



PRESS RELEASE

March 14, 2008

**FPS 62nd International Convention
Hyatt Regency St. Louis at Union Station
St. Louis, Missouri, USA
June 22-24, 2008**

The Forest Products Society's 62nd International Convention will be held June 22-24, 2008 at the Hyatt Regency Union Station, St. Louis, Missouri, USA. The International Convention will begin on Sunday afternoon, June 22, and conclude with the Paul Bunyan Party on Tuesday evening, June 24.

The 2008 International Convention will include special activities in recognition of the important role that students play in regard to the future of the forest products industry. There will be a Student Appreciation Luncheon on Sunday afternoon. This will be followed by a Student Wood Science Bowl. Teams consisting of FPS Student Members will engage in a friendly head-to-head competition with a traditional "College Bowl" format. Sunday evening's Host Reception will offer attendees the opportunity to meet new colleagues and renew old acquaintances.

The General Session "Working Together to Meet the Challenge of Change", will take place on Monday morning from 8:00-9:40 am. This session will include a candid discussion of challenges facing the North American forest products industry. It will be conducted in a debate-style format and participants will include industry, association, and government leaders.

At the podiums will be:

Mark Barford, Executive Director, National Hardwood Lumber Association, Memphis, TN

Anne Bartuska, Deputy Chief of Research, USDA Forest Service, Washington, DC

Jonathan E. Martin, Chairman and CEO, Roy O. Martin Lumber Company, Alexandria, LA

Kenneth R. Hutton, Executive Vice President, Wood Machinery Manufacturers of America, Philadelphia, PA

Dr. Paul M. Winistorfer, Professor and Head of the Department of Wood Science & Forest Products at Virginia Tech, will serve as moderator of the session, which will conclude with direct interaction between the participants and the audience.

A total of 22 Technical Sessions are scheduled throughout the day on Monday and Tuesday, covering a magnitude of forest products and wood science subject areas. Over 80 poster presentations will also be presented during two separate forums on Monday and Tuesday. The poster sessions consist of a number of simultaneous presentations by individuals who are stationed at booth spaces. Presentations in each of the two poster sessions are grouped by subject.

The Paul Bunyan Party, Tuesday evening from 6:00-9:00 pm, will take place at Kemoll's *Top of the Met*. Attendees will enjoy drinks, dinner, and spectacular views of the riverfront and St. Louis skyline 42 stories above the streets of St. Louis.

Finally, a Companion/Youth Program will include a St. Louis Historic Homes and Neighborhoods Tour and a guided tour of Union Station, followed by “free time” to enjoy the shopping and dining offered there as well.

2008 National Research Needs Assessment (NRNA) Workshop

A cooperative effort between SWST and FPS, this workshop will be held on June 25, 2008, immediately following the FPS International Convention at the Hyatt Regency Union Station, St. Louis, Missouri, USA. The purpose of the workshop is to develop a unified and prioritized agenda for Wood Science and Technology research needs and corresponding industry opportunities. A similar workshop will be conducted by the American Society of Civil Engineers in May at the organization's 2008 World Structures Congress in Vancouver, BC, Canada. Information from both workshops will be assimilated into a cohesive research needs assessment. For additional information, visit www.swst.org/NRNA.html.

2008 International Conference on Nanotechnology for the Forest Products Industry ~ "Nanotechnology from Research and Development to Application"

The 2008 International Conference on Nanotechnology for the Forest Products Industry will be held June 25-27, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency Union Station, St. Louis, Missouri, USA. Jointly sponsored by the Forest Products Society and TAPPI, this 3-day conference will attract national and international attendees from industry, academia, and national labs. FPS members qualify for TAPPI member rates!

The dual track conference will provide attendees access to state-of-the-art content along with an opportunity to exchange ideas and share professional expertise face to face with university forest products industry researchers as well as industry professionals in product development, sales, and marketing. A short list of topics includes: Nanotechnology industry perspectives, Nanotechnology applications in papermaking, paper coating, printing, biorefining, and lignin biodegradation, and forest materials-based nano-manufacturing.

For additional details or to register, visit www.tappi.org/08nano or contact Karen Murray at 770-209-7221 or kmurray@tappi.org.

We will appreciate your assistance with publicity for these events and hope you will have an opportunity to attend. For a copy of the program and registration information, please visit the Forest Products Society at <http://www.forestprod.org/confic08.html>.

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