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### Involvement in the COST Action: Member of MC, Vice-Chair WG2, Member of WG2

### Research interest

The BioComposites centre has interest in the following aspects of the surface modification of wood;

- Modification of timber to aid gluing
- Modification of wood fibres and particles for composites production and novel composites
- Analysis of effects of moisture on mechanical properties of timber

# Specialized technique available in my lab

#### Lab equipment for:

- Large scale chemical reactions upto 50 litres
- Composites manufacture (including MDF) and upto 1m<sup>2</sup> in size
- Dynamic Vapour Sorption analysis of water and other organic solvents
- Dynamic mechanical thermal analysis (DMTA) with the ability to work under humidity.
- Colour analysis
- Weathering, both in real time and accelerated
- Scanning electron microscopy with surface analysis
- VOC analysis

## Additional comment

The BioComposites Centre (BC) as awhole focuses on research into the manufacture and use of sustainable materials and chemicals. The facitity is designed to move research and development work through the bench stage and into pilot scale and eventually the factory. BC has facilities to undertake pilot work in the chemical extraction, composite manfacture and polymer compounding.