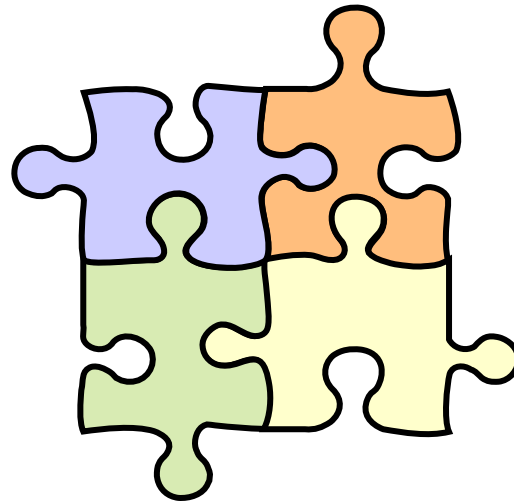


The Northeast BioProducts Puzzle



October 18 & 19, 2007

Sponsored by:



Opening Remarks

Over the last few years there have been countless seminars, workshops and conferences focused on the “*BIO*” industry. *Biomass – Bioenergy – Bioproducts – Bioeconomy*..... and the list goes on. What more could be said? The number of technical and policy oriented reports in circulation today are overwhelming. It can be difficult to see the big picture. That thought alone was the starting point for this meeting. What if we brought together a group of people focused on various aspects of the forest bioproducts industry and gave them an opportunity to explore and discuss the *strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats* (SWOT) within our region? How many pieces of the puzzle can we put together in 24 hours? Can we paint an accurate picture for our region for the next 5 years? 10 years? The answers to those questions will start with our speakers. As our resident experts in the areas of *economic development, production capacity, forest resources, and public policy* they will lead us in the SWOT analysis. However, it is our hope that the presentations contained in these proceedings will stimulate further discussion and research in each topic.

The presentations will follow the order outlined on the following page. Each presentation is identified as a footnote by author and page number. A brief overview of the sponsoring organizations (*Forest Products Society* and the *University of Maine’s Forest Bioproduct Research Initiative*) is included at the end of the proceedings. If you have any further questions regarding this document of the meeting itself, please contact the editors by email.

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Dave Damery (ddamery@forwild.umass.edu)*

Speaker List

Thursday October 18th (pm)

- Eric Kingsley – *Innovative Natural Resource Solutions*
- Lloyd Irland – *The Irland Group*
- Lloyd Weaver – *LEW Holdings*
- Paul Nace – *Maine Bioproducts*
- Dick Arnold – *Red Shield Environmental*

Friday October 19th (am)

- Bryce Stokes – *USDA Forest Service*
- Rory Eckardt – *RE Consulting*
- Dwayne Breger – *Massachusetts Division of Energy Resources*
- Rob Lilieholm – *University of Maine*