



STA dan Rakan2

December 2011

For Private Circulation Only

Issue 162

This monthly news bulletin is produced by Sarawak Timber Association (STA) to disseminate information to our counterparts on training, research and other relevant areas.

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Workshop on Carbon Footprint (CFP) Study for the Plywood Industry in Sarawak

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) organised a workshop at RH Hotel in Sibu on 20 December 2011 to brief representatives from the plywood industry on the results of the recently concluded carbon footprint study for plywood in Sarawak. Members from both Sibu and Kuching regions attended the Workshop. A similar workshop was also held a day earlier at New World Suites in Bintulu for participants from the Miri and Bintulu regions.

Datuk Sarudu Haji Hoklai, the General Manager of STIDC, in his welcoming remarks informed participants that this Workshop aimed to share the results of the carbon footprint study which was initiated in 2010. The workshop is a forum for the industry to provide feedback and seek clarification on the results of the study.

Mr Nicholas Andrew Lisseem of STIDC briefed the participants on the current status of plywood industry in Sarawak, covering the following topics:-

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Annual installed capacity (based on 8 hrs/shift) of primary processing industry from 2006 to 2011; (ii) Production of major timber products from 2006 to 2010; (iii) Major types of plywood produced in Sarawak; (iv) Major export destinations of timber and timber products for year 2010 by value; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (v) Number of workers (local and foreign from 2006 to 2010); (vi) Types of Certification; and (vii) Current issues (raw material, trade requirements, health, environment and workers). |
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Dr Chen Sau Soon the Senior General Manager, Environmental Technology Research Centre of SIRIM Berhad spoke on the background of the Green House Gas (GHG) profile of Sarawak plywood study and concluded with the findings of study for the fifteen (15) plywood mills which participated in the study.

The goal of this study is to establish the Green House Gas profile (gate-to-gate) of plywood manufactured in Sarawak based on LCI analysis conducted in accordance with the requirements of ISO 14040: 2006 and ISO 14044:2006. Dr Chen clarified that this study is actually GHG study and not a Carbon Footprint study as it focused on the manufacturing process and excluded waste recovery process i.e. recycle, reuse and disposal. She emphasised on the following topics in her presentation:-

- (i) Environmental Management Framework;
 - (ii) Life Cycle Assessment and Life Cycle Inventory (LCI);
 - (iii) Background of study on CHG profile;
- (Continue on page 4)*

16th Malaysian Forestry Conference

The Forestry Department Peninsular Malaysia in cooperation with the State Government of Malacca, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Sabah Forestry Department, Sarawak Forest Department and Sarawak Forestry Corporation organised the 16th Malaysian Forestry Conference in Malacca from 5 to 9 December 2011 with the theme "Forests for Community Livelihood". This triennial Conference was attended by participants from Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.

In his opening remarks, the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Datuk Seri Douglas Uggah Embas said that Malaysia is still able to maintain 56.4 % of its total land area as forested land. He described it as an encouraging achievement because many countries were not able to do so as their forest areas had been opened for development. This success is very significant because Malaysia is a developing country where development and forest land-use change for other purposes still happens. He also mentioned that the most important challenge in today's forest management was to balance the competition between the various land use and forestry activities. He said that the forest is not just a producer of a product, but also to produce clean air and water as well as to absorb carbon dioxide and minimise the greenhouse effect. The text of the speech was read by the Deputy Natural Resources and Environment Minister, Tan Sri Joseph Kurup.

The Chief Minister of Malacca, Datuk Seri Mohd

Ali Rustam in his opening speech, said that Malacca had gazetted 5,327 hectares of forested land or 3.2 % of the State's total land area as permanent forest reserves. This effort is made on the commitment by the State Government to maintain a permanent forest area to provide a clean environment and for the preservation of the biodiversity for the people's well-being. He said the State Government shall continue with its tree planting effort, adding that a total of 17,250 trees had been planted since 2005. His speech was read by the State Rural Development and Agriculture Committee Chairman Datuk R Perumal.

There were six plenary sessions in this Conference namely (i) Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Certification, (ii) Tourism and Economic Forest, (iii) Forests and Climate Change, (iv) Forest Conservation and Biodiversity, (v) R&D and Innovation in Forestry and (vi) Forest Law and Enforcement. A total of thirty six (36) working papers were presented at this Conference.

Three field trips were organised for the participants namely (i) Poh Huat Furniture Industries Sdn Bhd, Johor (ii) Taman Nashua Herba & Rempah Karya Sdn Bhd, Johor and (iii) Mangrove planting at Pulau Burung, Pantai Cahaya Negeri Sembilan.



