

Dr. John C. Tao

President, O-Innovation Advisors LLC

Dr. Tao stepped down as V.P., Open Innovation for Weyerhaeuser in 2011, where he was responsible for crafting Weyerhaeuser's bio-based products portfolio through Early Business/Venture Development, Licensing (in and out), Technology Partnering, Government Contracts, and Intellectual Asset Management. Dr. Tao and his organization also work across Weyerhaeuser's business units to commercialize economically viable innovation. Within Weyerhaeuser, Dr. Tao is affiliated with bio-based products, forest-based feedstock development and supply, bio-based fuels and the economies associated with these technologies. Weyerhaeuser is an \$8 billion integrated Forest Products Company.

Prior to joining Weyerhaeuser, Dr. Tao was the Corporate Director of Technology Partnerships for Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., a \$10 billion company headquartered in Allentown, Pennsylvania. He was responsible for worldwide external technology development, Intellectual Asset Management, government contracting and licensing/ technology transfer. His contributions in over 30 years included the venture that commercialized a new family of polymers, a JV that the company profited with over \$200MM in invested capital and IP value extraction of over \$100MM in tax credits.

Dr. Tao holds a B.S. in chemical engineering from Carnegie-Mellon University, an M.S. in chemical engineering from the University of Delaware, and a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Carnegie-Mellon. During his tenure with Air Products, Dr. Tao has been involved in engineering management, R&D management, commercial development, venture management, and planning and business development. Dr. Tao was a board member of the Industrial Research Institute and the Lehigh Valley Ben Franklin Technology Partnership, and was a Board member and a Fellow of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. He served on the Advisory Committee for the National Science Foundation's IIP/SBIR, the Biomass R&D TAC and the Advisory Board of the Chem. Eng Dept of Carnegie Mellon University. He is also a member of the Licensing Executive Society and of the Commercial Development and Marketing Association.

Previously, Dr. Tao served two terms as a board member of the Commercial Development Association, the Advisory Board of Yet2.com, and the Penn State Research Foundation. He was the chair of the External Technology Directors Network and the Science and Technology Policy Committee of the Industrial Research Institute (IRI), chair of Chemical Industry Environmental Technology Projects (a LLC), and chair of the Management Committee of the Air Products/Imperial College Strategic Alliance, The Air Products Alliance with Georgia Tech and the Air Products/Penn State Research Alliance. Dr. Tao has also held the positions of voting representative and member of the Governing Board of the Council of Chemical Research.