

Western Pallet



Magazine for WPA Members
August 2018

Magazine



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www.westernpallet.org

North American Softwood Prices

Softwood prices listed as of August 21, courtesy of NRCAN.

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WPA New Members

The WPA is proud to introduce its latest new members.

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Be Bold for Change Workshop

Attend L&R Pallet's Be Bold for Change, Leading with Love Workshop this September in Denver.

10

Promoting the Beauty of Wood

Northwest Hardwoods has launched a new campaign "illustrates the importance, sustainability and natural beauty that lumber holds in each of our daily lives."

12

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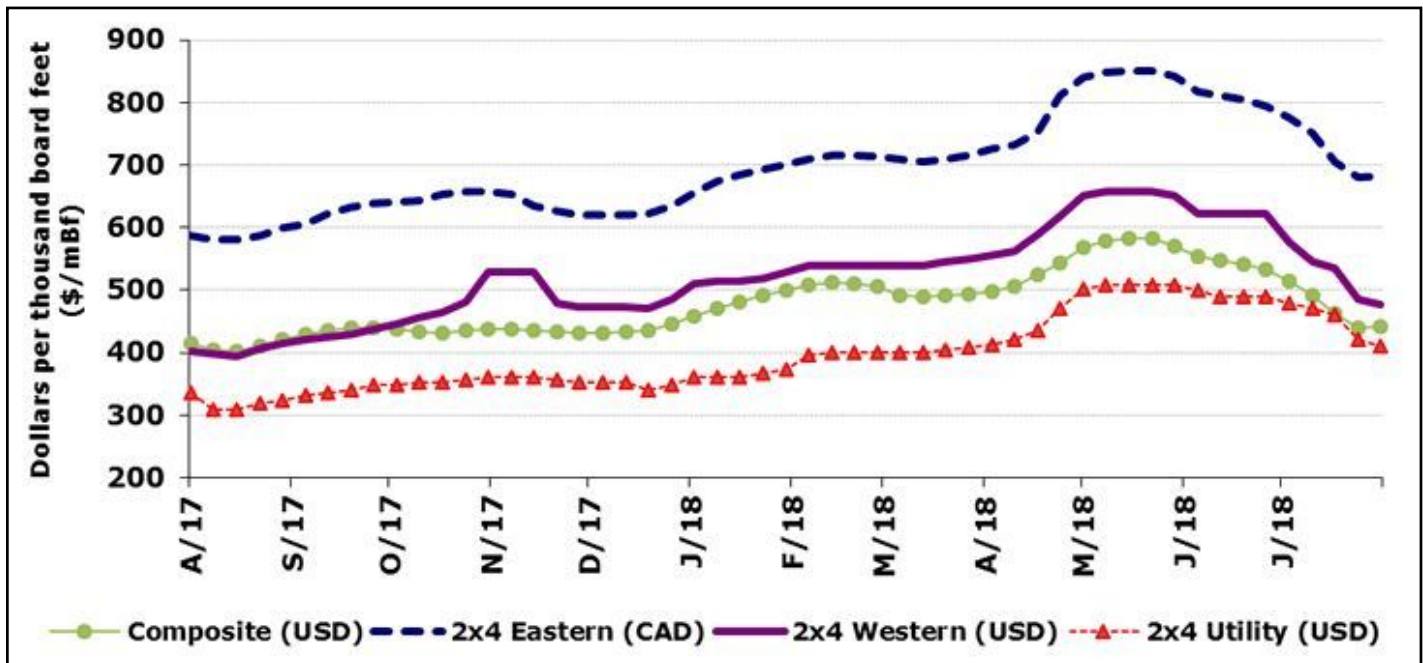
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North American Softwood Prices

Weekly softwood lumber prices to August 21, 2018 are shown below, sourced at <http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/forests/industry/13309>.



WPA New Members

The WPA strives to grow membership in order to better serve its members. This month, we are pleased to welcome two members.

Gurjit Gill
Kan Wood Ltd (pallet manufacturer)
10816 124th St
Surrey, BC V3V 4T7
Ph: (604)580-1822
Fax: (604)580-1822
Email: kanwood@hotmail.com

Rosie Montoya
Montoya's Pallets, Inc.
13207 Leffingwell Road
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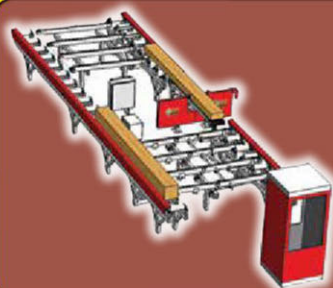


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WPA Notes

Be Bold For Change: How Leading with Love, Works

WPA-member L&R Pallet Services invites you to join it for part or all of a 3-day Faith + Work Event, taking place September 26-28 in Denver, Colorado. Please note that each day requires a separate registration. Find all of the details at <https://under1roof.org/events>.

