

INDUSTRY NEWS

Lumber Prices

ALL wood items are increasing in price. After a short pause in late January, prices came back increasing weekly in the case of framing lumber, plywood and OSB. Towards the extreme end would be OSB/waferboard items which are close to double their last year cost. These, however, are not isolated examples. Treated lumber, cedar items, framing lumber, LVL, timbers and all other wood products are trending upwards. Even items that you'd have to think about being wood products: hardboard siding and trim, doors, etc., are increasing significantly. We've heard of advance notifications on increases on roofing, drywall, insulation and many other categories. Most of these types of building materials are talking about multiple price increases in 2013. About the only exceptions are metal products whose increases have been minimal. We advise watching your quotes and jobs carefully as these increases can quickly eat into your bottom line. These price run-ups are mostly attributable to a supply side shortcoming. Over the past few years because of the economic slowdown, especially in construction, all manufacturers have substantially reduced production. They are unable and/or unwilling to ramp up production in the short term. Understandably to some extent, they want the predictability of continued demand/growth.

FRLCO NEWS

Holidays

Looking forward to the summer and so are we! We will be closed all day for all three summer holidays: Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day. We will be open regular hours before and after each of those holidays.

We be social!

We are now using social media!

FOLLOW us on TWITTER:
www.twitter.com/frontrangelumbr

LIKE us on FACEBOOK:
www.facebook.com/frontrangelumberco

FOLLOW our BLOG:
frontrangelumber.blogspot.com

KENT'S CORNER

I could talk about window warranties but that is boring, since the Milgard has the best warranty in the business. I could talk about business: there is still no trend; some of us are very busy, others not. I could talk about prices: yep they are high and probably going up still on almost everything. All door wholesalers are now on the extreme east side of town with moulding wholesalers. That means there are no quick, easy ways to get these items. Trex is changing their size again, now going to 7/8" thick! All this is unexciting, so let me tell you what I have learned from my wife during the last 23 years.

First off, the logic of a man will not stand up to the logic of a woman. I try less to understand and argue and more to accept. It is a good idea to keep extra stocks of "bathroom tissue". (Us guys call it other things.) Women seem to worry a lot about running out. Also we have lots of different bottles of shampoo and conditioner. These must be for every shade of hair color she has at different times.

My biggest lesson is that when my beloved is yelling at me, she says that she is not yelling. At 52 years old, can't believe that I still am misinterpreting. At least years ago I learned to put the seat down. She still forgets to leave it up for me. I also do not make fun of her purse that gets bigger and bigger. It holds many of our most important papers.

One last thing: If your wife needs to throw away some old clothes, suggest that it is because they are out of fashion, not too small.

TAKING STOCK...

Cedar

We've made a great buy-in of 2x4-8 and 4x4-8 cedar posts and rails for fencing and other projects. These are a grade substantially higher than normal fence grade, we were excited to offer them at prices very competitive to fence grade.

Also in the fence category, **FRONT RANGE LUMBER** has added a Western Red Cedar 4" picket supplementing our 7/8" dry "supreme" Inland Red Cedar picket. This new item is 3/4" thick, rough sawn on both faces. This is not a truly graded both sides picket, but may better satisfy customer demands of an even better looking picket – meaning both sides of the fence look the same (although one side will have the posts and rails. Remember virtually ALL lumber is graded to only one face and side edge.

All cedar products continued to increase in price over the winter, bucking the normal trend of moving downward in the "off-season". We anticipate prices will remain at high levels throughout 2013. No retail lumberyard in the Denver area carries the breadth and depth of cedar products as **FRONT RANGE LUMBER**.

Product Availability

Associated with price increases, mainly caused by tight supplies, are availability of product. Especially heading into the summer, we are hearing of tighter supplies in many categories. The primary impact will be higher grades of lumber and other types of material. There is the possibility of allocation of product through the distribution chain, mostly particularly in insulation.

