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APA Fact Sheet

Locations

APA's corporate headquarters are in Tacoma, Washington. The headquarters campus includes an office building and a 42,000-square-foot Research Center. A regional quality testing laboratory is located in Atlanta, Georgia.

History

APA was founded 1933 in Tacoma, Washington, as the Douglas Fir Plywood Association. Its name changed to American Plywood Association in 1964 with the introduction of southern pine plywood. The name was changed again in 1994 to APA – The Engineered Wood Association to more accurately reflect the geographic range (both U.S. and Canada) and product mix (plywood, oriented strand board, wood I-joists, glulam timber, structural composite lumber) of its members. The Research Center at the present campus in West Tacoma opened in 1969. The headquarters office building on the same campus opened in 1979.

Mission and Functions

APA is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit trade association that represents U.S. and Canadian manufacturers of structural engineered wood products, including plywood, oriented strand board (OSB), glued-laminated timber (glulam), wood I-joists and structural composite lumber. Its primary functions are product certification and testing, applied research, and market support and development. As a 501(c)(6) association, APA does not engage in lobbying activities.

Membership

APA has about 170 member mills in 23 states and seven provinces. An APA-related nonprofit organization, Engineered Wood Technology Association (EWTA), is comprised of product, equipment and service suppliers to the engineered wood products industry.

Employees

APA has a staff of approximately 85, including 58 at its headquarters in Tacoma and the remainder, including regional laboratory staff, quality auditors and field services personnel, elsewhere around the U.S. and Canada.

Income

APA income is based on member dues and other client fees.

Governance

APA is governed by its members through a Board of Trustees and several member advisory committees that set policy, review strategy and oversee implementation of strategic plans and programs.