

USDA Forest Products Laboratory Performance-Designed Composites

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Abstract

The Performance-Designed Composites research work unit at the USDA Forest Products Laboratory develops capabilities of processing technology to improve the value and yield of wood and other lignocellulosic-based composites. Within this research unit the melt-blend area specifically studies the performance properties of products made from combinations of wood and thermoplastic materials from both virgin

and recycled sources. In order to accomplish this research, we have extensive compounding and testing capabilities. Our current areas of research include processing, raw materials, and structure-property relationships research. Our research programs are routinely accomplished through coordinated partnerships involving industry, university, and government.

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Fourth International Conference on Woodfiber-Plastic Composites

May 12–14, 1997

The Madison Concourse Hotel

Madison, Wisconsin

Sponsored by the USDA Forest Service in cooperation with the American Plastics Council, the University of Wisconsin, the University of Toronto, the Cellulose, Paper, and Textile Division of the American Chemical Society and the Forest Products Society.



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Proceedings No. 7277
ISBN 0-935018-95-6

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Printed in the United States of America.

9711500