The best strategy is to plan your job early to ensure all materials are available on site before you need them. Also, looking for alternative

materials to use is a great option. There are so many different products available – the alternative just might be the single best solution for you anyway.

Blue Stain Pine

Blue stain pine is currently very much in fashion. Please remember that the “blueness” varies wildly from board to board, the grade rules dictate any amount of blue within the board makes it a #3 grade. Within the #3 grade, you literally can have one board that is clear – no knots and the “perfect board” running to the next board containing open knotholes and other defects – all are allowed in this grade. The upside is blue stain pine is generally far less expensive than most alternatives, affording the opportunity to budget a few extra boards and complete your project economically. Remember that contrary to many people’s expectations, very little blue stain is sourced locally, despite having wide swathes of beetle killed trees close by the Denver area – including both sides of I-70 going up to the tunnel! We stock the popular 1x6 T&G AND a variety of boards 1x4 thru 1x12 in up to 16’ lengths. Blue Stain is also available in 2x4 through 2x12 boards on a special order basis.

PROFIT SHARING

Saving a buck

Generally 14’ length boards are less expensive to purchase on a PER FOOT basis. They are a good compromise between getting a longer length board and saving money – keep this in mind on your next project.

Exterior Trim

Many different items can be used for exterior trim on homes, offices and other construction. If the surface will be painted, we feel the best product to use is the Miratec brand. Made in both the 3/4 and 5/4 thicknesses in

widths running from 2” to 12”, Miratec comes in pre-primed 16’ lengths for minimal waste. Sure, there are many other brands available, but Miratec is the only one piece product and is warranted for 30 years. The warranty even includes coverage on hail damage! We’ve tried the others and have always had delamination or other product failure. Who needs more hassle – stay with quality products to prevent extra work, call-backs and poor performance.

PRODUCT NEWS

TREX

To provide an even better performing decking material and ensure years of use, Trex is replacing the “accents” decking line-up after this year with their latest product – “Selects”. Selects will be a PVC capped (wrapped) around a wood/plastic composite core. This affords a more weather and damage resistant decking. The decking will come in both square edge style and grooved – for a hidden fastener. Selects will be in similar colors as Accents: Winchester Grey, Saddle, Woodland Brown and Madiera Red.

BUILT RIGHT...

Foam

Watch the use of expanding foams around doors and windows. Some types will expand so much they can alter the frame of a door or window and creating further problems. Many window manufacturers will not warranty their products if expanding foam was used.

Doors

Remember the most important place to seal a door is the top and bottom edges. Even though these are not seen, they can wick moisture up from the bottom and release it through the top if left unsealed. This may cause warpage or panel cracking.

Fasteners

Are you using the correct fasteners on joist hangers and other connections? Using a 1-1/2” teco nails is generally not to the manufacturer’s requirements or to code. Many hangers require special fasteners of one sort or another. If you are in doubt ask us. Another great resource to use is the Simpson StrongTie website www.strongtie.com

Quality

There are loads of items in the marketplace where you don’t exactly know what you’re getting in quality. These could include milk, cars, wine and gas. We’re proud to be in a field where quality can be readily perceived. An example is lattice panels – the lattice we stock is noticeably thicker and beefier, what’s best and stronger? Therefore, many building materials aren’t “blind items”. Other examples include thicker pickets, free of heart center timbers, warranties and available lengths (remember Front Range Lumber carries those needed long lengths). Most items don’t require you to be an expert to discern the quality involved.

Hidden Fasteners

Of course nobody wants all those screw heads lined up on their brand new deck – but most hidden fastening systems are very labor intensive and expensive. If you haven’t looked into the CAMO hidden deck fastening system, you’re missing out on a great option. CAMO is the first easy and inexpensive system to attach any type of decking to your framing. It’s simple affordable tool presets decking to automatically preset the spacing, holds the screw and requires no pre-drilling. Screws don’t have to be color coded – one job’s extra gets you going on the next. Two lengths are available for 1x or 5/4 and 2x decking in a variety

of packages to fit your quantity needs. Ask us for more details.

