

Conference fees

Registration

Please use our conference website for your registration:

www.european-wood-based-panel-symposium.org

- The registration deadline is October 2, 2026.
- Early bird registration will be possible by August 7, 2026.

	until August 7, 2026	from August 8, 2026
University staff, members of non-university research institutions	650 €	700 €
Member companies of EPF and iVTH *)	650 €	700 €
Other participants	850 €	930 €

*) Please contact your association for a voucher code. The price category will be activated in the registration process.

The conference fees include:

- Participation in the specialist presentations on both days
- Conference documentation, presentations
- Lunch buffet on both conference days
- Drinks and snacks during the coffee breaks
- Supporting program
- Welcome Party on October 14, 2026 at the invitation of the exhibitors/sponsors.
- Evening reception on October 15, 2026 at the invitation of Hywax GmbH from Hamburg



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Event location



Grand Elysée Hotel

Rothenbaumchaussee 10 | 20148 Hamburg | Germany
Phone +49 (0)40 41412-222 | Fax +49 (0)40 41412-122
reservierung@grand-elysee.com | www.grand-elysee.com

For room bookings, please use the reference „14. EWBPS“ for online bookings until September 11, 2026. After this date, rooms can only be requested directly via email or phone. More information can be found on our website.

Contact

Conference Secretary Fraunhofer WKI

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www.european-wood-based-panel-symposium.org

Do not miss any more information!
Register for our free newsletter at
www.european-wood-based-panel-symposium.org.

#EWBPS



European Wood-based Panel Symposium®



Program

14th European Wood-based Panel Symposium

October 14-16, 2026
Hamburg | Germany



WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2026

- 17:00 Registration
- 19:30 Welcome Party in the Grand Foyer of the Grand Elysée Hotel Hamburg
at the invitation of the exhibitors | sponsors

THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2026

- 7:30 Registration
- SESSION I | BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT**
CHAIR: R. KLINGNER & H. SCHWAB | FRAUNHOFER WKI
- 8:30 Welcome and Opening
Kris Wijnendaele, EPF and Raoul Klingner, Fraunhofer WKI
- 8:45 Greetings
Katharina Fegebank, Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg
- 9:00 Economical view: Navigating through rough „C“
Thomas Wybierek, NORD/LB
- 9:20 Wood based panels – a driver for innovation and circularity
Raoul Klingner, Fraunhofer WKI
- 9:40 The European wood-based panel industry at a crossroads:
Competitiveness challenges
Philipp Sprockhoff, EPF Managing Board
- 10:00 European furniture industry: Geopolitical tensions, regulatory demands
and industry competitiveness
Edi Snaidero, European Furniture Industries Confederation EFIC
- 10:20 Coffee Break

SESSION II | FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS

CHAIR: A. BUKVIC | HYWAX GMBH

- 11:15 Of ice and wood: a climate change perspective
Dirk Notz, Hamburg University
- 11:45 The current state of timber construction in Germany and around the
world: Opportunities and risks for traditional wood-based materials
Stefan Winter, Bauart Konstruktions GmbH & Co.KG | TU München
- 12:15 REACH regulation formaldehyde. Meeting REACH requirements,
understanding ECHA, avoiding risks.
Bettina Meyer, Fraunhofer WKI
- 12:45 Lunch Break

THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2026

SESSION III | ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

CHAIR: D. FLÖTTOTTO | SAUERLÄNDER SPANPLATTEN GMBH & CO. KG

- 14:15 Augmenting wood-based panel operators with industrial AI: From
data-driven support to data-driven decisions
Thibault Straumann and Brian Keith Richmond,
Smartech - A Hexion Company
- 14:45 AI-based end-to-end digitalization in the wood-panel industry –
from chips to finished boards
Kevin Gleich, KIT Karlsruher Institute of Technology
Gregor Bernardy, G. Siempelkamp GmbH & Co. KG
- 15:15 Changing environmental challenges for the WBP industry: Shaping
the future of drying and emission control technologies
Adrian Tißen and Marius Frye, Dieffenbacher GmbH
- 15:45 Coffee Break

SESSION IV | RECYCLING

CHAIR: K. WIJNENDAELE | EUROPEAN PANEL FEDERATION

- 16:30 Recycling fibreboard via EcoReFibre technologies
Mark Irle, ESB École Supérieure du Bois
- 17:00 Osiris - Breakthrough recycling technology for MDF/HDF
Geert Coudenys, Unilin Panels
- 17:30 Recycled wood processing: Effects on wood particle and particle-
board performance by novel adaptive technology
Sarah Ritter, Wood K plus - Kompetenzzentrum Holz GmbH

- 19:00 Hywax Evening Reception for registrated participants

Subject to change without prior notice.

FRIDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2026

SESSION V | DEVELOPMENTS

CHAIR: L. KUNTZ | ELKA-HOLZWERKE GMBH

- 9:00 Market outlook 2027 – the shift in global trade
Thomas Walther, AFRY Management Consulting
- 9:30 Synthetic nano wax dispersions – a way to meet increasingly
challenging wood availability?
Fabian Meinker, Hywax GmbH
- 10:00 From weight per unit area distribution to edge integrity:
A holistic approach to process control
Wilke Pannbacker and Jan Weißmann, Fagus-GreCon
- 10:30 Alternative heating concepts for thick and lightweight wood-fi-
bre insulation materials
Paul Röllig, Institut für Holztechnologie Dresden gGmbH
- 11:00 Coffee Break and Poster Session

SESSION VI | BINDER SYSTEMS & RAW MATERIALS

CHAIR: D. BERTHOLD | FRAUNHOFER WKI

- 12:00 UrbanForest – a project to make the analysis of waste wood for
contamination faster, easier, and more sustainable
Carola Schulzke, Universität Greifswald
- 12:30 The forest's own glue: Lignin-based binder systems for a
formaldehyde-free future in wood panels
Bitta Nilsson, Stora Enso
- 13:00 Mineral binder for wood-based panels: Technical, environmental
and economic analysis
Michel Schenker, Omya International AG
Ali Shalbafan, Bern University of Applied Sciences
- 13:30 Mineral-bonded panels based on wood and natural fibers:
Current research activities
Filip Majstorovic, Fraunhofer WKI
- 14:00 Closing words
K. Wijnendaele, EPF and R. Klingner, Fraunhofer WKI
- 14:15 End of the symposium and Lunch at the hotel or packed lunch
according to choice