



4th INTERNATIONAL SOFTWOOD CONFERENCE

Madrid, 22&23 October, 2009.

The Westin Palace Hotel

Hosted by



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Press Release

Wood Products are part of the solution to Climate Change

The Economic Background

Against a background of unprecedented upheaval in world markets the Timber industry has reacted appropriately and is now in a stable situation with a 4.5% increase in business predicted for 2010. It is now in a position to take advantage of the opportunities offered by current developments in energy prices and the drive towards a low carbon economy.

Grasping opportunities.

The conference welcomed the EU council's decision to recognise the role of wood products as a climate friendly material in its submission to the Copenhagen conference on climate change (COP15). Participants are actively looking at ways to increase the use of wood products in construction and other areas. The conference noted that the continued increase in forest cover and worldwide softwood resources provide a sound basis for a reliable sustainable supply.

The conference received presentations on current initiatives to promote the use of wood and focussed on ways to co-ordinate and intensify further effective campaigns to promote the use of wood and wood products in the future.

The 4th International Softwood Conference met in Madrid during 22&23, October, 2009. This Conference is organized by the European Timber Trade Federation (ETTF) and the European Organization of Sawmills (EOS). Hosted by the Spanish Association of Timber importers (AEIM), this year's Conference gathered 123 delegates from 20 countries, representing over 80% of worldwide softwood production. Countries represented were the following: Austria, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Morocco, Norway, Romania, Russia, Spain, Sweden, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

The next International Softwood Conference will take place in Zürich on 21 and 22 October 2010.

Madrid, October, 23, 2009.