FUNNIES

Merriam's or Webster's Next Edition

These fit so well they should be in the dictionary:

ADULT. A person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle.

BEAUTY PARLOR. A place where women curl up and dye.

CHICKENS. The only animals you eat before they are born and after they are dead.

COMMITTEE. A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.

DUST. Mud with the juice squeezed out.

EGOTIST. Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.

HANDKERCHIEF. Cold Storage.

INFLATION. Cutting money in half without damaging the paper.

MOSQUITO. An insect that makes you like flies better.

RAISIN. A grape with a sunburn.

SECRET. Something you tell to one person at a time.

SKELETON. A bunch of bones with the person scraped off.

TOOTHACHE. The pain that drives you to extraction.

TOMORROW. One of the greatest labor saving devices of today.

YAWN. An honest opinion openly expressed.

WRINKLES. Something other people have, similar to my character lines.

How Children Perceive Their Grandparents:

She was in the bathroom, putting on her makeup, under the watchful eyes of her young granddaughter, as she'd done many times before. After she applied her lipstick and started to leave, the little one said, "But

Grandma, you forgot to kiss the toilet paper good-bye!" I will probably never put lipstick on again without thinking about kissing the toilet paper good-bye....

My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, 62. My grandson was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"

After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. Finally, she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the three-year-old say with a trembling voice, "Who was THAT?"

A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this all in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and I said, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.

A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story. "What's it about?" he asked. "I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."

I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me and was always correct. It was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the

door, saying, "Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these colors yourself!"

When my grandson Billy and I entered our vacation cabin, we kept the lights off until we were inside to keep from attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in. Noticing them before I did, Billy whispered, "It's no use Grandpa. Now the mosquitoes are coming after us with flashlights."

When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure." "Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised "Mine says I'm 4 to 6."

A second grader came home from school and said to her grandmother, "Grandma, guess what? We learned how to make babies today." The grandmother, more than a little surprised, tried to keep her cool. "That's interesting," she said. "How do you make babies?" "It's simple," replied the girl. "You just change 'y' to 'i' and add 'es'."

A grandfather was delivering his grandchildren to their home one day when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian dog. The children started discussing the dog's duties. "They use him to keep crowds back," said one child. "No," said another. "He's just for good luck." A third child brought the argument to a close. "They use the dogs," she said firmly, "to find the fire hydrants."

A 6-year-old was asked where his grandma lived. "Oh," he said, "she lives at the airport, and when we want her, we just go get her. Then, when we're done having her visit, we take her back to the airport."

Grandpa is the smartest man on earth! He teaches me good things, but I don't get to see him enough to get as smart as him!

My Grandparents are funny, when they bend over, you hear gas leaks and they blame their dog!

Blonds aren't so dumb!

A blonde walks into a bank in New York City and asks for the loan officer. She says she's going to Europe on business for two weeks and needs to borrow \$5000. The bank officer says the bank will need some kind of collateral for the loan, so the blonde hands over the keys to a new Mercedes Benz SL500. The car is parked on the street in front of the bank. She has the title and everything checks out. The bank agrees to accept the car as security against her vacation loan. An employee drives the Mercedes in the bank's underground garage and parks it.

Two weeks later, the blonde returns. She repays the \$5000 and the interest, which comes to \$15.41. The loan officer says, "Miss, we are very happy to have your business, and this transaction has worked out very nicely, but we're a little confused. While you were away, we checked you out and found you were a multi-millionaire. What puzzles us is why would you borrow \$5000?"

The blonde replies, "Where else in New York City can I park my car for two weeks for only \$15.41 and expect it to be there when I get back?"

Nagging Questions

Can you cry under water?

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?

Why do you have to 'put your two cents in'... but it's only a 'penny for your thoughts'? Where's that extra penny going to?

