

New kilns spell good news for the railway

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NOUVELLE: – The increase in the Nouvelle sawmill's lumber drying capacity spells good news for the Gaspésie Railway Society. A greater proportion of dried wood means that the exports to the United States will increase, considering that loaded railway cars cost less than truck trailers when the distance is

greater. "The American market only takes dried wood. It is not possible to send green wood south of the border. The train will be favoured. Our shipments will be made by train as much as possible. It will diminish the pressure of finding trucks. We will double our train loads for sure," explains Temrex director general Michel Bigaouette. The Nouvelle sawmill currently ships

approximately 450 to 500 carloads of lumber by rail annually. So a target of 900 to 1,000 carloads of lumber is foreseeable within the next year or two. Temrex also ships between 1,000 and 1,100 carloads of wood chips to the White Birch paper mill in Rivière-du-Loup on a yearly basis. A smaller increase could also occur for that woodchip traffic. It is not quantified yet.