

# NORTHEAST BIOMASS HEATING CONFERENCE & EXPO 2017

BURLINGTON, VT | APRIL 25-27 | NEBIOMASSHEAT.COM

BIOMASS THERMAL ENERGY COUNCIL

## NEBHX Agenda

Tuesday, April 25

<b>8:00 AM – 5:00 PM</b>	<b>Exhibitor Move-in</b>
<b>9:00 AM – 5:00 PM</b>	<p><b>Biomass Boiler Bus Tours</b></p> <p>Locations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Champlain Valley Union High School (Messersmith)</li> <li>2. Middlebury Housing – Peter Coe Apartments (Ökofen)</li> <li>3. Middlebury College (Chiptec)</li> <li>4. Lothrop Elementary School (Froling)</li> <li>5. Otter Valley High School (Viessmann)</li> <li>6. Gagnon Lumber, Pittsford, VT (sawmill)</li> </ol>
<b>12:00 PM – 5:00 PM</b>	<b>Statewide Wood Energy Teams Meeting (proposed)</b>
<b>1:00 PM – 5:00 PM</b>	<b>BTEC Board of Directors Meeting – invitation only</b>
<b>3:15 PM – 3:45 PM</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>3:45 PM – 5:00 PM</b>	<p><b>Biomass 101 Workshop – Free to Public</b></p> <p>Biomass is a remarkable renewable resource for heating in the Northeast. This program will to help those considering biomass build a reasonable framework for further research. The session will discuss how a variety of biomass heating appliances work, what they use for fuel and how it is graded or certified, what ranges of equipment are available today, and how you might decide what systems are best for applications in which you might have interest.</p> <p><b>Biomass 101</b></p> <p><i>Session 1. How do biomass boilers and furnaces work and how clean are they?</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Chips</li> <li>b. Pellets, top fed, horizontally fed, underfed burners</li> </ol> <p><i>Session 2. What is appropriate fuel?</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Chip grading, variability</li> <li>b. Pellet manufacture and standards</li> </ol> <p><i>Session 3. What types of equipment are available in the Northeast?</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Cordwood</li> <li>b. Chips</li> <li>c. Pellets</li> </ol> <p><i>Session 4. How do you decide what is best for you?</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Chips or pellets</li> <li>b. Decisions among pellet boilers</li> </ol>

	<p><i>Scott Nichols, Tarm – Session 1</i>  <i>Rick Grondin, Integrated Energy Systems – Session 3</i>  <i>Dutch Dresser, Maine Energy Systems – Session 4</i></p>
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Welcome Reception & Expo “Sneak Peek” for all Attendees
<p><b>Wednesday, April 26</b></p>	
8:00 AM	Registration Open, Light Refreshments
8:30 AM – 8:45 AM	<p>Welcome and Program Overview</p> <p><i>Jeff Serfass, Conference Chair (Executive Director, BTEC)</i></p>
8:45 AM – 9:15 AM	<p><b>Opportunities and Challenges Facing Our Industry</b>  <i>State of the Industry Keynote</i></p> <p>What can we learn from the industry’s past and from other industries to spur innovation during this time of warm winters and low fossil fuel prices?</p> <p><i>Steve Walker, formerly New England Wood Pellet</i></p>
9:15 AM – 9:45 AM	<p><b>Policy Keynote: Biomass Policy in the New Political Climate</b>  <i>Policy Influencer’s Perspective Keynote</i></p> <p>How can the industry capitalize on the themes of the election – rural economic development, local jobs, and energy independence – to expand biomass thermal technologies?</p>
9:45 AM – 10:15 AM	<p><b>Challenges of doing Business in the Biomass Thermal Industry</b>  <i>Business Owner’s Perspective Keynote</i></p> <p>What are the common mistakes business owners and project managers make when undertaking a new biomass thermal project? What assumptions and considerations should they make to avoid a loss?</p> <p><i>Dane Floyd, Biomass Engineering &amp; Equipment</i></p>
10:15 AM – 10:45 AM	Break
10:45 AM – 12:00 PM	<p><b>Perspectives on Thermal Storage – Technical and Policy Perspectives</b>  <i>Technical and Project Development Breakout Session 1</i></p> <p><b>Perspectives on Thermal Storage – Technical and Policy Perspectives</b>  <i>Policy Breakout Session 1</i></p> <p>This session will continue the discussion on thermal storage for advanced wood pellet boilers, offering new insights gained and research conducted over the last year. A diversity of panelists representing manufacturers, technical experts, and testing laboratories will present their data and field performance insights, and an opportunity for discussion will follow.</p> <p><i>Moderator: Val Stori, Clean Energy States Alliance</i></p>