Once you're in heaven, do you get stuck wearing the clothes you were buried in for eternity?

Why does a round pizza come in a square box?

What disease did cured ham actually have?

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Why is it that people say they 'slept like a baby' when babies wake up like every two hours?

If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?

Why are you IN a movie, but you're ON TV?

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

Why do doctors leave the room while you change? They're going to see you naked anyway...

Why is 'bra' singular and 'panties' plural?

Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?

If Jimmy cracks corn and no one cares, why is there a stupid song about him?

If the professor on Gilligan's Island can make a radio out of a coconut, why can't he fix a hole in a boat?

Why does Goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They're both dogs!

If Wile E. Coyote had enough money to buy all that ACME junk, why didn't he just buy dinner?

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?

If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?

Do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?

Why did you just try singing the two songs above?

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window? Why, why, why?

Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are almost dead?

Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they know there is not enough money?

Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Whose idea was it to put an 'S' in the word 'lisp'?

If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?

Why is it that no matter what color bubble bath you use the bubbles are always white?

Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?

Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?

Why do people keep running over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?

Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the end on your first try?

How do those dead bugs get into those enclosed light fixtures?

When we are in the supermarket and someone rams our ankle with a shopping cart then apologizes for doing so, why do we say, 'It's all right?' Well, it isn't all right, so why don't we say, 'That really hurt, why don't you watch where you're going?'

Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?

In winter why do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat? How come you never hear father-in-law jokes?

And a FAVORITE:

The statistics on sanity is that one out of every four persons is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends -- if they're okay, then it's you.

Answers to Other Nagging Questions

Q: Why do men's clothes have buttons on the right while women's clothes have buttons on the left?

A: When buttons were invented, they were very expensive and worn primarily by the rich. Since most people are right-handed, it is easier to push buttons on the right through holes on the left. Because wealthy women were dressed by maids, dressmakers put the buttons on the maid's right! And that's where women's buttons have remained since.

Q: Why do ships and aircraft use 'mayday' as their call for help?

A: This comes from the French word m'aidez -meaning 'help me' -- and is pronounced, approximately, 'mayday.'

Q: Why are zero scores in tennis called 'love'?

A: In France, where tennis became popular, round zero on the scoreboard looked like an egg and was called 'l'oeuf,' which is French for 'egg.' When tennis was introduced in the US, Americans (mis)pronounced it 'love.'

Q: Why do X's at the end of a letter signify kisses?

A: In the Middle Ages, when many people were unable to read or write, documents were often signed using an X. Kissing the X represented an oath to fulfill obligations specified in the document. The X and the kiss eventually became synonymous.

Q: Why is shifting responsibility to someone else called 'passing the buck'?

A: In card games, it was once customary to pass an item, called a buck, from player to player to indicate whose turn it was to deal. If a player did not wish to assume the responsibility of dealing, he would 'pass the buck' to the next player.

Q: Why do people clink their glasses before drinking a toast?

A: It used to be common for someone to try to kill an enemy by offering him a poisoned drink. To prove to a guest that a drink was safe, it became customary for a guest to pour a small amount of his drink into the glass of the host. Both men would drink it simultaneously. When a guest trusted his host, he would only touch or clink the host's glass with his own.

Q: Why are people in the public eye said to be 'in the limelight'?

A: Invented in 1825, limelight was used in lighthouses and theatres by burning a cylinder of lime which produced a brilliant light.. In the theatre, a performer 'in the limelight' was the center of attention.

Q: Why is someone who is feeling great 'on cloud nine'?

A: Types of clouds are numbered according to the altitudes they attain, with nine being the highest cloud. If someone is said to be on cloud nine, that person is floating well above worldly cares.

Q: In golf, where did the term 'Caddie' come from?

