



WOOD AND FOREST PRODUCTS

AL CENTER FOR ADVANCED WOODWORKING TECHNOLOGY (ACAWT)

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MISSION

The mission of the center is to facilitate the growth and development of Alabama's secondary wood processing industries by:

- Providing training that will help build a modern manufacturing workforce
- Assisting companies in becoming and remaining internationally competitive, and
- Promoting environmentally sound processing technologies

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The ACAWT works with both new and existing industries. The Center assists these industries with marketing, new technologies, and global expansion. Some types of secondary wood manufacturers with which the ACAWT works include:

- Furniture: solid wood, upholstery (MDF), hardboard, oriented strand board (OSB), plywood
- Cabinetry: residential and commercial
- Store fixtures
- Architectural millwork, residential and commercial
- Panel product manufacturers: particleboard, medium-density fiberboard
- Wood products distribution centers
- Bio-energy: cellulosic ethanol and hydrothermal

AL CENTER FOR PAPER AND BIORESOURCE ENGINEERING (AC-PABE)

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MISSION

The missions of AC-PABE is to provide undergraduate, graduate and continuing education in science and engineering relevant to the needs of the pulp, paper and bio-resource industries, to conduct fundamental and applied research in line with the industry's research agenda, to develop and transfer technology to the industry consistent with the industry's technology vision and to provide timely technical information to the operating sector of the industry

AC-PABE is the nation's only pulp, paper & bio-resource research and education center that offers undergraduate curricula with pulp, paper & bio-resource specializations for chemical, electrical, and mechanical engineering students, and a multidisciplinary research environment for engineering graduate students and faculty. When these highly skilled men and women enter the workforce, they contribute advanced technologies that enable the U.S. pulp, paper & bio-resource industry to find economical ways to compete successfully in the world marketplace, to achieve full compliance with demanding environmental regulations, to increase productivity and to increase the quantity of recycled fiber.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

AC-PABE seeks to provide US industry information and technology that will ensure its international competitiveness while providing a maximum return to society.

The Alabama Center for Paper and Bioresource Engineering is involved with the following programs.

- *Pulp & Paper Education & Research Alliance* - Auburn has also led the formation of the Pulp and Paper Education and Research Alliance which links together all of the US universities engaged in pulp, paper & bio-resource education and research.
- *WoodFiber Initiative in Science and Engineering (WISE)* - WISE is a collaborative research venture, led by Auburn University and the US Forest Products Laboratory (FPL), linking the 10 PPERA universities to the FPL. The purpose of WISE is to conduct a cooperative research program to produce valuable products including fiber-based materials, chemicals, liquid fuels and hydrogen, from presently underutilized forest residuals.

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION (AFC)

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PURPOSE

Established as a state agency in 1924, the mission of the Alabama Forestry Commission is three-fold: to *protect the forests* from all harmful agents; to *service and help landowners* to carry out responsible forest management on their property, using professional technical assistance so as to benefit themselves, their land and society; and to educate the general public about the value of our forests in insuring both a healthy economy and environment.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The AFC provides market information for wood and bark residues, and provides analysis and assistance for determining wood energy opportunities. The AFC is an original "Forestry TEAM" member.

- Publishes a Directory (on-line and hard copy) of Forest Industries in Alabama, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service
- Sources wood products to potential customers
- Provides information on the species, volumes, size class, and growth versus drain, for a given radium within Alabama for potential manufacturers
- Works with the Alabama International Trade Center to provide export assistance to forest product companies on a case-by-case basis
- Targets furniture, cabinetry, plywood, veneer, dimension lumber, and other building materials industries for assistance

FOREST PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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MISSION

The Forest Products Development Center at Auburn University's School of Forestry was established in 1989 as a cooperative effort between Auburn University, the Alabama Forestry Commission, and the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service. The primary objective of the Center is to provide a technical information and analytical support base to facilitate and encourage forest-based economic development in Alabama.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Center serves as a contact point for industry personnel wishing to explore new investment or market opportunities within Alabama. These opportunities may include enhancement of an existing business enterprise within the State or the development of an entirely new forest-based operation. In addition to providing assistance to those wishing to investigate specific opportunities, the Center seeks to identify opportunities on its own, and will, from time to time, work with appropriate State agencies to evaluate and advocate attractive projects to potential industry investors.

While the Center's mission and resources do not allow for extensive one-on-one consulting, the Center can either directly provide or assist in providing the following types of services:

- Forest resource studies
- Market studies
- Manufacturing technology evaluations
- Economic feasibility studies
- New product evaluations
- Capital project investment analyses
- Project financing investigations
- Technical training
- Operations analyses
- Input/output studies

CENTER FOR FOREST SUSTAINABILITY (CFS)

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MISSION

The Center for Forest Sustainability seeks to enhance and facilitate linkages among research and education activities that focus upon forest sustainability at regional, national, or international scales.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Center fosters collaborative efforts that integrate biological and socioeconomic issues. The CFS functions as a primary interface between society and forest sustainability issues which directly influence quality of life.

Research and education activities of the CFS examine the integration of socioeconomic and ecological factors across forested landscapes. The primary focus is the influence of urban development on natural resources and the quality of human life.

SOUTHERN FOREST NURSERY MANAGEMENT COOPERATIVE

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MISSION

The AU Southern Forest Nursery Management Cooperative seeks to develop and disseminate available cultural, biological and chemical technologies using an integrated system for the economical production and utilization of forest tree seedlings in the southern United States.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The Cooperative Strategic Plan specifies three general areas of activity:

- **Research:** The Coop has a very active research program that includes 20 to 30 research projects at any given time that usually fall into one of four general areas: pesticide evaluation, nursery cultural practices, minimization of environmental impacts, and “optimal” seedling definition.
- **Technology Transfer:** The Coop has offered shortcourses on Introductory Nursery Management, Nursery Fertilization, and Irrigation Management. The Coop produced 60 Research Reports from 1995 to 2001. An 8 page biennial spring and fall newsletter is sent to the membership each year. A “Contact Meeting” is conducted annually for nursery managers where recent research results are presented to the Coop membership. In 2002, the Coop prepared an application for a Critical Use Exemption for the continued availability of methyl-bromide in the forest tree nurseries of 12 southern states. In addition, they have worked closely with the EPA during the re-registration of oxyfluorfen herbicide (Goal®) to maintain use rates suitable for forest tree nurseries.
- **Coop Development**