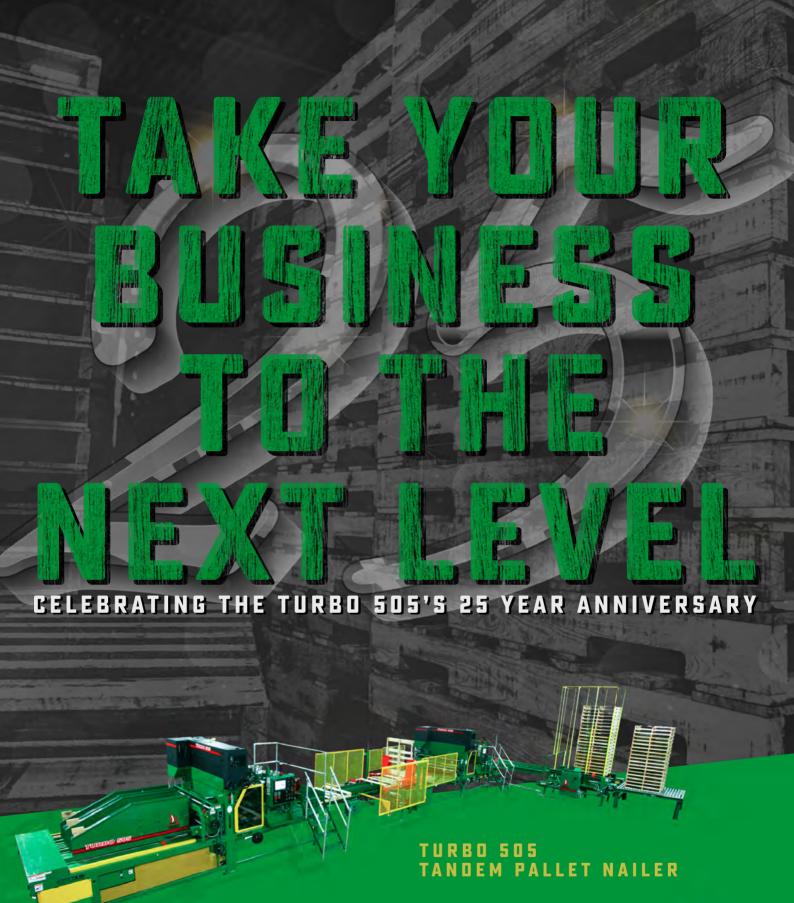
Western Pallet

Magazine for WPA Members August 2020 Magazine





THE TURBO 505 HAS ONLY BECOME STRONGER SINCE ITS RELEASE 25 YEARS AGO. IMPROVED MOTORS, CHUCKS AND CYLINDERS ALONG WITH NEW TECH AND UPGRADE KITS MEAN THIS INDUSTRY WORKHORSE IS READY FOR MORE.





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- PRODUCE PALLET LUMBER, SLAB RECOVERY, FENCE BOARD, LAPP SIDING & SHINGLES
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- QUICK AIR TENSION SYSTEM
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WPA MAGAZINE

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North American Softwood Prices

Prices listed as of August 19, 2020, courtesy of NRCAN.

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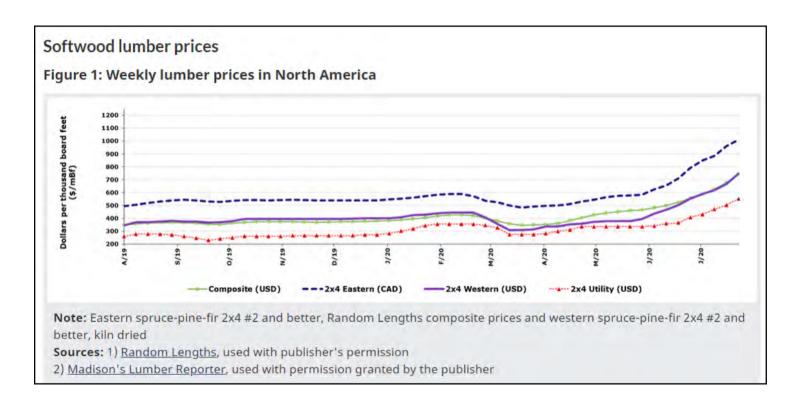


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North American Softwood Prices

Weekly softwood lumber prices to August 19, 2020 are shown below, sourced at http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/forests/industry/13309.



