

Info **33** (Feb 2003)

QUALITY

Alternative Structures has been promoting "QUALITY" for some time now. We would like to put our money where our mouth is.

Please tell us how we fare on the following:

- (1) Order taking? (2) Product quality including print quality?
- (3) Order dispatch & follow-up? (4) Invoicing & Statements?

Statistics for 2002 (Mr Angus Currie - SAWPA): **Total treatment (Poles & Sawn timber) up by 14% (a new record - previous highest was 825,000m³ in 1997). Total value was mR1,103 (2001: mR883). Pole volumes increased by 7% to 545,000m³ and mR413.**

Energy consumption to produce the different materials: **The figures scream a loud message! We should promote the use of Treated Wood much more!!!**

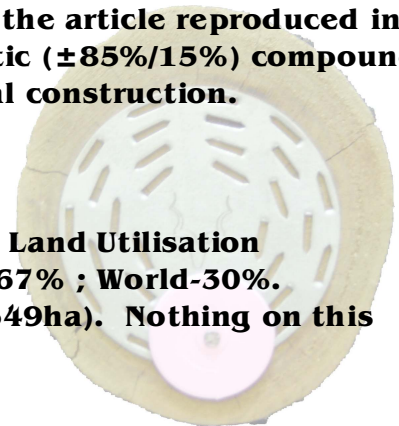
Material	Energy used	As multiple of Treated Wood
Wood	580 kWh	--
Treated Wood	640 kWh	0.0
Plastic	3,480 kWh	5.4
Steel	13,920 kWh	21.8
Aluminium	73,080 kWh	114.2

Figures supplied by Dr Greaves - Australia.

Omnico-colour (used mainly as a Eskom quality release mechanism) is available for all. Now we have a Pink Omnicolour which is used by a big Treater as his label for a Reject Pole. Could we make it a Industry Standard? Refer to photograph at bottom right.

Bad news? Or just a reminder for us to increase quality, availability and awareness by the general public of Treated Wood? I am talking about the article reproduced in SAWPA newsletter 73 of March 2002. **Big growth of Wood/Plastic (±85%/15%) compound extrusions used for Decks, Window frames, Fencing and general construction.**

More statistics: (South African Forests Facts 1999/2000): **Land Utilisation comparisons: RSA-1.1% ; European Union-29% ; Japan-67% ; World-30%. Afforestation in 1999/2000 was only 2,751ha!! ('93/'94 was 18,649ha). Nothing on this statistics sheet looks good.**



Interesting News!!? Please contact me with your stories or information that should be shared with your colleagues.

Rondo-Grip's!
They look great & work fantastic!!!

Philip Boardman 012 653-5111 or 082 554-9508