On September 26, visit L&R Pallet for a personal tour of its facilities and in-depth look at its operations. The highlight of this day is meeting the people behind the pallets. This will be followed by a Q&A session to learn more about the model at L&R-People.Pallets.Purpose. President, James Ruder, will be answering questions you have about transforming your company culture, employee retention and living out a spiritual leadership in the marketplace. L&R encourages you to bring your team! Spaces are limited, you must register for this by emailing adrienne@lrpallet.com

Pallet Industry CEO 3rd Annual Workshop takes place on September 27. It is hosted by James and Carine Ruder, as participants learn about the principles of effective leadership with featured speakers, Joel Manby and Ben Ortlip.

Joel Manby is the former CEO of SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment and former President and CEO of Herschend Family Entertainment (HFE) the largest family-owned theme park corporation in the United States. Joel will highlight practices that you can turn into a lifestyle by challenging leaders to move beyond just talking about core values and actually incorporating them into your organization. If you are striving for something beyond business as usual, Love Works will transform your leadership style and your team.

The poster is for a 3-day event titled "BE BOLD FOR CHANGE. LOVE WORKS." which is L&R Pallet's Kingdom Business Workshop. It features two speakers: Joel Manby, former CEO of SeaWorld and Herschend Family Entertainment, and James Ruder, President of L&R Pallet. The text encourages learning how to transform company culture, grow the bottom line, and retain employees. It lists the event dates as September 26-28 in Denver, Colorado, and includes logos for Under1Roof Foundation, L&R Pallet, and Pallet Enterprise. A table at the bottom provides details for each day: Day 1 (Sept 26) is an L&R Plant Tour, Day 2 (Sept 27) is a KB Workshop, and Day 3 (Sept 28) is the CCBA Conference. It also mentions early registration discounts and a website for more information.

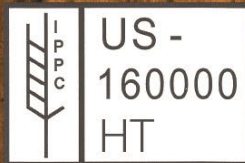
DATE	EVENT
SEPT 26	L&R PLANT TOUR
SEPT 27	KB WORKSHOP
SEPT 28	CCBA CONFERENCE

He will co-present with Ben Ortlip. Ben is described as a "Cultural Architect and Strategic Advisor to leaders at many of the world's top brands: Coca-Cola, Ritz-Carlton, Mercedes-Benz, AT&T, UPS, Chick-fil-A." Please purchase tickets via Eventbrite | <https://www.eventbrite.com>

On Day 3 (September 28), participants are invited to attend the Colorado Christian Business Alliance (CCBA) annual conference. CCBA hosts an annual conference to promote spiritual growth, intentional leadership and marketplace collaboration. This event is the perfect way to end the week and will bring together the teachings from L&R Pallet and Industry Workshop. Please note: You must register for this event separately through CCBA.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <http://ccbballiance.org>

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A collage of images showing various wood products, including lumber, decking, and pallets, with text overlays and logos.

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Northwest Hardwoods promotes the beauty, relevance and sustainability of hardwoods in new campaign



From on-time and on-grade products to an unwavering commitment to its customers, Northwest Hardwoods continues to think ahead and lead with high-quality products and approaches to market. The company announced the launch of its new marketing campaign, *Lumber Brings Everything to Life*, which unites its two brands – Northwest Hardwoods and the Industrial Timber and Lumber Company (ITL) brand acquired in 2015 – and illustrates the importance, sustainability and natural beauty that lumber holds in each of our daily lives.

The new campaign features a new customer-focused website, new advertising centered on visually-appealing wood applications, and the launch of Northwest Hardwoods' Pinterest and Instagram accounts to convey visual ideas and aspirations for the many uses of hardwoods. The campaign offers an opportunity for Northwest Hardwoods to reach out to new audiences including designers, specifiers, architects and OEMs, underscoring the fact that no other building and design material is as visually appealing and as sustainable as hardwoods. Additionally, the campaign includes the creation of product specific communications outreach that will support the company's sales objectives.

"Our new campaign celebrates our past, unites our present brands and more importantly, ushers in the future," said Don Barton, vice president of sales and marketing for Northwest Hardwoods. "This new initiative ultimately signals our investment in the success of the customers we serve," he continued.

