

Fraunhofer-Institut für Holzforschung
Wilhelm-Klauditz-Institut - WKI
Frau Pichlmeier / Frau Peist
Bienroder Weg 54 E
38108 BRAUNSCHWEIG
GERMANY

PLEASE
AFFIX
STAMP



TIMETABLE & DEADLINES

7 March 2012 Deadline for submission of one page abstract
25 May 2012 Provisional programme and registration details published
15 September 2012 Deadline for submission of final papers, posters and presentations

10 - 12 October 2012 Symposium

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

Kris Wijnendaele / European Panel Federation
Bohumil Kasal / Fraunhofer WKI
Harald Schwab / Fraunhofer WKI

CONTACT

Fraunhofer Institute for Wood Research
Wilhelm-Klauditz-Institut - WKI
Ms Heike Pichlmeier / Ms Simone Peist
Bienroder Weg 54 E
38108 BRAUNSCHWEIG
GERMANY

Phone: +49-531-2155-212
Fax: +49-531-2155-200
E-Mail: info@wki.fraunhofer.de
Internet: www.wki.fraunhofer.de



MARITIM Airport Hotel, Hanover

**CALL FOR
PAPERS**

8th European Wood-Based Panel Symposium

**Enhancing the Technological and
Environmental Credentials of
Wood-based Panels**

MARITIM Airport Hotel

**Hanover / Germany
10 - 12 October 2012**

EPF European Panel Federation
WKI Fraunhofer Institute for Wood Research

In co-operation with:
FEROPA and **IVTH**

FOREWORD

Wood-based panels have been on the market for over five decades and have established themselves as indispensable materials in daily use in an ever increasing range of applications. Increased living standards in what used to be third-world countries result in an unprecedented demand for new housing construction, which inevitably leads to an increased demand for wood products, including wood-based panels. This, combined with concepts of sustainable growth, represents great opportunities for all industries including technology manufacturers, product developers, and panel manufacturers.

Notwithstanding this inherently positive outlook, the European panel sector is facing a number of challenges that will require new solutions. With the increased pressures on our ecosystem, sustainable products with a clear definition of their life-cycle performance are in demand. Wood-based panels are not an end product and are almost always used as a material in the subsequent production of goods. The produced goods are introduced to the market and the engineering parameters, which were important in material production and further processing, become secondary. The demand of the market for final products sold to customers determines the demand for wood-based panels. It is therefore logical that strengthened linkage and information flow between panel industries and consumers, however facilitated, will be of benefit to the industries and will shorten the development process and reaction time while offering enhanced opportunities to communicate the excellent environmental credentials of wood-based panels to the customer.

Our industries are well established and have potential for further development. Large-volume production facilities require large capital investments, large volume of raw materials and reduced flexibility. This all limits our ability to rapidly react to changing market demands and produce materials tailored to a particular use. Large production capacities concentrated on one location allow complete material utilisation, but require a steady flow of raw materials, which increases transportation costs.

Last but not least, wood availability at affordable cost and maintaining panel properties with modified resins and reduced weight are also huge challenges for the producers. This symposium intends to offer interesting new solutions to these challenges.

K. Wijnendaele (EPF)

B. Kasal (WKI)

SCOPE

This symposium traditionally brings together leaders in technology development and transfer and manufacturers of equipment and products with the panel industry. It is our intention that it provides a platform where competitors become partners in finding solutions that are of a common interest to all of us. In that, we wish you success.

PROGRAMME

The Symposium will include more than 25 key-note papers and technical presentations. Additional, a social programme will offer a forum for the exchange of ideas and know-how in a pleasant atmosphere. The oral presentations will be translated simultaneously into English, French and German.

LOCATION

The Symposium centre will be the MARITIM Airport Hotel. This hotel is located opposite the Hanover Airport. The tube station, connecting the airport and the central station of the city of Hanover, is just 50 meters away.

TOPICS

The general theme of the symposium will be

Enhancing the Technological and Environmental Credentials of Wood-based Panels

NEW CHALLENGES OF MARKET ACCEPTANCE

CHANGING INDUSTRY

TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENTS

ENVIRONMENTAL CREDENTIALS OF WOOD AND WOOD-BASED PANELS

DEVELOPING NEW MARKETS

LIGHTWEIGHT AND TAILOR-MADE PANELS

Please complete in block capitals or in typescript

Please send me the final programme

I would like to offer a paper

I would like to present a poster

An abstract (approx. 1 page) is enclosed

Title

Please note that the oral presentations will be selected on the basis of advances and innovations reported in the abstract.

SUBJECT AREA

- please mark only ONE box

New challenges of market acceptance

Changing industry

Technology and product developments

Environmental credentials of wood and wood-based panels

Developing new markets

Lightweight and tailor-made panels

Name

Organisation

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Country

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