Biomass collection and processing: A Southern US perspective

René van der Merwe
President
Forest Equipment Company
Madison, Mississippi

At the end of 2013, the Southern USA had added over 6 million green tons of new capacity to their woody biomass menu, from Texas to Virginia, with another 5 million tons coming on line in 2014/1015. From coal burning electricity plants converting to wood-chips, to all-wood (no natural gas back-up) power plants, to exporting over 5 million tons of energy pellets to Europe, the transformation of America’s most successful wood basket got an added value product... Biomass!

Years of analysis of biomass as a commercially viable product has gone through the reality check of making it happen in the field. Who are the current biomass winners and why and what future opportunities are on the horizon for Wood Energy stock plantations. How do changes in biomass material (after the fact) affect Woodyard performance? What proven alternatives exist for extracting biomass from the woods without dirt? These and other issues will be discussed.

BRUKS & BRUKS Rockwood is a leading supplier of equipment for the Forestry Industry for over 100 years. They are market leaders in Mobile Drum Chippers and Stacker Reclaimers and have several innovative patents related to the handling of wood chips.