

Specialty Ingredients

Press Release



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Arch Wood Seminar Promotes Wood Preservation in East Africa

7 July 2015, Port Shepstone – The East African wood preservation industry and its partner, Arch Wood Protection South Africa, have taken a giant leap forward in the promotion of quality treated timber in East Africa.



A seminar - 'The Future of the Utility Pole in East Africa' - was presented by the Tanalised™ team at Arch, together with the Kenyan Wood Preservers Association and local distributor Express Company Limited, on the 25th of June in Nairobi, Kenya with the vision to set in motion a series of steps to improve the quality of treated timber and ultimately increase the lifespan of utility poles.

Doug Sayce, General Manager of Arch Wood Protection South Africa, explains the decision behind the hosting of the seminar, "Wood preservation in East Africa is a dynamic and growing industry that plays a significant role in infrastructure projects, employment and economic growth in rural areas. There is therefore a need for the wood industry to ensure the continued and sustainable long-term growth of treated timber".

The seminar was aimed at looking for ways to improve the quality of wood preservation treatment in East Africa, particularly the treatment of transmission poles. It focused on the

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timber treatment process and the importance of quality control in the treating plant environment, and also touched on the contentious issue around the perception that treated poles did not deliver the desired product life span. This provided a valuable opportunity for Arch to unveil some of the tools in its battery of resources to improve quality control.



(L-R) Willie Conradie – Director at Timberlife, Kesun Govender - Operations Manager at Arch Wood Protection, Godfrey Ali - Chairman of the Kenya Wood Preservers Association, Daryll Ehrke - Export Manager at Arch Wood Protection, Jayne Kilonzo - Sawmill Manager at Finlays, Rory Milne - Sales Manager Southern & East Africa at Arch Wood Protection

The seminar was well attended by business owners, treatment plant managers, wood scientists, certification bodies and the end-users of treated poles. An important participant in the seminar was Annie Gatukui, the Supply Chain Manager, Logistics at the Kenya Power & Lighting Company, who impressed upon the participants to make a concerted effort to improve the service life of utility poles.

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*Annie Gatukui, the Supply Chain Manager,
Logistics at the Kenya Power & Lighting Company*

Godfrey Ali, Chairman of the Kenya Wood Preservers Association (KWPA), said, “The seminar was very informative and well organized. The presentations were impactful and delivered powerful tools to equip us to take on the treated timber market. It could not have come at a better time than this”.

Daryll Ehrke, Export Manager at Arch Wood Protection, concluded, “This is the first seminar of its kind to bring industry players in East Africa together, and we are pleased with the positive feedback received. Developing a long-term sustainable treatment industry, the acknowledgement by the local industry that there is a need to improve the standard and quality of treated poles, and the understanding that customers will use more timber poles if they can be assured of the long-term performance of treated timber are among the positive outcomes of the seminar that we believe will have a positive impact on the future of wood preservation in East Africa”.

Ends.

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About Arch Wood Protection (not for editorial use)

Arch Wood Protection specializes in products for the industrial pre-treatment and surface protection of wood and has global operations in North and South America, Europe, key markets in Africa, the Middle East and Asia Pacific. Arch Wood Protection's approach to business is characterized by innovative products, valued brands and exceptional customer service, including:

- The broadest range of industrial wood treatments in the world
- Products which improve the performance of wood, one of the world's most sustainable natural resources
- Treatments which make wood resistant to termites, fungi, mold, fire and moisture
- Products which sustain the natural appearance of wood
- Engineering and marketing services to help customers grow
- Broad global regulatory expertise and world-class toxicology and analytical chemistry skills, offering customers solutions that contribute to the sustainability of their own products and services
- Many products that satisfy green building and sustainability standards

About Lonza (not for editorial use)

Lonza is one of the world's leading and most-trusted suppliers to the pharmaceutical, biotech and specialty ingredients markets. We harness science and technology to create products that support safer and healthier living and that enhance the overall quality of life. Not only are we a custom manufacturer and developer, Lonza also offers services and products ranging from active pharmaceutical ingredients and stem-cell therapies to drinking water sanitizers, from the vitamin B compounds and organic personal care ingredients to agricultural products, and from industrial preservatives to microbial control solutions that combat dangerous viruses, bacteria and other pathogens. Founded in 1897 in the Swiss Alps, Lonza today is a well-respected global company with more than 40 major manufacturing and R&D facilities and approximately 9,800 full-time employees worldwide. The company generated sales of about CHF 3.64 billion in 2014 and is organized into two market-focused segments: Pharma&Biotech and Specialty Ingredients. Further information can be found at www.lonza.com