"In a day and age where there are so many other materials, we want to remind customers that unlike other materials, wood lasts for generations," said Barton. "Wood is naturally beautiful and naturally replenishes. No other material can do this like hardwood," said Barton.

Northwest Hardwoods, Inc., with approximately 1,600 employees, is the leading manufacturer of high quality hardwood lumber in North America. It manufactures and sells 15 species of hardwood lumber, including Alder, Oak, Maple, Cherry, Yellow Poplar and Walnut. Operations include a network of fifteen primary sawmills, eight concentration yards, three remanufacturing plants and regional warehouse locations to serve our customer base. For more information, take the time to visit www.northwesthardwoods.com.



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Girard Purchases TransPak's Seattle (Auburn, WA) Operation

Girard Wood Products purchased TransPak's Seattle (Auburn, WA) operation effective July 1, 2018.

"At Girard, we have a long and positive history working with TransPak – and before that, with Rainier Pallet & Crating," stated Scott Vipond, Girard's President. "And as a family-owned business, we understand the importance of having long-lasting, positive relationships with suppliers who help make our business better."

"I am pleased to see how well this worked out," noted Keith Wolf, TransPak's Vice President of Business Development. "The partnership makes sense for our customers, employees, and extends our ability to offer more services in this region."



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First Season Sponsors Announced

The WPA is pleased to recognize the first Season Sponsors onboard for the upcoming WPA Annual Meeting, including Atlas Pallets and Packaging Products, Metolius Forest Products and Northwest Hardwoods.

As noted at left, sponsorship benefits include having your logo on all annual meeting promotional materials, a full one-page ad in Western Pallet Magazine, a full page ad in the Annual Meeting Book, recognition signage at the entrance to the meeting, recognition on the big screen in the convention center, and recognition and introduction from the podium.

The cost for this impressive package is \$2,000.



US Softwood Lumber Production Up Almost 6% from Last Year

Sawmills in the United States produced 14.752 billion board feet (bbf) of softwood lumber in the first five months of 2018, a +5.9% increase from output of 13.937 bbf in the same period last year, said the latest Western Wood Products Association Lumber Track report.

Western US sawmills accounted for 6.180 bbf to the five-month total, up +8.9% from 5.677 bbf a year earlier, while output at southern U.S. sawmills was up +3.6% to 7.876 bbf from 7.600 bbf.

In May alone, production by US sawmills was 3.173 bbf, up +7.3% year-over-year from 2.957 bbf, and up +5.3% from 3.014 bbf in April 2018.

Western US sawmills contributed 1.281 bbf to

May's production volume, up +4.9% from 1.222 bbf in the previous year, and up +3.7% from 1.236 bbf in the month before.

Southern US sawmills produced 1.742 bbf towards the monthly total, a +9.2% year-over-year gain from 1.595 bbf, and up +6.5% from 1.636 bbf in April 2018.

Apparent US softwood lumber consumption was 20.125 bbf in the first five months, an increase of +1.1% from 19.909 bbf in the same period last year. In May, consumption was 4.444 bbf, up +8.4% from 4.100 bbf in May 2017, and +6.5% higher than consumption in April 2018 of 4.173 bbf.



Record Profits for Lumber Companies in North America and Europe in 2018

Sawlog costs, the largest cost component when manufacturing lumber, have gone up much more slowly than lumber prices in many countries during the past year, resulting in substantial increases in earnings for the international lumber industry, according to the WRQ

Lumber prices in the US have experienced a spectacular surge in 2017 and the first half of 2018. By the end of the 2Q/18, the benchmark lumber price index reported by the market report Random Lengths reached its highest level in at least 30 years. From January 2017 to June 2018, average prices for commonly traded lumber in the US increased by 40%. During the same period, sawlog prices were practically unchanged in the US South and rose about 28% in Western US, resulting in higher gross margins in 2018 for sawmills in both regions. Similar

developments have occurred in Canada, leading to record high profitability for many of the country's sawmills thanks to the high lumber prices in the US.

Wood costs are by far the largest and most important cost component when manufacturing softwood lumber and are often the factor that determines a lumber company's competitiveness. The Wood Resource Quarterly (WRQ) has tracked quarterly sawlog prices worldwide since 1995. This publication also discusses quarterly sawmill gross margins for key lumber-producing regions around the world. In its latest issue, quarterly sawlog costs, lumber prices and gross margins for sawmills in eight key regions worldwide are reported for the period 1Q/05 to 2Q/18. The gross margin is defined as the net wood costs (sawlog costs minus the income from

sawmill residuals) deducted from lumber revenues and is a reliable indicator of the changing trend in profitability in a region's sawmill sector.