WPA Welcomes New Member

The Western Pallet Association is pleased to introduce the following new member:

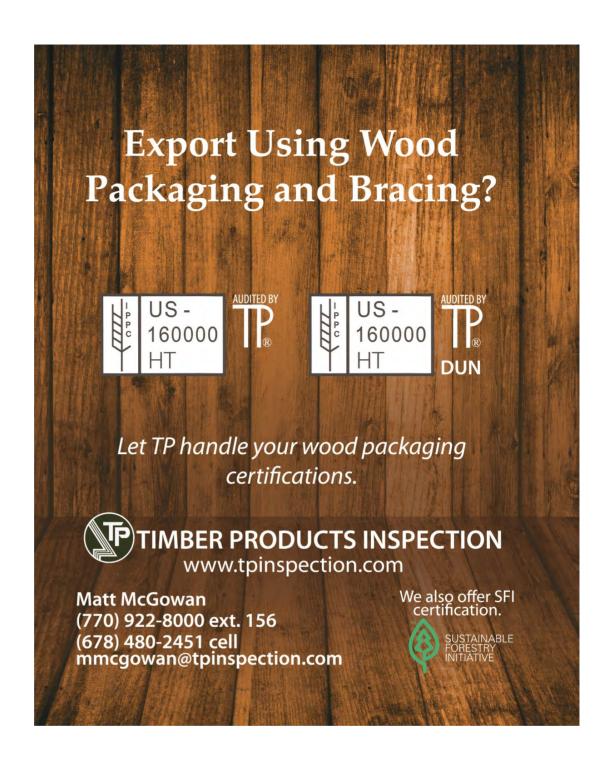
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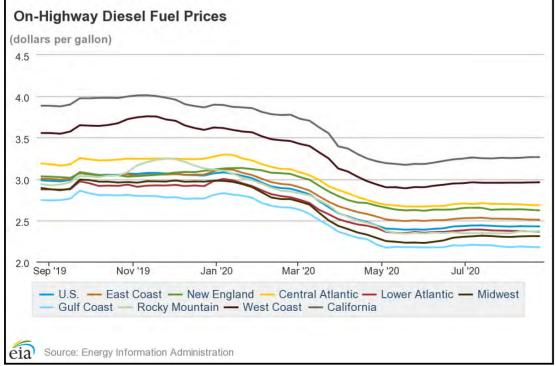


Housing and Fuel Snapshot



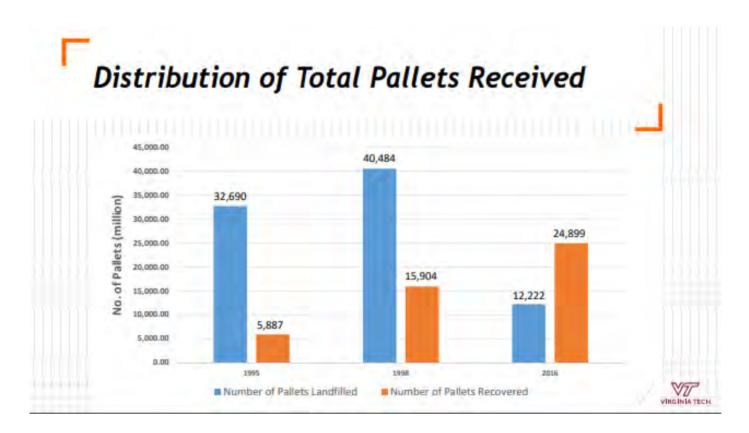


Diesel Fuel: dollars per gallon, as of August 24, 2020.. Source: https://www.eia.gov/ petroleum/gasdiesel/



The Pallet Foundation **Project Focus: Landfill Avoidance**

Grace Johnson, NWPCA Manager, Silvand Vice Relations



Research shows that close to a whopping ninety-five percent of wooden pallets are recycled. We already know that wood pallets are 100% recyclable. Yet, thanks to a research project funded by the Pallet Foundation and the USDA Forest Service. the data shows just how well the wood packaging industry is doing by closing in on zero-waste. The 95% recycle rate of wood pallets is the highest rate when compared to other packaging materials such as plastic, corrugated, or steel.

