



FEBO NEWSLETTER 1/2007

FEBO General Assembly on 29th/30th March in Cologne. Have you registered?

Hotel rooms can be booked until 13th March 2007.

European Veneer Convention on 10th and 11th May at the interzum trade fair Cologne

Focal points of the convention this year are the European veneer market and its foreign sales, new trends and opportunities in backings of veneered surfaces and the applications of 3D veneer. The programme is complemented by workshops dealing with "Veneer Logo: why to use it Europe-wide?" and "Responsible purchasing: Update on the EU activities for the ban of illegal timber".

Please inform your members of this international event. Details and registration documentation can be found in English and German at www.furnier.de.

Application for the extension of the coexistence phase for EN 14081-1 for solid wood products

European and national timber trade associations are applying pressure at the Standing Committee on Construction in Brussels for a two-year extension of the coexistence phase for EN 14081-1, currently due to expire in September 2007. From 1st September 2007 the CE mark should be applied to all sawn wood intended for use in construction. It follows that all imported timber, including tropical timber, is affected. In order to conform to the regulations imported construction timber has to be tested and allocated a stress grade which in its turn allows the CE marking. As such technical data is not available for all imported timber, an extension of the coexistence phase of at least two years is necessary. During this time the missing technical data for the most common imported construction timbers can be gathered. We will keep you informed on the decision taken by the Standing Committee. Advise your member firms and suppliers to use the coexistence phase, which has been in force since September 2006, to make their preparations for the conformity assessment 2+.

European Payment Order Procedure

We would like to draw your attention to the EU regulation 1896/2006, published in the Official Journal L 399 on 30.12.2006, on the introduction of a European payment order procedure. The new regulation is designed to simplify and speed up uncontested cross-border claims procedures from civil and commercial matters. In future, a European payment order can be applied for against a party in another EU member state for the recovery of an outstanding debt. As a rule this can be effected within 30 days of application. Should the defendant not contest the payment order within 30 days, the payment order can then be declared enforceable. The payment order, pronounced to be enforceable in one particular EU state, can be recognised and executed in other EU states without the need for an additional declaration of enforceability or without any possibility of opposing its recognition. This regulation came into force on 1st January 2007 and is applicable apart from various paragraphs as of 12th December 2008. The regulation can be found in internet under

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/JOIndex.do?year=2006&serie=L&textfield2=399&Submit=Suche>.

14th March 2007