

# Timber stations



Between September 2003 and March 2004, the Red Rose and Mersey Forests undertook a detailed research project into the concept and practice of 'Timber Stations'. The specific aim of the project was to establish what products could be made with locally sourced timber, and to assess the economic viability of each.

Ranging from a simple small yard to a large multi-hectare site, a Timber Station is defined



by the Forests as "A facility that takes timber, from residues to roundwood, and puts it to the most valuable and efficient use". The timber used for the assessment was waste virgin timber of the type that is not usually considered to have any commercial quality, such as comes from small-scale arboricultural operations or woodland management work. In fact, most of this type of raw material normally has a negative value due to the costs of its disposal.

The project team were surprised at the number and variety of products that could be made, with 17 products in 3 categories. The quality of the finished products was impressive, especially

## redroseforest

considering the nature of the source timber. When put on sale, the various goods were well received by buyers, with people being particularly interested once they found out more about where the timber came from.



**For more details, contact:**

**Nigel Blandford**

[nigel@redroseforest.co.uk](mailto:nigel@redroseforest.co.uk)

0161 872 1660