Gradewood

Grading of timber for engineered wood products

Project Start Month: January 2008

Project Duration: 36 months

Project Consortium

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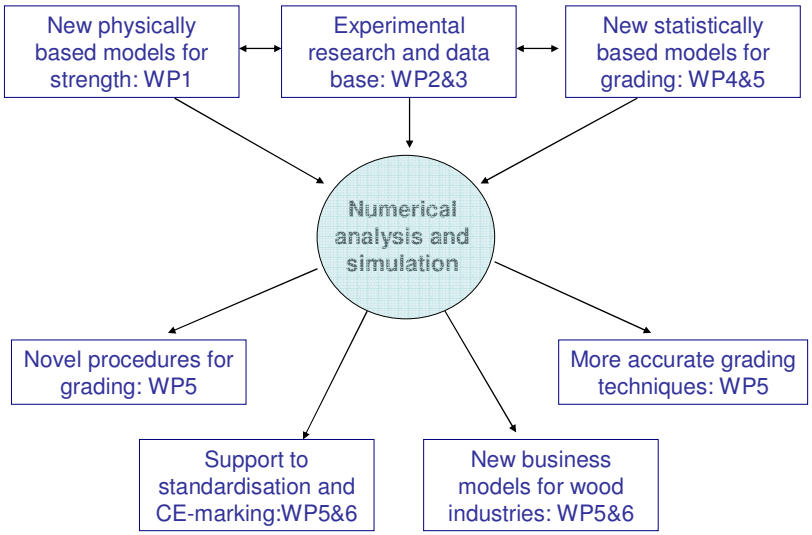
Project Objectives

The objective of this research is to improve the competitiveness of timber as a structural material and to increase its market share in construction. This will be achieved by improving the cost effectiveness of the wood processing industry and the credibility of timber as a professional structural material. Our method is to apply modern technologies and better practises in strength grading, and integrate it to sawmilling process. Naturally, the project cannot reach these goals alone, but it pursues to produce the means and help for the industry to improve its processes and technology including standardisation to reach the goals.

Project Approach



Work is divided into following 7 work packages (WP's):

WP1: Physical modelling of the effect of defects to strength of timber

WP2: Prior analysis: joint analysis of existing experimental data

WP3: New experimental research

WP4. Statistical analysis of existing and new results

WP5: Modelling and development of advanced grading procedures

WP6: Dissemination of results

WP7: Coordination

Expected Project Impact

Expected useable results for the industry and standardisation bodies:

- more accurate grading techniques to be further exploited by participating grading machine manufacturers

- novel procedures for strength grading to be exploited by standardisation and wood industries
- new business models for wood industries to optimise the use of raw material to tailored structural products
- harmonised data files for further development of European codes and standards.

Contact

The coordinator or any of the project partners stated above