### eBusiness in the Forest Products Industry Opportunities and Realities

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May 3, 2006

Forestry On The Grow Conference and Expo





# What am I Going to Talk About?

- Internet Structures
- eBusiness and eCommerce
- eBusiness in the Forest Sector
- How Companies Can Get Involved
- Some Final Thoughts









¿Qué quiere

que sea la

**Internet?** 





Digital Africa









e B

u s



Exchange



Tokyo PC



ness

### **Top 10 Countries-Internet Users (2006)**

Country	Users (Million)	Percent of Population	Percent of World Users	
United States	203.6	68.7%	20.0%	
China	103.0	7.9%	10.1%	
Japan	78.1	60.9%	7.7%	
Germany	47.1	57.0%	4.6%	
India	39.2	3.6%	3.9%	
United Kingdom	37.8	63.1%	3.7%	
South Korea	32.6	65.2%	3.2%	
Italy	28.9	49.3%	2.8%	
France	25.6	42.3%	2.5%	
Russia	22.3	15.5%	2.2%	
<b>Top 10 Countries</b>	<mark>618.2</mark>		<u>60.7%</u>	

### **Broad Internet Applications**

- Information source
- eCommunications (inter/intra)
- eBusiness (operations)
- Sales and purchases (eCommerce)











# **eBusiness & eCommerce**



### What is eBusiness?

- eBusiness is the application of Internet-based technologies for conducting business.
- It includes eCommerce, the actual transaction activities as well as other business oriented applications such as logistics, order entry, information sharing and transmission of information between exchange partners.

### What is eBusiness?

- First and foremost about business, not technology.
- Technology facilitates eBusiness.
- Challenge is managing the changes in business strategies and internal corporate processes.
- Can include intra-company networks (intranets) and Internet linkages with customers or suppliers (extranets).

### eBusiness Technologies/Applications

ON		Point-to-Point (EDI, XML)	
IT Sophisticati	Supplier	eIntermedaries Corporate web-sites	<ul> <li>→ Customer</li> <li>→</li> </ul>
		e-Mail Phone/fax	·
		Mail	→ →

### **eBusiness Timeline**





### eCommerce Spending

- Business to Business (B2B) is 80% of total eCommerce
- 2% of B2B transactions conducted on-line
- Estimated worldwide B2B eCommerce:

	2003	2004
eMarketer	\$1.4	\$2.4
Goldman Sachs	\$2.1	\$3.2
Forrester Research	\$3.7	\$6.3



### ALL AGREE ON CONTINUED GROWTH !



### Important Market Forces Affecting Business

- Pressure to reduce overall supply chain costs
- Pressure to compress total time to market/ cycle time
- Pressure to collaborate more effectively with trading partners
- Unstable/unpredictable demand for products
  /services
- Movement toward a more global marketplace

# eBusiness Can Impact All Company Functions

Back Office				Market Research	
Technology Development			[	Distribution	
Procurement			I	Information Systems	
Pre-Sale Activities	Inbound Materials Logistics	Operations	Outbound Logistics	Marketing and Sales	Post-Sale Service

# **Key eBusiness Benefits**

- . Lower inventory levels
- . Reduced uncertainty
- . Enhanced response to customer demands
- Shortened product-to-market cycles
- Optimized use of materials and processes

# Intranets: Internalizing The Internet



# An Intranet



# **Intranet-Internet Connectivity**



# Intranets can host...

- product price lists
- product specifications
- customer databases
- inventory records
- supplier databases

- . employee databases
- . employee newsletters
- performance records
- maintenance records
- marketing schedules

# Intranets can facilitate...

- production scheduling
- sales coordination
- project management
- regulatory compliance
- . ISO 9000 qualification
- . employee training
- management decision making

# Extranets: Connecting Exchange Partners





# Extranets facilitate...

- collaboration between companies
- . training and support
- communication with suppliers & customers
- . data Interchange
- production/purchasing coordination
- sales and purchases

	The Internet	Intranets	Extranets
What is it?	The information superhighway.	The use of Internet technology within a company or organization.	A network that uses the Internet to link company Intranets in order to enhance business-to- business relationships.
Access	Open	Private	By agreement only
Users	Public	Organization members	Business partners
Information	General	Proprietary	Selective

# eBusiness and the U.S. Forest Sector







### Forest-Based Industries are generally Business-to-Business (B2B)



# As opposed to Business-to-Consumer (B2C)





### **A Typical Forest Products Supply/Value Chain**



(Adapted from -TALPX 2000)

### Even From the Forest to the Mill

#### Timber Owner

#### Forester/Loggers

#### Timber Buyer



- Access to markets
- Timberland management

- Inventory management
- Consistent supply
- Search costs

### **Possible eLinkages in the Supply Chain**



### **Global Nature of the Industry**



# Where is the U.S. Forest Products Industry in eBusiness Adoption?



US Census 2005

### Forest Industry eBusiness

Manufacturing Industry in General US: eCommerce: 21% of total shipments



### **NEW Study-Methodology**



**Industry Sectors Sampled:** 

### Forest Products Industry (FPI)

- 250 wood products manufacturing (SIC 24)
- 250 paper products manufacturing (SIC 26)

### Non-Forest Products Industry (NFPI)

- 250 chemical manufacturing (SIC 28)
- 250 food manufacturing (SIC 20)

### When eBusiness Was Adopted



Kallioranta 2006

# **Applications Adopted**

	Application adopted by % of respondents			
	Website <sup>a</sup>	Extranet <sup>a</sup>	eIntermediary <sup>a</sup>	P2P <sup>a</sup>
Total (n=106)	85%	43%	15%	35%
FPI (n=52)	81%	31%	15%	21%
NFPI (n=54)	89%	54%	15%	48%
Pearson Chi- Square	1.363	5.703	.007	8.496
d.f.	1	1	1	1
Significance+	.243	.017*	.935	.004**

\* Significant at  $\alpha = 0.05$ ; \*\* Significant at  $\alpha = 0.01$ ;

+ Assymp. Sig. (2-sided); a 0 cells (0%) have expected count less than 5

Kallioranta 2006

## Why?

- Reactive rather than proactive
- Not inclined to be lead adopter; generally, a wait and -see posture
- Production-oriented culture
- Lower investment in IT research and development
- Not convinced eBusiness is relevant
- Lack of trained information technology staff
- Lack of application tools







# BLINDED BY FEAR





### **#1 Concern about Using the Internet** U.S. Wood Products Industry







Impediments to Implementing eBusiness In the Forest Products Industry

- Lack of skilled IT staff
- Lack of an understanding of benefits
- Expense of development
- Expense of hardware and software

### Factors Contributing to Successful Internet Implementation in the Forest Products Industry

- 1) User involvement
- 2) Development of trust in using technology
- 3) Management support
- 4) User training



# **Options for Involvement**



### eBusiness Applications-Something for Everyone! (U.S. forest products example)

**Relative Frequency** 



## eBusiness Development Options



### eIntermediaries Connect Buyers & Suppliers



# Some Thoughts on eBusiness Strategy



### eBusiness Strategy Characteristics



### What's the Bottom Line?

- The emergence of cyberspace is a fundamental force that is transforming business and society.
- Internet-based technologies offer revolutionary tools for business development and management.
  - eBusiness is one means for developing competitive advantage.

Companies that succeed will be ones that use the Internet as a complement to traditional ways of competing, not those that set their Internet initiatives apart from their established operations.

Porter 2006

# What Does the Future Hold?







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