



GM's Corner

Stuart Sing



What a time to be a Lumberman or Lumberwoman; have you ever seen lumber prices at the frothy levels that they are hovering at now? For those of us that have made the forest industry a career, even accounting for inflation we have never seen 2 x 4 Random Length at \$1,650 per MFBM. The demand for lumber thanks to new home construction, home renovations and improvements, and mass timber construction, comes on the heels of sawmills inability to drastically increase production or find the transport to move the finished products.

Currently order files are very-strong with sawmills now sold out to early June and having to price defensively. We all know there are hills and valleys in our business and when it comes to pricing, right now that hill is a mountain. So, make hay while the sun is shining because as the vaccinations keep increasing and we go back to normal and vacations become in vogue again, chances are more people will be focusing on camping and less on home projects.

And in the midst of these interesting times, John Leahy our Manager of Plant Health and Certification has officially announced his retirement from CMSA effective July 1, 2021. The significance of July 1 is not only is that John's birthdate, but that day will give him 25 years of service with CMSA. While John has always said he wanted to retire early, good for him for sticking to his plan and now calling it a career. With all the knowledge that John has acquired in his 25 years with CMSA, not only will we miss John but I am sure our members will miss the personable John too. Not too sure what John's short term and long term retirement plans are, maybe he will give you a hint in his goodbye to you. John is the second staff member to retire from CMSA, of course our first retirement was Rob Blair who took super early retirement when he retired in 2013 at the tender age of 55.

With the retirement of John Leahy, I would like to introduce you all to Fred Henze our new Manager of Plant Health and Certification. Fred has the perfect combination of education, sawmilling experience, and Lumber Grading Championship success, which I covet when looking for a new CMSA staff member.

A graduate of BCIT in 1999, Fred had been with Delta Cedar for 22 years starting as a Lumber Grader and working his way to being Quality Control and finally as a Sawmill Supervisor. Possessing AA Lumber Grading Tickets for Coast Species, WR Cedar and S-P-F, Fred was also the Junior Lumber Grading Champion at the 2020 Championship that was held in Kelowna. Fred has spent the last 2-months training with John and meeting the members. Fred will also spend time with both Earl Scott and Kris Reklinski learning MSR lumber, FJ Studs, and getting up to speed on bi-directional kilns. So, everyone please welcome Fred to your operations and give him all the courtesies that you always extended to the CMSA staff.

I have to commend all our members and the CMSA staff for ensuring that it is business as usual and proving that we all can carry on and still stay safe. We were quick in coming up with a COVID protocol and prevention plan to ensure that the CMSA staff stayed safe and did not pass the virus on to anyone else. At our monthly Safety meetings, we review all outbreaks at our members or within our industry to determine how we do our audits moving forward. Do we phone ahead and get loads set down before our arrival, do we perform a grade check with only one or no helpers, is there an opportunity to perform a Plant Health audit or do the MSR/FJ records check virtually and/or by video means? All staff at the onset of COVID-19 were provided with two different types of face masks, face shields, and even personal coronavirus testers. All staff have been instructed to stay home, if they are feeling sick or exhibit any flu type symptoms.

I have been encouraging all staff (and their spouses) to obtain a COVID vaccinations as soon as their age cohort comes up. The majority of our staff and their spouses (including myself) have been given their first vaccination shot against COVID and its variants. While my preferred vaccine is either the Pfizer or Moderna one, like the good Doctor says, the best vaccine is the first one that they offer you.



CANADIAN MILL SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Lumber Matters

Inside this issue:

GM's Corner	1-2
NLGA Grade Stamping of 105 x 105 Products	2
Mill Stamps	2
European Lumber to Canada	2
NLGA Standards Committee	2
Grade Committee Update	2
ALSC Visits	3
CMSA 2021 AGM - Any Request for Board Members	3
ALSC Chart on Trigger Points for Regrade	3
Lower Mainland Grading Class Plans - Coast Species for this Fall and Spring 2022	4
Keep Taking Names for Coast Species, WRC and S-P-F Upcoming Lumber Grading Classes	4
Northern Region Grading Class Update	4

Inside this issue:

CMSA Grading Classes in Fall 2021 and Winter 2022	4
Vancouver Island Report May 2021	5
Vancouver Island using cutting edge technology	5
CMSA Online Grading Course	5
Plant Health Updates	6-7
Canadian Lumber - Quality Assurance from Manufacture to Use	7
Major/Minor Non-Conformances	8-9
MSR and Finger joint Calibration	9
Bi-Directional Kilns (BDCK's) and HT	9
John's Retirement Article	10
Photo Gallery (John Leahy - 25yrs with CMSA)	11
About me (Fred Henze)	12

Knowing that vaccinations are proceeding at a good pace and our Provincial Government says everyone that wants one should receive their first vaccination by mid-June, we are preparing for Lumber Grading classes this fall. Instead of an early September start, maybe for this year we start in late September/early October to ensure all students have had at least one vaccination and maybe by late September many (maybe all) will have received two shots. For the students that attend the Fall class, vaccinations will be required and we will keep the class size manageable so that there is a little more space for all. And of course, face masks will still be recommended if not mandatory.

For our 59th Newsletter you will hear from both Kris and Earl as they update you on the committees that they sit on and provide points on issues that have come up lately.

NLGA Grade Stamping of 105 x 105 Products

Stuart Sing

Just a reminder to all grade stamp facilities that we have received a variance from the CLSAB, ALSC and NLGA so that CMSA members can now grade stamp their 105 x 105 (4.13" x 4.13") S4S products under Para 122 - Light Framing or even Para 124 - Joist & Planks and even thought the 105 x 105 size exceeds what is listed in the NLGA grade rule book. This is very-good news for our members because it now allows you to sell this item into markets not formally accessed before.

The common grade used will most likely be Standard & better under Para 122.

They recommend that you show the size in your sales contracts to your customers seeing as this is a non-standard size for the Para 122 or Para 124 grade rules.

From John you will get his last Plant Health update and he will share with you his plans as he gets ready to start his retirement. You will also get to meet Fred Henze our new Manager of Plant Health and Certification as he will introduce himself to you, and tell you the training plans John has mapped out for him. Ingrid Shen is taking names for our upcoming Annual General Meeting and Rika Hatachi in addition to putting together this newsletter will print the ALSC trigger point numbers, and print the poster that shows the relationship between the CLSAB, NLGA and CWC.

And finally, as I tell my staff, don't let your guard down, the finish line is within sight so stay healthy and safe. Good luck, happy travels, and a super retirement to Rhonda and John.; we will miss you two.

Mill Stamps

Stuart Sing

Just a reminder to our Grade Stamp members that both the CLSAB and ALSC do not allow the use of "Mill Stamps". What are mill stamps? Mill stamps are stamps which may show a Grade, Moisture Designation, NLGA and/or Species, but they do not show the CMSA logo or your mill number.

While not common in Canada they tend to show up on European stamped dimension lumber where some sawmills are out to skirt the system and pass off mill stamped lumber as being legitimate. These mill stamps are not recognized by the ALSC as being a ALSC recognize grade stamps and therefore cannot be used in a structure such as a house.

If the CLSAB or ALSC observe any "mill stamped" lumber at your facility, they will request that the mill stamps be removed on every load and piece.

European Lumber to Canada

Stuart Sing

As we all know, European Spruce and Pine has been finding its way into the USA for about a decade now. Lately we have been getting enquiries about European lumber coming to Canada.

According to the CLSAB, European lumber cannot be grade stamped as S-P-F as their strength ratings are lower than Canadian S-P-F.

Secondly, they say that European lumber cannot be used structurally (as in a house) in Canada as those species are not accepted for use in the Canadian building code. The only way they could be used in a structure is if an Engineer takes responsibility and signs off on the project. They could however be used in board or pallet applications.

NLGA Standards Committee

Kris Reklinski

Being a member on the NLGA Standards Committee I will continue to give updates as they come up.

Currently no next meeting date is scheduled at this time; however, task groups on various issues (special products standards, calibration of test equipment etc.) continue to work away and any new news or updates which are pertinent will be passed along to our members.

Grade Committee update

Earl Scott

Spring is in the air. Vaccines are going into arms more and more each day.

