



# ENGINEERED WOOD WEEK

NEWS NOTES FROM AITC. THE ORIGINAL TRADE ASSOCIATION FOR ENGINEERED WOOD

May 25, 2007

## Market Support Advisory Committee Update

The AITC Market Support Advisory Committee met in Biloxi, Mississippi on March 6, 2007 in conjunction with the AITC Technical Advisory Committee meeting. The subject of variability in factory finishes for glued laminated timber and decking was discussed at length during that meeting.

One variability is the color of the finished product after stain is applied. The final product depends on the brand of stain and species. Small samples of stained product may not provide an exact representation of the finished product due to the variability of wood and other factors such as lighting. There is no standard for staining of the product, and those in attendance feel that color staining of glued laminated timber should remain as agreed upon by the customer and the manufacturer.

Another variability is the rough finish applied at various glulam plants. There are many ways to obtain rough finishes on glulam. MSAC again agreed that the rough finishing of glulam should remain as agreed upon by the customer and the manufacturer.

The Committee requested that the AITC staff develop a brochure that discusses the normal variability that can be expected with finishes. The brochure may also address volatile organic compounds (VOC's) applied at the glulam manufacturing facility.

The Market Support Advisory Committee was established in 2003 to advise Active Members on various issues of interest to the industry. It is advisory to the Board of Directors and can recommend various public relations and market support activities.

The Committee has been meeting in conjunction with the Technical Advisory Committee, but in the future will meet during the AITC Annual Meetings, usually held in April. This will encourage a broader attendance of AITC Active,

Associate and Supplier Members. During the meeting, there will be presentations on subjects of interest to the industry. The next MSAC meeting will be held during the 56<sup>th</sup> AITC Annual Meeting in Naples, Florida, on Monday, April 28, 2008. We hope that you will plan to attend.

## Green Building Activities

Periodically the American Forest & Paper Association publishes *Green Building Update* which is emailed to its members, including AITC. AF&PA has taken the lead in representing the wood industry interests in this arena.

AITC is also a member of the North American Coalition on Green Building and monitors green building activities through its membership in these organizations. If you are not already receiving *Green Building Update* and wish to do so, please let us know and we will add you to the email list of AITC members who are receiving this publication.

The National Association of Home Builders and the International Code Council have recently announced a partnership

to develop and publish a consensus based *Model Green Building Home Guidelines*. Through the use of an ANSI approved consensus process, it will be considered to be developed in an open and transparent manner, unlike the LEED Homes standard written by the U.S. Green Building Council.

ANSI has issued a call for participation in a High Performance Building Council to implement Section 914 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The Act defines high performance buildings to be all inclusive in the areas of energy, sustainability, moisture, durability, longevity, hazards, etc. The Council will be permanent within the National Institute of Building Sciences. AITC, as an ANSI accredited standards developer, has accepted an invitation to participate on the Council. Please contact Ron Goff at 303-792-9559 if you have any questions concerning the High Performance Building Council.

