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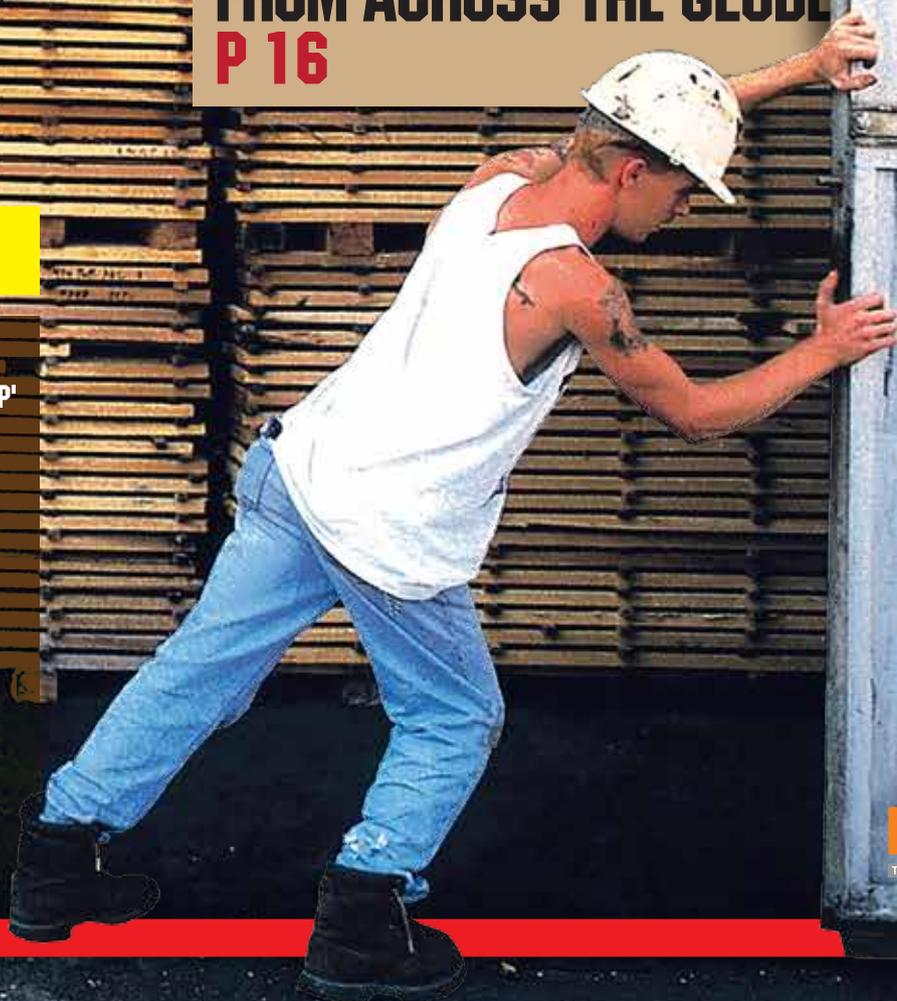
A BOUQUET OF SUPPLIERS
FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE
P 16