The 2018 research project, known as the landfill avoidance study, was based on surveys from pallet manufacturing and recycling facilities, and solid waste facilities. Spearheaded by the National difference between arriving at a landfill,

Wooden Pallet and Container Association, NWPCA worked with Virginia Tech to complete comprehensive innovative study to determine how much wood packaging contributes to landfill waste. The results were astounding and revealed the significant progress made in recycling over the past two decades.

The study looked at both municipal and solid waste (MSW) and construction and demolition (C&D) landfill facilities to see how they handle and process wood packaging materials. The initial analysis examined the amount of wood material

Cont'd on Page 14

entering landfills, emphasizing



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Bill Shirbroun President Was Broken Pallet Company, Inc Moorland, IA



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Project Focus: Landfill Avoidance

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entering landfills, emphasizing the difference between arriving at a landfill, and entering a landfill. The data showed that the number of wood pallets entering MSW and C&D landfills shrunk dramatically between 1998 and 2016, decreasing from around 178.5 million in 1998 to 25.39 million in 2016.

Furthermore, the study showed that if wood packaging does make it to a landfill, it is often recovered and reused as a biodegradable material. The results also indicate that since 1998, facilities have increased their wood and wood pallet recovery areas. For MSW facilities, this number increased from 33% to 62% of facilities, while for C&D facilities, the number increased from roughly 27% to 45%. Reports also revealed that nontreated wood and wood pallets are often used as top-cover material for the landfill, using this biodegradable material for a sustainable solution.

In addition to this, the analysis found the number of separated and recycled pallets increased from about 38 million to 41 million. This difference indicates that landfills are expanding their efforts to recover and recycle wood pallets into other valuable products such as mulch, animal bedding, or biofuel.

In other words, wood packaging is the most sustainable choice. The study shows that the increased environmental awareness of companies and the



emerging zero-landfill policies, which prevent companies from sending packaging materials to landfills, are making a difference.

Share the 2018 Landfill Avoidance survey results with your customers, including specific data charts. Visit palletcentral. com/landfillavoidance or naturespackaging.org to learn more.

The Pallet Foundation funds projects, such as the landfill avoidance survey, which benefit the wood packaging industry. Learn more about the foundation at palletcentral.com/palletfoundation.





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Art Lewis Joins Conner Industries As New Vice President Of Sales

Fort Worth, Texas – Conner Industries, Inc. recently introduced Art Lewis III as its Vice President of Sales and newest member of the executive leadership team. In his new role, Lewis will lead the company's sales and business development efforts across all of its product lines, including industrial lumber, custom wood packaging, 3PL services, and engineered packaging.

"With more than 14 years of load securement and protective packaging experience, involvement with one of our major competitors, and over 20 years of combined sales and sales leadership experience, Art brings an enormous amount of value to Conner," says David Dixon, CEO of Conner Industries. "I'm confident that Art is the right person to lead our sales strategy to expand our multiple product lines in current and future markets."

Lewis joins Conner from Maillis Strapping Solutions where he served as the North American General Manager. While there, he developed and implemented new market-facing and industry growth strategies that resulted in double-digit growth and exceeded working capital and operating profit objectives. Prior to that, Lewis was VP of Packaging for Storopack,

where he led sales for 7 plant locations. Lewis also held several leadership positions with Dow Chemical in their Consumer Building Products division and is a certified Six Sigma Green Belt.

"I am honored to join the Conner team in such a pivotal role," says Art Lewis, VP of Sales for Conner Industries. "Conner is well-positioned to gain a significant share of market within the industrial wood and packaging industry, and I'm excited to be a part of that journey."