In the 2Q/18, profits for sawmills in North America reached their highest levels since at least 2005, primarily because lumber prices have risen faster than sawlog prices. In Europe, the gross margins in early 2018 were close to the highest they have been in four years in the Nordic countries, while they reached levels not seen in over a decade in other parts of the continent.

However, not all countries have experienced positive earning trends the past few years. Sawmills in Eastern Russia, New Zealand and

Brazil saw their gross margins decline from 2015 to early 2018 as sawlog prices rose faster than lumber prices. In Siberia, the gross margin has fallen 21% in three years with the 2Q/18 levels being the lowest since 2013. Most of the decline has been the result of higher costs for sawlogs for a growing sawmilling sector in Eastern Russia.

Global lumber, sawlog and pulpwood market reporting is included in the 56-page quarterly publication Wood Resource Quarterly (WRQ). The report, which was established in 1988 and has subscribers in over 30 countries, tracks sawlog, pulpwood, wood chip, lumber and pellet prices, trade and market developments in most key regions around the world. To subscribe to the WRQ, please go to www.WoodPrices.com



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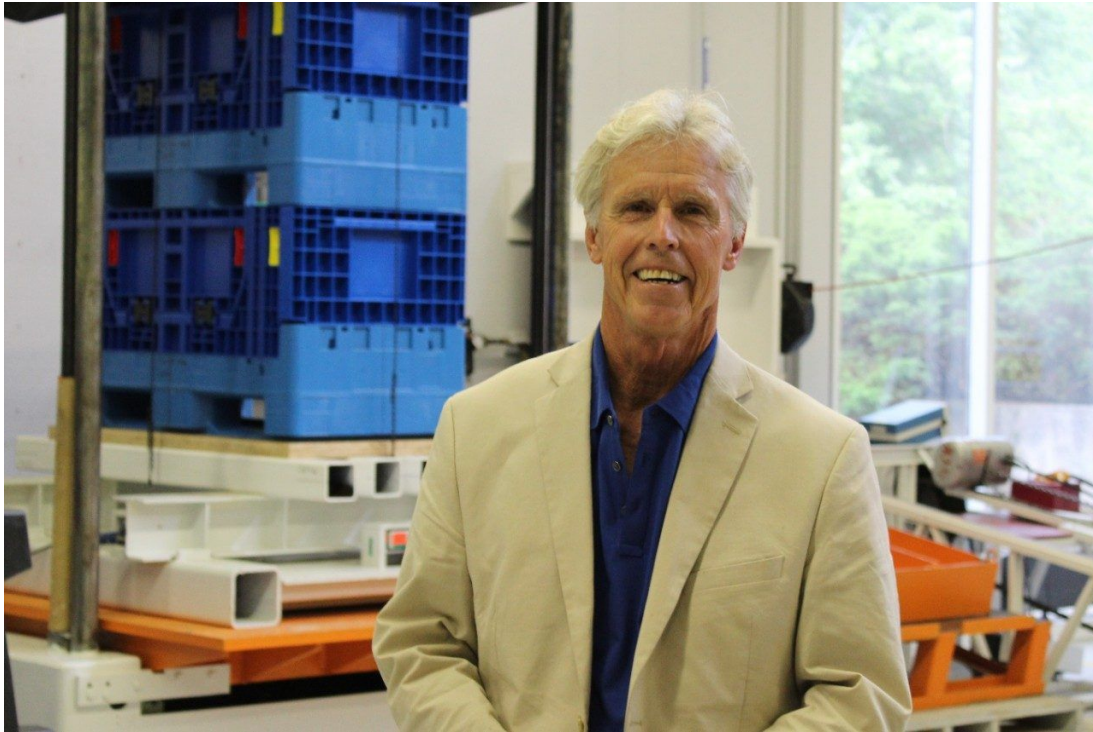
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Marshall "Mark" S. White receives R. David LeButt Award in package design and testing



Marshall "Mark" S. White, professor emeritus of wood science and forest products in the College of Natural Resources and Environment, received the 2018 R. David LeButt Award from the International Safe Transit Association in recognition of excellence and continuing education in package design and testing.

"Mark receiving this award is a huge step forward for our packaging program," said Laszlo Horvath, associate professor in the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials and director of Virginia Tech's Center for Packaging and Unit Load Design. "We were always recognized by the pallet community as the leading pallet research and education program, but this is the first time a faculty member has been recognized by the broader packaging community."