This year we will be holding our annual grade committee meeting virtually one more time. Hopefully we can meet face to face again soon. Before COVID-19 became a pandemic we were scheduled to be in Ottawa, that will be the plan for next year! This year we will be meeting late May or early June working out the details.

If you have any concerns or suggestions, please forward to your CMSA supervisor so it can be added to the agenda. The sooner the better thanks.

While the International border between Canada and the USA is still closed, as vaccinations ramp up, the Federal Government will be under pressure to allow travel between the two countries again.

Right now, the USA has a greater percentage of their population vaccinated and we have been hearing the call to open the borders. With that in mind, if the borders do reopen, expect the ALSC to be one of the first to cross and make their way to the sawmills and reman facilities.

Ensure your lumber is on grade and the moisture content meets the KD-HT requirement.

You have been warned.

CMSA 2021 AGM – Any Request for Board Members

It is the time again for CMSA to hold an Annual General Meeting for this year.

The AGM has been confirmed on **June 15th (Tuesday)** by virtual. As usual, on this meeting, the current Executive Board of Directors resign, and a new Board will be elected for the coming year. If you would like to serve on CMSA Board of Directors, please contact **Ingrid Shen** or **Stuart Sing at (604) 523 1288** for details.



ALSC Chart on Trigger Points for Regrade

(extracted from Notice from ALSC, dated April 13, 2021)

Recall

A recall is issued by ALSC staff when a report resulting from a survey (combined with mill inspection results if available), recall, visit, or destination check conducted by an ALSC Field Representative identifies issues with one or more items that exceed the boundaries shown in **Table 1**. When a mill is placed on recall ALSC Field Representatives will make a visit of the mill during their normal travels related to their six-month survey.

Table 1-Recall Triggers

Item percentage for Below Grade	Equal to or greater than 7.5%
Item percentage for Moisture Content	Equal to or greater than 7.5%
For inspections with more than 3 items the average percentage for all items for Below Grade	Equal to or greater than 5%
For inspections with more than 3 items the average percentage for all items for Moisture Content	Equal to or greater than 5%
Item Percentage for Species Problem	Equal to or greater than 7.5%
Item percentage for Stamping Problem	Equal to or greater than 10%

Priority Recall

A priority recall is issued by ALSC staff when a report resulting from a survey (combined with mill if available), recall, visit, or destination check conducted by an ALSC Field Representative identifies issues with one or more items that exceed the boundaries shown in **Table 2**. When a mill is placed on priority recall ALSC Field Representatives will prioritize going to these mills to follow up on corrective actions being taken by the accredited agencies.

Table 2-Priority Recall Triggers

Item percentage for Below Grade	Equal to or greater than 15%
Item percentage for Moisture Content	Equal to or greater than 15%
Item percentage for Below Grade and for Moisture Content	If the item percentage for both Below Grade and Moisture Content each are equal to or greater than 7.5%

Lower Mainland Grading Class Plans – Coast Species for this Fall and Spring 2022

Ingrid Shen

Base on the feedbacks we've collected from our Lower Mainland members, there is quite a bit of interests for the Coast Species Grading Classes. So, we are planning to host two sets of Coast Species Grading Classes in Surrey (Cloverdale area); one in this Fall and one in the Spring of 2022 if the restrictions lifted and the conditions allowed. We are closely watching the pandemic situations, and strictly following the BC Government's instructions. Looks like most of the people can be vaccinated by the end of September in BC. We hope the Class can start in late September or early October.

Once the dates of the CSP class are confirmed, we'll send out a notice to all Lower Mainland members. If anyone would like to register for the Spring CSP class, please contact Ingrid Shen by email at shen@canserve.org or visit CMSA website at <http://www.canserve.org/grading-class> to download the registration form.

Hopefully we can meet in September on the CSP Class. Keep our fingers crossed!

Keep Taking Names for Coast Species, WRC and S-P-F Upcoming Lumber Grading Classes

Ingrid Shen

As we mentioned earlier, we are going to host two sets of Coast Species Lumber Grading Classes in the near future due to the high demand. At the same time, we keep taking names for Coast Species, S-P-F and Western Red Cedar Grading Classes to determine what the next Grading Class will be.

