

The banner features a blue background with a white snow-capped mountain (Mount Fuji) in the center. To the left, there are several piles of biomass pellets in shades of brown and tan. To the right, there are several high-voltage electrical transmission towers (pylons) against the blue sky.

# 7<sup>th</sup> Biomass Pellets Trade & Power

16 - 19 May 2016, Tokyo

## POST CONFERENCE WRITE UP

### **Arguably this has been the best Biomass Pellets Trade and Power Conference yet hosted by CMT!**

Although not the largest in terms of attendance, the conference nonetheless attracted 250 delegates from across the spectrum of organisations that participate in the sector. Delegate composition was a healthy mix of biomass producers, traders, brokers, utilities, technology providers, logistics and inspection specialists and industry professionals actively participating in the proceedings and workshops as well as networking during the conference.

The many presentations made focussed on a wide range of topics covering both Japan and Korea, the two countries that make up the present day North Asian demand for domestic and internationally traded biomass. We heard from industry players, trading houses and professionals on the Japan and Korean markets covering issues on supply and demand, future demand and sustainability.

We also heard from speakers focusing on non wood biomass sources such as PKS and Bagasse, as well as suppliers giving their own perspectives on biomass availability, pellet production, export and trade across the Asia-Pacific region and even beyond.

Technology focus once again revisited the subjects of back pellets and torrefaction, an ever present potential for the North Asian market which is getting serious consideration by at least some of the Japanese utilities and IPP's. Co-firing was once again on the conference agenda with several presentations describing issues and solutions to co-firing problematic fuel types as well as optimising operations.

With the Japan market set to grow substantially in 2017 and pressure within Korea to meet the obligation targets set by the Government, the outlook for biomass pellet trade and power generation in North Asia has never looked more secure. We look forward in anticipation to a positive future market and enthusiastically await the 2017 conference.

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