

## **Checklist: Ideas for Increasing Sawmill Profitability Today**

### *Log Yard*

- Double check log grades to make sure you get what you pay for
- Calculate estimated values for each log; remove low grade logs
- Process logs by value classes
- Check log lengths to avoid overly long logs
- End coat logs to prevent stain, dry ends, and checks
- FIFO or LIFO for stain control

### *Debarking*

- Check small end of logs for excessive wood loss

### *Sawing*

- Check lumber thickness to show trouble spots
- Check lumber thickness to get the best thickness
- Check sawyer's procedures--patterns, opening face, rotation
- Check volume recovery
- Consider short length lumber
- Sawyer training classes for sawyer
- Grading classes for sawyer
- Send sawyer to visit major customers
- Know quality requirements for each customer
- Conduct group seminars on mill improvement

### *Edging and Trimming*

- Check lumber for adequate wane. Check the number of pieces requiring remanufacturing (under-edged or under-trimmed) when grading--5 percent is probably optimum
- Negotiate edging reduction agreement with purchaser
- Edging and trimming seminars for mill employees
- Grading classes for edgemen and trimmermen
- Send edgemen and trimmermen to visit major customers
- Know quality requirements for each customer
- Group seminars on mill improvement

### *Grading*

- Hire national inspector to spend a day in the mill
- Advanced lumber grading training for graders
- Send graders to visit major customers
- Group seminars on mill improvement

### *Marketing*

- Visit major customers
- Compile quality list for each customer
- Explore opportunities for unedged lumber
- Explore opportunities for short length lumber
- Consider planing on the two wide faces; consider planing on the two edges and two faces

- \_\_\_ Consider adding a kiln (especially smaller capacity units)
- \_\_\_ Improve packaging