Packaging science was first offered as an option to students in the wood science and forest products major in 2004, and the college launched a bachelor's degree in packaging systems and design in 2014. It is the only such degree in Virginia and one of just a handful in the country to prepare undergraduates for careers in the packaging industry.

The program has a strong focus on hands-on experience, with laboratory time incorporated into most courses. Collaborative team projects are a vital part of learning; small classes allow for extensive interaction among students and with faculty as well. These experiences give students an edge in the job market, with many of them securing jobs within weeks of graduation.

"Universities have two products," White said. "They produce information in the form of research, and they produce young professionals. Virginia Tech has always generated quality research, but we needed to produce young people who could take that knowledge to the rest of the world. That's why we set up the packaging program."

"Universities have two products," White said. "They produce information in the form of research, and they produce young professionals. Virginia Tech has always generated quality research, but we needed to produce young people who could take that knowledge to the rest of the world. That's why we set up the packaging program."

White explained that while several universities have packaging programs, most of them focus on one aspect of the industry, such as food packaging or distribution. Virginia Tech's program is unique in its focus on systems-based design, a process focused on understanding how pallets, packaging, and materials handling

and storage.

"I built this curriculum around systems-based design because I believed students needed to understand how all of the components interact. We don't just teach students packaging. We also teach them how to design equipment to handle packaging and how to apply a systematic approach to supply chains," he explained.

Since retiring from Virginia Tech in 2007, White has established two companies: White & Company LLC and Phytosanitation Vacuum Systems LLC. Both are based on his research interests and maintain close ties with the Center for Packaging and Unit Load Design. He continues to mentor graduate students and teach courses at Virginia Tech on a part-time basis.

The International Safe Transit Association's R. David LeButt Award was created to honor individuals dedicated to package design and testing. Recipients are selected for their outstanding contribution toward the continuing education of those involved in the field of packaging.

"It's the premier award that the International Safe Transit Association gives out, so I was shocked," White said. "I'm excited that the packaging program is getting this recognition. Among the programs in the United States, we're the new kids on the block, but Laszlo has done a great job continuing my legacy."

Horvath added, "Mark did exceptional work related to system-based unit load design, and I am glad to see that he was recognized for his work."

White earned his bachelor's degree from Colorado State University and his master's and his doctorate from Virginia Tech.



equipment interact during product distribution

Get Connected!

All WPA Members Reserve your Exhibit Table now! 2019 WPA Annual Meeting January 18-22, 2019 Rancho Las Palmas Resort, Rancho Mirage, CA

Exhibit Cost

- \$300 - Until November 1st
- \$400 - After November 1st
- Exhibitors must be members of WPA with dues current, sign up and pay for an exhibit space, and pay the annual meeting registration fee - online meeting registration opens October 1st.

Exhibit space includes a skirted, 6' table arranged around the periphery of the meeting room. Additional amenities available through the Rancho Las Palmas Resort & Spa and are the responsibility of the Exhibitor.

Exhibit space is limited. Sign up for exhibit tables opens at 8:00 AM PDT on September 5, 2018.

Exhibit Schedule

- Saturday, January 19th - 5:00 - 6:30 PM - Exhibit Showcase during WPA welcome reception
- Sunday, January 20th - 7:00 - 8:00 AM - Exhibit Showcase during WPA breakfast
- Sunday, January 20th - 12 Noon - 1:00 PM - Exhibit Showcase during WPA lunch
- Monday January 21st- 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM - Exhibit Showcase during WPA breakfast

Set-up starts at 12:00 Noon, Saturday, January 19th, and should be ready by 5:00 PM, just in time for the welcome reception. Breakdown can start after 11:00 AM, Monday, January 21st, and completed by 2:00 PM.

Exhibitor signup only - does not include separate meeting registration open October 1, 2018.

NAME _____ TABLE # REQUESTED _____ 1st Choice _____

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Brambles announces FY 2018 results: US Pallet Volumes Rebound

Results feature strong revenue growth, dividends fully funded by free cash flow and progress toward strategic objectives

