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STA dan Rakan2

Campaign on Occupational Safety and Health for the Timber Industry in Sarawak

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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The 3rd series of the Campaign on Occupational Safety and Health for the Timber Industry in Sarawak was successfully conducted from 17 to 19 May 2016 at Meligai Hotel, Kapit. This 3-day Campaign was jointly organised by the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Sarawak and Sarawak Timber Association (STA). A total of thirty five (35) participants from the timber industry and forestry-related agencies participated in this Campaign. The objectives of this Campaign were to disseminate information and provide training on the occupational safety and health in the logging industry as well as to carry out ground audit on the occupational safety and health requirements.

In the welcoming remarks by Datu Haji Sarudu Haji Hoklai, the General Manager of STIDC, read by Mr Ahmad Nazari bin Haji Sabki, the Head of Forest Resource Section of STIDC, he expressed gratitude to DOSH Sarawak, STA and all the attendees for participating in this Campaign. He mentioned that it is important for employer to provide a safe and healthy workplace for their workers as occurrence of accidents will affect the productivity, loss of life as well as creating a negative image to the company and State. He also said that the safety and health of workers is part of the forest certification requirements in the Forest Management Units (FMUs) and one of the criteria for legal timber in the revised Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS).

The Campaign was facilitated by Mr Sadiyuk Henry Rigit, Head of Enforcement Section of DOSH Sarawak. He informed the participants of the Campaign that employers and employees need to work together to ensure the safety and health in workplace to minimise the accident rate in this industry. Workers / operators are required to be trained and provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when handling machineries and activities such as log loading, tree felling and log extraction. DOSH will carry out document audit and ground audit in logging areas in Sarawak to ensure the safety and health requirements at workplace are adhered.

Six (6) papers presented by Mr Sadiyuk during the Campaign were as follows:-

Paper 1- Introduction to Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) 1994
Outlines the background of DOSH Sarawak, principles of OSHA 1994, responsibilities of employer to provide safety and health in the workplace as well as the compliance of safety and health requirements.

Paper 2- Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Risk Control (HIRARC)
The use of simple HIRARC technique and the process to identify various hazards in the workplace such as health hazards, safety hazards and environmental hazards; conduct risk

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assessments as well as risk control to eliminate or deactivate the hazards in workplace.

Paper 3- Occupational Safety and Health Committee

The requirements to establish Occupational Safety and Health Committee under the Occupational Safety and Health (Safety and Health Committee) Regulations 1996 and its functions and responsibilities.

Paper 4- Notification of Accident, Dangerous Occurrence, Occupational Poisoning and Occupational Disease Regulations 2004 (NADOPOD)

The requirements under the laws for employer to report immediately to the nearest inspector / DOSH Office using proper mechanism on the occurrence of any accident involving death, serious damages to property or machinery, occupational poisoning and occupational disease.

Paper 5- Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Programme

Planning of an OSH programme, creating organisation policy and arrangements as well as action plan and

responsibilities for OSH programme.

Paper 6- Occupational Safety and Health Management System

The management standards that can be used to ensure safety and health of workers in workplace i.e. OHSAS 18001 Occupational Health and Safety Management System Standard and MS1722:2011 which can be used to ensure continual improvement of occupational safety and health at workplace.

Participants of the Campaign were also divided into 6 groups to prepare Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Risk Control (HIRARC) in their workplace and issues related to the implementation of OSH in the forestry sector. During the last day of Campaign, a ground audit on the compliance of OSH requirements was conducted at Song Logging Co. Sdn Bhd. Mr Sadiyuk briefed the participants of the Campaign on the key areas audited by DOSH under the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994 (Act 514) and the Factories and Machineries Act 1967 (Act 139) and Regulations and Rules



Photo (above): group photo with participants and
(photo (right) Participants having group discussion



Did you know that.....

Australian scientists have found a way to do just that by recycling cigarette butts into fired clay bricks. A team of researchers at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), which has published its findings in the Journal of Waste Management has found that clay bricks with as little as 1% cigarette butt content can cut brick production costs – while also helping clean up the environment on the side. The bricks were also lighter and had better insulation properties, which would lead to reductions in heating and cooling costs for homes built from them. If done properly, the butts are lodged securely in the bricks with no chance of leaching their toxic contents into homes.

Source: <http://cleanmalaysia.com/2016/06/10/cigarette-butts-can-build-homes/>

Did you also know that....

