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INSIDE VT WOOD

Reminder...

Remember to submit department news items by Friday 3 p.m. of each week to Will Pfeil at wpfeil@vt.edu for inclusion in Inside VT WOOD each Monday morning. All past issues of Inside VT Wood reside on our department website under the [publications link](#).

News From Paul Winistorfer

- We welcome to our program Dr. Marc-André Gonin and his wife Erika. Dr. Gonin joins us from Bern University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland. Bern University is the alma mater of Dr. Buehlmann, who is hosting Dr. Gonin. Marc-Andre ha an office at Brooks and will be working among us these six months. We have featured Dr. Gonin and Erika as a special Visiting Scientist Spotlight in this issue. Dr. Gonin will be presenting a seminar to our department in the coming month. Welcome Dr. Gonin and Erika to Virginia Tech.
- Student input needed for Wood WEEK 2009 Planning Committee. I am recruiting 3 undergraduate students to work on a planning committee with me and faculty and staff for WOOD WEEK 2009 activities. If you don't know about WOOD WEEK go to the WOOD WEEK website on our department homepage for information on past WOOD WEEK events. If you are an undergraduate student and are interested, please send me an email by Friday February 20th at pstorfer@vt.edu
- The Wood Enterprise Institute (WEI) is coming to our curriculum! After two successful special studies summer offerings, The Wood Enterprise Institute will be a formal course offering in our department beginning fall semester 2009. This academic year experience is a concept to market business project. Watch for information as registration for fall approached in March. The draft catalog description reads as follows:

Concept to market business project applied to the wood products industry. Wood product design based on consumer need. Writing a business plan including, product development and marketing, strategic planning, production planning, technology utilized, packaging and distribution to final market. 3446: Student run teams and experiential learning to organize and deploy the project according to a business plan, measure key performance areas, and manage the quality of the product and process value streams necessary to create a profitable business.

Seminar This Week — Planning For and Making Spectacular Presentation Posters!

Will Pfeil, web and print media specialist in the department will be presenting in Graduate Seminar on Wednesday Feb. 18th at 1:00 pm in the Brooks Classroom. The title of Will's presentation is "Planning for and Making Spectacular Presentation Posters!" All are welcome!



Marc-André and Erika at the lake of Biel, Switzerland, a well-know wine-making region

Marc-André Gonin has joined the Department as a visiting scientist for the next 6 months. Marc-André is vice president and professor of the Department of Architecture, Wood and Civil Engineering of Bern University of Applied Sciences located in Biel, Switzerland. He specializes in the management of technology and business strategy for manufacturing and start-up companies and is the head of research and development of the University of Applied Sciences. Marc-André started his career as

a cabinet-maker, followed by an industrial engineering degree from the Swiss School for the Wood Industry, Biel and an executive MBA from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne. His background includes 15 years as an industry executive.

Bern University of Applied Sciences is an educational and research institution in Switzerland with 6,000 students and numerous applied research groups. The University specializes in collaborative research and development projects with industry and government partners. One of the more recent results from such partnerships is a system, called Wood Welding, where surface vibration is used to “weld” wood pieces together. Other successful efforts include the use of robots for wood components manufacturing, ultrasonic thermoplastic dowel connector systems, and glueing systems for glass on wooden window frames.

Marc-André will be studying the United States’ research system with particular emphasis on collaborative industry-government funded research projects in the area of design and planning technology. He is also interested in the use of virtual design and its influence on business strategy. Moreover, Marc-André is also looking forward to enhancing his professional network, learning more about individual faculties’ and students’ research efforts and in discussing areas of potential trans-Atlantic collaboration.

Erika, Marc-André’s wife, will use their stay in Blacksburg to advance her understanding of American people and culture. Plans of the couple include several trips throughout the Unites States as well as visits to other research institutions. Marc-André will be located in the Brooks Center and he is looking forward to learning more from us about the Department and Virginia Tech.