Brambles Highlights

- **Sales revenue up 6% at constant currency** largely reflecting strong volume growth in key CHEP pallet and IFCO RPC businesses. Price growth of one percentage point included benefits of pricing initiatives in US pallets, emerging markets and IFCO North America.
- **Underlying Profit in line with prior year at constant currency:** Profit growth in CHEP EMEA and IFCO, along with cost control and higher asset compensations in CHEP Asia-Pacific offset a number of headwinds during the year including inflationary cost pressures in most major markets.
- **CHEP US pallets:** Solid volume growth and pricing actions primarily realized in the second half of the year. Effective price, which includes inflation-related surcharges recognized as an offset to costs, increased 2% in 2H18.
- **FY18 Statutory profit after tax** includes US\$127.9 million non-cash tax benefit resulting from the USA tax reform. FY17 statutory profit included the US\$120.0 million non-cash impairment of the HFG joint venture (JV).
- **Material increase in Cash Flow from Operations and positive Free Cash Flow:** Cash flow from operations, before the HFG JV loan repayment, fully funded dividends and capital expenditure reflecting focus on sustainable cash flow generation. Cash Flow from Operations was further strengthened by the HFG JV loan repayment of US\$150.0 million which will partially fund the US accelerated automation program in FY19-21.
- **2018 final dividend in line with prior year:** 14.5 Australian cents per share, with franking of 30%.
- **Corporate actions:** Brambles intends to separate its IFCO RPC business. This decision together with the divestment of CHEP Recycled and the HFG joint venture reflects a focus on optimizing long-term shareholder value.

"Our FY18 result reflects the significant progress we have made towards our strategic objectives," said Brambles' CEO Graham Chipchase. "Revenue momentum was strong despite robust competition in all major markets and Free Cash Flow fully funded dividends for the first time since FY15. This cash flow result was particularly pleasing as it was achieved during a period of

ongoing capital investment to fund growth, automation programs and innovation initiatives, including BXB Digital. While Underlying Profit remains below revenue growth, we have identified and commenced implementing numerous initiatives to improve profitability over the medium term.

"Our US pallets business returned to historic levels of volume growth and successfully implemented contractual surcharges and repricing in response to accelerating rates of transport, lumber and labor inflation in the second half of the year. In addition to these surcharges, our teams have also commenced renegotiating contracts as they come up for renewal to ensure terms adequately cover the cost-to-serve in a higher inflationary environment. Collectively, surcharges and pricing actions offset approximately half of the inflation-related cost increases we experienced during the year. While changing customer and retailer behavior and network capacity constraints also contributed to higher plant and transport costs during the year, the accelerated automation program and procurement initiatives are expected to increase network capacity and deliver operational efficiencies progressively over the next three years.

"In Europe, our pallets businesses continued to deliver outstanding levels of volume growth as they expand with customers in both developed and emerging markets. Inflationary pressures in the region also accelerated in the second half of the year, however, resulting cost increases were largely offset by supply-chain efficiencies and contributions from annual contractual indexation.

"In Asia-Pacific, our pallet businesses in Australia and New Zealand delivered solid revenue growth and we continue to take a disciplined approach to investment in emerging markets such as China. While the CHEP RPC business in the region had a challenging year following the loss of a large contract in 2017, the team are actively pursuing opportunities to return the business to revenue growth in FY19."

Strategic priorities

Commenting on the Group's strategic priorities, Mr Chipchase said: "The fast-moving consumer goods and retail sectors are changing rapidly.

Our customers are increasingly under pressure to meet changing consumer demands more efficiently and sustainably. As the leader in sustainable supply chains, we are uniquely positioned to help our customers navigate this evolving landscape by delivering innovative solutions that reduce both the cost and environmental footprint of their supply chains.

"In this increasingly challenging operating environment, our commitment to our strategic priorities is critical to our ability to deliver superior value for customers, shareholders and employees. In FY18, we strengthened our network advantage by funding growth in our core pooling businesses and innovation initiatives to address changing customer needs. By divesting CHEP Recycled and our interest in the HFG joint venture, we further focused our portfolio and generated proceeds which will be used to fund opportunities in high-returning businesses. Finally, through BXB Digital, we took meaningful steps towards identifying the role technology can play in improving the efficiency of our operations and providing richer insights for our customers."

Outlook

"By delivering on our strategic priorities, Brambles expects to deliver sustainable growth and returns well in excess of the cost of capital," Mr. Chipchase continued. "We expect constant-currency sales revenue growth in the mid-single digits, primarily driven by the ongoing conversion of customers to pooled solutions and expansion across geographies. Through the progressive delivery of operational, organisational and capital efficiencies, Brambles expects to deliver Underlying Profit growth in excess of sales revenue growth through the cycle. We will also focus on generating sufficient cash to fully fund dividends and reinvestment for growth, innovation, and the development of our people."

Commenting on FY19, Mr Chipchase said:

Brambles announces intention to separate its IFCO RPC business

Brambles announced that following a strategic review of its portfolio, it intends to pursue a separation of its IFCO RPC business through a demerger. To ensure optimal shareholder value is achieved, a sale of IFCO will also be evaluated. The separation of IFCO from Brambles will optimize shareholder outcomes and better position both businesses to realize a range of growth and value creating opportunities.

