

Lumber Industry News **EXPRESS**

Member Information, Events, and Industry News



Mid-America Lumbermens Association

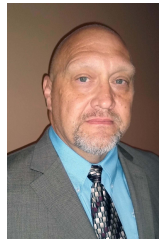
Volume 22, Number 3, March 2023



Road Roundup

By Mike Lindblom

I want to take this opportunity to announce that I have decided to accept a job offer in the LBM Industry and will be leaving the Association. It has been a pleasure to work for all of you. I am grateful for the opportunity and I do believe that the MLA is stronger today than anytime in the past. It's been a true "team effort" from a staff perspective. Again, I am grateful to be able to be a small part of the advancement of MLA.



The bulk of the credit needs to go to all of you, our members – Dealers and Associate's alike. You have accepted and embraced the many changes in the MLA the past few years. I especially want to credit the members of the MLA Board of Directors that I have had the pleasure of working with. Your dedication and commitment to your association is inspiring. All of you make a difference.

I wish everyone continued success and I hope that our paths cross in the future.

Upcoming Events

March 2-3, 2023

[Expo IOWA](#)

Des Moines, IA

March 23, 2023

[The Impact of Legalized Marijuana on Employer Drug Testing Webinar](#)

April 20, 2023

[OSHA at the Door: Be Prepared Webinar](#)

May 10-12, 2023

[Swing Into Spring Osage Beach, Missouri](#)

Swing Into

Spring

May 10 – 12, 2023

Osage Beach, Missouri

Golf, fishing, cornhole, and steak/chop fry!



Join Us For Swing Into Spring!

Join us at the Margaritaville Lake Resort and The Oaks Golf Course for this annual fun-filled event!

Start out on May 11th for a morning of some of the best bass fishing in the state! After fishing, enjoy networking around the resort and prepare for the annual Corn Hole Tournament and Steak/Chop Fry!

Come one, come all... and come hungry and join us for an afternoon of camaraderie and laughs as we crown the 2023 MLA Corn Hole Champions.

Stay for dinner and drinks as we serve up steaks, pork chops and all the fixins! New for 2023, your dinner registration will include 3-hours of OPEN BAR!

Wrap up the 2023 event on May 12th with our 2023 Swing into Spring Golf Tournament!

Retail Dealers - Click [HERE](#) for details and PDF registration form. Click [HERE](#) to register online.

Online Training for the Lumber & Building Material Industry



Training is a Click Away
foundationlms.org/mla



Online Learning for Your Team

The Foundation learning management system is an evolving online platform that will feature the resources your team needs to expand their industry knowledge and learn ways to do their job more effectively. Currently the catalog consists of Casey Voorhees basic estimating, building material sales and product knowledge and HR onboarding modules. COMING SOON to the platform are customer service, forklift training and MORE!

Because MLA is an affiliate partner on Foundation LMS, MLA member companies receive discounted rates on training designed especially for our industry.

Get started today! www.themla.com/new-online-learning



Be Prepared - Safety Training with OECS

Learn how to build a world-class safety culture for your business with the help of our endorsed safety experts at OECS. Upcoming safety webinars include:

- [The Impact of Legalized Marijuana on Employer Drug Testing – March 23, 2023](#)
- [OSHA at the Door: Be Prepared – April 20, 2023](#)



U.S. Escalates Softwood Lumber Trade War with Canada

From NLBMDA

The United States is escalating the ongoing trade war with Canada over softwood lumber. The U.S. Department of Commerce announced last month that it is increasing tariffs on Canada's two largest timber companies, West Fraser Timber Co and Canfor Corp, while maintaining duty rates on other Canadian businesses that range from 7.29% to 9.38%. West Fraser's current duty rate of 8.25% will increase to 9.38%, while Canfor's rate of 5.87% will rise to 7.29%. The new rates, which will take effect in August or September after a final review is completed, were filed by the Commerce Department following its fourth administrative review of anti-dumping and countervailing duty orders on softwood lumber products from Canada. Canadian Trade Minister Mary Ng issued a statement calling the tariffs an unjustified "tax on American consumers that increases building costs at a time of surging inflation," and vowed to pursue legal avenues under both the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and the World Trade Organization.

