

# Slovenian company seeks technology partners for the establishment of a modern beech sawmill

## Summary

Profile type

**Technology request**

Company's country

**Slovenia**

POD reference

**TRSI20260225015**

Profile status

**PUBLISHED**

Type of partnership

**Research and development  
cooperation agreement  
Investment agreement**

Targeted countries

**• World**

Contact Person

**[Enrico FRANZIN](#)**

Term of validity

**25 Feb 2026  
25 Feb 2027**

Last update

**25 Feb 2026**

## General Information

### Short summary

The company, based in Slovenia's Notranjska region, is planning an investment in a state of the art sawmill for processing beech logs and is seeking suitable technology suppliers. It operates in the wood processing industry with a long tradition in hardwood production, focusing on high quality beech sawn timber and semi finished products. The investment includes the complete supply and installation of a modern sawmill line with automation, optimization, and wood handling systems.

### Full description

A wood-processing company from Slovenia is preparing an investment in a new, technologically advanced sawmill specialized in processing beech logs. The project focuses on establishing a modern production line designed for efficient, precise, and sustainable hardwood cutting. The planned facility will combine traditional knowledge of hardwood processing with contemporary digital and automation technologies.

The new sawmill line is intended to produce high-quality beech sawn timber of various dimensions, primarily 26–65 mm thick, used in the furniture, flooring, and solid wood industries. The targeted annual capacity is approximately 100,000 m<sup>3</sup> of roundwood input, which will enable a stable production of sawn timber in the range of 50,000–60,000 m<sup>3</sup> per year, depending on the assortment and log quality.

The technological concept includes a modern primary and secondary saw line, automatic log sorting and feeding systems, steaming/drying kilns, biomass CHP plant and an integrated optimization process to maximize material yield. The project also foresees the introduction of digital monitoring and process control systems to improve product quality consistency and traceability.

One of the main goals of the investment is to ensure efficient use of resources and to reduce energy consumption and waste through automation and optimized cutting patterns. The entire process will be aligned with sustainability standards and certified wood sourcing, as the raw material originates from responsibly managed forests.

The company behind the project has long-term experience in hardwood processing, drying, and timber trade. It employs qualified experts with technical and economic knowledge in the wood industry, project management, and industrial maintenance. This expertise allows a stable implementation of complex production systems and long-term partnerships with equipment suppliers and customers.

The organization is seeking technology partners and suppliers capable of delivering a complete sawmilling solution (turnkey or modular).

The new facility will serve as a regional centre for hardwood processing in Southeast Europe, supporting a circular and sustainable approach to forest resources. Its location provides easy access to Central and Western European markets, ensuring efficient logistics and long-term competitiveness.

This project offers a clear business opportunity for companies and organizations with expertise in sawmill technology, biomass CHP plants and automation.

### Advantages and innovations

The proposed sawmill investment introduces a technologically and operationally optimized concept for processing European beech logs. In comparison with conventional sawmills, the project integrates several innovative and efficiency-enhancing features that significantly improve material yield, energy efficiency, and process control. A further innovation is the implementation of digital monitoring and data-based process management, ensuring continuous control of production parameters and full traceability of logs and boards. This system enhances product consistency and enables predictive maintenance, reducing downtime and operational costs.

The technological solution is designed for flexible and efficient operation with minimal manual intervention. It allows quick adjustments between different assortments and dimensions, which is particularly important in hardwood processing where input quality varies. This flexibility reduces the need for specialized operator skills while maintaining a high level of precision.

An important part of the investment is the installation of a biomass cogeneration plant that will use by-products such as bark, sawdust, and wood chips to produce both heat and electricity for the sawmill's internal needs. This system will significantly increase overall energy efficiency, lower external energy dependency, and ensure full utilization of wood residues within the production process.

Economically, the concept enables higher added value per unit of raw material, improved cost-efficiency, and enhanced competitiveness on export markets. The combination of automation, energy recovery, and precise process control supports stable operation even under fluctuating raw material prices and market conditions.

Overall, the project represents a modern, resource-efficient and data-driven approach to hardwood sawmilling — combining traditional expertise with advanced automation and renewable energy systems to achieve measurable efficiency gains, environmental su

Technical specification or expertise sought

The project focuses on the industrial processing of European beech logs into sawn timber and semi-finished products for use in the furniture, flooring, and solid wood industries. The production will include both standard and customized dimensions to meet the needs of different downstream processors.

The main product range will consist of:

- Fresh and kiln-dried beech sawn timber, mainly in thicknesses between 26 mm and 65 mm,
- Edged and unedged boards of different widths and lengths,
- Higher-quality graded timber for further processing (A/B grades),
- Industrial-grade timber for construction or packaging (C/D grades),
- By-products such as wood chips, bark, and sawdust, used for energy production in the integrated biomass cogeneration plant.

The planned annual log intake is approximately 100,000 m<sup>3</sup>, resulting in a production volume of around 60,000 m<sup>3</sup> of sawn beech timber per year, depending on log quality and assortment.

Products expected to be most suitable for the sawmill's concept and machinery include:

- kiln-dried and precisely dimensioned beech timber for furniture manufacturing,
- industrial and packaging timber from lower log grades.

Products not considered suitable for this production setup are:

- very thin lamellae for veneer or engineered flooring (below 20 mm),
- elements requiring precise surface planing or finishing,
- high-value decorative veneers or rotary-cut veneer products.

Technical parameters and process requirements:

- Raw material: European beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), log diameter range 25–90 cm, length 2.5–4.5 m,
- Cutting thickness: 26–65 mm
- Moisture content of kiln-dried timber: 8–10%,
- Wood waste fully utilized for internal energy generation in the biomass cogeneration system.

The processes are designed for continuous operation with automated log feeding, sorting, and optimization systems, minimizing manual handling and ensuring consistent quality. The plant will comply with EU safety and environmental standards, including emission limits for biomass combustion and energy efficiency requirements.

Stage of development

**Already on the market**

IPR Status

**Secret know-how**

IPR Notes

Sustainable Development goals

• **Not relevant**

## Partner Sought

Expected role of the partner

The organization is seeking industrial and technological partners with experience in the design, manufacturing, and installation of sawmilling and wood-processing equipment.

1. Type of partners sought:

- Equipment manufacturers and technology suppliers specialized in log sorting, sawing, edging, and optimization systems for hardwood processing.
- Engineering companies or integrators capable of delivering complete sawmill solutions (“turnkey” projects)
- Automation and digital technology providers offering control, monitoring, or optimization systems for industrial processes.

2. Expected role and tasks of the partner:

- Supply and installation of sawmilling and wood-handling equipment in line with technical specifications.
- Participation in system integration, testing, and commissioning of the production line.
- Cooperation in developing digital monitoring, automation, and process optimization solutions.
- Potential long-term cooperation in technology upgrading, staff training, and process innovation.

The desired partners should have proven technical competence, reliable project management capabilities, and an interest in developing sustainable and efficient hardwood production technologies. Cooperation can take the form of a technical cooperation agreement, commercial agreement with technical assistance

Type of partnership

- **Research and development cooperation agreement**
- **Investment agreement**

Type and size of the partner

- **SME 50 - 249**
- **SME 11-49**

## Dissemination

Technology keywords

- **02006002 - Construction methods and equipment**
- **02006001 - Materials, components and systems for construction**
- **02006007 - Management of construction process & life**

Targeted countries

- **World**

Market keywords

- **08003007 - Other industrial equipment and machinery**
- **08002007 - Other industrial automation**

Sector groups involved

- **Construction**