

SWST Newsletter

September—October 2003

SOCIETY OF WOOD
SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

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Dear Readers:

As you probably noticed, the newsletter has a new editor. I would like to take some editorial liberties and make a few changes.

First, at the beginning of each newsletter there is a new column – a Society Snapshot. This matrix offers a quick look at our performance in membership, the journal, financial, web page and committee activities. Let me know if I should include anything else.

Second, beginning in January, the newsletter will arrive to your office or home electronically. This change will save the Society about \$400-500 in shipping and printing charges per issue. As before, past issues will be archived at Society's web page. Let Vicki know if you must have a hard copy. We are experimenting with HTML e-mail, but Lotus Notes users have a problem receiving it. Let me know if you have any ideas. If nothing else works, we will e-mail you pdf attachments.

Third, a Student Profile section was added. The purpose of this section is to present a soon-to-graduate PhD or MS students, from various institutions on a rotating basis.

Fourth, and most important, the Amusements section will stay, but in appreciation of Doug's work will now be renamed to Doug's Amusements Corner. Only now, after finishing my first issue, I am starting to appreciate all the work that Doug put into it for past 3 years – Thank you, Doug.

Please keep sending me "stuff".

Rado Gazo

SWST Snapshot

SWST Membership	Oct. 2003
Full members	287
Student members	57
Retired members	55
Affiliate members	3
Delinquent members	72
Fellows	0

Wood And Fiber Science Journal	Oct. 2003
Subscribers	232
Delinquent Subscribers	39
Number of articles in 35(4)	13

Currently in the pipeline

Ready for typesetting	21
Under revision by authors	26
Under review	36
Rejected	5

Financial	June 2003
Cash & Bank Accounts	\$71,750
Investments	\$42,631
Liabilities	\$628

Web Page	July/Aug. 2003
Number of unique visitors	8,268
Number of new visitors	6,091
Gigabytes transferred	2.62
More data: http://www.swst.org/nettracker/reports/	

Important Committee Activities	Oct. 2003
<u>Policy and Critical Issues</u> —Identifying a mechanism for SWST to have an input in USDA NRI program.	
<u>Accreditation</u> —Drafting new accreditation standards.	
<u>Ad Hoc</u> —Evaluate the SWST and FPS relationship.	

News

Louisiana-Pacific to move headquarters to Nashville

Reuters, 09.30.03, 12:21 PM ET

NEW YORK, Sept 30 (Reuters) - Wood products maker Louisiana-Pacific Corp. (NYSE: LPX - news - people) said on Tuesday it will move its corporate headquarters to Nashville, Tennessee, from Portland, Oregon.

In a statement, the company said the move is a part of its major restructuring effort, and is designed to bring its corporate headquarters closer to the company's mills, customers and shareholders.

Louisiana-Pacific shares were up 2 cents at \$13.97 in midday trade on the New York Stock Exchange.

Submitted by:

Jeff Flowers
J.D. Flowers & Associates
Member Composite Wood Council
Member Forest Products Society
www.woodproductgroup.com

Conferences

European Society for Wood Mechanics, September 5-8, 2004

The next meeting of the European Society for Wood Mechanics (ESWM) will take place in Vila Real, Portugal at the Universidade de Tras-os-Montes e Alto Douro (UTAD) during 5-8 September 2004. I have been asked to inform my fellow North American wood science colleagues that they are welcome to submit papers to the conference. For more details about the conference go to: <http://home.utad.pt/~eswm2004>

Jay A Johnson
Professor Wood and Paper Science
University of Washington
Seattle, WA 98195-2100
and North American Representative to ESWM

38th International Wood Composites Symposium, April 5-8, 2004

Washington State University, Pullman, WA, USA

Call for Symposium Papers

The International Wood Composites Symposium planning committee is soliciting papers for the 2004 Symposium. We are primarily interested in papers relating to the following potential session topic areas:

Asian/South American composite industry growth
 Furnish preparation and blending
 Adhesives and application of adhesives
 Raw material supply and wood quality
 Durability
 Mill startups and renovations
 New products and processes
 Process improvement and control
 Creative mill financing

