

## Short Cuts

### \* House weighs formaldehyde bill

The industry-supported Formaldehyde Standards for Composite Wood Act, H.R. 4805, was introduced into the House of Representatives on Thursday, March 11. The legislation would establish a national emission standard, largely based on California's rules covering particleboard, MDF and hardwood plywood. "This bill will benefit consumers by ensuring higher-quality and safer wood products, and it will benefit the industry by setting a standard to which all competitors are held," said Ehlers (D-MI), one of the bill's sponsors. *(Posted 3-14-10)*

### \* January cabinet sales dip 6.4%

Cabinet sales for January 2010 decreased 6.4% compared to January 2009, according to participating members of the Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Assn.'s monthly Trend of Business Survey. The decrease was the lowest reported by KCMA members in more than two years. The KCMA's survey indicated that cabinet sales for all of 2009 were 28.3% below that of 2008. *(Posted 3-24-10)*

### \* German equipment sales crash in '09

German manufacturers of wood processing machinery incurred a 42% drop in sales last year. The German Association of Woodworking Machinery Manufacturers (VDMA) called 2009 the worst year in decades. Domestic sales reportedly dropped by 34%, while exports declined 44%. *(Posted 3-4-10)*

### \* KCMA promotes table saw safety

The Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Assn., in cooperation with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, announced a new Table Saw Safety Training Program aimed at reducing amputations. It can be used to train employees on the safe operation of a table saw.

Download a copy at [kcma.org](http://kcma.org). *(Posted 2-25-10)*

### \* Weinig eyes purchase of Holz-Her

Heading to press, Weinig AG said it was close to finalizing its acquisition of Holz-Her. The purchase would give Weinig, a leader in solid wood machining, entrée into panel processing. *(Posted 3-17-10)*

### \* NeoCon preps for 42nd show

NeoCon, North America's largest conference and exhibition of contract furnishings, returns to Chicago's Merchandise Mart June 14-16. Approximately 40,000 professionals from around the world are expected to attend. Learn more at [neocon.com](http://neocon.com). *(Posted 3-23-10)*

### \* MS offers \$2,000 credit for upholstery jobs

Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour signed legislation that will provide a \$2,000 tax credit for each new cut-and-sew employee hired. Barbour, who vetoed a similar bill last year, said he signed this one because the "bill puts the emphasis where it ought to be – on job creation." *(Posted 3-26-10)*

### \* Pella to clean up hazardous waste

Pella Corp. reached a settlement with the Environmental Protection Agency to investigate and cleanup hazardous waste released into soil and groundwater from its window and door plant in Pella, IA. The contaminants are primarily solvents and petroleum products related to wood treatment activities at the facility. *(Posted 3-3-2010)*

### \* Lane adding 186 jobs

Lane Furniture plans to expand its operations and will ultimately add 186 jobs, the Mississippi Development Authority announced. The additional workers will bring the company's employment to 2,051. *(Posted 3-26-10)*

