



NEWS

FOREST RESOURCES ASSOCIATION INC.

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FRA ELECTS BILL JOHNSON CHAIRMAN

Washington, DC – On May 6, the **Forest Resources Association's** Board of Directors elected Bill Johnson, Jr., President of Johnson Timber, to serve as the Association's Chairman for the coming two years.

Accepting the Chairmanship, Johnson thanked his predecessor, Tom Reed, and praised his strong leadership.

Johnson noted the importance of growing FRA's influence in public policy, by continuing to build the organization's grassroots capabilities and through higher-level public outreach campaigns. "I would like to place that challenge to all of you: to make 'grassroots response' something everyone in the forest products supply chain does."



Johnson pointed to the challenge that forest industry consolidation poses, as does progress in technologies that enable fewer personnel to do more work. "The mergers and acquisitions throughout our sector have created new efficiencies, savings, technology access, and new ways to meet the challenges of global competition," he observed. "But they have left us all with the challenge of keeping our feet on the ground. We have fewer people doing more work, with enhanced technologies and time-saving apps, but with new challenges in building involvement."

He asked Board members to invest in FRA, not just by paying dues but by encouraging

staff to participate in Regional meetings, to share key learnings in FRA technical programs, and to build the FRA network, as an Association.

Johnson also stated the priority of strengthening FRA's wood supplier membership, encouraging suppliers to join, to help them realize value in their membership, and to bring them more actively into FRA's decision processes and programs.

Bill Johnson began working for Hayward, Wisconsin-based Johnson Timber in 1997, rising through various positions until being named President in 2006. He also serves as Director of Government Affairs and Public Relations for the company's acquisition, Flambeau River Papers. In 2008, he formed the patent-holding technology company, Renewable and Densified Fuels, and in 2011 helped form Timberian LLC, an international consulting firm active in the Caribbean, South America, and Asia.

Johnson is a former Chairman of the Wisconsin State Implementation Committee for the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® and is a current Board member of the American Forest & Paper Association and of the Federal Forest Resource Coalition, in addition to his long service on FRA's Board and Executive Committee.

Bill serves as the Finance Chairman for the Wisconsin state Republican Party and as the National Treasurer for GOPAC.

The **Forest Resources Association Inc.** is a nonprofit trade association concerned with the safe, efficient, and sustainable harvest of forest products and their transport from woods to mill. FRA represents forest landowners and managers, wood consumers, independent logging contractors, wood dealers, and businesses providing products and services to the forest resource-based industries.

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Photo caption: "Bill Johnson, elected to serve as Chairman of the Forest Resources Association for the coming two years."