If you are interested in taking a Lumber Grading class, no matter a S-P-F or a WRC class or a Coast Species class, please give me a call or send me an email to register your name with us so that we know if we can have enough demand for filling up a class. Again, my email is shen@canserve.org and my phone number is 604-523-1288 ext. 2.

Thank you. Hope everyone continue staying safe and healthy!

Northern Region Grading Class Update

Kris Reklinski

An update as to the potential and availability for grading classes as we continue through 2021 are positive.

CMSA is currently working on an online version of the grading classes so that moving forward this will be an option; however, in the meantime we are still open to holding in person grading classes if the desire and need is there. Of course we must do it in a socially distanced and safe manner but we understand and believe in the importance of quality control and assurance, and will work with our members to support them to keep that at the highest level.

In conjunction with one of our members (**Dollar Saver Lumber**) we were already able to hold one grading class in 2021 which was a good accomplishment. By keeping the class small (class size of 5 students) wearing masks, social distancing and working with the pieces in a large, outdoor but covered area we were able to work through the course in an efficient and safe manner.

If you are interested in any grading classes or discussing options on how a course could be presented or put on during these unique times please contact one of the CMSA supervisors (reklinski@canserve.org) or the office at: (604) 523-1288.

CMSA Grading Classes in Fall 2021 and Winter 2022

Fred Henze

This Fall and Winter, CMSA is planning to host grading classes.

A lot of facilities have been asking for this valuable course as it is a great foundation for employees in our industry. As safety is number 1, we still have some COVID challenges to overcome before we can set dates. As soon as we can secure a venue and gather safely, CMSA will send out registration forms for the class. Students will also be able to register by calling Ingrid Shen at the main office. If all goes as planned, we will first do Coastal All Species in early Fall, followed by WRC in January. Part of my job is facilitating these classes and ensuring we have teachers and assistants. CMSA does provide teaching material and training for our instructors.

Please contact me if you have an interest in the teaching side of things.

The missing is back. Some years ago when I was getting some grading samples from a mill that was being closed I was given two trophies. These trophies were the old Championship trophies that were first given at the now WFP Chemainus sawmill.

V. L. Jackson was the first winner in 1933.

The second trophy was for second place and was presented by Spear and Jackson BC Ltd and was won by **J. R Hudson.**

Current Mill Manager, **Kevin Somerville** has been quoted that the winner of this years grading class will have their name on the cup. The cups will be on display in the Chemainus sawmill.

The First Coastal Championship Cup



The Second Place Cup



Vancouver Island using cutting edge technology

Terry Ryan

Some news on the Island is that Mosaic Forest Management are using electric powered logging trucks. The news reported that these electric powered are practical on the coast because the batteries are charged when the trucks go downhill.

There are four school boards on the Island investing in electric busses.

Vancouver Island Grading Classes for May 2021 – Terry Ryan

There have been two grading classes on the Island one in Port Alberni and one in Chemainus. The Chemainus classes are for the mill rules. We have a small but keen group attending. Due to COVID we are outside for the classes. It was cold and windy today.

We are looking forward to the end of COVID so that we attack the demand for grader training.

CMSA Online Grading Course

Kris Reklinski

Yes, as some of you have been asking the online grading course is in the works.

It will take some time in order to get all of the parts and pieces into place but we believe the time and cost will be worth it. It was an idea we had prior to COVID-19 but for obvious reasons that was the catalyst to initiate this process. This will allow for safe learning during any pandemic and beyond that, in the future it will allow for those in remote locations to be able to access our course, and those with limited or busy schedules to learn on their own time. The goal CMSA has is to create an immersive learning experience, which is easy to navigate, and learn from that will translate well when being used practically on the mill floor.



We have a meeting currently scheduled with UBC to collaborate our lumber manufacturing and grade characteristics knowledge with the use of some very high definition cameras and advanced knowledge surrounding the latest computer technology and software. This work will go into giving a very realistic learning experience. This project has a longer term outlook as far as its completion date but we will continue to give updates as we collaborate and make progress. As many of us get more used to heading into zoom meetings, online conferences, and educational courses, it is an exciting project for all of us at CMSA as we move towards a more digital space and make that transition with you.

