

# THE VOLOGDA REGION FORESTS

**The Vologda region was formed on September 23, 1937 and currently is one of the most economically developed regions of the European Northern Russia. Its area is 145.7 thousand square km, which constitutes 0.8% of the total area of the Russian Federation. It borders at the North with the Archangelsk region, at the East with the Kirovsk region, at the South with the Kostroma and Yaroslavl regions and at the West with the Leningrad, Novgorod and Tver regions. Its Northwestern neighbour is the Republic of Karelia. The climate in the region is mildly continental, with long, cold winters and relatively short, warm summers.**

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**The head of the Department of TIC, The deputy governor of Vologodskaya oblast Vladimir Grachev**



The first company to start the production of biofuel in the Vologda region was the "Vologdalesprom" corporation. Until now the corporation has already built two production facilities in Vologda and Veliky Ustyug with an overall capacity of 20 and 50 thousand tons of wood pellets per year and it is planning to build three more factories, including the one in Totma with a production capacity of 50 thousand tons of pellets per year.

The wood pellets are also produced by OOO Lesprom (Cherepovets). New factories are being built in Kadnikov and Verkhovazhye. There are future plans to build more such enterprises in other areas of the region.

Power Generation from Wood is one of the most promising directions of development of deep wood processing. Already now, all wood enterprises have boiler houses that use wooden waste and supply energy to the drying tunnels and other production areas. This kind of heat generation is used more and more widely: there is a heat power plant operating at the plywood factory Novator that uses the production waste, and in 2006 the first stage of a similar plant will be launched in Bely Ruchey. These plants, being more large-scale power suppliers, will serve not only industrial, but also social purposes by providing heat to the communities where the wood enterprises are located.

Match Production is represented in the Vologda region by only one enterprise: the match factory "FESKO". However, it is the largest producer of matches in Northwestern Russia. The total volume of match production at this enterprise is more than 20% of the total production volume in Russia

The factory has been gradually increasing its production potential over the past few years. In 2005 ZAO FESKO produced about 1.5 thousand standard matchbox cases, which is more than during the Soviet times. Now the enterprise shows stable operation and despite certain problems with sales, the production volume remains at the same level, which is sufficient for the normal workload of the personnel.

Furniture. Furniture production is represented in the Vologda region by several enterprises. They are the furniture factory Styling, which currently cooperates with Ikea and is one of the leading furniture enterprises in the region.

The Vologda branch of OOO Nord-class, which focuses on school furniture production, is also gradually developing.

## FOREST MACHINE BUILDING

The Vologda region is one of the few regions that possesses not only forest resources, but also several machinery enterprises that focus on the production of machinery for the timber industry. There are three large forest machinery producers in Vologda itself: OAO Vologodsky stankozavod, OAO Severny Kommunar and ZAO "Vologodsky Eksperimentalny Zavod Derevoobrabatyvayuschikh Stankov." These companies are sufficiently large and play an important role in town and regional economics. However, they are now facing difficult times.

In Soviet times the machinery factories were focusing on large-scale production and thus large and wealthy customers. The situation has changed now: the processing volumes have decreased and most importantly, many enterprises, especially the new ones, need new equipment that would take less space and ensure the quality of complex processing.

The machinery enterprises listed above produce the equipment for mechanical wood processing. Now, this is the dominating and most plausible direction in the development of timber industry in the Vologda region, because the lumbering requires much less investments than, for

### Lumber production (Sokolsky DOK)

