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Rockville, MD - The Forest Resources Association has published a concise illustrated Manual on Safe and Efficient Practices for Trucking Unmanufactured Forest Products, directed to logging professionals and the truckers of raw forest products they work with. Profusely illustrated in full color, the ten-page Manual examines the common causes of driver-related accidents; presents "best practices" in establishing a safe trucking environment; and concludes by identifying and discussing key "productivity and efficiency" issues specific to forest products trucking.

A Virginia Tech team led by **Professor Chad Bolding** developed the Manual, with funding from the National Timber Harvesting and Transportation Safety Foundation (THATS) and support from Virginia Cooperative Extension and the SHARP Logger program.

"The Virginia Tech team found that, while the logging industry's general safety record has improved over the past decade, the proportion of truck-related injuries is growing, in many cases because of conditions specific to our industry," noted FRA's Lake States Region Manager, Vickie Hoffart, who serves as FRA's liaison to THATS. "The action of loading is a key area that needs attention, primarily to prevent injuries at the landing but also to reduce subsequent risks on the highway."

The Manual also addresses productivity issues, such as tare-weight reduction, reducing turn time, controlling truck weight variability, improving truck scheduling, and the pay-offs of a good preventive maintenance program.

FRA members may order the Safe and Efficient Practices Manual at \$5 apiece, or \$2 apiece for any order of 10 or more; the Manual is available to non-members for twice these rates. Please enclose payment with order, checks payable to "FRA"; charge orders may be faxed to 301/838-9481. Direct orders to Forest Resources Association Inc., 600 Jefferson Plaza, Suite 350, Rockville, MD 20852, and refer to stock number 09-A-3.

The Forest Resources Association Inc. is a nonprofit trade association concerned with the safe, efficient, and sustainable harvest of forest products and their transport from woods to mill. FRA represents wood consumers, independent logging contractors, and wood dealers, as well as businesses providing products and services to the forest resource-based industries.

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Don't Miss: FRA 2010 Annual Meeting  
March 13-15, 2010, Hilton Head, South Carolina