



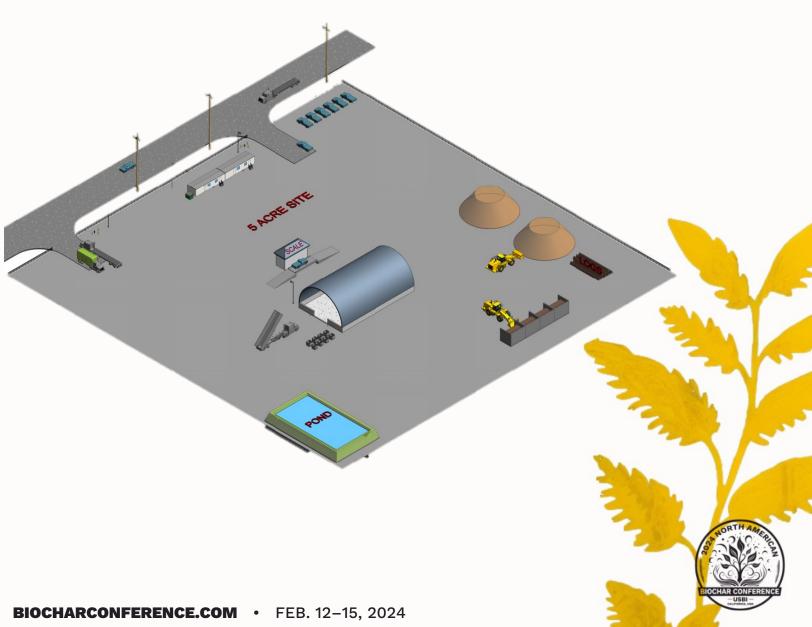
Biochar Production Facility Design Process and Tools

Dave Lanning
Senior Engineer
Forest Concepts, LLC
dlanning@forestconcepts.com

Cooperators:
US Dept of Energy
C6 Forest to Farm
By Design Engineering

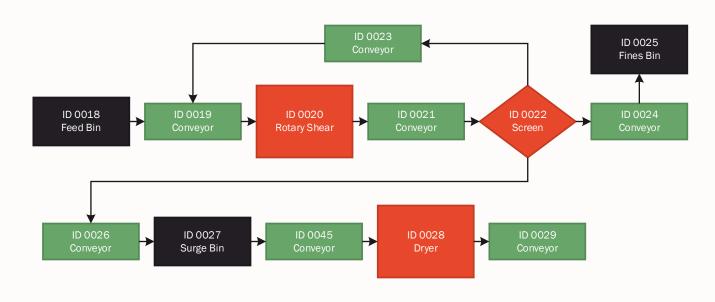
Agenda

- Background
- Appreciative Design **Process**
- SiPS TEA Software
- Wrap up



Background

- Biochar production facility
- C6 Forest to Farm siting facility in North-Central Washington
- Community scale (1 odt/hr equivalent)



Appreciative Design

- Appreciate beliefs, values, and needs of individuals and institutions (Soft Systems Methodology)
- Treat beliefs, values and other "externalities" just like hard constraints (Policy Analysis)
- Follow accepted design methodology (Suh's Axiomatic Design)



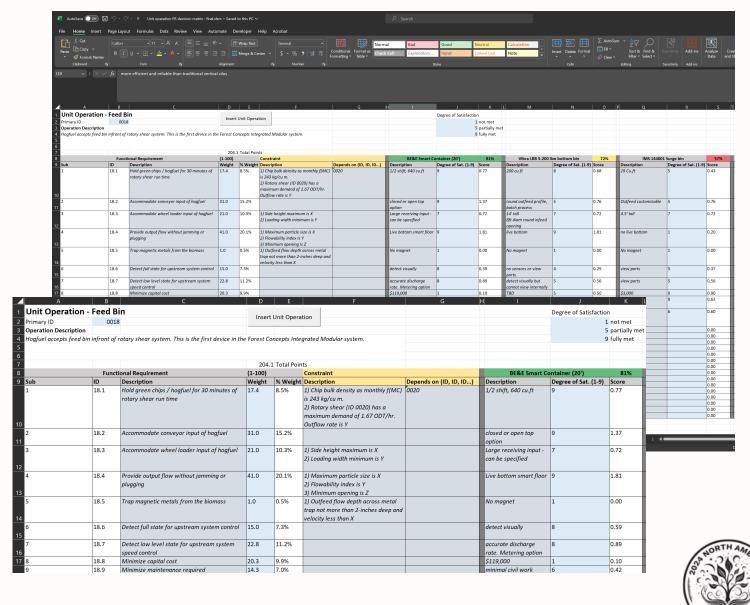
Appreciative Design (2)