INSIDE

P 10 FEATURE
FOR 'NETWORKED WORKSHOP'
SIZE DOESN'T MATTER

P 72 **Mumbai**
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P 80 SPECIAL FOCUS
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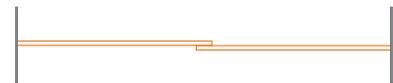
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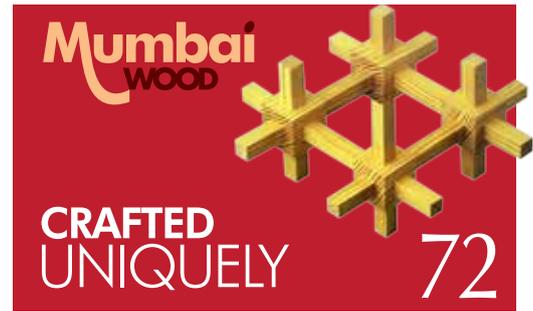
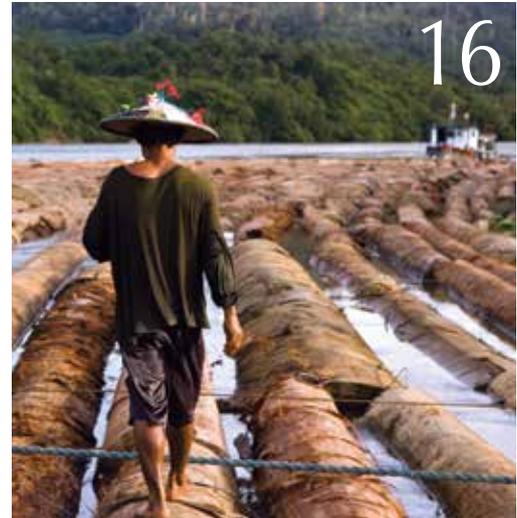
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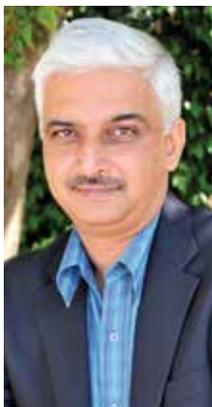
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In search of sustainable wood resources



Dear Readers,

A study by the National Forest Commission in the year 2006 had the following statistics that tell a tale: the total domestic demand for wood in the previous year was 64 million cubic metres. This demand was met by harvested wood from forest lands (12 million cubic metres), farm forestry and imports (31 million cubic metres) and – importantly – from unrecorded and illegal removal from plantations and forest lands (21 million cubic metres)!

FROM THE EDITOR

D H A N A N J A Y S A R D E S H P A N D E

Fast forward to the World Wildlife Fund study, 'Forest Trends', which attempts to present a scenario for India till the year 2020 – and we are almost there! The Indian population is estimated to reach 1.25 billion; and 70% of that population will be young and working people, the main drivers of domestic consumption, including that of wood. The study estimates the industrial log consumption to shoot up from 50 million cubic metres annually to 120 million cubic metres. In effect there will be a yawning gap in supply, to the tune of 70 million cubic metres of timber.

Keeping this in mind, I have made it the focus of this issue of the magazine: from the challenges faced by the supply side (forestry, plantations and saw millers) to avenues that can offer solutions to this increasing scarcity of raw material. There are many more regions from where sustainably harvested legal timber can be sourced; and one day soon I plan to bring the focus on established and responsible timber suppliers within the country. But beware of legitimate concerns over importing from ecologically "critical" regions, such as Borneo Island in South-East Asia, the Congo River basin in East Africa, and the Amazon forests of South America!

The magazine features Homag's vision of a "networked workshop" for the future, to show businesses how they can develop further in terms of technology and organisation, so that they can offer their products at an improved quality level and at competitive prices. There is also a design and material guide to help you choose the right door and raw material for interiors and outdoors.

While preparations are on in full swing for MumbaiWood 2017 (12-14 October), the dates for IndiaWood 2018 have also been announced: 8-12 March. Watch these pages for more on these exciting opportunities! I hope you will make use of the chance offered by Interzum (Cologne: 16-19 May) and Ligna (Hanover: 22-26 May) to check out evolving technology, changing trends and future challenges and solutions. I would also welcome all those of you who attend to share your experiences with readers of *WoodNews*!

STAYING IN TOUCH

In keeping with the times and for ease of communication, WoodNews has discontinued the printing of Business Reply Envelopes with each issue of the magazine.

However, we continue to welcome your views and reviews of happenings in the industry, your contributions to and suggestions for the magazine, as well as business proposals via email.

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We look forward to hearing from you soon!