	<p><i>Dan Wilson, Wilson Engineering Services (tentative)</i>  <i>Henry Spindler, DCM Logic</i>  <i>Stefan Ortner, Ökofen</i>  <i>Lew McCreery US Forest Service (invited)</i></p>
<b>12:00 PM – 8:30 PM</b>	<b>Expo Floor Open</b>
<b>12:00 PM – 1:30 PM</b>	<b>Lunch at Expo Hall</b>
<b>1:30 PM – 2:00 PM</b>	<p><b>Technical Overview and Innovations</b>  <b>Technical Perspective Keynote</b></p> <p>What is the state of technology in the US biomass industry? Where is there opportunity for innovation, and what emerging technologies should we be watching?</p> <p><i>Dan Wilson, Wilson Engineering Services (tentative)</i></p>
<b>2:00 PM – 3:15 PM</b>	<p><b>Boiler Plant Metrics</b>  <b>Technical and Project Development Breakout Session 2</b></p> <p>What are biomass boiler plants trying to accomplish? How can we measure how well they are performing?</p> <p><i>David Spindler, DCM Logic</i>  <i>Henry Spindler, DCM Logic</i>  <i>Ned Reynolds, Johnson Controls</i></p>
<b>2:00 PM – 3:15 PM</b>	<p><b>Air Quality and Emissions</b>  <b>Policy Breakout Session 2</b></p> <p>This session will explore the air quality regulations for biomass thermal systems and the technologies available to curb emissions.</p> <p><i>Moderator: Rob Rizzo, University of Massachusetts</i>  <i>John Hinckley, Resource Systems Group</i>  <i>Dr. Richard Peltier, University of Massachusetts</i>  <i>Ray Albrecht, Consulting Engineer</i></p>
<b>3:15 PM – 3:45 PM</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>3:45 PM – 4:15 PM</b>	<p><b>Forest Owners' Perspective Keynote</b></p> <p>How do forest management decisions affect the entire biomass supply chain? What are the opportunities for closer coordination between biomass thermal industry and forestry stakeholders?</p> <p><i>David Tenny, National Alliance of Forest Owners</i></p>
<b>4:15 PM – 5:30 PM</b>	<p><b>Emerging Biomass Technologies</b>  <b>Technical and Project Development Breakout Session 3</b></p> <p>Building off our Technical Perspective Keynote, we will discuss some of the emerging technologies in the industry, including their applications and potential impact.</p>

	<p><i>Moderator: Tom Wilson, Wilson Engineering Services (tentative)</i>  <b>CHP – Stefan Ortner, Ökofen</b>  <b>ORC – Ilaria Peretti, Turboden</b>  <b>CHP – Marc Caluwe, Caluwe, Inc.</b>  <b>Stirling Engine CHP – Dutch Dresser, Maine Energy Systems (invited)</b></p>
4:15 PM – 5:30 PM	<p><b>Northeast State Policy Panel – Regulatory Decisions and the Impacts on the Industry</b>  <b>Policy Breakout Session 3</b></p> <p>Why have states taken different approaches to regulating biomass technologies? How are those technical regulations vetted with the industry? What accommodations can be made in the face of low fuel prices and other market barriers?</p> <p><i>Moderator: Dutch Dresser, Maine Energy Systems (tentative)</i>  <b>Andy Perchlik, Vermont Department of Public Service</b>  <b>Peter McPhee, Massachusetts Clean Energy Center</b>  <b>Barbara Bernstein, NH Public Utilities Commission</b>  <b>Maine representative (tentative)</b></p>
4:15 PM – 5:30 PM	<p><b>Tools for and Perspectives on Feasibility Studies</b>  <b>Business Development Breakout Session 3</b></p> <p>This session will introduce project developers and managers to the different levels of project feasibility studies and compare approaches to studying whether and what type of biomass thermal system is right for a given project.</p> <p><i>Moderator: Charlie Levesque, Innovative Natural Resource Solutions</i>  <b>Jeff Forward, Richmond Energy Associates</b>  <b>Juliette Juillerat, Biomass Energy Resource Center</b>  <b>Tom Wilson, Wilson Engineering Services (tentative)</b></p>
5:30 PM – 6:15 PM	<p><b>Case Study Lightning Round</b></p> <p>Businesses and groups represented can each take five minutes to talk about their latest project or innovation.</p> <p><i>Moderator: Christine Donovan, Vermont Energy Investment Corporation</i></p>
6:15 PM – 8:00 PM	<b>Reception on Expo Floor</b>
8:15 PM – 10:00 PM	<b>BTEC &amp; Brews in Downtown Burlington (Happy Hour for Current &amp; Prospective Biomass Thermal Energy Council Members)</b> - RiRa Irish Pub
<b>Thursday, April 27</b>	
8:00 AM – 2:00 PM	<b>Expo Floor Open</b>
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	<b>Registration Open, Light Refreshments</b>
8:30 AM – 8:45 AM	<b>Day 1 Recap</b>