Conner Industries, Inc. is a leading provider of industrial wood and packaging solutions in the United States. They specialize in supplying cut lumber (softwoods, hardwoods, and products) needed for pallets, crates, and skid parts, fully assembled custom pallets, crates, engineered packaging solutions, and wide variety of services tailored to customer needs. Conner serves customers nationwide from 14 plant locations in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Tennessee, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida. It is headquartered in Fort Worth, TX.



WTO Finds in Canada's Favor in Lumber Dispute

The United States inappropriately applied countervailing duties on Canadian softwood lumber, according to a World Trade Organization (WTO) dispute settlement ruling issued on August 24.

The WTO report came in response to Canada's challenge of the U.S. Commerce Department's imposition of countervailing duties on Canadian softwood lumber in 2017 after the countries failed to reach a new agreement on softwood lumber.

Inits finding, the WTO is asking Commerce to reassess duties imposed on Canadian softwood lumber in a way that conforms with international obligations under the World Trade Agreement. The ruling was strongly rebuked by U.S. government officials and the U.S. Lumber Coalition while being celebrated by Canadian stakeholders and the U.S. homebuilding industry.

"The WTO report could not have come at a more important time," said National Association of Home Builders Chairman Chuck Fowke. "America's homebuilders need a sound trade agreement to ensure a consistent supply of reasonably priced lumber. The WTO ruling could provide the impetus for a resumption of trade talks between the United States and Canada."

In recent months, U.S. homebuilders have experienced a dramatic increase in lumber prices, as strong demand exceeds supply. Since mid-April, prices have increased by more than 130%. As a result, the price of the average new single-family home has risen more than \$16,000, and the price for an average new multifamily unit has gone up over \$6,000.

The WTO ruling was criticized vocally by U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, who said that an erroneous WTO Appellate Body interpretation would shield Canada's "massive lumber subsidies" from U.S. actions such as countervailing duties to support the U.S. softwoodlumberindustry and its workers.

"This flawed report confirms what the United States has been saying for years: the WTO dispute settlement system is being used to shield non-market practices and harm U.S. interests," he said. "The panel's findings would prevent the United States from taking legitimate action in response to Canada's pervasive subsidies for its softwood lumber industry."

A similar response came from the U.S. Lumber Coalition. "While this decision is not binding upon the United States, and thus has no immediate effect on the

Cont'd on Page 18

ongoing Commerce Department proceedings, these deeply flawed WTO

WTO Softwood Ruling Favors Canada

Cont'd from Page 17

ongoing Commerce Department proceedings, these deeply flawed WTO panel reports undermine the credibility of the entire WTO system and are harmful to U.S. workers and their communities who depend on the full and effective enforcement of the U.S. trade laws," said Coalition CoChair Jason Brochu.

Department This was the ninth case before the WTO flawed WTO in the lumber dispute. A different WTO e credibility panel last year largely upheld U.S. antidare harmful dumping duties on Canadian lumber, communities prompting a Canadian appeal.

Extra Large Pallet Designed to Be Cut into Smaller Sizes



The new E3 Pallet is a large pallet, designed to be cut into smaller, more functional pallet sizes for easy repurposing or recycling in warehouses.

DENVER-Johns Manville (JM), a Berkshire Hathaway company and leading building products manufacturer, has announced the release of innovative, new shipping pallet technology called the E3 Pallet™. The new E3 Pallet is a large pallet, designed to be cut into smaller, more functional pallet sizes for easy repurposing or recycling in warehouses.

E3 Pallets™ are manufactured in 4×8' or 4×10' pallet sizes. Historically, pallets this large are very costly to recycle or dispose of, and many businesses are unable to reuse them because of their atypical size. Unlike typical large pallets, the E3 Pallets™ can be easily broken down into smaller sizes using a hand-held circular saw. The 4×8' pallet is designed to be cut into two, 48×48" pallets, and the 4×10' pallet is designed to be cut into pallets, allowing JM three, 40×48" customers to either reuse the pallets in their warehouse or recycle the pallets economically ultimately more decreasing waste at their facilities.

