

Timber - the climate friendly building material!



in this issue...

WADIC and TABMA forge alliance

New national credit law

Consolidating TABMA in Western Australia

Multi-million dollar wood promotion campaign launched

NSW annual gala dinner set to go

Occupational health and safety – it's about saving money

TimberTALK is TABMA's newsletter and is published six times a year.

TABMA is a member-based organisation representing building materials suppliers, timber merchants, timber importers and related service providers. TABMA provides companies with practical solutions to improve business management, growth and profitability.

WADIC and TABMA forge alliance

The Window and Door Industry Council (WADIC) and the Timber and Building Materials Association (TABMA) have announced the formation of an alliance. In establishing the alliance, both industry associations have emphasized their strong mutual interest in promoting the substantial benefits of timber in a market becoming increasingly aware of environmental issues and the related outstanding credentials that timber products are able to claim.

WADIC President Glenn Johnston said that after discussions with TABMA it was clear that TABMA's objectives in promoting timber and timber products was very closely aligned with the objectives of WADIC. "It makes clear sense that WADIC and TABMA should work together to maximize resources, whilst at the same time accessing even more forums for WADIC's voice to be heard."

"WADIC will continue to operate autonomously as it always has, servicing and addressing the needs of members in matters relating directly to the manufacture of timber windows and doors."

TABMA chief executive Colin Fitzpatrick said he was delighted at the formation of the alliance. "Both associations operate within the timber materials and manufacturing sectors and even have some common members."

"Our alliance has the potential to greatly improve the range of services and the support that we can collectively offer. I am looking forward to working with WADIC to strengthen the benefits that we are able to provide to member companies."

WADIC members are encouraged to contact WADIC on 02 9700 8798 or by email at admin@wadic.com.au where general manager Bronwyn Foord will attend to inquiries. "WADIC will now be working in collaboration with TABMA to broaden services previously offered by TABMA and they will now be extended to our members," said Ms Foord.

She added that WADIC members were invited to find out more about the savings they can make in many areas including petrol, insurance, waste collection, as well as services covering legal, OH&S, workers compensation, apprenticeships and traineeships and credit referencing facilities.

"WADIC will be sending out letters to members in the coming weeks to tell them more about services and how members can access them," said Ms Foord.



WADIC President Glenn Johnston and TABMA chief executive Colin Fitzpatrick form alliance

President

Peter Hutchison

Chief Executive Officer

Colin Fitzpatrick

Board Members

Simon Olding (Vice President)

John Harrison (Vice President)

Peter Carruthers | John Wilson
| Ron Gattone | Ian Halliday
| Nils Koren | Michael Swan |
Danny Gattone | John Walker |
Brian Ziebell | Norm Harrison

Newsletter Editor

John Halkett

for editorial and advertising enquiries contact:

ph: 02 9356 3826

mob: 0417 421 187

email: halkettj@netaus.net.au

Newsletter Design

Felicity Evans

TABMA Training Pty Ltd

**An extra pair of hands
– without any hassle**
Apprenticeships and Traineeships



Find out how easy it is to get help

Contact TABMA Training on
(02) 9277 3177

or visit our website
www.tabma.com.au/training

New national credit law

Having trouble with debtors going under? Too many bad debts?

Recently, a Federal Government Bill was released to streamline and create a national system for secured lending over personal property in Australia, the Personal Property Securities Bill 2008. It is expected to become law in May 2010.

So how does this help you in your business?

The main change for your business is that it will make it easier to ensure you get paid. It means you can take security over property, such as equipment and stock-in-trade more easily, ensuring you receive payment more efficiently, in two convenient steps.

Step 1: Create a valid security interest, by entering into a Security Agreement, that is, you provide goods or services on credit to another party and they provide you with rights in their personal property as collateral.

Step 2: Register your interest with the Personal Property Register. The Registration period lasts from seven years.

Should there be a default on the Security Agreement the enforcement consists of two steps – taking possession and then disposing of the collateral. Disposal includes selling, leasing or keeping the property for your own use.

What happens if there is more than one security interest on the same property? In a nutshell, it is sorted out on a “first-in-first-served” basis. In other words, as a general rule, the first to register their interest has a higher priority over anyone registering later over the same collateral. Of course, there are exceptions, but registration is the best way to protect your interest. Should a sale of collateral be conducted then the proceeds of sale will be distributed in the same order of priority.

In registering securities, although the detail is yet to be finalised, the new laws are likely to require creditors to record their debtors’ Australian Business Numbers (ABNs) so that they can be properly registered.

