

■ **LUMBER 411**

By Jeff Easterling

Introducing “Lumber 411”

RECENT DATA indicates that the forest products industry in the U.S. employs upwards of 900,000 people, with a payroll of right around \$54 billion. From dimension lumber to paper, the forest industry is growing, vibrant, and an important segment of business to the country.

Here at NELMA, we represent sawmill owners from New England across to the Great Lakes region as their grading/rules-writing agency and de facto marketing department. In our 86 years of existence, the depth of information we’ve gathered within the industry is intriguing, and we look forward to sharing much of it with you in columns to come.

Check back here monthly for detailed information on a wide variety of topics designed to inform and educate about the ins, outs, positive contributions, and perhaps a dark secret or two about the lumber industry.

Got a particular wood-related topic you’d like us to address? Send a quick email to info@nelma.org, and we’ll get on it.

In the meantime and for your entertainment, please enjoy the latest edition of our first-ever wood industry comic strip, *Skip & Wane!*

– Jeff Easterling is president of NELMA (Northeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association). Reach him at info@nelma.org.



CAN YOU SPOT THE 10 DIFFERENCES IN THESE IMAGES?



CHECK YOUR ANSWERS AT NELMA.ORG/SKIPWANE

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