"We named our new technology the E3 Pallet™ because it is efficient, economical. and, since it reduces waste, it is environmentally-friendly," said Brennan Hall, JM's Senior HVAC Product Manager. "For years, we have heard from our customers and distributors that large, 4×8' and 4×10' pallets are incredibly expensive to scrap or recycle, and they lack functionality for warehouse reuse. We wanted to offer a solution that can be either more functional for reuse in warehouses or more economically recycled, depending on the customer's needs. Ultimately, this allows us to offer a more sustainable solution to the industry as a whole. The E3 Pallet™ has the potential to reduce waste all the way to the contractor level."

For more information about E3 Pallet™ Technology, visit www.jm.com/E3Pallet or download the JM E3 Pallet Tech_Instruction Guide.

Vizinex Adds RFID Tags for Container and Pallet Tracking



Vizinex RFID, industry leader developing and manufacturing highperformance RFID tags tailored to specific applications, recently added two tags for non-metal containers to its product line. The 10325 Indoor Pallet and 10326 Outdoor Pallet are for tracking reusable wood and plastic containers and custom transport packaging. The new RFID tags help manage containers and the material they contain and are part of the product line that helps meet a range of challenges for warehouse, yard and factory material tracking.

The 10325 Indoor Pallet tag has a read range up to 18 feet and can be mounted with adhesive or screws. This low-cost tag is ideal for tracking material in containers or on pallets in warehouses, stock rooms and other indoor environments. It offers durable, reliable performance at a very

low cost.

The 10326 Outdoor Pallet tag is waterproof and has a read range of up to 19.7 feet for non-metal containers exposed to indoor and outdoor conditions. This tag offers a durable shell and a low profile, and it can be mounted with the provided adhesive or screws.

Both tags can be labeled (for a modest additional charge) with a barcode or human-readable information so that assets can be easily identified when an RFID reader is not available.

"Vizinex now offers a full line of products for tagging reusable containers and returnable transports items," says Ken Horton, Co-Founder and CEO, Vizinex RFID. "The Midrange II is for metal containers, the 10325 Indoor Pallet and

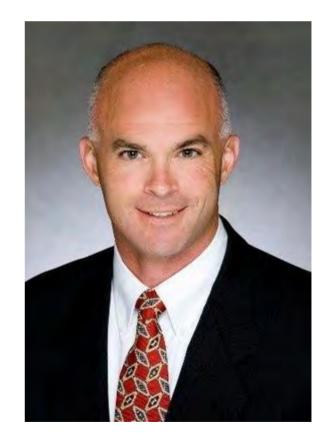
RFID. "The Midrange II is for metal For more information about the 10325 containers, the 10325 Indoor Pallet and Indoor Pallet or 10326 Outdoor Pallet RFID 10326 Outdoor Pallet are for plastic and tag, contact Vizinex at sales@vizinexrfid. wood containers, and the XLR works on com. and off metal when exceptional read range is needed. If you need to track RTIs, we have the tag for you."



iGPS Appoints Rob Ferrentino to Role of Chief Financial Officer

iGPS Logistics, leading plastic shipping pallet rental services provider, has announced the appointment of Rob Ferrentino as Chief Financial Officer. Ferrentino brings more than 28 years' leadership experience to the role.

A Six Sigma Green Belt, Ferrentino has held a variety of C-suite-level positions in finance, accounting, and operations. Most recently he served as CFO at Q1, LLC, a leading logistics solutions provider. Ferrentino also spent eight years at American Road Group (ARG), serving as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer before assuming the role of President in 2016. While at ARG, he spearheaded initiatives that drove business growth while also reducing operating expenses.



Brambles Results: Resilient Perfomance Despite Covid-19 and Related Uncertainty

CHEP Americas enjoyed a 1-percentage point increase in margins and, in Latin America, strong revenue growth and asset efficiency improvements during 2020 Fiscal Year. Overall global sales revenue increased 6% as strong growth in the global pallet businesses more than offset Covid-19 related declines in the Automotive and Kegstar businesses which account for ~5% of Group revenue.

Approximately 80% Brambles' of revenues are derived from customers in the consumer-staples sectors, which are serviced primarily by the pallet businesses. During March and April 2020, the pallet businesses experienced strong levels of customer demand across global grocery supply chains. This demand was driven by lockdown measures introduced in all major markets and subsequent changes in consumer behavior including pantry stockpiling in developed markets and a shift to 'at-home' consumption across all regions. This initial surge in activity was followed by a period of high volatility in demand during May and June 2020 as regions across the globe progressed through different phases of the pandemic.

