

Diebold Lumber Company

Troutdale, Oregon – Member Since 2009



Diebold Lumber Company is a full service remanufacturer of secondary wood products with experience in hard and soft woods located in Troutdale, Oregon. Three generations have held the reins of the Diebold Lumber Company.

The story began with Carl Diebold – he opened a wholesale lumber office in Portland, Oregon in 1940 and it became Carl Diebold Lumber Company. Diebold expanded his company by building a stud mill in Myrtle Point, Oregon. His son-in-law, Dean Bramon returned from service in World War II and took over the operation of the stud mill. In 1952, Diebold and Bramon purchased a redwood mill in Smith River,



Carl Diebold and Son-In-Law Dean Bramon in the early days of Carl Diebold Lumber Company.



Carl Diebold Lumber Company during the hey day of Redwood.

California and closed the Myrtle Point mill the next year. Redwood was in high demand and the company expanded its marketing by building a distribution yard along Highway 84 in Wood Village, Oregon.

Redwood was a booming business because of World War II and the post-war construction boom. However, as the years went by and times changed, the Carl Diebold Company found itself in a quandary. President Lyndon Johnson signed the bill that created “The Redwood National Park” in 1968 which took the redwood logs off the open market. Without access to the logs, the Smith River mill could no longer operate.

Carl Diebold passed away seven years later in 1975, but the distribution yard continued to thrive under Bramon’s leadership. Because of the increase in business, Bramon opened a small remanufacturing plant to service the Carl Diebold clients. Before a decade had gone past Bramon and his son-in-law, Jim Patrick, determined that there was a great need for a custom remanufacturing plant that would be large enough to service



Employee, Alberto Lopez, is feeding the Weing Moulder.

other brokers in the lumber sales industry. The demand from customers and the size limitations of the facility convinced the team that they needed to expand the operation.

Jim Patrick had over twenty years of experience in the company when he took over the new remanufacturing facility in Troutdale, Oregon. The new plant was built in 1989 on 17 acres and now features a 40,000 square foot milling facility and a 40,000 square foot covered storage area. In 2005, three kilns with a 240,000 board foot capacity, and a 15,000 square foot building for sticking and de-sticking, were added. Longtime employee Dave Smith is the Executive Plant Superintendent. The loyalty to the business was in his genes, as his father was the superintendent of the Smith River facility in the 60s.



One of Diebold's 54 inch McDonough Resaws, processing a run of beveled siding.

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Diebold Lumber is unique in that it offers custom drying, remanufacturing, packaging shipment and container loading (domestic and international) in one location. They run two Wienig Moulders, two 54-inch McDonough R/S with tilt feed, Watkins Gang Rip and American Wood Dryer kilns. The plant has the ability to assist in customer program development, creativity, the ability to respond quickly on short notice and deal with multiple small order runs versus large single product runs. The site is one of the cleanest in the industry with 17 acres of paved surface and has been recognized as such in the past. The flexibility that the plant provides Diebold's customers, and the individual attention, sets Diebold Lumber apart from many other lumber distribution facilities.



Diebold Lumber Company has three American Wood Dryer kilns with a 240,000 board foot capacity.



The "Grinding Room" has a large variety of knives. Customized patterns are not a problem.

"We are in the process of implementing our own LEAN initiative, engaging and challenging our supervisors to look at all processes for efficiency gains. It is a world with less volume and we are meeting the change head on." Jerry also said "TPM is always available and responds quickly to questions we have on human resource issues and safety." Utilizing resources that are available is key to success.

Today, Diebold Lumber has immediate plans for a twin horizontal band saw installation to allow efficient processing of larger timbers which will in turn help their customers who are seeking ways to improve their margins. The company is also in the process of investing in a rail spur to assist with customer's transportation costs in and out of the facility.

When asked about adjusting to the deflated market and finding ways to cut costs, Jerry Lawson, VP of Sales stated,



Rolando Morales is preparing a shipment in the packaging area.



Diebold Lumber Company booth at the NAWLA Traders Market in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dave Smith and Jerry Lawson met with many new prospective customers and vendors at the North American Wholesale Lumber Association (NAWLA) Traders Market held in Las Vegas, Nevada. They took advantage of the opportunity to invest in a booth and sponsorship to expose their company to others in the industry who may not have known about their company and the advantages of working with Diebold Lumber. It has proven to be a successful endeavor and they are very pleased with the results.

Three generations have made Diebold Lumber the success it is today. Diebold Lumber Company remains dedicated to quality, service and offers the personal touch to its products and to its customers.

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