



WOODISM INFO

Information about the European Research in the wood industry – Number 4, 2006

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News about FP7

- **Cordis**

CORDIS, the information space devoted to European research and development (R&D) and innovation activities, has updated **its Towards FP7 Service**, a gateway to information on the preparation of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). The service now includes even more information on this upcoming programme for research and technological development.

Link: http://cordis.europa.eu/search/index.cfm?fuseaction=news.simpledocument&N_RCN=26306

- **New FP7 website opened**

The European Commission has opened an New FP7 website.

Link: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/>

- **FP7 launch event on 7 March 2007**

On 7 March 2007, representatives of the German EU Presidency and the European Commission will open a major event on European research in Brussels.

This event will mark the launch of the Seventh Framework Programme 2007-2013 (the main EU instrument to support research), which will devote close to €50 billion to European and international co-operation in science and technology. The overall aim of the event is to raise the level of political commitment to European research, expand media coverage and increase public awareness.

Political speeches and public exhibition will create a sense of excitement about research and the possibilities it holds for Europe's future. The exhibition will showcase European success stories in science and technology, and some of the remarkable achievements of EU-funded research projects.

Link: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/events/>

- **European Parliament adopts report on FP7**

The European Parliament has adopted the report outlining the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) by an overwhelming majority. This endorses the structure of FP7. The report now gives broad support to the European Commission's proposed work programme, which will have a budget of EUR 50,521 billion.

Link:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fetch?CALLER=FP7_NEWS&ACTION=D&RCN=25836&DOC=24&CAT=NEWS&QUERY=1153214853887

European Innovation: "Regenerating innovation in Europe's forests (European Commission, July 2006)

Forests, and products made from wood, have a long history in Europe. They account for some 9% of manufacturing jobs and turnover in Europe, but much is vulnerable to competition from overseas. Innovation is essential if this industry – as any other – is to secure a strong future in Europe, and the sector is now coming together, realising that co-operation in research and innovation can help ensure its place in the coming years.

Download the whole article here (page 9 – 12): ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/itt/docs/ei06_4_en.pdf

European Innovation: “Making more of SMEs’ potential” (European Commission, September 2006)

“SMEs are at the heart of the Lisbon Partnership: we need to improve the framework conditions for enterprises.”

The European Commission is taking steps to raise the profile of EU actions in support of SMEs – not only to make more people and firms aware of them, but to demonstrate the positive effects such initiatives have on Europe’s economy. A week of events around the Union in June aimed to launch this new phase in EU SME policy implementation.

Download the whole article here (page 3 - 4): ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/itt/docs/ei06_5_en.pdf

Woodism and its future actions

During its first two years WOODISM has had important achievements regarding its main focus of identifying SME needs, training among SMEs and researchers as well as pro-active support for the building up of efficient consortia in FP6. The second project year was dedicated to offering best service to SMEs and researchers interested in one of the remaining Calls relevant for the forest-based and related industries of the 6th Framework Programme. During the second project year we also started with the anticipation and preparation of SMEs active in the field of forest-based and related industries for the 7th Framework Programme. This important work will be the main aspect of the third and last project year.

For more information about WOODISM contact the website: <http://www.tts.fi/woodism/index.html>

CALLS

WoodWisdom-Net partners will launch the first call of a joint European research programme in November

At the end of March 2006 WoodWisdom-Net completed an important milestone in the project, identifying and selecting the first research areas to support shaping of a Joint European Research and Technical Development (RTD) programme in the area of wood material science and engineering with common funding and administration. The development of shared research agendas and their implementation has been a challenging task. The number of participating funding organisations is large, and all WoodWisdom-Net countries have expressed their interest to participate in the first Call, the countries including, Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Norway, Sweden, and United Kingdom.

After internet-based evaluation and discussions in several evaluation workshops it was decided that the first call of the common programme will concentrate in two areas: sustainable forestry, and new products and processes.

Find more information here:

<http://www.woodwisdom.net/programmes/>

<http://www.nexdo.com/view.do?w=79>

<http://www.woodwisdom.net/news/see.html?id=199>

EVENTS

22. – 23. November 2006, Lahti, Finland: Forest-Based Sector Technology Platform

The Forest-Based Sector Technology Platform has gone through an intensive preparatory phase to define its Vision 2030 and Strategic Research Agenda. Now is the time to turn these excellent plans into action.

The aim of the conference is to promote the implementation of the Strategic Research Agenda strongly and stimulate industry, the research community and financial backers to initiate significant projects and get behind **innovation**.

Who should attend?

The conference is aimed at

- R&D experts from the forest industry, research institutes and universities
- Decision-makers and stakeholders from all relevant segments of the Forest-Based Sector
- Representatives of the European Commission and national funding agencies
- Members of the European Parliament and
- Industrial and forest owner federations and associations.

Link: <http://www.forestplatform.org/>

10. – 13. October 2006, St. Petersburg, Russia: VIII International Forestry Forum

For the first time the three most important forest events will be held at the same time in Russia: the 8th International Forestry Congress, the 6th All-Russian Congress of Foresters and the final of the 3rd International Junior Forestry Contest.

The Forum will unite following programs:

- congress and conference program: plenary session, congress of international business cooperation, international branch conferences, round tables, seminars;
- business program: exchange of business contacts, presentations, Days of regions;
- exhibition program: international specialized exhibitions covering all branches of the forestry complex;
- contest program: including – junior.