Community Engagement

- Stakeholder identification and surveys
 - Weight stakeholder groups as needed
 - Regulatory
 - Owner
 - Operator
 - Neighbor

Axiomatic Design (Nam Suh)

- Three components
 - 1. Functional Requirements (FRs) (objectives)
 - 2. Constraints (Cs)
 - 3. Design Parameters (DPs) (solutions)
- Two Axioms
 - 1. Independence among Functional Requirements
 - 2. Best DPs have least information content



SiPS TEA Software - Overview

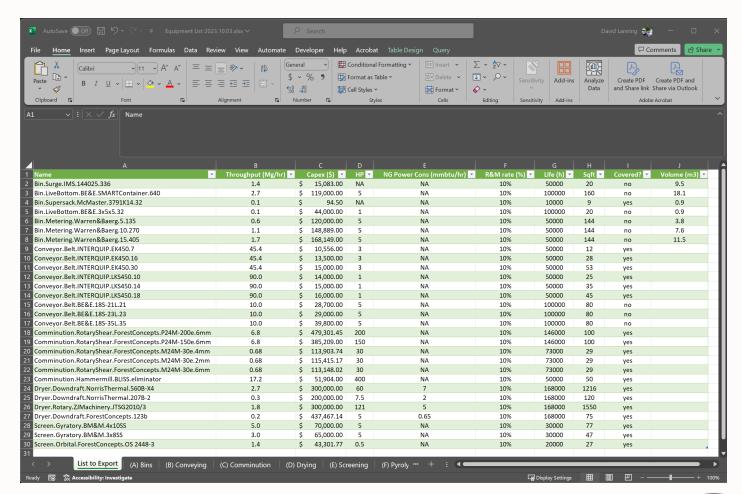
Simulation of Processing Systems for Techno-Economic Analysis

- Enables developers to quickly analyze design alternatives for community scale biomass processing centers
- Enable rapid creation of flexible TEA simulations
- Model multiple lines of biomass flow (split, combine, recirculate)
- Add / reorder equipment connections automatically
- Model non-steady state conditions and sensitivities
- Track biomass properties through the system
 - Size
 - Density
 - Moisture content

SiPS TEA - Equipment

Excel Based Equipment List

- Equipment Name
- Capacity (Mg/hr)
- CAPEX (\$)
- Electrical Power (HP)
- Natural Gas Consumption (MMBtu/hr)
- R&M Rate (% of CAPEX)
- Life (h)
- Footprint (ft²)
- Covered (Y/N)
- Volume (m³)
- Expandable to other parameters

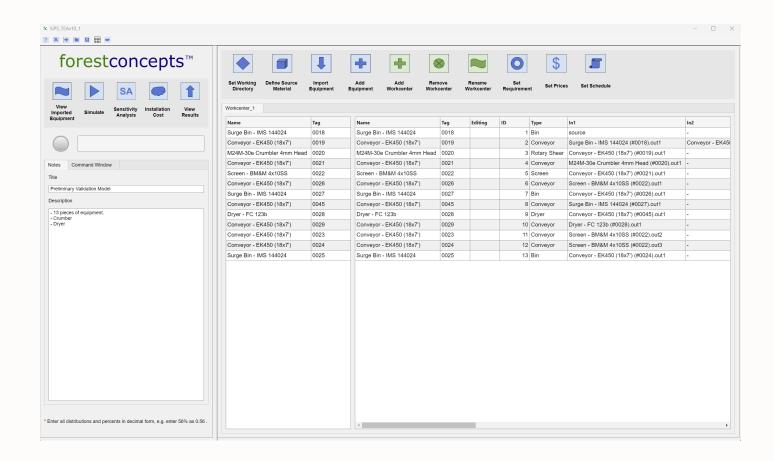


Equipment list currently includes 167 pieces of equipment from 32 manufacturers



SiPS TEA - Main

- Import and link equipment
 - Multiple work centers with different operating schedules possible
- Set throughput requirements
- Set standard prices
 - Electricity, natural gas, diesel, raw material, etc
- Set facility installation cost, if including