If you are interested in presenting a paper you are welcome to send an abstract to the Wood Materials and Engineering Laboratory by September 30, 2003. You will be notified by October 31 if your paper has been accepted.

www.woodsymposium.wsu.edu

Email: symposium.info@wsu.edu

Fax: 509-335-5077

Or mail to: International Wood Composites Symposium
 Wood Materials and Engineering Laboratory
 PO Box 641806
 Pullman, WA 99164-1806 USA

Call for Posters for the Technical Forum

The International Wood Composites Symposium planning committee welcomes anyone interested in submitting a poster during the 2004 Symposium to send an abstract to the Wood Materials and Engineering Laboratory by January 15, 2004. You will be notified by January 30th if your poster has been accepted.

Email: symposium.info@wsu.edu Fax: 509-335-5077

Or mail to: International Wood Composites Symposium
 Wood Materials and Engineering Laboratory
 PO Box 641806
 Pullman, WA 99164-1806 USA

For More Information: www.woodsymposium.wsu.edu

Conference on Wood-Frame Housing Durability and Disaster Issues, October 4-6, 2004

Aladdin Resort & Casino Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

Call for Papers and Conference Announcement

Please join us for this important international conference on durability of wood-frame housing. The conference will feature an international slate of speakers - including researchers, material and equipment suppliers, manufacturers, and end-users.

Information transfer during the 2-1/2-day conference will take place via technical and poster presentations, discussions, and tabletop exhibits on the following subject areas:

- Existing and new construction issues that affect durability/disaster.
- Improving durability against biological and non-biological degradation.
- Mitigation of damage from earthquakes, fire, wind, floods.
- Moisture-related problems.
Indoor air quality.
- New technology/products.

This conference is sponsored by the Forest Products Society in cooperation with the USDA Forest Products Laboratory and Forintek Canada Corporation.

During the conference, a Reception, Suppliers' Showcase, and Technical Forum (poster session) will be held on Monday evening, October 4, from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm. During the reception, attendees can browse through tabletop displays presented by suppliers of equipment, products, and technical services of interest to the housing durability industry while enjoying complimentary hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and beverages from the cash bar. In addition to these displays, a number of Technical Forum (poster) presentations intended to expand the transfer of information related to this subject area will be given.

For more information on the conference, please complete the form at <http://www.forestprod.org/durability04info.html> and submit it to the Forest Products Society.

Progress in Woodfibre-Plastic Composites Conference, May 10-11, 2004

Toronto Marriott Eaton Centre Hotel - Toronto, Ontario
 Sponsored by the University of Toronto and Materials and Manufacturing Ontario. For information contact Val Iannaci at 905-823-2020, ext 226, email info@mmo.on.ca, or access the conference website through <http://www.mmo.on.ca/seminars.htm>

Employment Opportunities

Assistant/Associate Professor of Wood-based Composite Materials, Oregon State University

The Department of Wood Science & Engineering invites applications for a full-time 12-month tenure track faculty position as Assistant or Associate Professor. To be appointed at the Associate Professor level, a candidate must have sufficient experience to qualify for promotion according to University guidelines.

Position Description: The position expectations are approximately 80% research, 15% teaching and 5% service. The expected focus of the research component is on developing a nationally-recognized research program in wood-based composite materials science or manufacture. Teaching responsibilities will include undergraduate and graduate-level courses in wood composites and related areas. The successful candidate will be expected to generate extramural funding, recruit and mentor graduate students, publish their work in refereed journals and other outlets, and actively participate in meetings of professional societies and similar venues. Service to the institution and to the profession will also be expected. Cooperation and collaboration with colleagues in the department, across campus and with other organizations, including industrial stakeholders, is expected. Salary is competitive and will be commensurate with the experience of the applicant. Benefits package includes several options for health/dental/life insurance, retirement, as well as a new program of reduced tuition for dependants (some restrictions apply).