The strategic review assessed the business and operating models, financial and return characteristics, growth outlook and associated capital requirements of both IFCO and CHEP and reached the following conclusions:

- Although both CHEP and IFCO operate pooling models, they are distinct businesses with different financial profiles and customer propositions;
- There is no meaningful operational overlap or customer-related synergies between CHEP and IFCO that would be lost as a result of a separation;
- IFCO's full value potential is unlikely to be realised under Brambles' current capital allocation strategy which inherently prioritises the higher returning growth opportunities available in CHEP;
- A stand-alone IFCO will be a market leading, high growth RPC pooling business with an attractive financial profile. Separation will also provide increased flexibility to pursue and optimally fund value accretive growth opportunities; and
- Brambles ex-IFCO will continue to be strongly positioned to lead the platform pooling industry in customer service, innovation and sustainability. It will accelerate new areas of

value by solving customer and retailer challenges in the supply chain, while continuing to deliver mid-single digit revenue growth and improved margins, returns and cash flows.

"The separation is consistent with Brambles' core strategic priorities and will deliver a value creation opportunity for shareholders," said Stephen Johns, Brambles' Chairman. "It will provide them with focused investments in two world-class global businesses." Brambles purchased IFCO for around \$US 1.3 billion in 2010. According to analysts, it's value could be in the range of \$2.1 to 2.7 billion.

"Brambles will remain the clear global leader in platform pooling, a highly attractive industry with significant scope for sustained growth, substantial benefits from established scale, and highly attractive returns," added Brambles' CEO, Graham Chipchase. "The business will be positioned to generate continued strong revenue growth within its core markets, while also being focused on additional opportunities in emerging markets, first and last mile solutions, and from BXB Digital's investment in technology and innovation through the supply chain."

"IFCO is a strong business and a global leader in RPCs with a large addressable market, strong financial profile and clear opportunities to capitalize on growth in the sector," Chipchase added. "Since its acquisition of IFCO, Brambles has made substantial investments and has grown the business to the scale, market share and competitive position it holds today. It is well positioned for its future as an independent company with a singular focus."



Pallet Collar Business Acquired by James Jones & Sons (Pallets & Packaging) Ltd



James Jones & Sons (Pallets & Packaging) Ltd has announced the acquisition of one of the UK's leading pallet collar manufacturers, Billington International Ltd, for an undisclosed sum.

The deal will see James Jones & Sons (Pallet & Packaging) Ltd take immediate control of the Billington Group, with business operations continuing from Billington's current office and warehouse premises in Rotherham, Yorkshire to ensure a smooth transition for the Group's long-standing and loyal customer base and staff.

The acquisition has been made to further expand the James Jones & Sons (Pallet & Packaging) range of products and services, which includes new pallets, pallet repair, pallet management, recycled pallets and custom packaging solutions, and to strengthen its market position

in the pallet and packaging sector.

Wooden pallet collars help prevent spillage and damage, ensuring that irregular items are secured during transit. Collars are fully collapsible, stackable and space saving with sides that adjust gradually as products are placed inside, eliminating the need to bend over high bin sides. All new pallet collars are heat treated to meet ISPM 15 regulations and collars can be branded with company names and logos.

Billington International was launched in 1985 by Frank Billington and has grown to become a leading provider of wooden pallet collars, with an unrivalled reputation for quality products and customer service. [Click here to read more.](#)



Pallet and Container Thefts Lead to Jail Terms and Millions in Restitution

Pallet and plastic container theft: whether the postal system, automotive parts movement or grocery industry, and whether America or Europe, pallets and containers are being specifically targeted by criminals, or at least falling into their lap. All of these files could be described as being crimes of opportunity.

Postal Pallet Theft: California Recycling Executives Sentenced to Two Years

LOS ANGELES—The central players in a scheme to recycle stolen postal pallets have been sentenced to two years in federal prison after pleading guilty to conspiracy to convert government property and conspiracy to launder money.

Jorge Villalobos, 41, of Riverside, was sentenced in April, and Hugo Guzman, 40, of Fontana, was sentenced in July, both by United States District Judge Manuel L. Real. In addition to the prison time, they were ordered to pay \$3.4 million in restitution, the largest restitution amount ordered for theft of United States Postal Service (USPS) property, according to a press release. Based on court records, this restitution has been paid in full.

Villalobos is President and Guzman is Vice President of Go Green Industries in Riverside.

