



EWPA Media Release

August 26, 2008

Plywood trial adjourned after request from Jag Ply

THE trial of proceedings brought by the Engineered Wood Products Association of Australasia (EWPA) against Jag Ply Pty Ltd and Peter Cranston Wintour is to be adjourned and will now commence on December 8.

The trial was set for September 1, as requested by EWPA, but was adjourned at a directions hearing before Federal Court Justice Jeffrey Spender in Brisbane on August 26 following an application by Jag Ply and Peter Wintour for a delay in proceedings.

The trial will now run from Monday, December 8, for five days up to an including Friday, December 12.

In the case, the EWPA has prepared and filed 10 reports regarding plywood product labelled and marketed by Jag Ply Pty Ltd and Mr Wintour as 'structural plywood'. The plywood samples tested comprise 180 sheets randomly purchased on behalf of the EWPA from the open market in Brisbane and Melbourne over the last 20 months.

These EWPA reports show a consistently high rate of failure against requirements of Australian Standard AS/NZS 2269.

The most recent three reports for product purchased in May and July this year and tested in July have shown a 100% failure rate for certain critical aspects of AS/NZS 2269.

"Jag Ply and Peter Wintour have not filed any expert evidence refuting the test results disclosed in the EWPA's 10 reports or, indeed, any material at all," an EWPA spokesman noted. "The EWPA remains keen to have this matter heard as soon as possible."

Justice Spender has given Jag Ply and Mr Wintour until September 29 to file any material in response to the EWPA's 10 reports.

Justice Spender also made further procedural directions to be met by both parties during October and November to ensure the trial will, in all respects, be ready to proceed and be heard in full during December 8-12 in Brisbane.

Inquiries:

Simon Dorries, General Manager, EWPAAs. Tel: (07) 3854 1228. Mob: 0407 127 618
Media contact: Jim Bowden. Tel: 07 3256 1779. Mob: 0401 312 097