ExploTIC: a progressive implementation through training & collective dialogue

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EXPLOTIC started in France in 2008 from the diagnostic that IT functionalities within harvesting machines were completely under-used by both the forest entrepreneurs and supply companies although these tools are often key facilitators towards: Reliable data exchange between the field and the office and better machine utilization rate.

From then, the mission was to provide tools and solutions for operational production data transfer between harvesters, forwarders, service providers and clients in order to better handle organizational issues with the support of ICT.

The ExploTIC software uses the StanForD standard to:

- import data (production, time of activity) from any harvester or software working with StanForD (if these data are correctly registered),

- register data from a non computerized operation (harvesters with no onboard computer or motor manual operation) so the information is standardized and transferred in the same way.

Besides collecting and exporting data, the software enables the user to correct, structure, aggregate, sort out and process the information, hence improving production monitoring and the companies' performance.

At the end of 2013, 52 people from 23 companies have been trained in the use of ExpoTIC in Aquitaine. If the largest south west supply companies now use the system to recover and process data from their machines and subcontractors, it is not yet the same case for the forest entrepreneurs. Although they acquired the faculty to better use the information system of their machines, their exploitation of the software for internal management of company is still limited and to be encouraged further.

Conference theme(s) addressed by the paper: 4. Better working conditions and educational programs

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