

## LIGNOVISIONEN

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at the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna

Issue 13



## Proceedings of the COST Action E40 Conference

# Large diameter timber - problem or chance?

Edited by  
Alfred Teischinger

in Co-operation:  
COST - European Co-operation in the field of  
Scientific and Technical Research  
Action E40 - Innovative utilisation and products of large diameter timber  
and  
Bernern Fachhochschule, Hochschule für Architektur,  
Bau und Holz, Burgdorf, Biel, Switzerland

The COST action E40 "Innovative utilisation and products of large diameter timber" deals with a very specific topic within the forestry-wood-chain and wants to develop solutions for a proper use of large diameter timber. A conference in Biel/Switzerland within this COST action had the focus on large diameter timber as a problem or a chance. In order to find a proper answer to these very challenging questions, the conference was structured in several parts:

- Session 1 - political statements by invited speakers from forestry, wood processing and wood research including a round table discussion. Controversial points of view were to be presented and discussed.
- Session 2 - presentations concerning chances and potentials of quality grading referring to the specific properties of large diameter timber
- Session 3 - presentations showing appropriate processing technologies and products for large diameter timber
- Poster Session - providing a survey on various research activities concerning large diameter timber
- Conference summary and adoption of a conference communiqué

The proceedings provide a documentation of all the various sessions within the conference and provides some answers to open questions so as to develop a successful processing of large diameter wood.

### **COST-aided**

COST is an intergovernmental European framework for international co-operation between nationally funded research activities. COST creates scientific networks and enables scientists to collaborate in a wide spectrum of activities in research and technology. COST activities are administered by the COST Office.

# Co-operation - LIGNOVISIONEN Issue 13

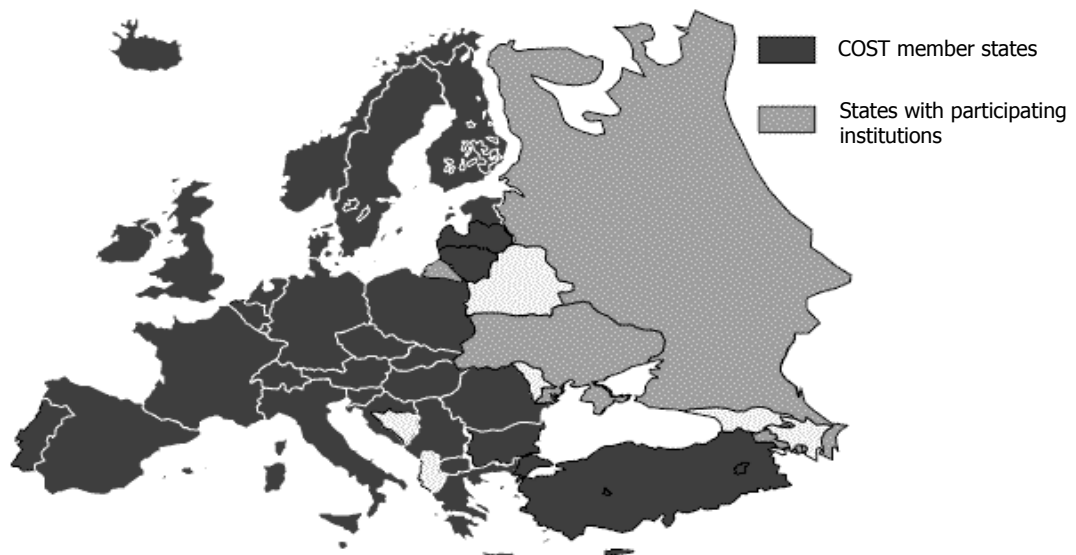
## COST

**COST**- the acronym for European **CO**operation in the field of **S**cientific and **T**echnical Research- is the oldest and widest European intergovernmental network for cooperation in research. Founded in 1971, COST is an intergovernmental framework for European Co-operation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research, allowing the co-ordination of nationally funded research on a European level. COST Actions cover basic and pre-competitive research as well as activities of public utility.

The goal of COST is to ensure that Europe holds a strong position in the field of scientific and technical research for peaceful purposes, by increasing European co-operation and interaction in this field. COST has clearly shown its strength in non-competitive research, in pre-normative co-operation and in solving environmental and cross-border problems and problems of public utility. It has been successfully used to maximise European synergy and added value in research co-operation and it is a useful tool to further European integration, in particular concerning Central and Eastern European countries.

Ease of access for institutions from non-member countries also makes COST a very interesting and successful tool for tackling topics of a truly global nature. To emphasise that the initiative came from the scientists and technical experts themselves and from those with a direct interest in furthering international collaboration, the founding fathers of COST opted for a flexible and pragmatic approach. COST activities have in the past paved the way for Community activities and its flexibility allows COST Actions to be used as a testing and exploratory field for emerging topics.

The member countries participate on an "à la carte" principle and activities are launched on a "bottom-up" approach. One of its main features is its built-in flexibility. This concept clearly meets a growing demand and in addition, it complements the Community programmes. COST has a geographical scope beyond the EU and most of the Central and Eastern European countries are members. COST also welcomes the participation of interested institutions from non-COST member states without any geographical restriction. COST has developed into one of the largest frameworks for research co-operation in Europe and is a valuable mechanism co-ordinating national research activities in Europe. Today it has almost 200 Actions and involves nearly 30,000 scientists from 34 European member countries and more than 80 participating institutions from 11 non-member countries and Non Governmental Organisations.



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**Poster Session - providing a survey on various research activities concerning large diameter timber  
Conference summary and adoption of a conference communiqué**

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