Sawn Hardwood

Timber Committee forecasts by Mr. David Venables, European Director, American Hardwood Export Council

Expert presentations by:

Temperate Hardwoods

Mr. Michael Buckley, Consultant, World Hardwoods, UK

Tropical Hardwoods

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- Discussion
The growth in exports of processed hardwood products from eastern Europe and Asia, notably China, is significantly affecting both the manufacture of hardwood products and also the trade in sawn hardwood, in Europe and especially in the United States.

After a fall in 2001, sawn hardwood production remained at the same levels in 2002 in the UNECE region.

Apparent consumption of sawn hardwood fell 6% in the major European markets (EU/EFTA subregion), but rose 6% in the Other Europe subregion.
Highlights of draft Forest Products Market Analysis 2002-2004 (4-7)

- Trade of hardwood dimension (semi-processed panels and parts) continues to grow, resulting in reduced sawnwood and log trade in the UNECE region.
- Romanian exports rose again, by 21% in 2002, nearly doubling over the last five years.
- After rising steadily, European Union consumption of hardwood flooring, a major market driver in the last years, levelled off in 2002.
- Demand from traders and manufacturers for certified sawn hardwood continued to grow in 2002 and 2003, but insufficient stock was available.
Europe: Sawn hardwood

[Graph showing production and consumption of sawn hardwood from 1995 to 2004.]
North America: Sawn hardwood

- Production
- Consumption

Next presentation

Temperate hardwood markets
Mr. Michael Buckley, Wood Industry Consultant, World Hardwoods, UK