



Also Serving – Interior Logging Association (ph 250-503-2199) & North West Loggers Association (ph 250-635-6801)

Issue # 540 Week of December 4, 2009

Update on bio-diesel

The BC government has recognized that a high percentage of bio content in diesel could be a problem for new engine warranties and operation of older engines. The BC Trucking Association lobbied government for more than a year to adjust its bio-diesel policy to the need of the market, and we're hearing that fuel suppliers are doing the same. A quick survey of area bulk fuel suppliers indicates that they have no plans to bring in bio-diesel in the immediate future, and certainly not where it gets cold. One went so far as to say they won't be selling it north of Williams Lake. So you won't have to worry about it for this winter season at least.

The provincial mandate of a 5% average of bio content in fuel sold kicks in Jan 1, 2010. The southern part of the province may see higher percentages of bio content while the north has none, in order to average it out. At any rate, suppliers will be required to let you know if there is bio content in your fuel, with a label that says "may contain up to 5% bio fuel", or B5.

If you do end up with bio-diesel, be aware that it has solvent properties, and you'll need to change your fuel filter after about a week of use.

Further information on warranty and operational issues will be forwarded as it becomes available.

CILA board meeting

The CILA Board of Directors meeting is set for Jan 15, 2010 10am – 2pm at the Museum Board Room. CILA members, check your weekly update next week for further details.

TLA convention

Due to scheduling conflicts, the TLA's convention has been shortened to two days only, Jan 20 and 21. For more details go to www.tla.ca



250-564-4401 or toll free 1-800-663-5581

Mark's Workwearhouse cards

Mark's Discount cards have been going out the door like crazy – over 1,000 this week! CILA members, let us know this week how many cards you need (for yourself and your employees) so we can get them out to you before Christmas. Call 1-877-562-5668 or maryanne@cila.ca

The cards are proving so popular that the ILA and NWLA are joining the program. ILA and NWLA members can contact their own association offices to get cards sent to them.

Membership – What's in it for you?

CILA 2010 membership packages will be hitting mailboxes in the next few weeks as we gear up for a very busy year in terms of issues to deal with, legislative changes, projects, and geared up member services. Keep your eyes open for your packages and take a look at the advantages and return on your investment in a CILA membership.



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News from around the industry

Small-scale log salvagers will be able to get salvage permits within a few days instead of the previous four weeks under policy changes announced this week by Forests Minister Pat Bell. The goal is to process permit applications in two working days following any necessary First Nations consultation, Bell said. About 800 salvage loggers harvest 1.3 million cubic meters of logs each year.

Canfor says it will decide in mid-December whether to restart its Chetwynd sawmill with one shift per day sometime next May. In a side agreement with Canfor, mill workers voted recently on a different compensation model that includes profit-sharing. Contract talks between mills and the Steelworkers Union are still unresolved. The union wants wage increases and a shorter contract, while forest companies are seeking concessions.

Unionized workers at the Eurocan pulp and kraft paper mill in Kitimat support buying the operation West Fraser wants to close down the end of next month. Earlier, Forests Minister Pat Bell said a Chinese company is examining the mill's financial records with a view to possibly purchasing it.

Canfor Pulp plans to spend more than \$140 million (\$122 million it's getting from federal green subsidies) on several projects to produce electricity and reduce the environmental impact of its Prince George mills. A company spokesman said the main focus is to reduce fine particulate air pollution and odors.

Shares of forest companies with export opportunities to China have been gaining strength over the past two months in the wake of announcements that Chinese building codes will allow for more wood construction. Since Oct. 1, Interfor shares are up 58%, Canfor's are up 31% and West Fraser shares are up 28%.

Quesnel fuel workshop tomorrow

The last of our Fuel Efficiency workshops for the fall season goes tomorrow morning 8am-noon at the Tower Inn, Quesnel. If you want to attend but haven't yet registered, just show up.

Coffee and muffins will be waiting.
