

# PROPERTIES OF WOOD-BASED COMPOSITES

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### OBJECTIVES

 Overview of wood-based composites produced with focus on facilities in Maine and the region

- Develop understanding of resources needs for different wood-based composites
- A look ahead at new wood-based composites





### WHAT IS A COMPOSITE?

- A composite material is comprised of two or more distinct materials joined together which exhibit properties superior to either of the materials used alone.
- Increased range of sizes and forms relative to base materials.





### CLASSIFICATION OF COMPOSITE MATERIALS



### COMPOSITE MATERIALS



### HOW ARE COMPOSITES MADE?

- No bark is good bark
- Make smaller sized "particles" from a tree (veneer, particles, lumber, fibers, ...)
- Remove moisture
- Add adhesive, other chemicals
- Press composite (typically) with heat and pressure to densify final product



### HOW ARE COMPOSITES MADE?

 Adhesives are typically thermoset.

 Polymers in WPC are typically thermoplastic.



### COMPOSITES CAN USE

- High quality logs
- Low quality logs
- Pulpwood
- Softwoods
- Hardwoods
- Mill residue

## No bark is good bark

Veneer		Lumber		
1/8", 3/16", 1/4"		2" x		
Particle Leng		)	Slendernes Ratio	S
Wood Fiber	1-3 mm		~ 100	
Wood Flour -40/+60		0	4-6	
Strands 4 - 13 i		nch 50 -> 300		



### STRUCTURAL WOOD-BASED COMPOSITES

- Glulam
- I-Joist
- OSB
- Plywood
- Rimboard
- Structural Composite Lumber (SCL)
- Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT)



### **INTERIOR WOOD-BASED COMPOSITES**

- Particleboard
- Medium Density Fiberboard (MDF)
- Hardboard
- Engineered Wood Siding and Trim
- Decorative Surfaces



### WOOD BASED COMPOSITES MANUFACTURERS

- JM Huber OSB @ Easton, ME
- LP Building Products OSB & LSL @ Limerick, ME
- DuraLife WPC @ Biddeford, ME
- Columbia Forest Products Veneer @ Presque Isle, ME
- Moosewood Millworks Laminated Flooring @ Ashland, ME
- Arauco Particleboard @ St. Stephen, NB
- Foard Panels SIP West Chesterfield, NH

### 54 Plywood

Not shown: Curitibanos, Brazil

### 44 OSB

Not shown: Ponta Grossa-Parana, Brazil Lautaro, Chile Panguipulli, Chile



# **Midrise Wood Frame Construction in Canada: the Journey...**

- 2009: BC Building Code revised to increase height limit for wood-frame construction from 4 to 6 storeys
- 2013: Régie du Bâtiment du Québec (RBQ)
- 2015: Ontario Building Code
- 2015: Alberta Building Code
- 2015 National Building Code of Canada

## Expecting 1000's of midrise buildings in Canada next few years!!







### **EMERGING COMPOSITES** NANOCELLULOSE AS THE PARTICLE Transverse Section Growth Ring-7 Cellular Structure





Cell Wall Structure

500µm









## Cellulose Nanofibrils (CNF) Capacity 2015 (kg/day)

Paperlogic, USA University of Maine, USA Borregaard, Norway American Process Nippon Paper, Japan Innventia, Sweden NamiCell, France Oji Paper, Japan Stora Enso, Finland UPM, Finland FPInnovations, Canada Norske Skog Daicel, Japan Luleå University of Technology, Sweden **US Forest Products Laboratory, USA** 

2,000 1,000 1,000 500 150 100 100 100 Pre-commercial Pre-commercial Pilot Pilot Lab Lab Lab





### Additive Manufacturing

- Filaments
- Composites
- Powders
- ...



### **Building Products**

- Wallboard
- Sheathing
- Panels
- ...



## **Flexible Electronics**

- Self Powered
- Display

• Acoustic

• Thermal

• ...

• Structural

Melodea

- Solar
- LED



### **Rheology Modifier**

- Cosmetics
- Food
- Adhesives
- • •



- Epoxy resins
- Paints
- Sealants
- ...

### Courtesy Dr. Robert Moon USFS

### Foams



Paakko et al., Soft Matter, 2008

### **Continuous Fibers**

- Reinforcement
- Textiles
- Woven
- •

Dong et al., 2012





Yano et al.

### Separators/Barrier

- Filtration
- Batteries
- Pumps
- ...



### Coatings



### Oil & Gas

- Drilling Muds
- Frac Fluids
- Clean-up
- ...







# SUMMARY

- Composites refer to a broad spectrum of materials, produced in a variety of ways, with a broad set of markets.
- Advantages include unique properties, wide variety of sizes and appearance, uniform behavior.
- Relatively low amount of composite production in Maine relative to other regions of North America (?resource driven?)

### Mass Timber Opportunities in Maine

- 1. European Market has figured it out
- 2. Plentiful SPF #2 or better stock
- 3. Existing Value Chain Logging, Processing, lumber
- 4. Location LEED



### **500 miles New York**



### 500 miles Boston

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