



## News Briefs

### Wholesale / Manufacturer

**Murphy Builds LVL Plant, Takes Over Veneer Facility:**

Two years ago, a fire destroyed Murphy Plywood's mill in Sutherlin, Or. Today, the Eugene, Or.-based company is completing a new LVL facility on the same site and has purchased a veneer plant in Elma, Wa., from Weyerhaeuser.

Scheduled to open this fall, the new LVL plant measures 215,000 sq. ft. and will cost an estimated \$61 million.

Various tax credits and state grants-including a \$100,000 grant from the Governor's Strategic Reserve Fund-helped the company rebuild after the fire. Training for the new plant's 80 workers-who will operate the latest computerized equipment-will be partially funded by local and state monies. The company will also receive a tax exemption because wages paid will be 150% of the county's average.

Purchase of Weyerhaeuser's veneer plant in Elma was scheduled to be complete by the end of July. The facility can produce up to 165 million sq. ft. of green and dry veneer annually, which Weyerhaeuser used to make engineered support beams for homes. The company has more than a dozen other veneer plants across the United States.

Officials from both companies assured the plant's 60 workers that no layoffs were planned.

Earlier this year, the nearly 100-year-old company launched a website to provide current and potential customers with timely information on company product lines.

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