CSWCP certificates

As prescribed by the Australian Department of Agriculture, Water, and the Environment (DAWE) the certificates issued to cover lumber compliant with this program change twice every year.

- 1. For CSWCP lumber produced between Dec. 1st of the year preceding, and April 30th of the current year.
This is the period where on-shore fumigation is not mandatory for CSWCP certified lumber.

- 1. For CSWCP lumber produced between May 1st and November 31st of the current year. This is the period where on-shore fumigation in Australia is mandatory for all Canadian lumber.

While we are not supporters of having certificates that continually change, this is the system that we have to live with at this time, to abide by Australia's BMSB (Brown marmorated stink bug) safeguarding measures.

Rika has created a sample certificate with the generic wording (i.e. not year specific) which we recommend that you include in your CSWCP QC manuals. See the example as shown below.

Canadian Food Inspection Agency / Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments

Certificate No./No. de Certification: [Redacted]

Canadian Saw Wood Certification Program / Programme canadien de certification de bois scié
for / pour

Australia / Australie
 Kiln-dried / bois séché au four
 Green / bois vert scié

EU / UE

2 Facility (name and address) Établissement (nom et adresse)		3 Exporter (name and address) - optional Exportateur (nom et adresse)		4 Consignee (name and address) - optional Destinataire (nom et adresse)	
5 Facility Registration No. No. d'enregistrement de l'établissement		6 Type of Transport Type de transport		7 Port of Entry Port d'entrée	
8 Country of Origin Pays d'origine		Canada			

9 Consolidated Certificate/Certificat regroupé

10 DESCRIPTION OF CONSIGNMENT / DESCRIPTION DU CHARGEMENT

This document has been issued under the program officially approved by Agriculture Canada, Plant Protection Division (the Canadian Food Inspection Agency) and the products covered by this document are subject to occasional pre-shipment inspection by that agency, without financial liability to it or its officers.

Ce document a été émis en vertu du programme officiellement approuvé par la Division de la protection des végétaux de l'Agriculture Canada. Les documents présentés à l'occasion d'une inspection préalable indiquée sur ce formulaire ne sont pas soumis à l'organisme ou à ses agents.

This document has been issued under the program officially approved by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and the Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment. The products covered by this document have been inspected by authorized individuals and have been found to comply with the requirements of the Canadian Saw Wood Certification Program. All goods included on this certificate were produced **between December 1, 2020 and April 30, 2021** and are free from brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB).

Ce document a été émis dans le cadre du programme officiellement approuvé par l'Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments et le Département australien de l'Agriculture et de l'Eau. Les produits couverts par ce document ont été inspectés par des personnes autorisées et se sont avérés conformes aux exigences du Programme canadien de certification du bois scié. Tous les biens inclus sur ce certificat ont été produits **entre le 1 décembre 2020 et le 30 avril 2021** et sont exempts de parasites destructeurs (BMSB).

11 AUTHORIZED PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CERTIFICATION
PERSONNE AUTORISÉE RESPONSABLE DU CERTIFICAT

Print Name / Nom imprimé: [Redacted] and/et Signature: [Redacted] Date: [Redacted]

1 This period changes twice a year ('December 1, 202x to April 30, 202x', and 'May 1, 202x to November 30, 202x')

Mexico

Some of our members have been flagged for mistakenly exporting kiln-wets under a Mexico HT certificate. The HT certificate for Mexico is unique and stipulates that the lumber permitted to be shipped under this HT certificate must be KD-HT. By definition KD-HT lumber must have a moisture content of 19% or less (Mexico prefers 18%). Therefore lumber which is simply HT, such as kiln-wets cannot be covered by Mexico HT certificates. The only way to export lumber to Mexico which is not dry is via a phytosanitary certificate.



UK



Plant health certificates reminder – There have been recent rumblings and rumours that the UK has changed their plant-health certificate requirements again. The source of some of these rumours was an old email notice from last December. Since that time we have been advised by the CLSAB that the old status-quo holds for now, i.e. **industry issued certificates for heat-treated (CHTWPCP) lumber or WRC graded under the Canadian Debarking & Grubhole Control Program (CDGHCP) are still being accepted, and phytosanitary certificates are not necessary.** This could change in the coming weeks or months and we will advise our members as soon as we hear anything new.

