

RYSZARD (RICHARD) SZYMANI, PH.D.

Wood Machining Scientist, WMI, Berkeley, CA, www.woodmachining.com

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Product liability and patent infringement litigation support for cases involving cutting tools and wood machining equipment and operations, such as table saws and sawing, planer knives and planing, molding and shaping. Support includes accident investigation, reports, and expert witness testimony. Since 1978 has consulted in over 100 cases and testified in courts of Arizona, California, Florida and New York.

CREDENTIALS

Ph.D., Wood Science and Technology, University of California, Berkeley, 1977; M.Sc., Engineering Science - Mechanical Engineering, University of California, Berkeley, 1974; M.Sc., Wood Science, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, 1970; M.Eng., Wood Technology, College of Agriculture, Poznan, Poland, 1963.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Founder/Director and Technical Consultant, Wood Machining Institute, an international information center for the wood industry and machinery and cutting tools manufacturers, Berkeley, California, 1984-present; Adjunct Professor, Department of Wood and Paper Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, advisor to tooling research program, 1991-present; Research Scientist/Technical Consultant, California Cedar Products Company, Stockton, California, doing research on the wear of cutting tools, reduction of kerf losses during sawing, and consulting in the general area of wood machining, including machine guarding and worker safety, 1984-1998; Wood Processing Specialist, UC Berkeley, Cooperative Extension and the Forest Products Laboratory, Richmond, California, provided technical assistance to the wood industry in California and initiated short courses on circular and band saws, with international participation, 1979-1983; Assist. Professor, Forest Products Department, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, taught courses on the manufacture of lumber, veneer and chips, and associated equipment, 1977-79; Assistant Specialist, UC Forest Products Laboratory, Richmond, California, conducted research on veneer peeling, pre-stressing (tensioning) of circular saws and saw stiffness and stability analysis, 1970-1977; Research Assistant at UBC, Vancouver, B.C. Canada, conducted research on corrugated board cutting by high energy liquid jet, 1968-1970; Scientific Assistant at Austrian Wood Research Institute, Vienna, Austria, 1965 – 1968. Engineer at Warski's Shipyard, Szczecin, Poland, 1964-1965.

PUBLICATIONS

Published over 70 papers, 19 conference proceedings, and over 30 research reports related to wood machining and cutting tools. Since January 1984, Editor and Publisher of an international bimonthly newsletter, *Wood Machining News*, with subscribers in 23 countries. Published 145 issues as of February 2008.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Initiated and served as program chairman for ten International Conferences on Sawing Technology (1989 - 2007) and three on Computers in Furniture and Cabinet Manufacturing (1992-1996). Developed technical programs for eleven International Conferences on Scanning Technology and Process Optimization in the Wood Industry (1985-2007) and for two International Wood Machining Seminars (1981 & 2001). Has been conducting annual workshops on design, operation, and maintenance of circular and band saws and several workshops on wood machining and cutting tools in the U.S. beginning in 1980, as well as having made over 85 technical presentations at various conferences and seminars in the U.S., Canada, Japan, South Africa, Australia, Argentina, Brazil and in several European countries.

MEMBER

American National Standard Institute-ANSI 01.1 Committee on Safety Requirements for Woodworking Machinery (1983-1997); American Society of Mechanical Engineers (1975-2003); Forest Products Society; Society of Manufacturing Engineers; Society of Wood Science and Technology (1977-2000); International Union of Forest Research Organizations – Chairman of the Working Party Milling and Machining (1990-1998); and Fellow of the International Academy of Wood Science.

LANGUAGES

Fluent in English, Polish, and German and a working knowledge of Russian.

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