SiPS TEA – Equipment Details

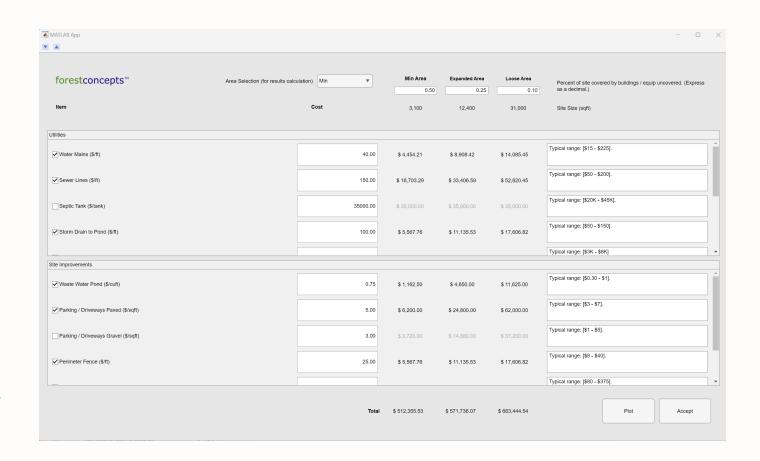
- Tag/ID
- Life
- CAPEX
- Repair and Maintenance rate
- Electrical Power Consumption
 - User specified or calculated based on particle size change, material type, and size reduction type
- Natural Gas Consumption
 - User specified or calculated based on moisture change, particle size, material type
- Footprint
- Connections to other equipment





SiPS TEA – Facility Installation Cost

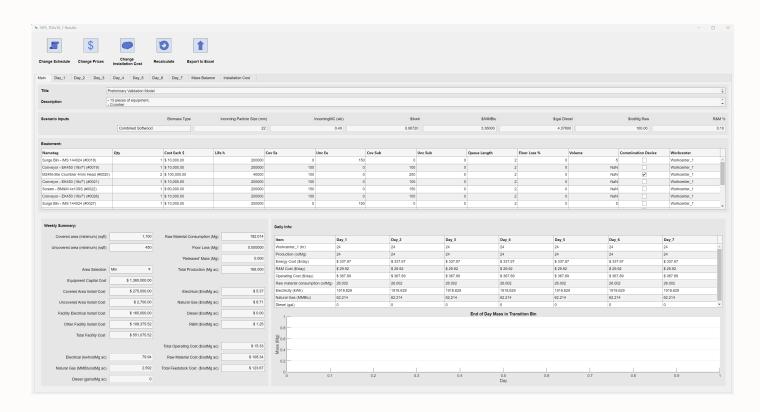
- Site upgrade costs
 - Electrical lines
 - Sewer lines
 - Fencing
 - Lighting
 - Paving
 - Catch basin
 - And more
- Building size multipliers of equipment footprint
- Site size based on building, uncovered area, catch basin ratios
- General costs ranges for each category
- Select only desired categories for inclusion





SiPS TEA - Results

- Mass and energy balances for each week
- Daily (with work center scheduling) mass and energy balances
- Calculation of quantities of equipment pieces based on inputs
- Total CAPEX
- Total OPEX
- Export to MS Excel





Results

- Appreciative design reduces project failures and "yeah, but" delays
- Project planners can have good mass and energy balances early in the planning phase to prevent "gotchas"
- TEA parameter adjustments are relatively easy
- Result is lower technical, operational, and financial risk



Results (2)

 Modular preprocessing equipment to "plug and play" will speed facility installation and planning



Where We Go From Here

- Work with additional developers to continue process validation
- Model additional work centers beyond feedstock preprocessing (conversion, etc)
- Add equipment and manufacturers to the equipment list
- Place Feed/Comminution module with partner for validation testing



Acknowledgements

This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, and Bioenergy Technologies Office Small Business Innovation Research Program under Award Number DE-SC0022702.

Disclaimer

This report was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the United States Government. Neither the United States Government nor any agency thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government or any agency thereof.

Thank You!

Dave Lanning - Senior Engineer dlanning@forestconcepts.com 253.333.9663

Forest Concepts, LLC 3320 W. Valley Hwy. N., D110 Auburn, WA 98001