Vietnam



Update on labelling of exports – The Canadian Embassy in Vietnam sent out a notice recently to advise exporters that Vietnam has implemented Decree 102 on Timber Legality Assurance. Vietnamese Customs officials are paying closer attention to the origin of timber products. This includes ensuring that the country of origin is clearly identified on the labels of imported shipments.

This requirement is in line with an existing Vietnamese regulation dating from 2017 on goods labelling (Decree 43/2017/ND-CP), which requires that imported goods carry appropriate labels. The Embassy has advised that among minimum information to be shown on labels, origin of goods is a must.

As a result of the heightened enforcement, Canadian log and lumber exporters to Vietnam may be requested to clearly indicate the origin of goods on their tags/labels. It is understood that there are several options to indicate the origin of goods on the labels as follows: “Manufactured in COUNTRY/TERRITORY”, “Made in COUNTRY/TERRITORY”, “Origin: COUNTRY/TERRITORY”, “Produced in/by COUNTRY/TERRITORY”.

As a best practice, log and lumber exporters should consult with their importers on all compliance requirements, including abovementioned labelling requirements, before they ship to Vietnam.

This notice is from Christine Spady – Senior Trade Policy Adviser, Trade and International Affairs, Natural Resources Canada (Email: Christine.spady@canada.ca)

Canadian Lumber - Quality Assurance from Manufacture to Use
(Poster created by CLSAB)

Rika Hatachi



Over the last few months, I have had to deal with a Major and Minor Non-Conformance issued by the CLSAB during a regular audit of the CHTWPCP manuals at some facilities. I have attached the definition and examples below. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your CMSA supervisor so this can be dealt with before it becomes a Non-Conformance!

A non-conformance is a failure to comply with a specified requirement of the HT Program.

The interception of non-compliant wood products by a foreign government could result in the destruction or the return to origin of the entire shipment (not just the wood packaging material). Failure to meet the phytosanitary import requirements of a foreign importing country is also a violation of the Plant Protection Regulations and may lead to enforcement actions by the CFIA and suspension or cancellation from this program.

Should a non-compliant product be found in the Canadian marketplace, the CFIA may take enforcement action.

The CLSAB Accredited Agency or the CFIA Approved Third Party Auditor shall require an approved facility, to take corrective action on any non-conformance identified. These corrective actions will be monitored by the CLSAB Accredited Agency or the CFIA Approved Third Party Auditor. The CLSAB Accredited Agency or the CFIA Approved Third Party Auditor may increase the frequency of audits until satisfactory corrective actions are completed.

Upon the identification of a non-conformance, the CLSAB Accredited Agency or the CFIA Approved Third Party Auditor will provide a written report to the approved facility identifying the non-conformance, corrective actions necessary and the need for follow-up audits.

Non-conformances are categorized as "Major", "Minor", or "Observations".

4.1.1. Major non-conformances

Major non-conformances are those that affect the integrity of the program and are required to be corrected immediately. When major non-conformances are detected, the facility will be notified verbally and in writing by the CLSAB Accredited Agency or the CFIA Approved Third Party Auditor. The detection of a major non-conformance may result in a suspension of the facility or a stop in production until such time as the non-conformance is addressed to the satisfaction of the CLSAB Accredited Agency or the CFIA Approved Third Party Auditor. The CLSAB Accredited Agency or the CFIA Approved Third Party Auditor may conduct an additional audit(s) to verify that the corrective actions have been completed and that the non-conformance is not likely to recur.

Major non-conformances – Audit findings that impact the integrity of the program requiring immediate correction. The following are examples of major non-conformances.

