



BRIAN N. BROGDON

TAPPI Journal Editorial Board Members



PETER W. HART

TAPPI's 2013 PEERS Conference: Pulp manufacturing highlights

Editor's Note: TAPPI would like to thank Brian Brogdon and Peter Hart of the TAPPI Journal (TJ) Editorial Board for soliciting papers from the 2013 PEERS Conference and overseeing their review for this special Pulp Manufacturing issue, as well as additional upcoming issues of TJ with PEERS content. Thanks also to the authors and peer reviewers who participated in this process.

— Monica Shaw, Editorial Director

This past September, Green Bay, WI, hosted approximately 350 attendees at TAPPI's 2013 Pulping, Engineering, Environmental, Recycling and Sustainability (PEERS) Conference. Additionally, the 10th Research Forum on Recycling, which convenes every three years, was part of the PEERS program.

Industry professionals, comprising of mill personnel, consultants, suppliers, and academicians, exchanged the latest cutting-edge technology and best practices related to pulp manufacture, chemical recovery, power & steam, corrosion mitigation, environmental issues, regulatory compliance, sustainability, and biorefining.

Popular conference topics

The overall PEERS Conference theme was *Sustainable Manufacturing: First and Goal*. Participants also had an opportunity to network at the conference reception, which was held at Lambeau Field, the home of the Green Bay Packers football team and one of the NFL's most revered stadiums.

PEERS participants had thirty different sessions, organized into five program tracks, to attend, in addition to four different workshops. Prior to the start of the technical programs, "Hot Topic Breakfasts" discussions allowed for small groups with an industry moderator to discuss the latest issues of the day; some of the most popular Hot Topics were:

- Mill production of cellulose nanomaterials
- Challenges and opportunities of repurposing pulp and paper mills
- Under insulation and other water related corrosion
- Pulp bleaching issues
- Improving kraft pulping and pulp yields from wood

As TAPPI Journal (TJ) Editorial Board Members who were involved with this conference, we bring to you in this month's special issue of TJ a sampling of the papers presented in the sessions that were organized and sponsored by TAPPI's Pulp Manufacturing Division. Moreover, we are currently organizing two other TJ special issues that will have PEERS papers that were organized and sponsored by TAPPI's Engineering Division and Nonwoods Committee. Look for these upcoming issues later this year.

We would like to thank all the authors who offered their work for publication in this issue and returned their revised papers in a timely manner, as well as all the peer reviewers who critiqued and provided their valued comments and improvements to the authors' works. We also acknowledge and appreciate the assistance obtained from Ashley Westbrook, Jeff Wells and Monica Shaw of TJ. Finally, we thank the 2013 PEERS Technical Programming Committee and the TAPPI staff for their tireless efforts to pull together and organize this conference.

2014 PEERS goes West

Planning for the technical program of the 2014 TAPPI PEERS Conference, which will be held September 14-17 in Tacoma, WA, will be completed by March 2014. Additional information about PEERS registration, the tentative technical program, hotel location and travel logistics can be found at the Conference's website, www.tappipeers.org. This year's PEERS theme will be *Pioneering Strategies for Reliability and Innovation*. **TJ**

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