

## e-bulletin

June 2009

### Welcome

To the latest edition of the e-bulletin. In this issue we take a look at the proposed changes to the BCA, the recently published safety information sheet from NICNAS and the Green Building Councils revised timber credit.

Cheers Glenn

### Proposed Changes to the BCA

The Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) has recently published proposed changes to the Building Code of Australia (BCA). The changes will be implemented in the 2010 version of the code.

The most significant change is the revision of the Energy Efficiency provisions of the code. Overall the code proposes a regulated “six star” energy rating for all new homes.

The implementation of this change will require timber flooring to lift its thermal performance (R-value) by approximately 0.5 of a unit. This will inevitably lead to the need for insulation in more regions across Australia and lead to further depletion in the utilisation of timber products in this area unless a user friendly solution can be found.

[Top.....](#)

### NICNAS

NICNAS have recently published Safety Information Sheet No. 30. The SIS is for Cabinet Makers and Construction workers and warns them against the dangers of formaldehyde exposure from working with pressed wood products. Understandably manufacturers have been alarmed at these unwarranted warnings given that NICNAS’s own review did not identify any significant risks for these workers.

Discussions with NICNAS have revealed that the issue that NICNAS were trying to address was issues with high emitting products not manufactured in Australia that have been causing some issues here.

NICNAS have undertaken to rewrite the SIS to clearly identify the products that are an issue.

[Top.....](#)

#### In this Issue

[BCA](#)

[NICNAS](#)

[GBCA](#)

[Finally...](#)

[Contact us](#)

## Green Building Council Timber Credit Revision

This week the Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) released revised guidelines for assessing timber certification programs. This guideline will now allow release of the revised timber credit in early July.

At issue was the fact the timber credit only recognised FSC certified forest of which there is very little in Australia. The new approach will allow other certification systems to be assessed and be incorporated into the timber credit assessment. This paves the way for acceptance of PEFC certification to be accepted into the timber credit.

At this stage the way this will happen will not be known until early July.

[Top.....](#)

## And Finally.....

Once upon a time, in a village, a man appeared and announced to the villagers that he would buy monkeys for \$10 each.

The villagers, seeing that there were many monkeys around, went out to the forest and started catching them. The man bought thousands at \$10 and, as supply started to diminish, the villagers stopped their effort. He further announced that he would now buy at \$20 for a monkey.

This renewed the efforts of the villagers and they started catching monkeys again. Soon the supply diminished even further and people started going back to their farms. The offer increased to \$25 each, and the supply of monkeys became so small that it was an effort to even find a monkey, let alone catch it!

The man now announced that he would buy monkeys at \$50! However, since he had to go to the city on some business, his assistant would now buy on behalf of him.

In the absence of the man, the assistant told the villagers. 'Look at all these monkeys in the big cage that the man has collected. I will sell them to you at \$35, and when the man returns from the city, you can sell them to him for \$50 each.'

The villagers rounded up all their savings and bought all the monkeys.

They never saw the man or his assistant again, only monkeys everywhere!

**Now you have a better understanding of how Wall Street works**

[Top.....](#)

## About Us.

Tech Partners Australia is an independent Technical Service provider to the composite wood panels industry. Glenn Ryan who has 25 years experience in industry runs the organization. His experience covers Quality Management, Technical Service and R&D Management.

Contact us on the net or by telephone 61 (0)3 53671677