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Challenges and opportunities in forest transportation

Forest industries generate a large part of Canadians economic. Canada is a world leader to create value from its forests. Several members expressed their needs to get decision support systems able to plan better routes, review their transportation strategy, and to schedule trucks in real-time. Actually, high costs, environmental pressure and lack of human's resources are key issues in forest transportation sector. Behind those key issues, it is more complex today to adequately manage fibre inventories and to meet the customer's expectations along the value chain. Transport collaboration is not a new phenomenon, but it is not well accepted in the Canadian forest industry. Sharing information and transport network resources resulting in significant cost savings. In using common transport facilities, the collaborators will realize synergies, economies of scale, and cost savings in storage, staging, handling, and shipping the goods. Transport collaboration yields other benefits as well: more efficient inventory management, reduced transport costs, increased frequency of deliveries, economies of scale to small- and medium-sized businesses and enhanced corporate responsibility by reducing carbon emissions. FPIInnovations will present the challenges in forest transportation and will underline the importance of collaboration.