This new law will replace numerous Commonwealth, State and Territory laws with a single national law, lowering costs to business and help create confidence and consistency in credit arrangements throughout Australia.

If you have any queries about this or any other legal matter, call Nigel Hill at Australegal on 02 8006 4248 or send an email to nigelhill@australegal.com.au

Consolidating TABMA in Western Australia

Since its formation in 2005, TABMA WA has been building a strong foundation and steady growing its membership base. Regular networking functions, breakfasts, sundowners and site visits, supplemented by training workshops have paved the way for a period of consolidation and planning for the ongoing expansion of TABMA in Western Australia.

Recently appointed Executive Officer for TABMA WA Kate Proffitt has been busy meeting with members, exchanging information and obtaining an understanding of their business culture and how the services that TABMA has to offer will benefit member companies.

“Meeting and discussing topical issues with members and key industry figures, organising networking activities, generally ‘getting a handle’ on the current status of the industry in WA and the issues that are of most concern will allow us to better tailor our services and support to member needs.”

“My early priorities have also included promoting the services that TABMA has to



We believe in offering a professional, reliable and quality service at rates that won't leave you gasping for breath. – Kate Proffitt

offer. For example, our recruitment service has attracted a lot of interest. My aim for TABMA here in WA is to be able to offer all members an effective recruitment facility.”

“This facility has been well received by current members who are benefiting from this in terms of their time management and overall level of staff recruitment stress!”

Kate strongly advises timber industry companies looking for experienced staff to contact her. “Yes - TABMA can help - we believe in offering a professional, reliable and quality service at rates that won't leave you gasping for breath!”

“Our specialised knowledge, commitment to quality, and dedication to results means that we work in partnership with members’ businesses to achieve positive people outcomes,” says Kate.

She suggests that whether it is a forklift operator or senior manager; “TABMA can assist in finding the right person for your business.”

Kate advises that TABMA WA is also working on developing a range of valuable resources for members; promoting timber as an environmentally-friendly building material; advocating framed timber housing construction and encouraging other timber uses, such as the resurgence of timber fencing. Developing training programmes that address the needs of the timber industry in Western Australia is also an ongoing key activity for TABMA.

TABMA WA is working hard to establish a reputation as the “go to” organisation for those seeking contact with the timber industry in Western Australia and as a peak industry body in the state.

Kate Proffitt, TABMA WA Executive Officer with Greg Meachem, Managing Director, TimberCheck discussing support activities for member companies.

Gow-Gates Group
Insuring your timber

At Gow-Gates we provide an insurance scheme that has been specifically designed to cater to the needs of your industry.

Free call: 1800 640 535
www.gowgates.com.au

Gow-Gates Insurance Brokers (Australia) Pty Ltd

GUNNERSEN

For all your timber needs.

Brisbane 07 3277 6188 Sydney 02 9725 2300 Perth 08 9256 9911

www.gunnersens.com.au

ARCH
WOOD PROTECTION

The leading name in wood protection in Australia and New Zealand.

- CCA
- LOSP
- Copper Azole
- Termite protection
- Anti-sapstain protection
- Preservation plant consulting & engineering

For more information about the full range of market-leading Tanalised® products and services from Arch, visit www.tanalised.com or contact Arch Wood Protection
03 9339 8999 • 02 9954 5433 • 07 3888 2583

Multi-million dollar wood promotion campaign launched

A multi-million dollar campaign, Wood Naturally Better, to promote the use of timber and wood products was launched on 8 October 2008. The aim of the campaign is to change the way Australians view wood and its use and to promote wood as a preferred building material because of its sustainable, aesthetic, economic, renewable and 'architecturally smart' characteristics.

The campaign, developed and run by Forest and Wood Products Australia (FWPA), is aimed at highlighting the important role wood products play in tackling climate change and to dispel misconceptions about the wood products.

FWPA Managing Director Ric Sinclair said it is astonishing that while Australians are voicing their concerns about global warming, many are still oblivious to the environmental benefits of wood products. "It is well known that trees absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, but many people are not aware that carbon is stored in the wood of a tree and stays there even after the wood has been turned into manufactured products."

Wood Naturally Better is a five year programme that will incorporate advertising campaigns and promotional activities to drive its messages. In addition to its educational aspects, industry members hope to use Wood Naturally Better as a platform to discuss and create awareness of industry issues.

For more information about the campaign visit the Wood Naturally Better website www.naturallybetter.com.au.



