



News Release

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Bayer MaterialScience's Baydur® Composite Gives Life to "Polyurethane Wood"

Decking, Fencing and Barn "Lumber" From Century Products Utilizes Polyurethane Composite Material From Bayer MaterialScience

ST. LOUIS, Missouri, Oct. 18, 2006 – Southern California-based Century Products, LCC has introduced LifeTime™ Lumber, which has the look and feel of wood without the high maintenance. This "polyurethane wood," which can be used for fencing, decking and barn construction, is made from a Baydur composite from Bayer MaterialScience. The LifeTime Lumber application will be on display at Bayer MaterialScience's booth (#2020) at the 2006 ACMA Show, Oct. 18-20, 2006 at the America's Center in St. Louis.

The uniqueness of the "wood" lies in the urethane chemistry that is the cornerstone of the manufacturing process. Fly ash, an inactive waste product from electric utility plants, is the major component of the material. Other materials provide a combination of strength, weight, flexibility and resistance to water absorption, unlike wood or other composite products currently on the market.

LifeTime Lumber is produced on a 40-foot-long conveyer belt that is debossed with a natural wood grain pattern. The Baydur composite is poured onto the belt and pressed, leaving a distinctive wood grain pattern. Boards are then cut into lengths, each with grain as unique as natural lumber.

"Century Products is proud to bring these materials to market," stated James Mahler, Century Products' senior vice president of Business Development. "The opportunity to create a product that is an improvement over those already in the marketplace is rare, and we believe that polyurethane wood is just the beginning."

The polyurethane material, which is offered in a natural-looking brown, two shades of gray and black, is ideal for applications such as fences because of its exceptional durability. It is equally effective in the construction of barns, and as decking around pools, on docks and marinas. LifeTime Lumber will not rot, has a class B fire rating and is impervious to termites. The boards are not affected by climatic elements that may cause thermal expansion and contraction; therefore, boards will not warp, sag, split or splinter. Installation of LifeTime Lumber, which is available with tongue and groove, can be done with ease using the same tools as natural wood.

LifeTime Lumber products are eco-friendly, meaning there are no harmful emissions from the production plant; the process is energy efficient, recycled materials are used and valuable forests are preserved.

For more information on LifeTime Lumber Products, visit www.lifetimelumberproducts.com, call 760-634-6860 or fax 760-634-6830.

For more information on Baydur composites from Bayer MaterialScience, call 800-662-2927 or visit www.BayerMaterialScienceNAFTA.com

Bayer MaterialScience LLC is one of the leading producers of polymers and high-performance plastics in North America and is part of the global Bayer MaterialScience business with 18,000 employees at 40 sites around the world and 2004 sales of 8.6 billion euros. Our innovative developments in coating, adhesive and sealant raw materials, polycarbonates, polyurethanes and thermoplastic urethane elastomers enhance the design and functionality of products in a wide variety of markets, including the automotive, construction, electrical and electronics, household and medical industries, and the sports and leisure fields. Our inorganic basic chemicals unit produces chlorine and related essential products for the chemicals industry. Let us give life to your vision. Bayer MaterialScience - Where VisionWorks.

Bayer Corporation, headquartered in Pittsburgh, is part of the worldwide Bayer Group, an international health care, nutrition and innovative materials group based in Leverkusen, Germany. In North America, as of April 2005, Bayer employed about 16,000 and had net sales of 8.3 billion euros. Bayer's three operating companies – Bayer HealthCare LLC, Bayer CropScience LP and Bayer MaterialScience LLC – improve people's lives through a broad range of essential products that help diagnose and treat diseases, protect crops and advance automobile safety and durability.

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This news release contains forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by Bayer Group management. Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors could lead to material differences between the actual future results, financial situation, development or performance of the company and the estimates given here. These factors include those discussed in our public reports filed with the Frankfurt Stock Exchange and with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (including our Form 20-F). The company assumes no liability whatsoever to update these forward-looking statements or to conform them to future events or developments.



LifeTime Lumber is ideal for fencing applications because it offers a natural look, without the problems often associated with wood. Thanks to a Baydur composite from Bayer MaterialScience, this “polyurethane wood” will never warp, rot, sag, split, or splinter.



LifeTime Lumber is manufactured by Century Products using a Baydur composite and RIM technology from Bayer MaterialScience. The handsome wood-grain appearance makes it a natural for decks and other outdoor applications.