



GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT FOR 2008 – 2009 IN BRIEF

At the beginning of 2008 it was decided by the committee that we needed a more formalised and structured approach to what projects WADIC would be involved in over the ensuing year.

The Top Five Priorities for WADIC, at the time of the meeting in August 2008 to undertake in the immediate future were sort. During a meeting held on the 18th of September 2008 by teleconference, as a result of the long list of activities received, a priority listing of projects that WADIC should or could be involved in was formulated. Sub committees were subsequently set up to drive the priorities identified. Budgets for each of these activities were decided on at the “Exceptional WADIC Committee Meeting” held on 24th September 2008. Along with the 5 top priorities other projects were identified and undertaken. Below are listed the projects and their status.

1. **Energy** – The Energy Software Tool being worked on and is going through an evaluation process. This has proved to be tedious and time consuming but progress is still being made. WADIC intends to continue to push to have this resolved at the earliest possible time.
2. **Website** – A new website was set up by David Higgenbottom for no charge. The website is experiencing up to and over 10,000 hits a month. The current membership is updated regularly, as well as articles of interest and news
3. **Membership** – Is now on the increase as reported earlier. In November financial Membership reported approximately 90 members and 48 licenses. As of June 2009 we had 106 members and 78 Licenses.

The WADIC EcoSummit was held in July 08 with over 100 attendees during the course of the 2 day conference. Following this the committee identified the urgent need for forums to take WADIC to the members and as a result the GM and the President travelled to SA & VIC and held one in SA and two in VIC in February 2009. Over 30 attended in SA and 68 in VIC. NSW held a forum in Sydney for WADIC's 9 year anniversary and 80 attended including foundation members and passed and present GM's and Committee members.

4. **Manual** - The Manual is now able to be printed and compiled by others. It was undertaken by the GM early 2009 to compile the manual in such a way that it could be loaded on a memory stick and printed by an external printer. The printing, purchase of accessories including the Building Standard AS2047, coloured paper and dividers resulted in significant cost savings in producing the manuals now at \$210.00 per manual.
5. **Timber Windows and Doors Design Specification Manual** is reaching completion with funding for publication yet to be sort.
6. **Timber Certification** – Concerns were voiced by committee members involved in timber supply in regards particularly to the FSC system of certification and its complexity and perceived monopoly to the exclusion of PEFC (in Europe), MTCC (in Asia and Malaysia) CSA & SFI (Canada) and others. As a result committee members have attended presentations and information sessions. included the CEO's of FSC (Forest Stewardship Certification), AFCS (Australian Forest Certification Scheme) and FWPA.

The TDA invited WADIC to participate on the Product Stewardship Group for the Australian Government to develop a Code of Conduct for sourcing legally harvested timber and wood products. This Group included associations like Qld Timber Importers, ATIF, Engineered Wood Products, NAFI and of course the TDA. **2009 - 2010** Since then WADIC has brought together support to sit on the **Subcommittee for Legally Logged Timber** and is spearheading a group which WADIC will represent along with one other representative. They include FIAA, DWVA, TMA, TABMA.

7. **Financial Claims** – Have been minimized by heavy negotiations on behalf of WADIC by the President and Public Officer with a very successful outcome.
8. **OH&S for South Australia, VIC & NSW** Audits promoted at WADIC forums by David Jones of TABMA have proven successful and taken up by at least 21 of the attendees.
9. **WADIC has participated in a Bush Fire Test** with the TDA involving WRC Timber which has yet to come to a conclusion.
10. **Myob** – Myob 18 software was purchased in April 2009 and is now up to date and running with WADIC accounts.
11. **Cost Savings** – Review of the Westpac Fees and Charges was undertaken and reconfigured and Budgets are in place
12. **Tafe Training** – During the recent Forums in VIC the GM and President attended a moderators Council at NMIT (North Melbourne Institute of Tafe). A

submission has been put by WADIC to the Dept of Education regarding concerns and changes proposed for the new National Units for Joiners.

13. **Modernisation of Awards** – Submissions were put to the Government by the TMA and the TTIA with additional comments from WADIC on their members behalf.
14. **Worldskills** - WADIC has supplied and committed to supplying timber to future “Skillaroo competitors”.

PROJECTS FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS

Energy Software – Funding to be sort. Researching WADIC’s participation to deliver training and implementation of the program

Timber Technical Manual – Proposal to be formulated to access funding for printing

Future Projects with the FWPA – yet to be decided on.

Illegally Logged Timber – completion of the participation on the Product Stewardship Group to develop a Code of Conduct for sourcing legally harvested timber and wood products for the Australian Government. Lobbying to sit on the Subcommittee **for Illegally Logged Timber** by bringing together other associations within the industry. WADIC to lead the way in a bid to “galvanize” the timber industry and formulate a body that will be representative of all the sub sectors of the timber industry.

News Articles and Wadic Newsletters – WADIC will continue to work closely with the media to raise the profile of WADIC.

Forums – Continue to roll out forums in each member’s state once a year and to keep the membership well informed of all the changes that will impact on their business.

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