Digital Picture system for tallying lumber

New England Kiln Drying Association

March, 2006

Portsmouth, NH
PictureTally Concept

Fred Doane at Northland Forest Products, “Can we use digital pictures to eliminate the time-consuming and manual end-tally?”

Before PictureTally at Northland

- Yard Production with 2 Grading Chains = 50 - 60 MBF/Day
- End Tally By Hand
- Downloads to printer, paper tallies, lost tallies...
- Poor Communication with Sales Department
- Inaccurate Tallies, Variations in Piece Counts
- Excessive Demand on Forklift Time
- Lengthy Changeovers
- Poor Ergonomics, Working Environment
- Manual Load Assembly
How It Works
Bundles stop for pictures

Lumber bundles stop for pictures
- Placed on a crib or
- Placed on a production line

The square end faces the camera

1) ID the pack
2) Take Pictures
3) Tally Review
Digital Pictures

PictureTally takes 5 pictures
Technique is Differential Lighting

UV works like a Grade Mark Reader
Takes 4 seconds to complete
Tally Review

Review Tally immediately or any time after pictures

Tools: Create/Delete/Split... [Find Short Boards]...
Save Tally and more

Real measure of boards

One click to email Pictures

Exact Tally Map Saved

PictureTally™
Short Board counts automated

Fluorescent Crayon Marks
1 mark = 1 foot shorter
2 marks = 2 feet...

One Click to find marks

Tally adjusted for each board
Multiple Packs and Splitting Packs

You can stack packs and take one picture

You can split packs using pictures already taken
Results

Accurate: Measures in hundredths of an inch

Fast: Reduces tally time and speeds up production

Customer Benefit: Correctly scaled lumber

Employer Benefit: Repeatable tally accuracy and permanent tally record

Employee Benefit: Improved job ergonomics, better working environment
PictureTally Impact at Northland

System installed at NFP in November 2004
9 PictureTally systems installed in 2005

After PictureTally installed at Northland

- Yard Production - 2 Grading Chains; 60 - 70 MBF/Day
- Downloads to WebTally Database instantly
- No Lost Tallies, Permanent Record
- Repeatable Accuracy, No Missed Pieces
- 1 Tally Person; 1 Banding Person
- Real-Time Tallies, Hard Copy or Electronic
- Reduced Forklift Time overall
- Fast Changeovers
- Much Improved Ergonomics/Working Conditions
- Easy Load Setup On-Line
Options

Record Bundle Weights

Print Custom Tags in any Format

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Print it **BIG**

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Inventory Systems
and
WebTally
Plugs into Inventory

No changes required to your Inventory

Additional Inventory Integrations coming
WebTally

A simple Inventory system for the yard

- Manages Tallied inventory and customer orders
- Runs on your company Intranet or open it securely to the Internet.
- WebTally is simple, WebTally is not an accounting system.

Just like Google - WebTally runs in a web browser SECURELY on your company’s internal network or on the Internet.
WebTally is Yard Paperwork on-line

- Tallies, Lot Sheets, Bill of Lading, Customer orders, Reports
- Inventory with History of when and what was shipped with tallies
- One button for Stock sheets, Production reports, Bundle statistics
Manage Inventory and Customer Orders

- One Click to: Change an order from NET to Gross BF
- One Click to: Find all 16’ packs of 8”+ wider 5/4 Cherry...
- One Click: Stock Sheet, pictures and statistics of a bundle...
PictureTally Log Scaling

PictureTally moving to Logs
Camera mounted to Boom CAB

Tree-length Sawmills
Slash and measure from
The CAB
Thank you