



Belco Forest Products Teams With Award-Winning FrameGuard™ Wood Coating

(Tacoma, WA. February 7, 2008) – **Belco Forest Products**, a leading Northwest manufacturer and distributor of specialty building supplies, is now the exclusive Northwest provider of **FrameGuard™** wood coating. FrameGuard™ protects wood intended for interior use during its storage and construction by utilizing a blend of anti-mold chemicals and borate technology that alleviates problems from mold, termites and fungi.

FrameGuard™ treated wood helps to alleviate mold concerns for builders, retailers and homeowners alike. Homeowners worry about health issues, retailers have to exchange material or offer discount pricing, while builders and suppliers face complaints and potentially costly liability claims.

The damage from mold and termites runs in the billions of dollars:

- **Mold-related claims now average \$3-\$8 billion annually.**
- **Insurance that once cost contractors \$15,000 now routinely costs \$150,000 and does not cover mold or water damage.**

"Mold Policy and Cases," Weatherization Assistance Program, Technical Assistance Center (www.waptac.org)

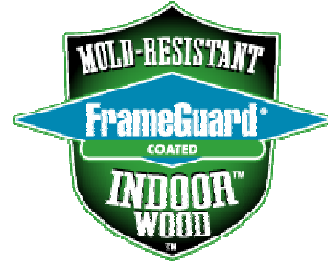
- **There are currently 10,000 mold-related lawsuits pending in the U.S.**

"The War on Mold: New Treatments Aiding in Fight Against Ancient Fungus," Engineered Wood Journal (www.apawood.org)

- **\$2 Billion+ per year – How much homeowners pay to replace wood damaged by fungal decay and termites.**

"Wood Protection Council of National Building Sciences as quoted by LSU Agricultural Center and in Pioneer Magazine article."

Literally, "Going Green." Not only is FrameGuard™ wood green in color (due to a colorant added to make the product easily identifiable), it's anti-mold and borate technology also make it "green" from an environmental perspective too.



Wood Treated Right™

By enabling wood to last a long time and resist mold, FrameGuard™ treated wood extends forest resources and reduces the need for replacement lumber. Plus, it has all of the environmental advantages associated with wood itself. It is a renewable resource grown on managed timberlands and requires less energy to produce than alternative building materials. Wood also offers greater insulation value and serves as a sink for greenhouse gases. And, because of its lighter weight, wood can often be installed with lighter equipment which has less environmental impact.



"We are very excited to be the exclusive provider of FrameGuard™ treated wood products in the Northwest region. This is a tremendous opportunity to offer a product that not only is good for the environment but should also sell extremely well in our area due to FrameGuard's mold preventative benefits." Said Bill Staley, president and CEO of Belco. "The trend towards sustainability continues to grow and FrameGuard™, with its' green color and environmentally friendly characteristics, will be instantly recognized by environmentally conscious homebuyers."

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A recipient of numerous honors, FrameGuard™ was the only building product to be awarded a 2007 Green Building Award by the National Association of Home Builders at its annual NAHB Green Building Conference. Developed by Arch Chemicals, FrameGuard™ treated wood has also been recognized for its green characteristics by the GreenSpec® directory of environmentally preferable products and earned a GREENGUARD® Indoor Air Quality certification. Comments included; "exceptional durability", "ability to reduce pesticide treatments" and "low indoor air emissions."

Offered exclusively through its' recently created Belco Custom Services division, FrameGuard™ will be applied at Belco's state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities located in Shelton, WA.



Belco Forest Products leads the forest products industry by relentlessly delivering quality products and exceptional service through innovative manufacturing and a knowledgeable team of professionals. We create and nurture long-lasting, mutually beneficial business partnerships with our customers and suppliers, consistently employing and maintaining a "Make it Happen" approach.

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