

Background

The Strategic Integrated Timber Research (SIRT) programme (<http://cte.napier.ac.uk/SIRT/>) is a joint initiative involving Napier University, Glasgow University and Forest Research that is supported by funding from the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council (SHEFC). The programme is aimed at providing a strategic direction for research on timber in Britain.

The forestry and wood processing sector is a key industry in Britain. The demand for timber and the volumes of timber becoming available from British forests are predicted to rise over the next 20 years. However, for this timber to compete in an international market it must be suitable for the envisaged end-use and it is essential to understand the following points:

- The needs of the final end-user
 - ▶ The wood properties of importance for different end-uses
 - ▶ How to use wood as an engineering material in construction
- The best methods for processing
 - ▶ How to optimise the flow of material to ensure the right logs go to the right place
 - ▶ The behaviour of wood cut from our primary timber species in terms of strength, stiffness and distortion
 - ▶ The benefits of improved processing and measurement systems
- How forest management affects the timber and wood produced
 - ▶ The influence of different silvicultural systems on the volumes and quality of timber
 - ▶ How improvements in tree breeding will affect the volumes and quality of future timber supplies
 - ▶ The basic properties at a cellular level of the wood from our forests including fibre length, cell wall thickness and microfibril angle

Objectives

The objectives of the day are to present the latest research into wood and timber which is of relevance to the British forestry and wood processing industries. It follows the [International Forestry Woodchain Conference](#) at Heriot-Watt in September 2004 and the “Advances in Timber Quality Research” at Northern Research Station in October 2003. It represents the first seminar under the auspices of the SIRT programme and is planned to be held annually.

The seminar is designed to:

- Provide oral presentations summarising ongoing work in the area of wood and timber from a number of research organisations
- Obtain an industry perspective on research needs
- Present detailed updates on a number of research areas through a series of poster presentations
- Stimulate discussion about the strategic direction for wood-based research in Britain

Audience

The seminar is for all those involved or with an interest in the forestry and wood processing industries. It is particularly aimed at informing the industrial sector of the latest research on wood and timber.



Logs from a research experiment being transported to sawmill



13th September 2005

‘Strategic Timber Research’

*Making Best Use Of The Home
Grown Resource*

at
**Forest Research,
Northern Research Station,
Roslin, Midlothian, EH25 9SY**

Registration/welcome will start at 0930 – 0950 hrs. Coffee/tea will be available.

The seminar fee is £15.00 per delegate (students free) which includes coffees/teas and lunch.

How to book

To reserve a place at the seminar please complete the booking form overleaf.

Post entries to: Evelyn Hall, Forest Research, Northern Research Station, Roslin, Midlothian, EH25 9SY

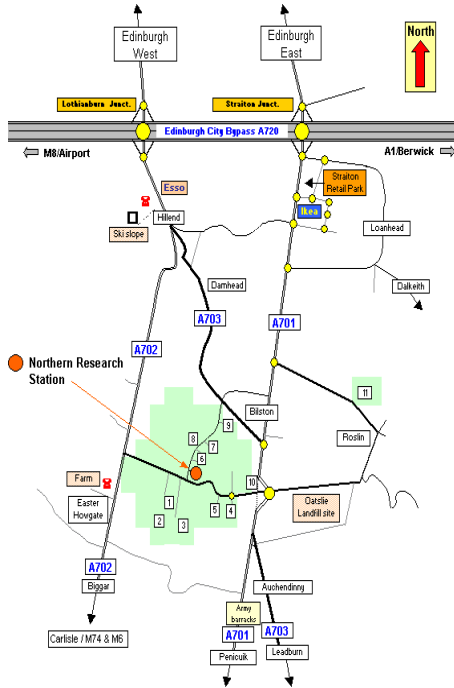
Alternatively:

E-mail: evelyn.hall@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Fax: 0131 445 5124

**Forest Research,
Northern Research Station,
Roslin, Midlothian, EH25 9SY**

To find us:



Open Forum: Would you like to raise a specific question/topic for the open forum?

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Programme

- 0930 – 1000 hrs Coffee & Registration
- 1000 – 1010 Welcome – *Barry Gardiner, Forest Research*
- Morning Session
- 1010 – 1050 Wood and Fibre Properties in Forest Resources - *Sven Olof Ludqvist, STFI, Stockholm*
- 1050 – 1130 The SIRT Research Programme - *Ute Seeling, Napier University, Edinburgh*
- 1130 – 1140 Break
- 1140 – 1220 New Dynamic Yield Models for British Forestry - *Robert Matthews, Forest Research*
- 1220 – 1300 Wood at the Cellular Level – *Mike Jarvis, Glasgow University*
- 1300 – 1430 Lunch & Poster Session
- Afternoon Session
- 1430 – 1510 Timber in Construction - *Ed Suttie, BRE, Garston*
- 1510 – 1550 The Research Needs of the Forest and Wood Processing Industries - *David Crichton, CONFOR*
- 1550 – 1600 Tea & Coffee
- 1600 – 1630 Wrap up and Open Forum

[Titles of talks to be confirmed]

BOOKING FORM

I would like to book the following meeting:

Strategic Timber Research
Making Best Use Of The Home Grown Resource
13th September 2005
[please complete in Block Capitals]

I requiredelegate places @ £15.00 each

I enclose a cheque payable to **Forest Research** to the value of: £.....

Full Name:

Affiliation:

Address:

Post Code:

E-mail:

Name(s) and e-mail(s) of additional delegates:

Poster Title*:

***Posters:** We must know in advance if you intend presenting a poster during the meeting. All posters should be no more than A1 in size and brought along on the day. A single A4 sheet abstract should be submitted prior to the meeting to Evelyn no later than **5th September.**