

# THE McSHAN *PLANE DEALER*

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**McSHAN LUMBER  
COMPANY  
McSHAN, AL**

205-375-6277 FAX 2773

We are a family owned and operated company that has produced quality Southern Pine lumber from our abundant and Sustainable Southern Forests since 1907.

It is our goal to profitably provide products that our customers value anywhere on the globe. We believe it is our duty to extract all the value and quality from every log that passes through our mill and to be good stewards of all the resources that are entrusted to us. We enjoy a worldwide reputation for quality and strives daily to maintain this hard earned status.

## **IN THIS EDITION**

McShan Lumber Co. obtains SFI certification

Only One

Biomass impact on our industry

Homeland Security


Staying Sharp

## McSHAN LUMBER COMPANY RECEIVES SFI® CERTIFICATION

McShan Lumber Company recently obtained fiber sourcing certification to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) standard. This means that we are continuing to perform the same sustainable stewardship practices that we always have and now we have the documentation to back it up.

More and more of our customers, particularly in other countries, are requiring verification that their lumber is being sourced from legal and sustainable sources. Even though we have always procured our timber through legal and sustainable methods, SFI certification allows us to provide third party verification to customers who require it.

As more and more companies and consumers jump on the “green wave” we stand ready to provide certified wood.

Build responsibly. Choose wood from well-managed  SFI® forests.

## ONLY ONE IN THE WORLD

While every sawmill is different, our recent SFI certification has brought us a unique distinction. While many Southern Pine mills have received SFI certification, we are the only mill in the world that is currently providing certified, rough sawn, Southern Pine Lumber in export grades. As more and more governments, companies and individuals around the world specify certified wood, we are uniquely positioned to fill the need.



## BIOMASS ISN'T JUST COMING, IT'S ALREADY HERE

With oil striking \$130 per barrel and the global warming debate dominating the news, we will continue to hear more about biomass. For most of the country, ethanol from corn has received most of the press. However, here in the South, energy from wood is already beginning to affect markets. Three large wood pellet mills are in operation or under construction in Alabama and Florida, with more on the way. These mills are producing wood pellets for export to European countries. These pellets are being burned for industrial production along with coal and oil, or in place of it, to help reduce carbon emissions as specified by the Kyoto Treaty. Most experts expect more mandates for these type carbon reductions here in the US no matter who becomes our next President.



Many of the small logs mills in our area were built to take advantage of the smaller, lower priced plantation wood that covers the South. This new market for fiber (logs) will at some point begin to affect timber prices for sawmills.

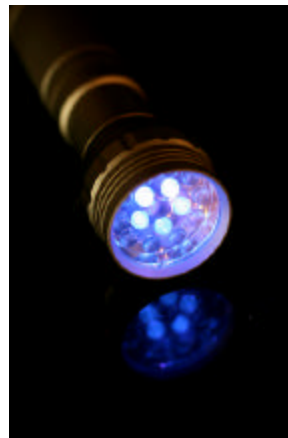
One thing is certain, government mandates will distort markets. Whether biomass will ultimately be good or bad for our industry and the lumber consumer remains to be seen.

## HOMELAND SECURITY

My closest neighbor is a half mile away by road and our house sits at the end of a long drive. You don't just happen by our place. A couple of weeks ago as we were preparing for bed, my wife called out with fear in her voice-"There's someone in the yard with a flashlight!"

You can imagine how we felt as there was no plausible reason for anyone to be in our yard at that time of night. I cautiously approached the back door to confront the intruder just in time to see Norman Schwarzkopf, our bird dog, come around the corner with a lit flashlight in his mouth!

Apparently he had gotten it from a shelf in an outdoor shed and turned it on while carrying it.



### Biomass facts:

Alabama's pulp and paper industry is 73% energy self sufficient. These plants generate most of their electricity with their own wood waste.

The forest products industry has used waste wood for energy production for many years, long before biomass became popular.

Wood pellets contain 8,000-8,500 BTUs per pound.

Researchers expect to soon have cost effective technology to convert wood cellulose to ethanol and bio-oil.



YOUR ONLY SOURCE FOR  
**CERTIFIED**  
SOUTHERN YELLOW PINE  
EXPORT LUMBER

McShan Lumber Company is a family owned and operated company that has produced quality Southern Pine lumber from our abundant and Sustainable Southern Forests since 1907. We have a long history of exporting lumber to various markets around the world. It is our goal to profitably provide products that our customers value anywhere on the globe. We believe it is our duty to extract all the value and quality from every log that passes through our mill and to be good stewards of all the resources that are entrusted to us. Our company enjoys a worldwide reputation for quality and we strive daily to maintain this hard earned status.

*McSHAN LUMBER COMPANY*  
SFI Certified Lumber

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# YOU HAVE TO STAY SHARP TO MAKE GOOD LUMBER

One of Steven Covey's 7 Habits of Highly Effective People is "take time to sharpen the saw". It is also one of the 7 habits of highly effective sawmills.

While much of the black magic from older days has been replaced by automation, sawfiling is still a skilled position that requires constant vigilance. A dull saw in the sawmill can make mistakes that will be felt through out the entire manufacturing process.

In the photo Ronnie Shaw and Jackie Ray stand by one of our 48 foot band saws. These are the initial break down saws used in our mill. These saws have 288 teeth and cost about \$1,500. We change them twice a day or sooner if necessary. Even though we, like most sawmills, run all logs through a metal detector prior to entering the mill, the occasional bad log still makes it through. Obviously nails or other



Ronnie Shaw and Jackie Ray keep McShan Lumber Company sharp.

metal quickly damage a saw. In a future article we will describe some of the strange objects we have found in logs over the years.



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