It stands at 89.5 meters tall in Sabah's Maliau Basin Conservation Area. That height makes this Yellow Meranti (*Shorea faguetiana*) – a species endemic to Borneo, peninsular Malaysia and parts of Thailand – probably the tallest tree in the tropics anywhere in the world, according to conservation scientists from Cambridge University, who have recently discovered it together with the Sabah Forestry Department. The previous record-holder was also in Malaysia: another stately Yellow Meranti rising to a height of 88.3m in the Tawau Hills National Park.

Source: <http://cleanmalaysia.com/2016/06/09/worlds-tallest-tropical-tree-found-sabah/>



DF Circular No 2/2016 – Enforcement of Cutting Limit for all Mangrove Licence

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) has received a copy of a DF Circular No 2/2016 from Forest Department Sarawak ref DF.681.76 (VII) – 25 dated 3 May 2016 addressed to SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation Sdn Bhd on the Enforcement of Cutting Limit for all Mangrove Licence.

The following is an excerpt of the Circular for your information:

“With effect from 1st day of June 2016, the diameter cutting limit for mangrove trees will be imposed for all mangrove timber licences.

The diameter cutting limit for mangrove poles and for fire wood and charcoal will be limited to trees with a diameter of 10 cm diameter at the big end.”

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Forum on High Temperature Drying Technology

Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) together with SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation (SFC) organised a Forum on High Temperature Drying (HTD) Technology on 5 May 2016 at SFC office in Kota Sentosa, Kuching. Approximately thirty eight (38) participants from the forest and wood processing industries as well as representatives from STA member companies, SFC and STA Secretariat attended this Forum.

The objective of the Forum was to impart and transfer the HTD Technology to the Sarawak timber and timber products sectors. At the same time, it is hoped that this technology will assist the development of value-added products from the planted forest resources of Sarawak.

Mr Wong Ting Chung, Chief Executive Officer of SFC in his welcoming remarks, said that 239,845 ha or 67% of the total planted areas in Sarawak is made up of *Acacia mangium*, which means that Sarawak will have a considerable amount of *A. mangium* planted logs for local processing in the near future. He added that although *Acacia* is ideal for pulp and paper production, there is no pulp and paper mill being set up in Sarawak currently. Hence, there is a need to find a way to

uniformly dry the *Acacia* in order to produce lumber that is suitable for other usage such as flooring and furniture. He hoped that this Forum can serve as a platform for FRIM to share the information on their HTD Technology for drying of rubberwood, other mixed light hardwoods (MLH) species in Sarawak, and especially *Acacia*.

Dr Woon Weng Chuen, Head of Flagship Project, FRIM gave an introduction of the HTD Technology and how FRIM has progressed over the years in developing the HTD Technology for rubberwood. He informed the participants of the Forum that the R&D Department in FRIM will continue to improve the HTD process in terms of drying performance and product quality as well as to further develop it for other low to medium density species in Sarawak, which includes *Acacia*. Thus, FRIM hopes to work closely with SFC, STA and STA member companies to obtain samples for the technical trials using HTD Technology and concurrently to transfer this technology to interested partners.

According to Dr Woon, FRIM has successfully develop and patented a world class green technology for treating rubberwood using the HTD Technology,

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National Occupational Skills Standards for Pre-harvesting (Levels 1 to 3)

A workshop was called by Primavoc Sdn Bhd, the consultant engaged by the Department of Skills Development, to draft the documents for Pre and Post harvesting (Levels 1 to 3) National Occupational Skills Standards at the Kompleks Latihan, Institut Penyelidikan dan Kemajuan Pertanian Malaysia (MARDI), Serdang, Selangor on 3 and 4 May 2016. The Session, facilitated by Captain (R) Sharuddin bin Shariff of Primavoc Sdn Bhd, was attended by eight (8) representatives from various relevant forestry agencies, industry and Association.

After an extensive discussion, the members of the Panel recommended that the Standards to be developed be confined to Pre-harvesting operation only. Members of the Panel then deliberated on Occupational Area Analysis, Occupational Structure, Competency Profiles which defines the units, its description, work activities and performance criteria as well as the development of Standard Practice for the units under this occupational area of pre-harvesting.

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which eliminates the use of chemicals and at the same time able to produce lumber with enhanced quality as well as at a lower processing time and inventory cost. He added that the past Research and Development (R&D) has indicated that Acacia is prone to collapse and checks as well as the presence of random wet pockets which makes it very difficult to dry.

The presentation ended with a Question and Answer (Q&A) session. The participants of the Forum enquired amongst others; the drying schedule for HTD, the age and the thickness of the tree samples used in the study, the cost of drying through HTD Technology and the possibility of converting/upgrading the conventional kiln to HTD.