The business is a plastics recycler, processor, and compounder. According to court records, between 2008 and 2014, Villalobos and Guzman, through Go Green Industries, knowingly acquired stolen USPS plastic pallets, shredded them, and sold the resulting plastic on the open market for corporate profit. Further, Villalobos and Guzman laundered the proceeds from this illegal activity by transferring the money to two straw-person accounts, and then using those accounts to promote further unlawful activity.

"These defendants siphoned millions of dollars from the USPS by actively seeking out stolen pallets, and pumping money from the sales into their business," said United States Attorney Nicola T. Hanna. "They intentionally incentivized theft of government property and their sentences should deter those who would follow in their footsteps."

According to coverage in Plastics Recycling Update, the illegal activity involved shipping the shredded material to Mexico, and then returning it to the U.S.

[Click to read more.](#)

In an affidavit accompanying the search warrant, a Postal Service inspector said that after

Membership Dues Now Due

Membership dues for the 2018-2019 year are now due. Help ensure a better future for your business and the wood pallet and container industry by supporting the Western Pallet Association.

[Associate members can renew at this link.](#)

[Regular members can renew at this link.](#)

Remembering PLIB Supervisor Donald E. Roberts, 1941 - 2018



Don Roberts 1941-2018. Photo taken 2006.

Donald (Don) E. Roberts, inspector and District Supervisor with PLIB, passed away unexpectedly at his home on July 2, 2018 at the age of 76. Don was originally hired by the Bureau in 1979 as an inspector in the Coos Bay, OR district where he worked at the Weyerhaeuser, North Bend mill. Prior to his involvement in the forest products industry, Don served in the U.S. Navy and was a merchant seaman.

Don gained his lumber industry experience working on the green chain, as a pond man and as a grader at mills in Reedsport, OR and Roseburg, OR.

Before accepting the role as a District Supervisor with PLIB in 1986 and while working as an inspector, Don was active in the Northwest Lumber Inspectors Union #20877 and then the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of

America Local Union No. 2949 where he eventually served as their representative during labor negotiations between the union and PLIB.

Don retired from full-time employment with PLIB in 2008 and worked part-time for nearly a year before hanging up his grading crayon and tally book for good in 2009. During his career at PLIB, Don worked with nearly all of PLIB's member mills in Oregon and Washington at one time or another, developing close relationships with mill quality control personnel. He was responsible for training many graders that are in the industry today. PLIB is grateful for Don's 22 years of service to the Bureau and its members as a District Supervisor and our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Lynn and family members.

Source: PLIB



Last Call - Only a Few Seats Left for Interpal



NWPCA is reporting that over the last few days, they have seen a flurry of activity in registrations for the Fall Plant Tours & Interpal 2018. With this in mind they have sent one final notice. As of August 28 there were only 22 spaces left, so if you were thinking of registering, please do so sooner than later. When all spots are filled, NWPCA will move to a wait-list. Register now.

Attend Interpal, September 18-20 in Minneapolis, Minnesota for plant and facility tours, educational sessions, an exhibitor expo, social events and a great deal of networking.

See the complete event schedule, with links to more detailed descriptions of the educational sessions.

If you'd like to see a list of those who are currently registered, [click here](#). In that list, there are almost 25 countries spanning 5 continents (North America, Europe, Africa, Australia, and Asia.)

Register Today!

If you have questions about the event, or want more information, visit the NWPCA website or phone them at 703-519-6104. We look forward to seeing you in Minneapolis!

Connect with Western Pallet Association!



Upcoming Events

9/18/2018 - 9/20/2018 INTERPAL, Minneapolis, Minnesota. www.palletcentral.com

9/19/2018 - 9/21/2018 Western Hardwood Association Annual Convention, Portland, Oregon
www.westernhardwood.org

9/25/2018 - 9/27/2018 Unit Load Design and Performance Short Course, Blacksburg, VA
www.unitload.vt.edu

1/18/2019 - 1/22/2019 WPA Annual Meeting, Rancho Mirage, California
www.westernpallet.org

In case you missed them...

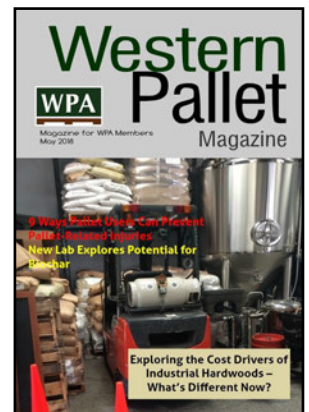
(Click on back issues to read or download)



JULY 2018



JUNE 2018



MAY 2018



APRIL 2018



MARCH 2018



FEBRUARY 2018