**Wishing All Our
Chinese Readers A
Happy and Prosperous
New Year 2012**

**From Chairman, Council Members,
Members, Management & Staff of
STA**



Did you know that.....



According to the Minister of Forestry Indonesia, the government no longer issued new business licences for forest since 2010 and will be focusing on tree planting in future. For 2011, the government has achieved 80% of its tree planting target with 827mn trees planted. The move is in line with the government's promise to lower carbon dioxide emission by 26% in 2020.

Source: MTIB News Extracts 49/12/2011

Did you also know that....

In 2012, Singapore's economy will be the most vulnerable compared to other countries in the ASEAN region because it has high exposure to Europe. This was based on global research estimates by the Bank of America Merrill Lynch. The island republic's exposure to European banks was the largest among ASEAN countries, with USD 185.50 billion, which makes up to 60% of total bank claims.

Source: *Business Times (Singapore)*, 17 Dec 2011t



BOSH11

The 2nd Borneo Conference and Exhibition on Occupational Safety and Health (BOSH11) was held from 5 to 6 December 2011 at the Pullman Hotel in Kuching. The Conference was jointly organised by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) and the Social Security Organisation (SOCSCO).

A total of 488 participants from various private sectors, industries and government department from Sabah, Brunei and Peninsular Malaysia attended the Conference. The participants were mostly Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) practitioners.

The Conference was officiated by NIOSH Chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye. In his opening speech, Tan Sri Lee said that NIOSH has always address ssues in OSH through its awareness and training programmes and he hoped that BOSH11 can promote safety and safety culture at the workplace.

The objectives of the Conference were to:

- promote safety and safety culture at workplace;
- share knowledge and experiences amongst OSH practitioners;
- share opinions and views regarding issues related to OSH at workplace;
- provide a platform for OSH practitioners to meet, exchange knowledge, ideas and views; and
- share the mission of achieving OSH in Malaysia.

A total of seventeen (17) papers were presented in the 2-day Conference. The speakers presented their papers to the participants and gave recommendations on the ways to improve, eliminate and solve the safety issues at the workplace. They also felt that everyone's (i.e. employees and the management) involvement and participation is the key to a successful and effective OSH.

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Awareness Workshop on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) in the Plantation, Logging and Fishery Sectors

The Awareness Workshop on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) in the Plantation, Logging and Fishery Sectors jointly organised by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the Social Security Organisation (SOCSCO) and the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) of Sarawak Region was held on 25 November 2011 at Regency Rajah Court Hotel, Kuching. The workshop was attended by forty five (45) participants from various organisations including the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Sarawak Plantation Berhad, Sarawak Timber Association (STA) and other related industries.

Encik Rizamry Arbi, the Assistant Director of DOSH welcomed the participants to the workshop and explained the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) 1994. He further explained that all workers or employees employed in all the economic sectors and public services are covered under the First Schedule of the OSHA 1994.

Encik John Riba, the Director of SOCSCO gave a brief introduction on SOCSCO's function towards social responsibility for employees. He then covered the Employee's Social Security Act 1969 and the Employees' Social Security (General) Regulations

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- (iv) Development of LCI;
- (v) Results & Findings; and
- (vi) Application of LCI results for ecolabelling

Dr Chen also informed the participants that Malaysia has joined the Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN) in 2010. GEN is a non-profit association of a third party, environmental performance labeling organisations founded in 1994 to improve, promote and develop the ecolabelling of products and services.

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1971. He further explained that those people who are not qualify for the contribution of SOCSO include individual proprietor and wife, partnerships and wife, foreign workers (with effective 1 April 1993), household servants, self-employed and government employees. He also highlighted the two (2) schemes implemented and managed by SOCSO namely, the Employment Injury Scheme and the Invalidity Pension Scheme.

Encik Ismandi Bin Junaidi, the Manager of NIOSH Sarawak Region emphasised and briefly explained the six principles of accident prevention which were integrated in the OSH Management System. The six principles are as follow:

1. Incident prevention is good management
2. Management and workers must fully cooperated

3. Top management must lead
4. There must be an OSH policy
5. Must have organisation and resources to implement OSH policy
6. Best available information and technology must be applied

He also highlighted that Section 30 of OSHA 1994, states that it is the duty of an employer to set up a safety committee if there are forty (40) or more workers employed as instructed by Director of DOSH. He explained that the accident prevention program includes (i) Employee Safety Orientation, (ii) Safety Committee program, (iii) Hazard identification, risk assessment and risk control program, (iv) Training Program, and (v) PPE program. He concluded that the management's commitment and proper allocation of resources accident prevention program in an organisation will be successful.