While revenue growth increased in line with higher pallet volumes, servicing the additional customer demand and managing volatility and disruptions

across Brambles' network led to higher supply-chain costs during the period from March to June 2020. These cost increases largely related to additional transport, handling and repair costs required to ensure continuity of pallet supply while minimizing the level of capital expenditure to service these temporary spikes in customer demand.

Brambles' Automotive containers and Kegstar keg-pooling businesses, which account for approximately 5% of Group revenue, were significantly impacted by Covid-19. Customer demand in the Automotive business was impacted by the global automotive closure of the manufacturing industry while in Kegstar, lockdown laws significantly reduced 'onpremise' consumption of beer in served markets from March to June 2020. Collectively, fourth-quarter revenues in the Automotive and Kegstar businesses decreased 50% on the prior corresponding period, reducing Group Underlying Profit growth by US\$23.0 million or 3-percentage points.

Brambles remains committed to its US supply chain efficiency targets despite delays in rolling out service-center automation during the fourth quarter of FY20 due to Covid-19 travel restrictions. Implementation of US service center automation recommenced in July 2020

"Our FY20 result is testament to the efforts of our people, the agility of our network and the resilience of our businesses which serve customers in the consumer-staples sectors"

Graham Chipchase

and Brambles expects to meet its original efforts of our people, the agility of our FY21 implementation targets, including the completion of site upgrades delayed during FY20, assuming no further travel restrictions due to Covid-19.

Commenting **FY20** on the Brambles' CEO, Graham Chipchase, said: "Our purpose as a company is to connect people with life's essentials every day and this has never been more important than now. I am extremely proud of the critical role our people have played in keeping supply chains open. They have significant challenges overcome provide customers with an uninterrupted supply of pallets, crates and containers to ensure the flow of essential goods to consumers around the world.

network and the resilience of our businesses which serve customers in the consumer-staples Notsectors. withstanding and the operational financial challenges associated with result Covid-19, sales revenue and Underlying Profit growth were in line with guidance. addition. we delivered on commitment to increase US margins by one percentage point in the year while also improving asset efficiency and cost recoverability in Latin America."

> Chipchase also emphasized the company's sustainability achievements, including 100% sustainably sourced lumber and 30% female representation in leadership positions at the Board and management level.

"Our FY20 result is testament to the

Scott Group Acquires Direct Pallets



Bedfordshire-based business Direct Pallets Ltd in a strategic deal that will deliver additional reconditioned pallet capacity in the prime industrial areas around Luton and beyond.

The acquisition of Direct Pallet will expand customer access to the range of sustainable pallet solutions available from our existing pallet businesses; Scott Pallets and HLC (part of the Scott Group).

"From our unique national network, our pallet businesses are ideally positioned to offer security of supply and support to customers in all parts of the UK, across a wide range of industry sectors," Scott Group stated in a release.

UK-based Scott Group has acquired The £7m Direct Pallet business supplies around 30,000 reconditioned pallets per week, from an exceptionally well located and invested five-acre site that will add capacity in the heartland of England's southern industrial belt.

> "We were delighted to reach a deal with brothers Shaun and Kevin McBride who have successfully grown the business over the last 20 plus years," stated Kevin McNeilly, Managing Director at Scott Pallets, reconditioned business unit. "They were determined to secure a new owner for the company who would be ready to operate from the current site and shared similar family values, thereby safeguarding their loyal employees, customer service, and supply security.

Cont'd on Page 24

Scott Group Acquires Direct Pallets

Cont'd from Page 23

"Direct Pallets is a well-invested business, and the exceptional five-acre site complements our growing national network, so the fit was good. Our companies deliver combined will enhanced security of supply through access to our well-established pallet supply chain. Customers will also benefit Direct Pallets was founded in 1997, and from our exceptional combined in-house industry knowledge and competence.

