



The Wood Handbook's International Appeal

The *Wood Handbook* is consistently the most popular publication of the Forest Products Laboratory (FPL). In April 2010, the Centennial Edition of the *Wood Handbook* (FPL-GTR-190) was released to mark FPL's 100th anniversary as the Nation's premier forest products research laboratory. Since then, weekly downloads of all or part of the *Wood Handbook* from the FPL website have averaged about 2,290.

Though an American audience dominates, with 117,291 of the 203,842 total downloads as of early March 2012, international demand is also strong. Downloads to other countries have made up 42% of the total, or 86,551 downloads worldwide.

"FPL has produced the Wood Handbook for many years. It is viewed, by folks around the world, as a the primary source of technical information on wood, and how to use wood and wood products effectively in a range of applications."

Bob Ross, Supervisory Research Engineer

The graph to the left demonstrates the international popularity of the *Wood Handbook*. Grouped by country or region, the wide range of demand becomes evident. People from about 180 nations worldwide have downloaded all or part of this instructive manual.

Downloads from Western Europe (14,696) and Canada (11,357), along with Malaysia and the Pacific Islands region (16,788) have been most common. Other nations of note not specifically shown here, however, include Brazil's 4,104 downloads (contributing to South America's total of 6,813) as well as Iran (1,882) and Turkey (1,363) contributing to the Middle East total of 5,009. Also, within the continent of Africa's total 3,569 downloads, 1,266 came from South Africa alone.

The *Wood Handbook's* international appeal demonstrates the need for unbiased information about wood and its many uses across countries and cultures.

International downloads of the *Wood Handbook* from June 2010 to March 2012. Excerpt from FPL Newsline, Spring 2012, Vol. 11(2). A product of the FPL Office of Communications.

