



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HLPA REPORTS INCREASED USAGE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND BUILDING MATERIALS

(Honolulu, Hawaii), August 9, 2006 – Spurred by increasing awareness of global warming, energy conservation, and other environmental concerns, more homebuyers and homebuilders are demonstrating interest in making optimum use of valuable, renewable forest resources that are energy efficient.

“The volume of lumber we brought to Hawaii increased by nearly 15 percent in 2005,” said Ron McCormick with Coos Head Forest Products, head of one of the largest lumber shippers to Hawaii. Another lumber-related company, Honolulu Wood Treating, saw a 5.6% increase in the volume of wood treatment services in the same time frame.

“Lumber sales, as a whole, were up by in 2005 compared to the previous year here in Hawaii and I think we’ll continue to see that level of usage in the near future,” said Hap Person, president of the Hawaii Lumber Products Association. “More homebuilders want to build wood framed homes because of the energy it saves in the long run and the added benefit to the environment,” Person said.

Here are some reasons why building with wood is more eco-friendly and beneficial to the environment:

Wood is the most energy efficient building material. Wood is the best insulator against cold and heat making it the most energy efficient. It takes 24 times more energy to produce steel as it

does to produce a ton of lumber. Although wood products make up 47 percent of all raw materials made in the U.S., its share of energy consumption during production is only 4 percent of all manufactured materials.

Wood is the world's only renewable and sustainable building material. Virtually all of the lumber products used in North America come from managed, renewable forests that grow trees like crops, growing 2.2 times faster than they are being harvested.

Managed forests combat the global warming effect. Managed growth forests that harvest trees like crops are more efficient at storing and sequestering carbon than old-growth forests. Young forests combat the effects of global warming by reducing carbon pollution.

Building with wood framing is better for the environment and a solid value for consumers. The trend of building green is continuing in its momentum as Hawaii plans for future developments and homes.

The HLPAs are comprised of professionals representing the development and construction industry as well as building material producers and service companies. They are committed to the education and promotion of lumber products as the best choice for quality home construction. To find out more about building with lumber visit www.hawaiilumber.com.

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