

AWFS Public Policy: Get Involved, Make a Difference!

DECEMBER 4, 2018



Agenda for Today's Webinar

1. AWFS PUBLIC POLICY INTRO
2. AWFS TOPICS
3. CURRENT ISSUES AND NEWS
4. PUBLIC POLICY ACTIVITIES
5. WHY GET INVOLVED?
6. HOW TO GET INVOLVED
7. DC FLY-IN
8. CASE STUDY: ROB HOWELL/SCM
9. QUESTIONS & CONTACT INFORMATION

AWFS PUBLIC POLICY INTRODUCTION

- ▶ AWFS® is dedicated to public policy efforts reflecting the specific interests of its members and those of the broader wood products manufacturing industry.
- ▶ Members of the AWFS Public Policy Committee stay abreast of emerging trends and take action to neutralize potential threats.
- ▶ The association is active at the federal level through LobbyIt and participation in associations such as NAM (National Association of Manufacturers) and coalitions focused on Career Technical Education and skilled workforce development.

AWFS PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES

- ▶ Current focus on support of Career Technical Education and Workforce Development legislation:
 - ▶ Perkins Bill
 - ▶ Apprenticeships
 - ▶ Work-based learning
- ▶ Tariffs and Trade Policy
- ▶ Regulatory issues:
 - ▶ Formaldehyde in composite products; CARB air quality
 - ▶ EPA TSCA VI
- ▶ Also monitoring: healthcare, labor, and other issues that affect small business

PUBLIC POLICY REPORT

- ▶ Jason Ortega
Senior Director
LobbyIt.com



AWFS PUBLIC POLICY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Letter-writing/calling campaigns
- ▶ Data collection, surveys
- ▶ AWFS.org/public-policy web page posts news, updates and opportunities
- ▶ Representative site visits
- ▶ AWFS Public Policy Committee
 - ▶ Quarterly 1 hour phone meetings
 - ▶ Communication between meetings through Basecamp
 - ▶ Participation in DC Fly-in
- ▶ Annual DC Fly-in – **March 26-28, 2018**

WHY PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC POLICY?

- ▶ Opportunity to connect with your representatives
- ▶ Express your concerns and needs to legislators
- ▶ Unified voice strengthens our industry and your community, more likely to impact change
- ▶ Learn about legislation that is impacting your company and industry
- ▶ Participate in the government process, opportunity to become an active citizen
- ▶ Network with industry peers



AWFS member and staff with Rep. Lou Correa (D-CA-46), left, Feb 2017

HOW TO GET INVOLVED IN PUBLIC POLICY?

- ▶ Look for updates and opportunities on webpage, e-mail blasts
- ▶ Visit your local representative; invite your representatives to your company, host an open house, MFG Day event
- ▶ To join the AWFS Public Policy committee, contact Adria Salvatore:
adria@awfs.org or (323) 215-0311
- ▶ Members of the AWFS Public Policy committee are sponsored by AWFS to attend the DC Fly-in (travel and hotel costs paid)
- ▶ ALL AWFS member company representatives can attend the DC fly-in!
March 26-28, 2018, RSVP by Jan 11

PURPOSE OF DC FLY-IN

- ▶ Establish AWFS as a resource for Congress
- ▶ To build relationships with your Members and their staff
- ▶ To tell our industry's story and highlight the need for skilled workforce training
- ▶ To advocate for Career Technical Education and workforce development legislation



AWFS members and staff with Rep. Glenn "GT" Thompson (R-PA-5) (Sept 2015)

HOW DOES A DC FLY-IN WORK?

- ▶ 2-day visit to DC
- ▶ AWFS and LobbyIt arrange “hill visits” with legislators and coordinates your agenda
- ▶ Information and materials about topics are provided in advance
- ▶ Group meets to review agenda, topics, distribute materials, and plan for the day
- ▶ Break into smaller groups for hill visits (lots of walking, tight schedule!)
- ▶ Reconvene for recap (dinner)
- ▶ (After) Follow-up with thank you e-mails to representatives

CASE STUDY: ROB HOWELL AND SCM

- ▶ Rob Howell, Product Manager at SCM; Current AWFS Public Policy Committee Chair
- ▶ Met with Representative Rob Woodall (R-GA-7) during Feb, 2018 DC Fly-in:
 - ▶ Expressed need for skilled workers
 - ▶ Invited Rep. Woodall to SCM for event in June
- ▶ Rep. Woodall spoke at SCM, learned about the need for skilled workers and exciting technology developments in our industry!



Questions?

THANK YOU!

Contact:
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(323) 215-0311



AWFS Members at DC Fly-in, Feb 2018