"Together, we will deliver industryleading, innovative service developments to support our customers, particularly relation their in to sustainability and environmental objectives, by offering a mix of new and reconditioned pallets as well as our unique recovery service."

like Scott Pallets is a family-owned technical business. Its 40 employees will transfer across to Scott Pallets and will trade as Scott Pallets with immediate effect.



Tosca Has Finalized Its Acquisition of **Contraload NV**

Tosca, an innovator in reusable packaging and supply chain solutions and leading RPC rental service in North America,, has finalized the acquisition of Contraload NV, a leader in plastic pallet pooling in the United Kingdom and European Union.



The acquisition of Contraload enables Tosca to service supply chains end to end, from the first mile to the last mile. It also expands Tosca's geographic reach and increases its product portfolio. Together the combined company offers customers more flexibility and better service.

Hyster's New Lithium-ion, Higher Capacity Lift Truck



Hyster Company has introduced the new **Hyster®** J155-190XNL series. the industry's first sit-down counterbalanced lift truck with factory integrated 350-volt lithium-ion power in the 15,500 to 19,000 capacity The pound range. J155-170XNSL, J175XNL36 and J190XNL provide a zero emission alternative for heavy-duty, higher-capacity applications both indoors and out, avoiding the need to operate extra lift trucks only for certain environments.

"While heavy-duty lifting applications have long relied on internal combustion engines (ICE), green initiatives and government regulations have made an electric option increasingly attractive," says Martin Boyd, Vice President, Product Planning and Solutions, Hyster Company. "Lithium-ion power has key attributes

that make it well-suited to electrify higher-capacity trucks, allowing customers to get the performance they need and meet sustainability targets."

The high-voltage lithium-ion battery paired with efficient, high-power electric motors delivers performance comparable to an ICE, and maintains efficient, consistent power delivery throughout the full battery charge. The battery is sealed and has no maintenance requirements, offering faster charging and a longer overall battery cycle life than typical lead-acid batteries. The battery can fully charge in less than 90 minutes using the required charger and can also be opportunity charged, allowing operators to plug in whenever convenient to help increase truck run time.



LPR's New Midlands Service Center



opened its first Midlands depot -Coventry. The site, capable of processing 4 million pallets per annum, is operated in the future." by James Jones & Sons (Pallets & Packaging) Limited on behalf of LPR and will enable the specialist pallet pooler to achieve its double-digit, year on year, growth.

This brand new site is the culmination of more than 18 months of hard work by the team, led by Simon Wood, Operations Director, to ensure that the site and operating capacity will provide both future-proofing reinforce its and extensive coverage.

"We have been working with LPR for many years, and during this time we have used our experience and expertise to support their exceptional growth," said Gil Covey, Non- Executive Chairman at James Jones & Sons (Pallets and Packaging) Limited. "The decision by LPR to award James Jones & Sons the contract to operate the Coventry depot clearly demonstrates

During July 2020, LPR UK & Ireland LPR's culture of building long term relationships and partnership working. We look forward to further supporting LPR

> "The new Midlands depot is the jewel in the LPR UK & Ireland crown and I can't wait to welcome our partners and customers to this flagship depot - once Government guidelines allow us to do so!" commented Simon Wood, Operations Director at LPR UK & Ireland.

> "I couldn't be happier to be able to announce this great news during these uncertain times," added Adrian Fleming, LPR Managing Director Region North. "The team at LPR UK & Ireland has worked tirelessly to secure this new site to not only support our growth plans but also to ensure that we are in a position to service our customers when and where they need us."

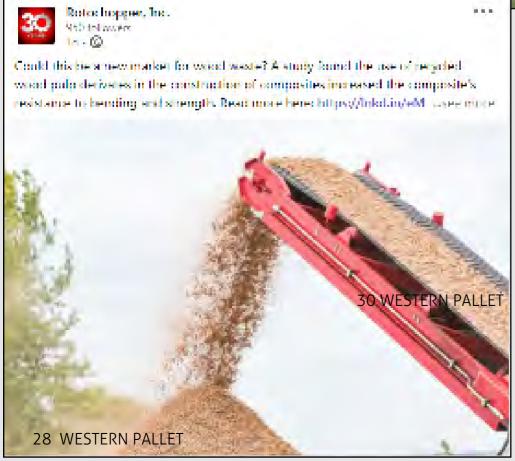


Social Media Roundup

What's new in social? Click on images to check.

