

WOODCHEM

2017



Wood conquering chemistry

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www.woodchem.fr

Editorial

Woodchem® 2017 – wood conquers chemistry

Woodchem® 2017 has chosen its slogan: wood conquers chemistry! We could even specify that it is a 'reconquest'. Indeed, right up until the end of the 1950s the chemical industry relied solely on wood. Wood was the first material to be used by men then, turned into tar, the first chemical product used to protect wooden structures (boats, buildings) and in the health sector (as an antiseptic).

The industry has known about the use of wood in chemistry for a long time. On the face of it, we should not 'find' new products through wood chemistry (notwithstanding the odd exceptions). The issue for the industry today is around developing new processes where all of the raw material will be used in new application sectors.

To achieve this, we need to get together, meet each other and discuss so see you at WOODCHEM® 2017, the first international conference on wood chemistry and its applications in more than ten sectors! We all have something in common: the conviction that wood chemistry is a sector of the future. And a desire to have constructive discussions to move this nascent sector forward.

Join us!
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3 good reasons to come to Woodchem® 2017

REGISTRATION

WOOD CONQUERS CHEMISTRY

- > Because wood chemistry meets the needs of the circular economy and in the future we will need to produce on the basis of these rules: limiting waste, preventing wastage, making the best use of our raw materials, renewables.
- > Because Woodchem® 2017 is the meeting place for manufacturers, the forestry sector, scientists, elected officials and media who are seeking to promote economic growth that is compatible with the demands of the environment.
- > Because there are still plenty of opportunities to be seized and processes to be invented to move wood chemistry forward and give it the place that it deserves in our mode of production and consumption, at the intersection of multiple sectors.

The success story of the month

WHAT IF, INSTEAD OF BURNING THE COPRODUCTS FROM THE PAPER INDUSTRY, WE USED THEM AS A FOOD SUPPLEMENT?

The French pioneer of polypharmacologie, Harmonic Pharma is doing just that!

The innovative company Harmonic Pharma has joined forces with the paper manufacturer Norske Skog to make use of the wood shavings rejected in the mechanical sorting process prior to the manufacture of paper pulp. What does this partnership mean? It's simple, Norske Skog provides the raw material: a wood powder high in lignans. It is sent to Harmonic Pharma, a young innovative company hosted by LORIA (laboratoire lorrain de recherche en informatique et ses applications), which has discovered that this wood powder has beneficial pharmacological properties, optimised with the appropriate galenic formulation. The next stage: making its industrial application happen. Several avenues are under consideration for using the product in the food supplement and cosmetic sectors. To be continued!

<https://www.woodchem.fr/actualites>

And elsewhere, what's happening?

FROM PAPER TO NAPPIES... IN SWEDEN, STORA ENSO IS DIVERSIFYING INTO BIOMATERIALS

Whilst demand for paper is continuing to fall, the Finnish-Swedish paper manufacturers are seeking to diversify around its core business, which involves treating and using wood or second generation biomass. To do this it is focussing on high added value applications and is looking for new under-exploited opportunities, such as lignin. As such, the paper manufacturers recently opened a new R&D centre dedicated to biomaterials in the region of Stockholm (Sweden). One of the opportunities currently being explored: using paper pulp in absorbent hygiene products such as nappies or sanitary towels, where it is offered as 'fluff' pulp.

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