	<b>Jeff Serfass, Conference Chair (Executive Director, BTEC)</b>
<b>8:45 AM – 10:15 AM</b>	<p><b>Regional Updates Roundtable</b></p> <p>What is the state of the industry in the five regions represented? What policies or programs are regions pursuing, and are there best practices that can be replicated elsewhere?</p> <p><i>Moderator: David Bancroft, BTEC Technical Engagement Manager</i>  <b>Northeast – Maura Adams, Northern Forest Center</b>  <b>Midwest – TJ Morice, TNT Ventures</b>  <b>Northwest – Bob Sourek, Bear Mountain Forest Products</b>  <b>Mid-Atlantic – Paul Lewandowski, AFS Energy</b>  <b>Southwest – Rob Davis, Forest Energy Corporation</b></p>
<b>10:15 AM – 10:45 AM</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>10:45 AM – 12:00 PM</b>	<p><b>Woodchip Outlook: Green Chips, Dry Chips, and the US Woodchip Standard</b>  <b>Technical and Project Development Breakout Session 4</b></p> <p>This session will provide an update on the US Woodchip Standard, and then move into a discussion over the use of green chips and dry chips, and how the standard will impact users.</p> <p><i>Moderator: Adam Sherman, Biomass Energy Resource Center</i>  <b>Charlie Niebling, Innovative Natural Resource Solutions</b>  <b>Mark Froling, Froling Energy</b>  <b>Charlie Cary, Biomass Combustion Systems</b>  <b>Lew McCreery, US Forest Service (invited)</b></p>
<b>10:45 AM – 12:00 PM</b>	<p><b>Local and Municipal Innovations and Shared Successes</b>  <b>Policy Breakout Session 4</b></p> <p>Municipalities and communities have successfully implemented biomass heating projects. How did they generate the political will, overcome opposition, and implement these projects? What lessons can this provide to other communities?</p> <p><b>John Hollar, Mayor of Montpelier, VT</b>  <b>Susan McMahon, Windham Regional Commission</b></p>
<b>10:45 AM – 12:00 PM</b>	<p><b>Performance Contracting and Financing Biomass Projects</b>  <b>Business Development Breakout Session 4</b></p> <p>What funding is available to project managers for their biomass thermal project? What do funders look for when deciding whether to invest?</p> <p><i>Moderator: Christine Donovan, Vermont Energy Investment Corporation</i>  <b>Ned Reynolds, Johnson Controls</b>  <b>Kenneth Yearman, USDA Rural Development</b>  <b>Craig Simmons, Vermont Energy Investment Corporation</b></p>

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch at Expo Hall
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	<p><b>Contractors Conversation: Lessons Learned from Contractors in the Northeast</b></p> <p>How did the region’s large contractors grow to be so big, and how do they survive in the current economic climate?</p> <p><i>Moderator: Bede Wellford, Viessmann David Frank, Sunwood Mark Froling, Froling Energy Bill Overbaugh, Ehrhart Energy Morton Bailey, Lyme Green Heat</i></p>
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM	<p><b>Cordwood Technology Outlook – The 2020 Threshold and Emerging Technologies</b> <i>Technical and Project Development Breakout Session 5</i></p> <p>What technologies will wood boilers use to meet the 2020 emissions thresholds? What will the cost be? What are some of the emerging technologies in cordwood boilers?</p> <p><i>Moderator: Kelli O’Brien, Clearstak Chris Tureson, Central Boiler John Ackerly, Alliance for Green Heat Scott Nichols, Tarm Biomass</i></p>
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM	<p><b>Addressing False Claims – Facts and Feel-good Messaging About the Biomass Thermal Industry</b> <i>Policy Breakout Session 5</i></p> <p>This session will explore the talking points and approaches we can use when discussing biomass thermal. It will show the need for effective communication and provide resources for countering inaccuracies.</p> <p><i>Moderator: Beth Scott, North American Forest Partnership Nathan L’Etoile, Massachusetts Forest Alliance Maura Adams, Northern Forest Center Mike Porter, Uzelac Industries</i></p>
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM	<p><b>Sustainable Forest Management, Certifications, and the Biomass Thermal Energy Industry</b> <i>Business Development Session 5</i></p> <p>Our industry is closely tied to decisions made in the forest management, forest products, and product certification sectors. What impacts do these decisions have on the industry?</p> <p><i>Moderator: Paul Frederick, VT Department of Forests, Parks &amp; Recreation Jameson French, Northland Forest Products Charlie Levesque, Innovative Natural Resource Solutions</i></p>

	<i>Curran Renewable Energy representative (invited)</i>
<b>3:15 PM – 3:30 PM</b>	<b>Closing Remarks and Lessons Learned</b> <i>David Bancroft, BTEC Technical Engagement Manager</i>
<b>3:30 PM</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>

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