Qualifications: PhD in wood science, polymer science, chemistry, materials science or related fields with some experience with wood-based or natural fiber materials. Strong oral and written communications skills, problem-solving skills, and the ability to effectively interact with people at all levels of university, industry and private sectors. Teaching and mentoring skills that enable learning by undergraduate and graduate students. Interpersonal and communication skills that foster collaboration and collegiality. Preferred qualifications include a demonstrable commitment to promoting and enhancing diversity.

University, College, and Community: OSU is one of only ten American universities to hold the Land Grant, Sea Grant, and Space Grant designation and is a Carnegie Doctoral / Research-Extensive university. OSU is located in Corvallis, a community of 50,000 people situated in the Willamette Valley between Portland and Eugene. Ocean beaches, lakes, rivers, forests, high desert, and the rugged Cascade and Coast Ranges are all within a 100-mile drive of Corvallis. Approximately 15,400 undergraduate and 3,400 graduate students are enrolled at OSU, including 2,500 U.S. students of color and 1,200 international students.

The university has an institution-wide commitment to diversity and multiculturalism, and provides a welcoming atmosphere with unique professional opportunities for leaders who are women and people of color. All are encouraged to apply.

The Department of Wood Science & Engineering is home to one of the largest comprehensive wood science and technology faculty in North America and is housed in state-of-the-art research facilities. The Department offers an accredited BS degree and MS and PhD programs. It is a component of the College of Forestry, a top-ranked natural resource organization with over 100 faculty. We enjoy close relations with other campus units and with a wide variety of industrial manufacturers and research programs that are located nearby.

Additional information about the department can be found at <http://woodscience.oregonstate.edu>.

To Apply: Send a letter of application, a current vitae, and the names, titles, postal addresses, e-mail addresses and phone numbers of three professional references. The letter of application should include a statement of interest that addresses the expected qualifications. For full consideration apply by December 1, 2003. Inquiries and applications should be sent to:

Dr. Thomas E. McLain, Head
Department of Wood Science & Engineering
Oregon State University, 119 Richardson Hall
Corvallis, OR 97331-5751
541-737-4224, 541-737-3385 (fax), TTY: 800/735-1232
e-mail: thomas.mclain@oregonstate.edu

Assistant Professor Forest Products Management, University of Tennessee

The University of Tennessee Forest Products Center invites applications for Assistant Professor of Forest Products Management. The 12-month, tenure track position is a 100 percent research appointment with the Agricultural Experiment Station located in Knoxville, Tennessee.

The successful candidate will plan, develop, and implement a nationally and internationally recognized research program in renewable materials, including composite wood products. Program development will involve directing graduate research assistants and supervising post-doctoral researchers. The successful candidate will also be expected to produce peer-reviewed publications, generate external grant and contract support, and provide leadership in professional organizations. Cooperation with other scientists in the department as well as other departments within The University of Tennessee is expected. A Ph.D. in wood science and technology, civil engineering, polymer science, or closely related field is required. The candidate will have demonstrated experience in polymer physical chemistry and characterization techniques for multiphase materials.

Review of applications will begin November 1, 2003 and continue until a successful candidate is found. To apply, send curriculum vitae with copies of official transcripts from all degree training institutions; letter of interest detailing specific talents, experience, and expectations of the appointment; and names, addresses, and telephone numbers to:

Dr. Timothy G. Rials, Director
Forest Products Center
University of Tennessee
Ag Campus, 2506 Jacob Drive
Knoxville, TN 37996-4563

Phone: 865/946-1129
Email: trials@utk.edu

The University of Tennessee does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, disability or veteran status in provision of educational programs and services or employment opportunities and benefits. Women and minority candidates are encouraged to apply.

Assistant/Associate Professor - Biopolymer Materials, Virginia Tech

The full position description is available on our website at:

http://www.woodscience.vt.edu/employment/biopolymer/biopolymer_position_announcement.pdf

Please contact Dr. Charles Frazier (cfrazier@vt.edu) search committee chair, if you have questions or interest in this position.