To share your company's social post, email to newsdesk @westernpallet.org







Softwood Lumber Prices Continue Rising as US Home Building, Sales, and Prices Increase Sharply

Madison's Lumber Reporter advises North American forest products manufacturers to put on their seatbelts, as the latest housing market data indicates no stop to relentlessly rising softwood lumber prices any time soon, Currently, sawmills in Canada and the US simply can not keep up with ongoing very strong demand for house construction in both countries.

While some builders and contractors are beginning to hold off on projects in anticipation of the usual autumn slow-down in demand for building materials, others are committed to construction already started and can do nothing but place orders for much-needed wood.

As stated in the past few weeks: it is delivery times rather than price which determine whether an order for lumber will be closed. Customers continue to vigorously search throughout the supply chain for even small quantities of necessary lumber, despite having to wait more than a month for materials to arrive at job sites.

FULL STORY: https://lnkd.in/d8Uv-mp

#sawmill #softwood #lumber #housing #ushousing #building #construction #housing

Madison's Weekly Softwood Lumber Movers & Shakers



August 21, 2020

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---- +109



Thibault Goulin • 1st

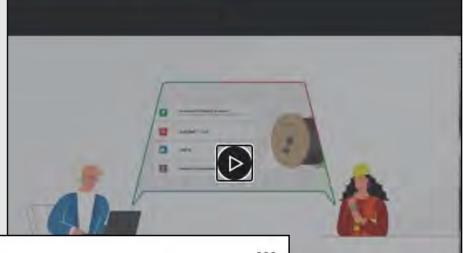
Head of Digital Solutions @ Nexans 17h • Edited • ❤

During this summer we extended our #connecteddrums offer with new customers in Canada, Sweden, Brasil, Chili, China, Turkey and Russia.

Due to the Covid19 our customers need to look closer at their stocks, operations and supply chain services. They can no longer afford to lose these packagings and the products stored on them.

(Re)discover in this small video how we use #IOT to transform our reels into an #augmenteddrums that tell you where it is, how many cable length is still on it, send automatic reports and help you clean your site thanks to automatic pick up services.

#Nexans #services #IOT #connecteddrums





Laszlo Horvath • 1st

Director at Center for Packaging and Unit Load Design, Virginia Tech

My new graduate student Jorge Masis getting ready to quantify the damaged experienced by used stringer class wooden pallets. The goal of the research is to update the pallet durability testing process by changing the tests conducted to more accurately reflect real-life scenarios and damages that pallets, unit loads and packages experience. The current simulations were developed based on data obtained in the 70's thus more up to date information can help us better estimate the life of pallets. The research is funded by the Industrial Affiliate Membership program of the Center for Packaging and Unit Load Design.



#VT #CPULD #PalletLife #Research #handsonhokies #G0020





The Membership Drive Is On!

It's time to renew your WPA membership for 2020-2021. Watch your mail for an exciting updates about the Association and your invoice. You can renew by sending the invoice back by mail or email or even faster - renew online!

WPA welcomed 39 new members last year! This year's membership drive is now underway, and as always, the competition will be intense.

In addition to valuable cash prizes, the winner now also receives the membership plaque, presented at the Annual Meeting. With the highly successful 2020 Annual Meeting now in the books, it is time to work toward 2021. (Be sure to save the date - January 15-19, 2021)

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Upcoming Events

10/9/2020 - 10/10/2020 EXPO Richmond, Richmond, Virginia https://www.exporichmond.com/ Postponed until May 21-22, 2021.

11/8/2020 - 11/11/2020 PACK EXPO Connects (Digital) www.packexpointernational.com

1/15/2021 - 1/19/2021 WPA Annual Meeting, Rancho Mirage, California www.westernpallet.org

3/3/2021 - 3/5/2021, NWPCA Annual Leadership Conference & Expo, Orlando, Florida www.palletcentral.com

In case you missed them... (Click on back issues to read or download)









