

# Success story

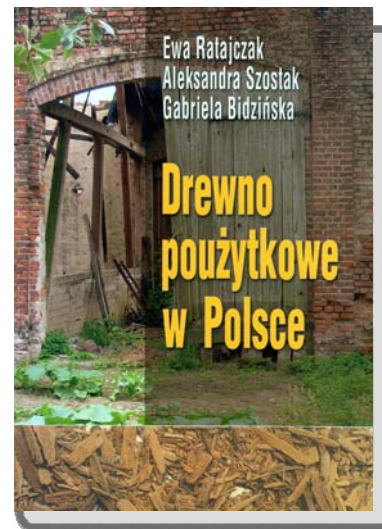


Wood Technology Institute, Poznan, Poland

## METHOD OF ASSESSING USED-WOOD RESOURCES

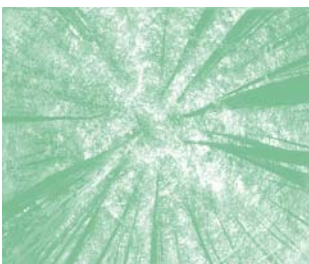
*Insufficient natural resources, economic and ecological problems related to the increasing amounts of municipal waste and growing energy demands are the main reasons for the rising interest that both scientists and practitioners have been showing in the issue of waste materials, including used wood.*

*In Poland, as in most countries, there has been lack of information on the amount and origin of used wood. Also the available data on the types, features and quality of this waste, as well as the possibilities of using it was insufficient.*



*The identification of a fundamental cognitive gap in terms of the concept of used wood was the main reason for commencing in 2002 a research conducted by the Wood Technology Institute, Poznań, Poland, aimed at developing a method of assessing the supply of used wood, together with its verification, using the case of Poland.*

*The essence of the method of diagnosing and forecasting supply of used wood is a system of rotation indices for individual wood products and their average life times. The usage in the research of the concept of the life cycle, deriving from economic as well as technical sciences, and its transposition to individual groups of wood products was found to have been completely justified and effective in terms of tools which were used.*



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## **METHOD OF ASSESSING USED-WOOD RESOURCES**

***The developed research tool allowed for the identification – for the first time in Poland – in a scientifically justified manner the supply of post-use wood and for description of its origin. At the same time a scientific result was achieved, namely:***

- ***a systematization of usage features of individual groups of used wood,***
- ***setting up criteria for its suitability for different purposes: industrial, energy and other,***

***The analytical usefulness of the method is especially valid for:***

- ***the producers of wood materials, since it gives a basis for forming a roundwood management strategy which takes into account a valuable alternative source, that is used wood, and that is of great significance for sustainable development (eco-development),***
- ***enterprises, organizations and institutions dealing with the protection of the environment (also in terms of municipal economy), energy economy as well as new materials, with the usage of re-used resources,***
- ***producers of alternative energy carriers (including pellets),***
- ***researchers dealing with using post-consumer wood in the production of wood materials.***

***The new method allowed Poland to join the COST Action E31: Management of recovered wood. Due to the lack of alternative solutions professionals have been interested in implementation of the proposed method of assessing used wood supply also in other European countries. It should also be emphasized that the concept of this method is universal and can be used by researchers in different branches and fields of the economy as well.***

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