



FutureMetrics™ LLC
The Leading Consultancy in the Wood Pellet Sector

CANADIAN
BIOMASS
Media sponsor

Handling and Silo Operations

Preventing Fire and Explosions

December 14, 2023

Note: the workshop will be in English and Japanese.

08:30 – 09:00 **Safer Silos Through Shared Experiences, Opening Remarks**
Presenter: Mr. Gordon Murray, Executive Director, Wood Pellet Association of Canada.

09:00 – 09:15 **Why This Workshop Matters in Japan**
Presenter: Mr. Yoshinobu Kusano, Executive Advisor, Renova and Asian Policy Advisor, FutureMetrics

09:15 – 10:30 **Starting with the Basics: Prevention Through Handling & Storage and Understanding**
Presenter: Ms. Kayleigh Rayner Brown, Obex Risk Ltd.

In this session, we will discuss biomass handling and storage considerations such as the generation of combustible dust and gas as well as off-gassing and emissions. We will also explore self-heating or external ignition sources and most importantly actions to prevent biomass ignition.

10:30 – 10:45 **Coffee break**

10:45 – 12:00 **If A Fire Happens: Effective Approaches to Fire Suppression**
Presenter: Mr. John Swaan, FutureMetrics

Mr. Swaan will share proven and effective biomass silo firefighting methods including creating an inert atmosphere in the silo, limiting access to oxygen and discharging silo material. Participants will also learn from real-life experiences, assessments and observations.

12:00 – 13:00 **Lunch**
Lunch will be provided in the meeting room.

13:00 – 14:00

Getting Down to Tactics: Developing a Response Plan

Group Activity

This hands-on activity will focus on participants working together to develop a response plan to a silo fire situation. We will review and discuss the response plan and share our insights from Japanese and Canadian perspectives.

14:00 – 14:40

Getting Real: Case Studies

Presenters: Mr. John Swaan and Ms. Kayleigh Rayner Brown

In this session, we will highlight real-life silo fire examples including responses, action plans and preventative measures. Our experts will also discuss training for workers both in the plant and with local fire departments.

14:40 – 15:00

Coffee Break

15:00 – 15:45

Putting It Together: Next Steps to Safer Silos

Presenters: Mr. John Swaan and Ms. Kayleigh Rayner Brown

Our safety experts will summarize the workshop discussions and their observations. Participants will review the key measures they can take in the event of a silo fire at their own operations and share how they will use the workshop information to ensure safer silos.

15:45 – 16:00

In Closing: Safety Is Everyone's Responsibility

Presenter: Mr. Gordon Murray

The Wood Pellet Association of Canada has made the safety of its industry, workers and communities its top priority both at home and abroad. Mr. Murray will offer his observations from the day and key takeaways that we can all use to ensure safer silos and workplaces.