Cunneen Street, Mulgrave/McGraths Hill (near Windsor), NSW 2756
Telephone: 02 4577 5277 | Facsimile: 02 4577 6846
Website: www.trendtimbers.com.au

NSW annual gala dinner set to go

Invitations to the TABMA (NSW) Annual Dinner have been posted. Chief executive Colin Fitzpatrick says this premier timber industry event will be held on Friday, 7 November.

"The dinner will provide a great opportunity to acknowledge your staff and to network with others. It will also be an opportunity to join industry colleagues in a wonderful night of elegance and celebration," he says.

This year's venue is The Crystal Ballroom at Luna Park. The venue has floor to ceiling windows that offer sweeping water views of the harbour, as well as several Sydney landmarks. Industry guests will be entertained by leading Sydney band Buzz. "The band will perform a mix of music, including popular hits from the 70s through to today that is sure to get you up and dancing," says Colin.

Accommodation at exclusive rates to TABMA members is available at the nearby Vibe Hotel. To reserve accommodation call the hotel on (02) 9955 1111 and indicate that you will be attending the TABMA dinner (quote reservation number 4146921).

Colin advised that the annual TABMA highlight was being well supported by TABMA member companies. "We appreciate this financial support. It will contribute to the enjoyment of our end-of-year showcase event."

For further information and dinner reservations



Luna Park — venue for premier timber industry event in 2008.



**Simmonds
Lumber**

Sydney (02) 9684 6444
Melbourne (03) 9791 2241
Brisbane (07) 2367 0790
New Zealand +64 9273 9259

**PO Box 6664,
Parramatta,
NSW 2150**

Optimise your storage capacity with up to 40% more space utilising our narrow aisle expertise.



THE NARROW AISLE SOLUTION

TELEPHONE 1300 365 621

HUBTEX.
www.hubtex.com.au

A range of sustainable temperate hardwoods

AHEC Southeast Asia
Room 528, AIA Tower
New World Centre
20 Salisbury Road
Tsim Sha Tsui
Kowloon
Hong Kong



**AMERICAN
HARDWOOD
EXPORT
COUNCIL**

www.ahec-seasia.org



Peninsula Timbers' Manager Rick Mangano discusses timber yard audit results with TABMA's David Jones.

Occupational health and safety – it's about saving money

There are a number of very good reasons why TABMA members are taking advantage of the occupational health and safety audit and advisory service provided by TABMA's OH&S consultant David Jones. "I see myself as the good guy. What the service is really all about is helping members to comply with OH&S laws."

"By doing so they are able to not only reduce the probability of workplace injuries and save on the costs of both injury-related down time, but companies can also substantially reduce the prospects of WorkCover liabilities and penalties."

The TABMA OH&S audit process is tailored to NSW laws, but is being expanded to support Window and Door Industry Council member companies in South Australia and TABMA members in Western Australia.

David says occupational health and safety is an area of business where adequate training and communications can help companies and their employees meet their legal responsibilities and reduce workplace injuries and OH&S law compliance costs.

He says that NSW WorkCover is now adopting a more "passive" role in providing workplace safety advice, as well as a mentoring program where large national cooperation's assist smaller businesses in developing their workplace safety policies and procedures. "Associated with this scheme, WorkCover offers rebates to assist with the purchase of safety equipment."

David says TABMA has offered some form of workplace risk management information and advice to its members since the early 1960's. "This was initially a low key service, but was revised and upgraded in 1997 to fill the need to improve workplace safety for all employees involved in the timber industry."

"This decision gave rise to the formation of the TABMA Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Service that is now well received by TABMA members and is continuously being reviewed and upgraded," David says.

An additional benefit is that the service is now available to TABMA Training host employers. "These host employer companies can receive support and advice to keep the workplace up to standard and meet the requirements of the NSW *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000*."

David says the overall benefit of having an annual independent audit is that it provides managers, owners and the workforce with current up-to-date information required to run their business safely and cost effectively from a workplace safety view point. "This can result in reduced accidents, reduced workers compensation premiums and safer workshops and goes a long way to assist all in meeting their obligations regarding occupation health and safety."

For additional advice on TABMA's OH&S Service call David Jones directly on 0417 416 312.

Reminder

End-of-year gala industry dinner planned - Friday, 7 November.

Advertising space available in next issue - contact: (02) 9356 3826



Contact Details

Branches

New South Wales

Ph : (02) 9277 3100

Queensland

Ph: (07) 3847 4637

Western Australia

Ph : (08) 9332 5142

Businesses

Building Trade Credit

Ph: (02) 9277 3100

NSW TABMA Recruitment

Ph: (02) 9277 3177

NSW Group Training

Ph: (02) 9277 3170



tabma.com.au

visit us online