18th Annual National Capital Region Job Fair

Presented by the Virginia Tech Alumni Association, NCR Chapter

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

3:00pm – 7:00pm

What are you looking for? New career, stability, opportunity, more responsibility? Find it at the 18th Annual National Capital Region Job Fair at the Northern Virginia Center, 7054 Haycock Road, Falls Church, VA (adjacent to the West Falls Church - VT/UVA Metro Station). More than 60 professional and high tech companies from Virginia, Maryland and DC will be recruiting for all levels and disciplines. No cost to attend and all job seekers are welcome! Parking is very limited so please take Metro to the West Falls Church VT/UVA Station (Orange Line). Professional dress is required. Come early to enjoy the best opportunities to speak with recruiters!

If it has been a while since you attended a job fair then plan to join us at the “How to Make the Most of a Job Fair” Session at 2:00pm. Learn how to work the room, what to say to employers, and what they’ll expect to hear from you!

Be sure to register online and submit your resume by March 5th. Visit the web site for more information and a complete list of participating companies: www.ncrhokies.org/2009jobfair

First Accoya Wood Traffic Bridge Successfully Installed

source: http://www.titanwood.com/news_details.asp?news=56

On Saturday November 29th, the successful transportation and installation of the world’s first heavy traffic road bridge made from Accoya® wood took place. The bridge, located in Sneek in the Netherlands, is the first wooden bridge in the world that can support the heaviest load class of 60 tons. An official opening ceremony and celebration is planned for April 15, 2009.

Spanning 105 feet and rising more than 50 feet in the air, this impressive structure will serve as a beautiful grand entrance to the city of Sneek. The €3.5 million bridge was commissioned after a 2005 design competition, and is designed by OAK Architects (a collaboration between Achterbosch Architectuur and Onix architects) and constructed by German firm Schaffitzel Holzindustrie.

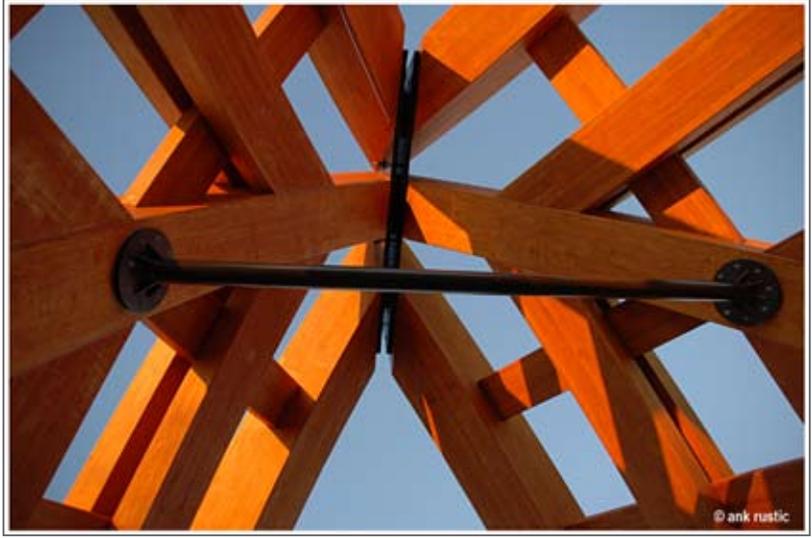


When designing their masterpiece, OAK Architects specified Accoya® wood because of its many benefits, including high strength to weight ratio, enhanced durability and dimensional stability, non-toxicity and aesthetics. The wood used in the bridge’s dramatic design not only makes it look impressive but performs also the important function of bearing the traffic load.

Accoya® wood, which is produced only from source-certified sustainable species, including FSC, was specified after a thorough testing and verification process. Project Manager, Sieds Hoitinga, said, “Several independent European research institutes were contracted to test Accoya® wood’s suitability for this project. After rigorous testing, we found that its dimensional stability and incredible durability put it head and shoulders above

other species and showed that it is suitable for laminating in large sections measuring 1080 x 1400 mm. Accoya® wood also has superior UV resistance, is non-toxic and made from sustainably grown timber and these things were also considerations”.

Wood, such as Accoya®, naturally sequesters carbon, helping to combat the effects of global warming. Due to its extended usable-life, Accoya® wood sequesters carbon for



much longer than ordinary wood species, helping architects and builders to minimize the carbon footprint of their projects.

