

Featuring Lumber, Panels  
and Wood Products Analysis

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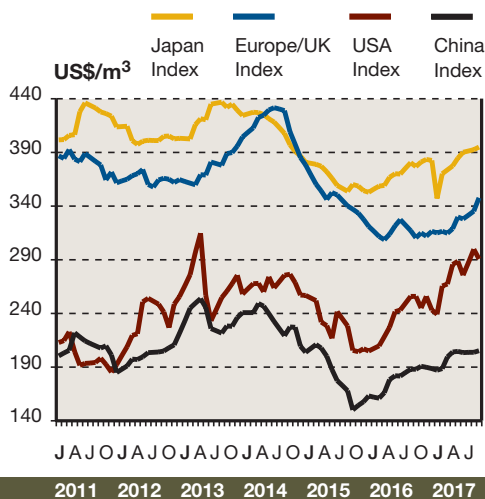
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## GLOBAL PRICE TRENDS



Source: WOOD MARKETS  
Note: Features structural lumber products from our Global Prices section

## WOOD MARKETS IS NOW FEA-CANADA

### A New Era Begins!

In 1993, I formed a company — R.E. Taylor & Associates Ltd. — based on my fifteen years of experience in forestry and wood products, and five years of domestic and international consulting work. Over time, the company and its team have expanded and evolved in response to the needs and wants of our clients, becoming recognized internationally as one of the leading publishers of ground-breaking wood products analysis, research and forecasts. Our consulting business has grown from having a strong focus on North America to one that encompasses many of the global market hotspots. Our international focus in the 1990s was on Southern Hemisphere producers, but since then has expanded to be global.

In 2005, the company was rebranded as International WOOD MARKETS Group Inc. Since then, our team has been providing subscribers with leading-edge insights and analysis around worldwide developments in the wood products industry and markets. (In actual fact, our global consulting roots go back even further, reaching back to 1988.)

We are now embarking on a new chapter! Effective August 2017, Forest Economic Advisors LLC (FEA) is the new owner of International WOOD MARKETS Group.

The acquisition provides FEA with a deeper understanding of key trends in Canada, along with exposure to the comprehensive international business developed by the WOOD MARKETS team. As former president of WOOD MARKETS, I am pleased to assume the position of Managing Director of newly formed FEA-Canada. I will continue to spearhead the production of WOOD MARKETS' key publications, and will remain available to lead independent research projects. FEA-Canada will have five Canadian employees, with offices in Vancouver and Quebec City. The China office will continue to be managed by the Vancouver team as a means to continue providing local expertise on that massive and influential market.

This new development will allow the Canadian team to leverage FEA's extensive database and domain expertise across the entire wood products and timber sectors, and enhance our ability to present high-quality analysis with a global perspective.

From the viewpoint of FEA, the acquisition of WOOD MARKETS will deepen the company's coverage of developments in wood markets outside North America. Especially valuable to FEA will be the strategic work our group conducts in global timber and lumber cost benchmarking, as well as our on-the-ground intelligence and analysis on China. In addition, I am confident my own international contacts and knowledge will help FEA expand and deepen its coverage of global wood products markets. For further information, please visit [www.getfea.com](http://www.getfea.com).

*By Russ Taylor, Managing Director*

## SPECIAL REPORT

## FEA ANNUAL FOREST PRODUCTS FORUM

## Conference Highlights Ongoing North America Strength

The annual FEA Forest Products Forum provided an excellent perspective on the status of North America's timber and wood products markets. There was an echo of a theme heard in May at our Global Log & Lumber Conference: that all major markets continue to look favourable, and that the U.S. market in particular seems to be in reasonably good shape.

Coverage included investigations into the Russian industry and Indian market. The net result was a positive outlook for wood products demand in North America amid some tightening of timber supply/production capacity. Conclusion: the market could be extremely interesting once again in 2018! ■

## MARKET REPORT

## MSR LUMBER EXPANDING

## SPF Still Dominates; SYP is Gaining Ground

Machine stress-rated (MSR) lumber is enjoying ongoing growth in the pre-fabricated truss industry. Some advances have fostered the elimination of much of the structural redundancy in residential framing and engineered applications.

Some big changes are occurring in MSR lumber production by species! SPF has dominated historically (70%–80%), but this changed in 2016. Last year, southern yellow pine (SYP) grew its production share (from 31% to 25% in 2015).

Shortages of skilled on-site labour have reached crisis proportions in many parts of the U.S. and Canada, encouraging more builders to move portions of their building processes off-site. This will lead to more prefabrication of framing components, in turn propelling the use of MSR (FEA is forecasting an average annual growth rate of about 1%). ■

(Additional details are available in the full articles, complete with graphs to offer further insight into the global lumber market.)

Please contact us for pricing details for the full *WOOD MARKETS Monthly International Report*.

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**Subscription Rates (1 year, 10 issues):**  
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**US\$565**  
(+GST/HST in Canada)

*Back issues (subscribers only):* US\$100