Timber Supply Chain Management

The timber supply chain process, starting from midterm plans for the sustainable use of timber resources to its delivery at the customer’s mill gate, is the single most important process of a forest company. Professional timber supply chain management and supply chain costs are a key strategic element in plant profitability and risk management. Timber costs are supply chain costs at mill gate. The economic pressure on raw material costs especially for European producers is increasing and traditional industry patterns are changing quickly. Österreichische Bundesforste (Austrian Federal Forests) is the leading timber resource partner of the Austrian timber products and biomass industry. We have developed an integrated and IT based multi timber supply chain management (TSCM) approach which has built robust supply chains which allow our clients to quickly capitalise from structured process monitoring and improvement activities.

Why TSCM?
Availabilty of raw material is the decisive criteria for investment decisions in the timber products and biomass industry. Supply security is becoming increasingly difficult due to effects of climate change, pressure on costs, increasing demand for protected areas, competition from bioenergy markets and a changing political framework. These and other factors are changing the timber products industry. Investors are moving to opportunities in other countries and continents and are aware of the necessity of robust, effective and professional timber supply chain management processes. As a matter of fact this necessity of strategic TSCM is often recognised too late, when a shortage of raw material is already fact. The strategic approach to short, mid and long term timber supply security has to balance investment development needs, sustainability considerations, regional timber market deficits and disturbances as well as the necessity of daily production needs.

What we do
We offer to public and private clients the applied experience of our national and international timber supply chain management operations as well as multi-disciplinary specialists, combined with international experience of timber market and supply security projects. Our services are based on in-house TSCM activities, the sustainable timber supply to our customers of 2 million m³ annually, which is enhanced by international timber trading operations, and the integrated biomass supply chain operations of more than a million m³ of fibre annually.
Our approach to your solution
Each cooperation starts with an in-depth understanding of your requirements, your opportunities and your challenges and we are happy to include our experience and know-how in designing the right project. Our approach is founded on operational experience and our understanding as a national and international timber supply chain manager and investor. The starting point is the holistic view of the whole supply chain in the relevant markets including import/export opportunities. Efficiency improvement has to come from a strategic business process optimisation structure which includes all relevant participants of the chain, in-house staff and external partners, in the planning and design steps of a TSCM project and throughout the rollout and implementation phases. A new set of IT tools to monitor and manage an efficient information exchange along the process chain is required to achieve operational excellence and just in time delivery. Information replaces inventory.

References
The expertise at your service is based on decades of national and international timber supply chain management excellence of Österreichische Bundesforste and its more than 1,200 employees in Austria, complemented by our specific TSCM know-how and our worldwide project experience in more than 45 countries. Capitalise from the experience of more than 250 projects for international institutions (ADA, EIB, EBRD, EU, FAO, GIZ, KfW, LuxDev, UNDP, USAID, World Bank etc.), the forest and timber products industry, energy companies, private and institutional investors, funds as well as governmental bodies.

Benefits
> High quality services for professional timber supply chain management
> Applied experience of strategic supply chain management operations of more than 2 million m³ of timber as well as a million m³ of biomass fibre annually
> Fully integrated TSCM tools, based on the Österreichische Bundesforste systems
> Full project cycle coverage from prefeasibility stage to implementation support
> High institutional credibility
> A solid network of in-house staff, complemented by partners and renowned individual experts

The Team
We place at your disposal an interdisciplinary team consisting of in-house staff and associated experts. Our consultants provide longstanding technical and strategic experience in project design and implementation. Regional and country-wide experience to ensure full understanding of the legal and socio-economic framework where you operate is essential and is incorporated into the composition of your project team.

SERVICES FOR YOU
- Timber Supply chain management (TSCM) improvement consultancy and business process reengineering
- Supply chain technology enhancement projects
- Development of integrated TSCM information technology tools
- Support in the complete business process from planning of the sustainable use of the resource, harvesting, logging, storage, transport & logistics up to mill gate
- Assessment, design and management support of biomass supply chain management activities, such as harvest, storage, logistics and drying based on a thorough understanding of existing technology
- Design, implementation support and monitoring of TSCM investments
- Timber supply security projects based on the relevant market opportunities including timber trading activities and import/export operations
- Forest accessibility concepts
- Biomass accessibility concepts
- Organisational development, capacity building and TSCM management coaching
- Knowledge transfer and specific TSCM trainings

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