Kiln Management

- Staging and Planning Kiln Charges
- Proper Sampling
- Correct MC Information
- Maximizing Performance
- Minimizing Reload Time
Ways To Reduce Reload Time

- Pre-stage the charge to be loaded
- Trim ends if necessary
- Utilize multiple forklifts if possible
- Utilize a spotter
- Supervise all aspects of how well kiln is loaded
- Communication
Ways To Reduce Drying Time

- Load kiln with lumber of same thickness
- Load kiln with lumber of the same species
- Load kiln with lumber of similar MC
- Perform proper sampling techniques
- Maintain acceptable loss rates
- Review and modify schedules as needed
Planning Pays Off

Planning and Staging

Minimize Reload Time

Minimize Drying Time
Reducing Reload Time By Two Hours

- Increase yearly production by at least 130,000 ft. by gaining drying time.
- Increase revenue by nearly $60,000 in added value alone
- Over 9 locations that equals an extra 1.17 million feet of lumber with an added value of over $526,000
Reduce Drying Time By 12 Hours

- Increase production by 780,000 ft. per year
- Increase revenue by $351,000 in added value
- In 9 locations that equals added production of over 7 million ft. with an added value of nearly 3.2 million dollars.
Total

- Over 8 million ft. of increased kiln production as a group
- Over 3.7 million dollars in added value
Kiln Maintenance
Inspection
What To Inspect

• Fans, Motors, Bearings and shafts
• Kiln Structure
• Electrical Connections
• Floors and Drains
• Vents and operation of vents
• Steam and Water Leaks
• Traps and operation of traps
• Water Boxes
• Seals
Housekeeping

Floors, Drains, Waterboxes, Door Seals
Air Drying
Air Drying
Air Drying
Air Drying
Air Drying

Endwaxing and burlap to reduce end checking
Air Drying
Air Drying
FanShed (Blowbox)
FanShed (Blowbox)
Weekend Kiln Assistant
• Check for any unusual odors
• Inspect for mold, checking, other defects
• Remove birds, woodchucks or any other unwanted wildlife
• Listen for any unusual sounds
• Inspect waterbox and wetbulb wick
• Inspect drain to ensure there is no pooling water
• Ensure that all baffles are in place
• Weigh Samples
Inspection (In Kiln)
Inspection (In Kiln)
Inspection (In Kiln)
Inspection (In Kiln)
Metering
When To/Why Use A Meter?

• After the kiln has reached “finals”
• Very accurate at lower moisture contents
• Able to take moisture readings from many locations
• Ability to manipulate moisture data to assist in decision-making regarding equalization and conditioning
• Quick and easy way to check KD lumber in warehouses, etc.
• Newer meters have SPC capabilities with printable data for record keeping
Data Exported From Meter

[Image of a computer interface with options for data management and information entry, dated OCT 29 2007]
Data Exported From Meter
Boiler Operation

Fuel House With Walking Floor
Boiler Operation

Hurst Hybrid
600HP
Wood-Fired Boiler
Boiler Operation

Chemical Tests Performed Daily
# Boiler Operation

## Chemical Tests Records

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**OCT 29: 2027**
Boiler Operation

Boiler Log
Thanks!