

MEMBERS' BULLETIN

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IN THIS ISSUE:

- ▶ **Welcome**
- ▶ **Illegal logging regulation and compliance update**
- ▶ **Timber import conditions review**
- ▶ **Canadian Global Buyers Mission**
- ▶ **Chilean softwood supplies**
- ▶ **Next ATIF Board**

Welcome

This *Members' Bulletin* is intended to keep you up-to-date with ATIF activities. This edition comments on recent meetings with Department of Agriculture and Water Resources to discuss illegal logging-related matters and timber import conditions. Also detailed is ATIF's upcoming participation in the Canadian Global Buyers Mission, discussions with Chilean representatives and the next ATIF Board meeting.

Illegal logging regulation and compliance update

Further meetings have been held with staff from the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources to discuss activity related to the illegal logging regulations and compliance. The Department is currently revisiting some of its communication materials to improve their clarity and to increase the understanding of the illegal logging legislation. This will include overhauling existing illegal logging web pages, developing supporting social media materials and hosting a series of educational webinars in the second half of the year.

The Department will also be writing to importers of regulated timber products to remind them of their obligations and to direct them to new communication materials (including the upcoming webinars). The Department will also be writing to key industry associations to highlight the laws and some of the available guidance materials.

The Department's 2018 Compliance Plan is accessible on their illegal logging compliance page:
<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/forestry/policies/illegal-logging/compliance>

Timber import conditions review

A recent meeting was held with Plant Import Operations staff of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources as part of the ongoing review of timber import conditions. The following matters were discussed.

1. Enquiries for help with BICON and import conditions.
2. Canadian Green Lumber Certification Program.
3. *Myrtaceous* permit requirement.



4. Possible pathogen risk review.
5. Green sawn timber from PNG.
6. Approved treatment providers.

Further advice on these matters will follow in a separate briefing.

Canadian Global Buyers Mission

BC Wood's Global Buyers Mission (GBM) will again this year be held in Whistler, British Columbia. The mission will provide an opportunity for Australian buyers to meet and potentially develop new business relationships with Canadian timber product producers interested in growing their export markets. The 2018 event is scheduled 6-9 September. Registration is available at: <http://www.bcwood.com/gbm-buyers-info-package-2018>. This web link includes the complete Buyer Information Package and registration details.

On behalf of members ATIF continues to support the GBM and enquiries from prospective Australian buyers can be directed to John Halkett at john.halkett@bigpond.com or Mob: 0417 421 187. Further information is also available at: www.bcwood.com

The imposition of tariffs on Canadian timber imports into the US could be an unintended windfall for the Australian timber import industry presently challenged sourcing structural softwood lines for the domestic building and construction industry. The imposed tariff averages 20.8% on Canadian timber imports into the US.

While there is already a strong relationship, particularly with the British Columbian timber industry, fostering even closer interaction with Canadian suppliers could be in Australia's interests.

At the invitation of BC Wood General Manager John Halkett will be attending the GBM to investigate possibilities for expanded structural softwood and engineered wood product exports to Australia. This will include meetings aimed at establishing a closer relationship with Canadian structural and engineered wood product suppliers and gathering information for ATIF member companies.

If any ATIF company wants information related to the availability of Canadian softwood timber and/or engineered wood product suppliers, please let John Halkett know (contact information below) and information will be collected on your behalf and forwarded to you.

Chilean softwood supplies

Discussions have been held with the Chilean Ambassador and other senior Chilean representatives to explore possibilities for Australian importers to strengthen their interaction with Chilean suppliers aimed at additional volumes of graded and treated structural softwood.

ATIF consider that there is some merit in seeking to strengthen existing relationships with Chilean structural softwood and engineered wood product suppliers. Although Chile already a major supplier of a wide range of radiata pine-based timber products they may be able to do more.

The meeting with Chilean representatives resolved to continue to work through ProChile, and with major Chilean forest companies to investigate prospects for expanded trade with Australia.

Next ATIF Board meeting

The next meeting of the ATIF Board will be held in Sydney on 9 August. The meeting will include a discussion on a forest industry social licence initiative being proposed by Forest and Wood Products Australia (FWPA). The discussion will be assisted by a presentation from Howard Parry-Husbands, CEO, Pollinate. The Chairman of FWPA John Simon, and Managing Director Ric Sinclair will attend the meeting for the presentation and discussion.

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