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Forest Industry at a Glance



Tuesday, March 17 2015

The Transformation of the Canadian Forest Industry

While the United States has focused heavily on the development of transportation biofuels in recent years, Canada appears to have focused more on the production of biomaterials, biochemicals and bioenergy integrated within existing forest product facilities. This is highlighted by the popularity and success of recent Canadian subsidy programs specifically aimed to the forest products industry: the Pulp and Paper Green Transformation Program (PPGTP) and Investment in Forest Industry Transformation (IFIT) program.

The 1st and 2nd call for proposals for the IFIT programs received a total of 107 applications with a total value of close to \$2 billion. The IFIT program is now evaluating the results of its 3rd call for proposal, with 79 applications and a similar total value \$2 billion. 33% of all applications were related to bioenergy (biogas, pyrolysis oil and combined heat and power), 21% to biomaterials (advanced packaging, biocomposites, etc.), 11% to biochemicals (bio-polymers, biocrude, etc.), with the remainder being related to solid wood products.

The map below underlines Canada's recent steps forward to transform its forest products industry, showing some of the demonstration and commercial projects that were implemented in conjunction to forest product facilities.



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