European Organisation of the Sawmill Industry

- Solution for a more sustainable, resource efficient, and industrially stronger Europe

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WHO IS EOS?

The European Organization of the Sawmill Industry (EOS) is a Brussels-based non-profit association representing the interests of the European sawmilling sector and the benefits of its products. The collective expertise of EOS’s members provides a unique source of information both for and on the industry; coordinating essential exchanges of experience and knowledge among its members, the ability to provide technical assistance to legislators and to identify independent experts on specific issues.

Through its member countries EOS represents some 35,000 companies across Europe. Together they represent 75% of the total European sawn wood output and a turnover of almost 37 billion EUR, and 15% of the overall woodworking and furniture industry in EU.
Sawnwood Production

Softwood/Hardwood production

Year 2012

Million m³

European Union (EU-27)  Northern America  Asia  World

Source: FAOSTAT – cartography FCBA
European markets for sawnwood

Methodology: weighted average based on the weight of each country (Germany, Sweden, Finland, France, UK, Romania) in the total consumption of the sample. This sample represents 65% of the total EU-27 consumption of sawnwood.

Source: EOS-OES Members – calculations FCBA
1. Improved utilization of European forest resources (wood mobilisation) to create more jobs and profitability for the sawmill industry and Europe

2. Safeguarding the continuation of EU exports of wood and wooden products

3. Certification of origin, sustainability and legality of construction products required for all materials

4. Improvement of European transportation of sawn goods

5. Standardization of the wooden products to enhance competitiveness

6. Research and development to support the demand growth
IMPROVED WOOD MOBILIZATION

Forests and other wooded land cover over 40% of the EU land area with a great diversity of character across the different regions. Afforestation and natural succession of vegetation, have increased EU forest area over the last decade by around 2%. In Europe, with only 60-70% of the annual increment being cut, the growing stock of wood is also rising.

EU’s forest owners should be given a clear incentive to sell more in a more organized way to support job creation, economic growth, climate mitigation and renewable energy production.

Technologies for using waste and recycled wood in industrial scale should be developed.

Green taxation/subsidization should encourage the usage of wood in construction, improving resource and energy efficiency in Europe.
Improved wood mobilization

Sustainable forest biomass production

Technology development to produce competitive solutions

Future incentives

Today’s incentives
Science Supporting the Economic and Environmental Benefits of Using Wood and Wood Products in Green Building Construction

The use of wood as a building material can provide substantial economic and environmental benefits to our nation's citizens.

By Michael A. Ritter, Kenneth Skog, Richard Bergman
USDA Forest Service

Executive Summary

The objective of this report is to summarize the scientific findings that support the environmental and economic benefits of using wood and wood products in green building construction. Wood has been used as a structural material in North America for hundreds of years, primarily for single- and multiple-family housing, commercial buildings and transportation structures such as bridges. The market share for wood in commercial buildings, such as schools and strip malls, has been small compared to other materials. Today, a growing awareness of environmental sustainability, and a desire on the part of consumers for quality building materials at economic prices could boost markets for wood products.