A. When Mary Queen of Scots went to France as a young girl, Louis, King of France, learned that she loved the Scots game 'golf.' So he had the first course outside of Scotland built for her enjoyment. To make sure she was properly chaperoned (and guarded) while she played, Louis hired cadets from a military school to accompany her. Mary liked this a lot and when she returned to Scotland (not a very

good idea in the long run), she took the practice with her. In French, the word cadet is pronounced 'ca-day' and the Scots changed it into 'caddie.'

Q: Why are many coin banks shaped like pigs?

A: Long ago, dishes and cookware were made of dense orange clay called 'pygg'. When people saved coins in jars made of this clay, the jars became known as 'pygg banks.' When an English potter misunderstood the word, he made a container that resembled a pig. And it caught on.

Q: Did you ever wonder why dimes, quarters and half dollars have notches (milling), while pennies and nickels do not?

A: The Mint began putting notches on the edges of coins containing gold and silver to discourage holders from shaving off small quantities of the precious metals. Dimes, quarters and half dollars are notched because they used to contain silver. Pennies and nickels aren't notched because the metals they contain are not valuable enough to shave.

23 Adult Truths

1. Sometimes I'll look down at my watch 3 consecutive times and still not know what time it is.
2. Nothing sucks more than that moment during an argument when you realize you're wrong.
3. I totally take back all those times I didn't want to nap when I was younger.
4. There is great need for a sarcasm font.
5. How the **** are you supposed to fold a fitted sheet?
6. Was learning cursive really necessary?
7. Map Quest really needs to start their directions on # 5. I'm pretty sure I know how to get out of my neighborhood.

8. Obituaries would be a lot more interesting if they told you how the person died.
9. I can't remember the last time I wasn't at least kind-of tired.
10. Bad decisions make good stories.
11. You never know when it will strike, but there comes a moment at work when you know that you just aren't going to do anything productive for the rest of the day.
12. Can we all just agree to ignore whatever comes after Blue Ray? I don't want to have to restart my collection...again.
13. I'm always slightly terrified when I exit out of Word and it asks me if I want to save any changes to my ten-page technical report that I swear I did not make any changes to.
14. I keep some people's phone numbers in my phone just so I know not to answer when they call.
15. I think the freezer deserves a light as well.
16. I disagree with Kay Jewelers. I would bet on any given Friday or Saturday night more kisses begin with Miller Light than Kay.
17. I wish Google Maps had an "Avoid Ghetto" routing option.
18. I have a hard time deciphering the fine line between boredom and hunger.
19. How many times is it appropriate to say "What?" before you just nod and smile because you still didn't hear or understand a word they said?
20. I love the sense of camaraderie when an entire line of cars team up to prevent a jerk from cutting in at the front.
21. Shirts get dirty. Underwear gets dirty. Pants? Pants never get dirty, and you can wear them forever.
22. Even under ideal conditions people have trouble locating their car keys in a pocket, finding their cell phone, and Pinning the Tail on the Donkey - but I'd bet everyone can find and push the snooze button from 3 feet away, in about 1.7 seconds, eyes closed, first time, every time.
23. The first testicular guard, the "Cup," was used in hockey in 1874 and the first helmet was used in 1974. That means it only took 100 years for hockey players to realize that their brain is also important.

C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R
<i>You can count days or make everyday count.</i>							
March							
10 th	Daylight Saving Time begins (Spring forward)						
17 th	St. Patrick's Day <i>Wear your GREEN!</i>						
20 th	First Day of Spring						
31 st	Easter						
April							
1 st	April Fool's Day						
15 th	Income Taxes Due!						
22 nd	Earth Day <i>How BIG is your carbon footprint?</i>						
May							
5 th	Cinco de Mayo						
6 th	Nurses Day						
7 th	National Teacher Day – <i>Thank one!</i>						
12 th	Mother's Day						
18 th	Armed Forces Day						
27 th	Memorial Day (Front Range Lumber will be closed)						

FRONT RANGE LUMBER COMPANY, INC.

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