

MEMBERS' BULLETIN

September-October 2014

No 29

IN THIS ISSUE:

- ▶ **Welcome**
- ▶ **ATIF 2014 AGM**
- ▶ **Chile Wood Expo**
- ▶ **Illegal logging regulation implementation**

Welcome

This *Members' Bulletin* is intended to keep you up-to-date with current ATIF activities. This edition provides an update in the recent ATIF Annual General Meeting together with information on, the *Chile Wood Expo* and the illegal logging regulation and related training.

ATIF 2014 AGM

The 2014 AGM was held in Brisbane in late August. There were not changes to Board membership and Nils Koren continues as Chairman.

Addressing the AGM Nils Koren reflected on the huge challenge ATIF has had in driving forward the illegal logging policy and legislation agenda from an industry perspective.

“This has in large measure defined our main mission over the past few years. So now we need to be able to maintain our relevance and importance to importers and wholesalers as the illegal logging regulation moves into the implementation and training stage.”

“As a trade association we must continue to focus on adding value to the commercial reality of member companies and continue to put oxygen into what we offer to member companies,” Mr Koren said.

Reinforcing the increasing value of imported timber products, notably more sophisticated engineered and panel products, as housing and renovations activity lifts was emphasised by ATIF general manager John Halkett.

“It remains the situation that a significant number of timber products imported are either were not manufactured in Australia at all or not of the quality of specifications needed to sustain building and construction activity.”

Mr Halkett said that in relation to the Federal Government’s illegal logging legislation now shifting to implementation phase. “ATIF has developed a training proposal that is currently being considered by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Senator Richard Colbeck and the Department of Agriculture.”

“Clearly an important role for us as illegal logging legislation comes into force on 30 November is to ensure that imported timber products continue to be able to make a notable contribution to government’s housing, climate abatement and other goals.”

Chile Wood Expo

Chile Wood Expo to be held in Sydney on Thursday, 16 October 2014 is a collaborative effort between the Chilean Trade Commission (ProChile) and the Australian Timber Importers Federation. General manager John Halkett said ATIF was delighted to be participating in the expo.



“ProChile has been a real force in assisting the marketing of Chilean timber product exports and the Australian timber supply chain now enjoys a beneficial relationship with Chilean timber companies.”

Exhibitor space remains available for importers and wholesalers to display product and provide information to the domestic timber product distribution chain.

According to Chile’s Senior Trade Commissioner Silvana Gattini, the ProChile hosted event will also provide an opportunity to highlight the steady increase in twenty-first century radiata pine-based building and decorative timber products produced and exported from Chile to world markets, including Australia.

“There is little doubt that Chile continues to be the stand-out performer and market-leader in the Asia-Pacific region in relation to the production of innovative, exceptionally well regarded timber products,” she said.

Chilean structural and decorative timber product imports to Australia now surpass traditional competitors and have the comfort of firmly established fit-for-purpose credentials.

Ms Gattini said the *Chile Wood Expo* will showcase Chilean engineered wood, panel and plywood products from a number of Chilean producers.

“Also this free-to-attend event will be much more than that – it will also be about entertainment Chilean-style, with wine-tasting from leading Chilean wine suppliers and food with a Chilean twist.”

Industry attendees will also have the opportunity to take part in some fun quizzes with great prizes.



CHILE WOOD EXPO

Thursday, 16 October 2014

1:00pm to 6:00pm // Lake Room - Waterview Conference Centre
Bicentennial Drive - Sydney Olympic Park - Homebush Bay - Sydney - Australia



To register to attend please send your name, company/organisation and email address to:

Nicolas Birrell - nbirrell@prochile.gob.cl

Enquiries to Nicolas Birrell 02 9262 2326 or nbirrell@prochile.gob.cl or John Halkett 0417 421 187 or john.halkett@bigpond.com



Chile Wood Expo
Principal Supporter



Chile Wood Expo
Supporters



pro|CHILE
CHILEAN PROMOTION BUREAU

Illegal logging regulation implementation

The Federal Government-industry illegal logging working group, scheduled to meet again on 12 September, is continuing to work towards finalising details of the illegal logging regulation, including the Custom’s declaration, communications material and education. ATIF has now placed priority on aspects of implementation and training. Further advice to ATIF member companies will be provided soon.

*This newsletter has been prepared by ATIF General Manager John Halkett
(Tel: 02 9356 3826 Email: john.halkett@bigbond.com)*