1. Facilities operating with significant changes to kiln operating conditions that have not been approved by a CLSAB Accredited Agency or a CFIA Approved Third Party Auditor
2. Minor non-conformance identified from previous audits have not been addressed
3. Regulated wood products destined to off-shore markets have not met the phytosanitary standard (that is, 56°C/30 minutes) or the registered facility fails to meet the treatment specifications in the approved manual
4. Exported material or material designated or consigned for export fails to meet the phytosanitary import requirements of the importing country
5. Misrepresenting material as meeting program requirements. For example, issuing certificates for untreated material, attaching bundle tags to untreated material, etc.
6. Segregation of treated and untreated material has not been maintained
7. Records are significantly incomplete or do not allow the CLSAB Accredited Agency or the CFIA Approved Third Party Auditor to conduct trace-back of products exported (for example, treatment records are missing, incomplete, etc. or export certificates not maintained, etc.)
8. A consolidated shipment has been assembled from wood products that have not been treated in accordance with the standards or has been obtained from a facility not registered in the HT Program
9. Employees involved with implementing the quality procedures are not sufficiently trained

4.1.2. Minor non-conformances

Minor non-conformances are issued in writing when specific elements within the phytosanitary management systems do not conform to the requirements and which may lead, if not corrected, to the production of non-compliant products.

Approved facilities are required to correct minor non-conformances before the next scheduled audit of the facility (or timeframes dictated by the CLSAB Accredited Agency or the CFIA Approved Third Party Auditor). Depending on the number of non-conformances detected the CLSAB Accredited Agency or the CFIA Approved Third Party Auditor may schedule an audit to verify corrective actions as part of the routine audit schedule or as a specific audit in addition to the routine audit frequency.

Minor non-conformances - Audit findings that reveal an isolated incident of non-conformance which has no direct impact on the integrity of the product

1. Facilities operating with minor changes to quality processes that have not been approved by the CLSAB Accredited Agency or the CFIA Approved Third Party Auditor
2. Facility procedures for documentation or certificate issuances have not been followed or have been poorly followed. Procedures are unclear
3. Facility employee involved with implementing the quality procedures is unaware of the phytosanitary specifications pertaining to activities performed by that employee
4. Segregation or identification of treated and untreated wood is inadequate, but does not affect the integrity of products ready for export
5. Staff training has not been completed or records of training have not been maintained
6. Registered facility has failed to maintain records of audits
7. Items identified as observations on previous audit are still left unaddressed

MSR and Finger joint Calibration

Every member that produces MSR lumber or Finger Joined lumber must have a 3rd party annual calibration done on their proof loaders. Please ensure if your calibration is coming due that the company that does your calibration is booked. Once that is done and you receive a report from the technician, make sure a printed copy is kept in a readily accessible location. The previous year's printed copy is also required to make sure numbers match up on your CUSUM forms. Lastly your CMSA Supervisor and our office needs a copy of the latest reports. This is required to satisfy any office audits performed.

Thanks in advance for any new calibrations you will be sending us!!

Bi-Directional Kilns (BDCK's) and HT

We at CMSA see more bi-directional kilns are being designed, discussed, and installed all over. They are quite common now, but we are still understanding some of the issues that come up and concerns around HT. We are working with our members, CLSAB, ALSC, the manufacturers, and other agencies to get a better understanding and knowledge of the potential surrounding them and options available.

Awhile back we introduced an "optimized" method from CLSAB for drying in BDCK's of which certain bulbs must be monitored for temperature but it allows for the potential to keep the tracks running more steadily even when temperatures go below certain typically known lower limits. This method is more complex than previous methods but could prove very useful to prevent over drying of lumber and still ensuring HT is met. Moving forward there will be 3 different standardized methods to meet HT in BDCK's of which a site may choose from. There is currently no set date of which this must be implemented by, but most members are starting to transition towards one of these three for use in their BDCK's.

More information can be found in the latest CLSAB memo and CLSAB regulations or talk with your CMSA supervisor if you have any questions on these methods.

A couple points to note are that "Option C" is not an approved option for BDCK's as it was not studied closely enough for final results on complete heat treatment. Option C may still be used in batch kilns. Also a reminder to our members they also have the option of having an approved HT evaluator come on site and create a custom kiln schedule of which can allow customization for certain kilns. This is the case for both batch and BDCK's. CMSA will continue to work with and learn the issues the industry is facing surrounding these kilns, drying, and the mandate to meet HT requirement and pass along any updates as they become available.