Student Profile

Henry Quesada, Purdue University



Four years ago I came to Purdue University from Costa Rica to start my graduate studies at the Purdue University Wood Products Laboratory. In the summer of 2001, I completed M.Sc. in Wood Science/Industrial Engineering. For my thesis I developed a manufacturing system for production of school furniture. Afterward, I was invited to continue my studies towards a PhD degree in the same area. Today, I am completing a dissertation focused on internal benchmarking of furniture manufacturers. Who are the world leaders in furniture manufacturing? How does my company compare to them? What can my company do to be as competitive as they are? These are some of the questions I am trying to answer. I plan to graduate in summer 2004. You are welcome to visit my web page: <http://icdweb.cc.purdue.edu/~quesadap/>

Doug's Amusements Corner

Very True and Very Funny Airline Announcements

All too rarely, airline attendants make an effort to make the in-flight "safety lecture" and their other announcements a bit more entertaining. Here are some real examples that have been heard or reported:

On a Continental Flight with a very "senior" flight attendant crew, the pilot said, "Ladies and gentlemen, we've reached cruising altitude and will be turning down the cabin lights. This is for your comfort and to enhance the appearance of your flight attendants.

On landing, the stewardess said, "Please be sure to take all of your belongings. If you're going to leave anything, please make sure it's something we'd like to have.

There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only 4 ways out of this airplane.

Thank you for flying Delta Business Express. We hope you enjoyed giving us the business as much as we enjoyed taking you for a ride.

After a particularly rough landing during thunderstorms in Memphis, a flight attendant on a Northwest flight announced, "Please take care when opening the overhead compartments because, after a landing like that, sure as hell everything has shifted."

Weather at our destination is 50 degrees with some broken clouds, but we'll try to have them fixed before we arrive. Thank you, and remember, nobody loves you, or your money, more than Southwest Airlines.

Your seat cushions can be used for flotation; and, in the event of an emergency water landing, please paddle to shore and take them with our compliments.

Should the cabin lose pressure, oxygen masks are in the overhead area. Please place the bag over your own mouth and nose before assisting children, or other adults acting like children.

As you exit the plane, make sure to gather all of your belongings. Anything left behind will be distributed evenly among the flight attendants. Please do not leave children or spouses.

And from the pilot during his welcome message: "Delta airlines is pleased to have some of the best flight attendants in the industry. Unfortunately, none of them are on this flight!"

Another flight attendant's comment on a less than perfect landing: "We ask you to please remain seated as Captain Kangaroo bounces us to the terminal."

An airline pilot wrote that on this particular flight he had hammered his ship into the runway really hard. The airline had a policy which required the first officer to stand at the door while the Passengers exited, smile, and give them a "Thanks for flying our airline." He said that, in light of his bad landing, he had a hard time looking the passengers in the eye, thinking that someone would have a smart comment. Finally, everyone had gotten off except for a little old lady walking with a cane. She said, "Sir, do you mind if I ask you a question?" "Why, no, Ma'am," said the pilot. "What is it?" The little old lady said, "Did we land, or were we shot down?"

Part of a flight attendant's arrival announcement: "We'd like to thank you folks for flying with us today. And, the next time you get the insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurized metal tube, we hope you'll think of US Airways."

A plane was taking off from Kennedy Airport. After it reached a comfortable cruising altitude, the captain made an announcement over the intercom, "Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Welcome to Flight Number 293, nonstop from New York to Los Angeles. The weather ahead is good and, therefore, we should have a smooth and uneventful flight. Now sit back and relax... OH, MY GOD!" Silence followed, and after a few minutes, the captain came back on the intercom and said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, I am so sorry if I scared you earlier. While I was talking to you, the flight attendant brought me a cup of coffee and spilled the hot coffee in my lap. You should see the front of my pants!" A passenger in Coach yelled, "That's nothing. You should see the back of mine!"

About the Society

The SWST Newsletter is published six times a year by the Society of Wood Science and Technology, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, WI 53705, USA.

Items for the Newsletter may be sent to Rado Gazo, at: radogazo@fnr.purdue.edu

The Society of Wood Science and Technology is a technical and professional organization for scientists and engineers working in academia, government, consulting and the forest-products industries and is dedicated to providing education and expertise regarding better ways to use and produce wood products.

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SWST Newsletter

Editor:	Rado Gazo
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 The logo consists of the letters "SWST" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered within a solid black rectangular background.