

# STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS MAGAZINE

September/October 2004

## Publisher's Message Rev Up and Read Up! by SBC Staff

*Start your engines! This year's BCMC show is the fast track to exciting new ideas for your business. This year's Show Guide will give you a taste of what's to come. See you in Charlotte!*

It's hard to believe that there are only a few months left in 2004! This time of year usually reminds us that the annual industry trade show, BCMC, is just around the corner. Hopefully you and your colleagues have already completed your attendee registration and booked your travel and accommodations for the show in Charlotte, NC on October 6-8. If you haven't, don't count yourself out. You'll find plenty of resources in this issue to guide you through the process. Be sure to turn to the BCMC 2004 Show Guide for specific details and information to get "revved up" for the show. With record-shattering exhibitor square footage on the show floor, blockbuster educational sessions and many other exciting attractions, BCMC 2004 promises to be nothing short of spectacular.

You'll find a broad range of topics in this issue, above and beyond details and events occurring at BCMC. We've covered component manufacturing from all angles: statistics on lumber production, tips on inventory control, ideas for better customer service, how to find and secure employee development grants, whole building design software's implications for the industry, hand and arm protection, and case studies on community involvement. In short, we've got it all!

We will be celebrating a very special birthday in October-BCSI 1-03 is one year old! It was unveiled at BCMC 2003 in Phoenix and continues to be a big hit with component manufacturers and other professionals in the building construction industry. It's quite fitting that we heard from Mike Nilles of Raymond Building Supply about Southwest Florida Truss Manufacturers Association's (SWFTMA) recent BCSI presentation for an eager group of framers and engineers. Don't miss this story about how BCSI is still making an impact by promoting safety on the jobsite.

In "Best Practices for Converting from ANSI/TPI 1-1995 to ANSI/TPI 1-2002," WTCA staff has outlined important things for component manufacturers to consider during their conversion process. This is meant to help you determine the conversion's potential effects on factors like lumber and plate inventory.

Have you ever considered tapping resources (other than your own pocket) for training and staff development funds? If you've been wanting to provide training options for your staff, but haven't been able to come up with the cash, don't miss out on "Free Money! (How to Get Government Grants & Funding for Training Programs)." It may give you some ideas about where to turn for help in seeking grant money.

SBC staff is pleased to introduce yet another new department in this issue. "Adventures in

Advocacy" will provide regular insight into legislative and advocacy issues and provide you with the tools you need for effective grassroots activities. The first installment takes a look at the upcoming election and what you can do to "Get out the Vote" in your company.

In closing, we urge you to "rev up" for BCMC. Bring your questions, problems, ideas and solutions to Charlotte. On October 6-8, there isn't a better place for component manufacturers to be. We'll see you there!

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