Four Scenarios for 2035

Broad concepts for the 20+Year future of the Forest Bioproducts Industry
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Scenario 1. The Drought Days, 2035

Resource constraints, especially water, change processes and products from the industry as it adapts to climate change and new consumer needs and expectations.

*Key points:* use of saltwater for process, and shift to hygiene products that work without water use.
Scenario 2. Global Crop Forestry, Inc.

The forest industry consolidates around the world and reorganizes its fiber resources into a few concentrated mega-corporations using intense R&D to produce purpose-grown crops.

Key points: biogenetic research essential to developing tree crops for new products and markets.
Scenario 3. The Carbon Caretaker, 2030-2035

Managing demands of climate change, the industry becomes a valued carbon sequester(er), doing all it is expected to do, and more, in carbon- and resource-efficient processes.

Key points: assumption that carbon taxes will drive change throughout industry and may determine locations for future production

“Forest Products Industry Named Carbon Caretaker of the Year”
Scenario 4. The End of Paper

The industry transforms, but not without pain in the transition, as obsolete mills close. In a Phoenix-like revival, the bio-refinery concept brings many of them back to life with new purpose and products for different markets.

Key points: A new future for old mills, if they can re-purpose for higher-value products in chemistry, pharma

Biorefinery in Hawai’i
Source: Honeywell, Scientific American
1. Drought Days
2. Global Forestry Inc.
3. Carbon caretaker
4. The end of paper

Fewer resource constraints (pulp mills)
Commodity / traditional products (paper)
High value added products (chemicals)
Constrained resources

Business as usual
Conditions for choosing our scenario themes

1. Future condition/state of the sector
   - E.g. Post-paper forest bioproducts

2. Future in which the sector must operate
   - E.g. Carbon zero demands
What are scenarios supposed to do?

- Clarify uncertainties
- Forecast problems, opportunities
- Communicate change
- Educate people
- Develop strategic implications
- Engage people in their future
Our discussion questions today:

1. The “What Ifs?”
   *What if this scenario is true?*
   *Outcomes, challenges, opportunities*

2. Strategic implications of this scenario?
   *Future directions for the industry*

3. What does the scenario mean to forest products research?
   *What will we need to know?*
Discussion reports
Discussion reports/ cont.