INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH JOIN IN THE CLUSTER OF FOREST TECHNOLOGY

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"TOGETHER WE INVENT THE FOREST MACHINE OF TOMORROW"

The cluster has created an innovative environment for linking research, development of new techniques and business. It increases the cluster companies' ability to apply research findings, and reduces lead times between innovation and commercialization of product. To extend the bridging efforts, the cluster has defined five focus areas:

- Transmission drive systems for harvesting on soft ground
- Systems for more efficient extraction of tree biomass for biorefineries (incl. bioenergy assortments)
- Electrical hybrid systems increasing fuel-efficiency of forestry vehicles
- (Semi)-automation of forestry vehicles and their tools/attachments
- "Envirogentle" systems for forest operations

The Cluster of Forest Technology collaborates with researchers and students from several universities in northern Sweden. Axlotl, a selective bio-harvester, was designed by Nick Ross at the Umeå Institute of Design, which is ranked as number one Design school in Europe. The bio-harvester has light weight, give back needles and collect bio-material and compress it to bio-logs.
Photo: Malin Grummas

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WE ARE THE CLUSTER

- 11 companies situated in northern Sweden form the Cluster: *Bracke Forest, Cranab, Elforest Technologies , Hultdins, Iggesund Forest, Indexator Rotator Systems, Komatsu Forest, Log Max, Olofsfors, Oryx Simulations and Vimek.*
- The combined turnover of the companies amounts to 6 billion Euro. Half of the production is exported and the companies in the cluster employ 1 100 people in Sweden.

Bracke C16.c is an accumulating felling head for silviculture and bioenergy. The head has a high accumulating capacity and a unique, patented cutting solution that produces extremely rapid cutting. The Bracke C16.c combines highly efficient clearing with the ability to make use of valuable assortments such as biomass. As a result, the head is suited for all types of mechanized felling, such as corridor clearing, pre-commercial & first thinnings, thinning & clearing along roadsides, field edges a
Photo: Per Jonsson