The softwood lumber tariffs are the legacy of a decades-long trade dispute over the structure of Canada's timber industry that intensified when the 2006 U.S.-Canada Softwood Lumber Agreement expired in October 2015. In the latest round of the ongoing trade dispute, Canadian producers have been paying U.S. lumber duties since April 2017, leading to a decline in Canada's market share for softwood lumber in the U.S., falling from 33% in 2016 to 26% in 2022. The 2006 Softwood Agreement capped Canada's market share in the US at 34%, but the US timber industry has lobbied for a revised system that would include quotas to limit Canada's market share to 20%.

NLBMDA is heavily lobbying trade officials in the Biden Administration and the Commerce Department to pursue a long-term agreement with Canada that eliminates tariffs and brings stability to the supply and pricing of softwood lumber. Per NLBMDA, the tariff remains a punitive tax on American consumers that weakens the U.S. housing market and prevents access to affordable homeownership by destabilizing the lumber supply chain. American builders continue to get more than a quarter of their softwood lumber from Canada and have been hit with exorbitant tariffs that have fluctuated unpredictably since 2017.

For any questions, please contact NLBMDA at membersupport@dealer.org.



OSHA's Injury Tracking Application and Form 300A: Due March 2, 2023

Each year, OSHA requires employers to report injury and illness data by submitting Form 300A through the

Injury Tracking Application portal, which you can access [here](#). This is a secure website that offers three options for injury and illness data submissions: You can manually enter your data, upload a CSV file to add multiple locations at the same time, or transmit data electronically via an API (application programming interface). **Lumber and building material dealers with 20 or more employees at any one location must submit Form 300A with information on workplace injuries and illnesses.** Submissions covering 2022 workplace injuries and illnesses are due by March 2, 2023. Click [here](#) for more information and answers to frequently asked questions. Click [here](#) for OSHA's Injury Tracking Application portal, where you can submit Form 300A.

MLA Endorsed Vendor



OECS

OSHA + Environmental Compliance Systems

MIDWEST'S LEADING WORKPLACE SAFETY CONSULTANTS

Providing workplace health and safety consulting services for small to mid-sized manufacturers and construction companies

 **Featured Program: Business Forms**

Save time and money by ordering your business forms through your Association. And now, you get an extra 10% off on all forms through April 28th, 2023.

- Sales Tickets
- Purchase Orders
- ... MUCH More



For more information, contact Diane at 800-747-6529 or info@nlassn.org.



HR Question of the Month: Probationary Periods?
From Federated Insurance

Question
We would like to establish a 90-day “probationary period” for our new hires. Is there anything we should be aware of?

Answer
Employers generally have discretion to manage employee performance as they see fit, including by establishing a probationary period at the beginning of employment. That said, one of the biggest potential pitfalls with establishing a probationary period for a particular length of time is that an employer may unwittingly create an employment contract.

Continue reading at www.federatedinsurance.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: Lincoln Building Supply – Lincoln, KS

Single store operation for sale in Central Kansas. This well-established hometown building supply store has maintained a long history of lasting relationships with its customers. They are committed to excellent customer service and offer an extensive range of quality products and services. In addition to lumber and all types of building supplies, they also offer animal feed and supplies, gardening and plants, paint, hunting and fishing gear, window repair, gluten-free foods, Black Rifle coffee, gifts of all kinds, and much more! Primary customers are farms and ranches, construction contractors, and homeowners.

Owner asking \$725,000 for business, land & equipment.

Interested parties asked to contact Tim at (785) 658-5872.

Read full details [HERE](#).

 **What News Do You Have?**

What's happening in your area? Is there an industry event, company or employee milestone, or even a business tip you'd like to share with your fellow members? Send them our way! We are always looking for meaningful content to include in the newsletter. You can send your news to melanie@themla.com. Thank you.

Help Your Employees
Make it Home
Safe Today.



FEDERATED INSURANCE
It's Our Business to Protect Yours

www.themla.com

