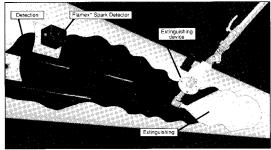


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# AHEC Update

#### AHEC Commissions Major "Risk Assessment" Of U.S. Hardwood Resource



by MICHAEL SNOW Executive Director American Hardwood Export Council Washington, D.C.

For the past several years, AHEC has been monitoring developments in the so-called "green procurement" debate around the globe, and there is no doubt that this issue has been gaining momentum rapidly, particularly in the high-value

"mature" export markets of Europe and Japan. There are now clear signs that the significant environmental advantage previously enjoyed by American Hardwood producers is being eroded as the ability of competing Hardwood producers to deliver independently certified wood products is improving rapidly. At the same time, emerging market requirements for certified wood products, particularly in the public sector, are creating obstacles to the marketing of non-certified American Hardwood products.

As a direct response to these developments, as well as the increasing requirements around the globe for independently verified evidence that American Hardwoods derive from legal sources, AHEC has commissioned a major assessment study on the risk of illegal wood entering the supply chain for American Hardwood products. The study will be conducted by Seneca Creek Associates, authors of the well received global study on illegal logging which has been widely praised and adopted by governments and environmental organizations around the world.

Before undertaking the study, AHEC consulted procurement officials in Europe and Japan as well as representatives of the main certification schemes. There is good reason for optimism as both CPET (the UK Government's Central Point of Expertise on Timber) and PEFC (Program for Endorsement of Forest Certification) provided assurances that the Study will meet their requirements for verified, legal "non controversial" timber. The Study will also assess the risk of wood being derived from the five categories of controversial source identified in the FSC Controlled Wood standard. The study results, due by the end of the year, are expected to include maps showing the level of risk that wood derives from illegal or other controversial sources, not just by U.S. state, but also by the various individual eco-regions which make up the U.S. Hardwood resource.

AHEC sees the study as a necessary and timely step to supplement, through independent research, the existing evidence that American Hardwoods tick the box when it comes to legal sources. We also believe that the study could be used as the model for establishing legality in

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