Akkerwinde, as the wooden bridge is known, represents a milestone, not only for Titan Wood but also for the international building and civil engineering community as a whole. Finlay Morrison, CEO of Titan Wood, said, “Accoya® wood represents a new era in building technology. We are taking a

traditional building material and improving it, which allows it to be used in new and innovative ways. Accoya® wood, a green product through and through, allows builders and architects to think out of the box, while at the same time doing their part for the environment.”

See more photos of Akkerwinde bridge on Flickr - [here](#) and [here](#).

Andrew Jackson’s Table (Work In Progress)



Burruss 123A — See Ralph for more details.

CAREERS IN CORRUGATED: SUSTAINING YOUR FUTURE



ICPF'S TENTH ANNUAL CAREERS IN CORRUGATED INTERNATIONAL TELECONFERENCE FOR STUDENTS & FACULTY

LIVE INDUSTRY BRIEFING

From the Michigan State University Television Studios, East Lansing, Michigan

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009

2:00 - 4:00 PM EST

1:00 - 3:00 PM CST

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM PST

The International Corrugated Packaging Foundation Teleconference works to make career opportunities in corrugated packaging and display more accessible to participating students through presentations that make them more knowledgeable of the industry.

This tenth annual video teleconference, beamed live from Michigan State University studios across the United States, will further educate students and faculty about elements of the industry's sustainability, with industry panelists covering such topics as the life cycle analysis of the corrugated industry, calculating the carbon footprint of a box, an evaluation of virgin vs. recycled content, and an outline of various tools utilized in designing and implementing more sustainable packaging.

2009 PARTICIPANTS

Appalachian State University • Cal Poly State University • Christian Brothers University
Dunwoody College of Technology • Clemson University • Iowa State University • Maryland Institute College of Art
Michigan State University • Millersville University • Northwest Arkansas Community College
North Carolina A&T State University • Pennsylvania College of Technology • Rutgers University
San Jose State University • Thaddeus Stevens College • University of Florida
University of Wisconsin-Stout • VA Tech & State University • Western Michigan University

Careers in Corrugated: Sustaining Your Future!

www.careersincorrugated.org

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

ICPF Careers in Corrugated International Teleconference

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

2:00 PM- 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time

2:00 PM-2:10 PM Welcome & School Recognition

2:10 PM-2:55 PM Panel Presentations:

► **Rachel Kenyon, Director Industry Relations, Fibre Box Association -**

"Life Cycle Analysis of the Corrugated Industry"

To include latest life cycle inventory results, life cycle impact assessment results and long-term trends of key factors such as climate change, energy and water.

► **George D'Urso, Director, Global Sustainability, Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation -**

"Responding to the Recycled Content Question"

An industry look at questions related to recycled content within corrugated packaging. Is "more" better with this renewable packaging material? This is an overview of the corrugated industry's complex supply chain, its history, current practices and future considerations.

► **Joe Hodges, Manager of Sustainability and Test Lab Services, Mid-Atlantic Packaging, Inc. -**

"Sustainability as an Independent Corrugated Converter; What We've Always Done, Spoken Differently"

2:55 PM - 3:25 PM Student question and answer period

3:25 PM - 3:30 PM Introduction "Best of the Best" Competition

3:35 PM - 3:55 PM Student Competition Final "Show, Tell and Sell" Presentations

"Best of the Best" design competition among four student teams, representing Cal Poly State and Clemson University that won AICC's top student design awards in two categories this past year.

3:35 PM - 3:40 PM Category - Design to a Problem

Cal Poly Team #1 - Chelsey Wood and Troy Nelson

"The Perfect Palletizer"

3:40 PM - 3:45 PM Category - Design to a Problem

Cal Poly Team #2 - Kevin Roberts and Aric Krasowski

"Poly Dental Pallet Display"

3:45 PM - 3:50 PM Category - Open Design

Clemson Team - Kristen Jackson and Kelly Feight

"Clemson Gift Box"

3:50 PM - 3:55 PM Category - Open Design

Cal Poly Team #3 - Gianni Donati and John Howard

"Poly Pitches"

3:55 PM - 4:00 PM Judging, Announcement of Winners, Award Presentations and Broadcast Sign-off

Careers in Corrugated: Sustaining Your Future!

www.careersincorrugated.org