Link: <http://www.spiff.ru/en/>

25. – 27. October, Freiburg, Germany: ForestXchange International Conference

The international conference in Freiburg, Germany, addresses these issues at the interdisciplinary level, bringing together experts in knowledge management not only in forestry. The conference offers new theoretical approaches and aims to transfer practical experiences from other disciplines of knowledge management to forestry. Within these discussions, also integrated aspects of knowledge management where technological solutions (e.g. web-based knowledge exchange) meet "communities of knowledge" will be addressed. The organisers of the event are the developers of the joint international information platform waldwissen.net and are part of an international network for knowledge transfer in the Alpine Space (KnowForAlp).

Link: <http://www.forestxchange.org/>

13. – 16. November 2006, Melbourne, Australia: Wood Science and Technology in 2100

The International Academy of Wood Science (IAWS) meeting is a timely opportunity to discuss strategies for raising the profile of wood science and technology.

Link:

<http://www.ensisiv.com/NewsEventsandPublications/EventsandSponsorship/IAWSAccommodationandVenue/tabid/163/Default.aspx>

21. – 22. November 2006, Versailles, France: ECTP Conference 2006

Aims of the conference

- To promote research proposals for 7th Framework Programme and EurekaBuild (Eureka umbrella on construction).
- To raise interest of stakeholders on the development of new strategies on research and innovation in the Construction sector, through the implementation of the ECTP Strategic Research Agenda.
- To present ECTP activities and results.
- To develop synergies with past and present research projects and with other European Technology Platforms.

Link: <http://www.ectp.org/plenary.asp>

11. – 12. December, Porto, Portugal: Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in Cultivated Forest

Link: <http://www.iefc.net/>

Success Story

CRAFT (Cooperative Research Action for Technology)

By means of CRAFT the European Community has offered a possibility to support innovative ideas for the private enterprises, especially SME's (Small Medium Enterprises). Through this method the development of new products and technology are funded by the European Community and thus the extension of the corresponding markets on the basis of European cooperation. With regard to cooperative research several SME's are placing an order (at least three SME's from two different countries) of specific problems or requests to R&E-Service providers with the execution of an important part of the necessary scientific and technological research activities.

Expert Knowledge with CRAFT

- Transfer of innovative ideas to the European Medium Wood- and Supply industry concerning market products
- High personal engagement regarding strategical interest and intention of communication
- English language as a basis of communication (e-mail, calling, meeting) indispensable
- Careful selection of the partners (interests of business, mentality, culture, language, sympathy)
- Presentation / poster / very important to take part at the fairs

One example for this project is the following one directed by Dr. Guido Hora, Dipl.-Phys., Fraunhofer-Institut für Holzforschung, WKI, in Braunschweig in cooperation with the following partners:

Rhenocoll-Werk (D)

Polzer GmbH (D)

Diogo Barbot (P)

Freisinger GmbH & Co. KG (A)

Holz-Gross GmbH (D)

Clariant GmbH (D)

Holzforschung Austria (A)

Instituto Nacional de Engenharia e Tecnologia Industrial (P)

Supported by

European Commission

Full-scale multilayer flow-coat technique - An environmental-friendly and cost saving alternative for the European joinery industry



This project was carried out within the scope of a European research project CRAFT (EU-BRITE EURAM III; BRST-CT98-5538) at the WKI with participation of enterprises and research institutes from Portugal, Austria and Germany. The major goals of this project were the development of a flowable top coat comprising optimal primer and intermediate flow-coats, investigations of the influence of various parameters during and after flow-coat application, improved quality, less environmental wastes and higher economic benefit and ecological and economical market analysis. The application with a flow-coat device reduces the number of grindings and saves coating material. Besides the saving of processing costs, the flow-coat technique is environmental-friendly, because of its enormous part of recyclable coating material compared with other application methods. A full scale flow-coat technique would cut the processing costs and thus could strengthen the market position of the wooden windows compared to other frame materials. The important technical requirements for a flowable top coat are: low tendency to foam and optimal penetration properties. Beside semi-transparent coating systems an opaque system should also be developed. Within the scope of a market study evidence has been collected that nearly all wooden window manufacturers in Germany making an annual turnover of more than 17,5 Mio. Euro own a flow-coat device. 80% of the enterprises with an annual turnover between 5 and 17,5 Mio. Euro and still 40 % of enterprises with an annual turnover below 5 Mio have invested already in a flow-coat device in their production facilities. The project results have shown that wooden window manufacturers already owning a flow-coat device for their priming and intermediate coating step can easily change to a full-scale flow-coat process incorporating the top coat technique with marginal efforts and at no additional investment costs. By doing so cost saving potentials can be realized by replacing the final manual spray-coat step.

Following the EU-CRAFT project, which gave promising results and led to 2 or 3 semi-transparent high-built stain coating systems with flowable top coat qualities a national project in Germany has been granted to the main SME proposer by the Deutsche Stiftung Umwelt (DBU). This additional project was necessary to fully exploit the potential of the EU-CRAFT project results by developing commercial projects, which will cover the whole range of transparent to opaque coating systems. Meanwhile some clients in Germany are using these new products with great success, especially concerning improved quality and lower production costs.

Innovation Award 2005 of the federal state Rhineland-Palatinate

For the above project invention Rhineland-Palatinate awarded a prize of innovation to the main SME proposer Rhenocoll, Konken, Germany. The awarded merits of the innovation were the reduction of the production costs due to 100 % recycling material within a closed coating cycle and the replacement of a manual spray coating step, the energy reduction, the environment friendliness, the new product generation and the new application technology for the final coating step.