



Industries of the Future-West Virginia

Co-Funded By:

West Virginia Development
Office

Project Partners:

West Virginia University
West Virginia Development
Office
West Virginia wood/forest
products industry

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Wood Industry Assistance Program

Project Summary:

The West Virginia Development Office has contracted the Appalachian Hardwood Center at West Virginia University (WVU) to deliver a Wood Industry Assistance Program (WIAP). This activity provides on-site technical assistance to West Virginia's Forest Products Industry on energy utilization, waste minimization and sustainable development.

The College of Industrial and Management Systems Engineering at WVU will be providing the on-site engineering expertise associated with this service. This College is also responsible for the operation of the Industrial Assessment Center (IAC) at WVU. An IAC audit will precede each on-site wood industry project supported through the WIAP.

Plant management at the participating businesses will determine the scope of the projects to be addressed. All projects undertaken will be consistent with the priorities identified by the Industry of the Future—West Virginia (IOF—WV)

Wood/Forest Projects Industry Group. This initiative is designed to both advance the application of new technologies in West Virginia hardwood industry as well as help our industry access technology funding through the Office of Industrial Technology.

A second component of our WIAP will be quarterly technology meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to promote information exchange among industry members as well as to advance technology projects in the forest products industry. These sessions will be structured as IOF—WV showcase events. Examples of technologies to be highlighted include mill boiler efficiency, wood gasification, energy efficient kiln operation, cogeneration applications, log and lumber scanning, sensors and controls, and mill optimization. These showcase meetings will be one day in length and would serve to disseminate information on state-of-the-art technologies that could improve the competitive position of our hardwood industry.