As many of you know, I will be retiring on July 1st this year. This date is at the nexus of a couple of significant timelines. It will be 25 years-to-the-day since I began working with CMSA and it will be my 62nd birthday.

I have worked in some aspect of the forest industry for my entire career. From summer bush jobs like forest fire suppression, and timber cruising, while studying Forestry at UBC, to sawmill quality control, and wood products marketing, and finally to the regulatory side of the industry with CMSA. My position at CMSA was not a job that I had ever envisioned doing (or was even aware of) early in my career, but through a combination of circumstance and opportunity, I happened upon it and I have never looked back.

The ability to work independently while supporting companies and personnel from so many different operations, has made my job dynamic, interesting, and rewarding. I am admittedly a bit of an experience junkie with an insatiable curiosity, and I thrive on variety. I have constantly wondered what that “other” (insert word here) – company / job / location / office / operation / climate / commodity - would be like to work in, and I am grateful that my job at CMSA has allowed me to at least peek into many of these windows. I feel lucky to have spent most of my life not punching into the same office every day, as I enjoy the diversity, the physical activity, and the change of scenery. I am fortunate to have had this opportunity, and look forward to passing my knowledge on to my successor, Fred Henze.

My intention has always been to retire early enough to enjoy some of the other aspects of life while my wife and I still have the energy and are in good physical and mental health.

One of our great passions is travel. There is a big world out there, and there is still so much that we want to see, explore, and experience. Our great hope is that this Covid crisis will soon be behind us, and we will once again, be able to travel without limitations.

In the meantime we will start with an overland trip to the Yukon and Alaska at the end of the summer. In addition to travel we look forward to enjoying more art and music, outdoor recreation (hiking, biking, skiing, and paddling), nature and adventure, and of course more time spent with friends and family.

I will miss the connections and camaraderie of my colleagues, and my contacts at all of the CMSA member operations that I have visited over the years. I regularly visit between 40 and 50 member facilities, so the list of people is a long one. I do hope that in some way we can keep in touch and cross paths again, somewhere down the road. FYI - I will retain my current cell phone number, and expect to continue to attend industry events such as the Lumber Grading Championships and the Lumberman's Winter Games.

However, it is now time to “pass the torch” to the next generation of coastal field staff. Fresh perspectives, talents, and ideas are always a good thing. We were fortunate to find a qualified and competent individual “in-market” and I would like to extend a big welcome to Fred Henze. Fred has had many years of experience in the coastal industry. We are in the midst of Fred's training period now, and I hope everyone will have a chance to meet Fred before I depart. I will leave you in good hands.

In closing, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Canadian Mill Services Association for providing the workplace and experience that I have enjoyed over all these years, and I wish the organization and my colleagues continued health, success, and prosperity.

Until we meet again.

Cheers,

John



Photo Gallery (John Leahy - 25yrs with CMSA)





Your Association of Choice

CANADIAN MILL SERVICES ASSOCIATION

#200, 601-6th Street, New Westminster, BC, V3L 3C1
Phone: 604-523-1288 Fax: 604-523-1289
E-mail: hatachi@canserve.org

About me

Fred Henze

Hello CMSA members!

I'm Fred Henze, the newest CMSA Supervisor. I will be replacing John Leahy, Manager of Plant Health, upon his retirement in July. I'm a graduate from BCIT's Wood Products Manufacturing Program in 1999 and have worked here on the Coast ever since. I have 7 years' experience working in reman, primarily as a grader, then 15 years in a sawmill where I graded, did quality control, and supervised production. I currently live in the South Surrey area with my wife, Angela, and our 3 kids aged 18, 14, and 10.

I came aboard CMSA mid-March and have been working primarily with John and his members on the Coast. We have been focusing on the many Coastal facilities, Plant Health documents, and many other key elements of the job. I have also trained for a few weeks with our Northern and Interior supervisors, Kris and Earl, to get a feel for how their regions differ from the Coast.

I'm excited at the challenge of this new job as I know it plays a key role in the services CMSA provides for its members.

Please introduce yourself to me if the opportunity arises, as I look forward to meeting and working with our many members.



Welcome aboard, Fred!



*For any comments and questions,
please contact Rika Hatachi
at 604-523-1288
or at hatachi@canserve.org*