

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?

**S**tatistics for 2002 (Mr Angus Currie - SAWPA): **Total treatment (Poles & Sawn timber) up by 14% (a new record - previous highest was 825,000m<sup>3</sup> in 1997). Total value was mR1,103 (2001: mR883). Pole volumes increased by 7% to 545,000m<sup>3</sup> and mR413.**

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

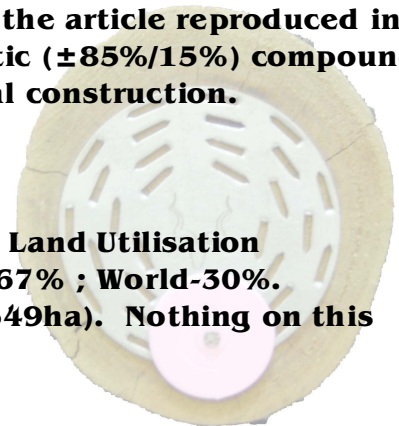
Material	Energy used	As multiple of Treated Wood
Wood	580 kWh	--
Treated Wood	640 kWh	0.0
Plastic	3,480 kWh	5.4
Steel	13,920 kWh	21.8
Aluminium	73,080 kWh	114.2

Figures supplied by Dr Greaves - Australia.

**O**mnico-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.

**B**ad 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.**

**M**ore 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!!!

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