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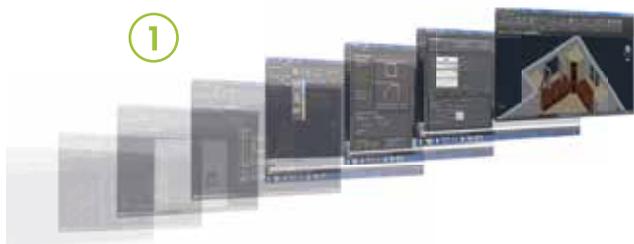
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Company size doesn't matter!



1 *At present tasks in the workshop are organised manually, based on a great deal of human instinct born of experience and a commitment to the job. But there is little transparency and many chances of error in this process.*

When faced with increasingly demanding customers, rising levels of competition and a lack of skilled personnel, every business needs to find solutions. In the field of joinery and carpentry, the focus has turned to intelligent production concepts, integrated software solutions and effective organisation.

Trends in the furniture industry continue to be determined by customers' desire to buy individual products at attractive prices. This actually plays to the trade's traditional strengths: having direct contact with the customer, offering excellent consultancy expertise and delivering a high degree of flexibility in individual solutions.

In order to ensure long-term success, businesses now need to find the right solutions to cope with rising levels of competitive pressure with regard to quality, cost and delivery time. They also need to confront the lack of skilled personnel in an intelligent way.

Joinery of future

With Homag's vision of a "networked workshop" for the future, it wants to show trade businesses how they can develop further in terms of technology and organisation so that they will be able to offer their products – furniture and other objects made by joiners and carpenters – at an improved quality level and at competitive prices.

The trade is all about networking. This is especially true now that boundaries between trade businesses and industrial enterprises are becoming increasingly blurred. Trade businesses have to be a particular size and demonstrate a particular level of performance in order complete certain jobs.

Matters that only previously concerned industrial enterprises – such as bar code control systems, automated machine interlinking and the use of production control systems – are now becoming a concern for small businesses too.

In all of these endeavours, they are aiming to keep up with the competition. To achieve this aim over the long term, the future of joinery is focused on efficient vertical and horizontal networking. In specific terms, this means increasing machine automation, implementing a continuous flow of information from sales to production, and organising the surrounding environment effectively.

Some important tools required to achieve this include:

- Industrial systems and/or CAD-CAM systems with automatic data generation for production and CNC
- High-performance, automated, flexible production cells with automatic or organisational interlinking

- Consistent bar code-controlled production
- Work piece acquisition and identification via bar code, QR code or RFID
- Production control system for detailed production planning and monitoring job progress
- Automated monitoring and evaluation of machine usage and maintenance intervals
- Preventive maintenance work to avert breakdown and idle machine time.

Everyone’s business

Increasing capacity, improving quality, offering delivery reliability, reducing unit costs – these are some of the obvious reasons why carpenters, joiners and window manufacturers are getting to grips with the issue of automation.

Another key factor is the increasing shortage of skilled personnel and apprentices. When competing for skilled employees, it is becoming more and more important for businesses to present themselves as innovative companies that offer staff an interesting and enjoyable working environment.

When it comes to employees, this is why ergonomics play a central role – and automation can contribute significantly in this respect. For example, when large, heavy components need to be processed, the only way to move them is often by using the combined strength of multiple people.

This comes with the quality issues that always accompany manual handling. Modern saw-storage combinations or feedback systems on edge banding machines are just two examples of how businesses of any size can significantly improve quality and noticeably increase their throughput and efficiency at the same time.

Even when the whole world is discussing networking and interlinking machines, people still play the most important role. Even though all of the components in a networked production process communicate with each other, the employees are always key to achieving success.

They monitor the production sequence and apply their experience. People are the only universal sensors we know and are indispensable as decision makers. Not everything can be automated and employees continue to play a key role in both the workshop and the production hall.

However, the type of work they do is changing as a result of processes becoming networked and automated. This presents every business



and employee with both an opportunity and a challenge.

Avoiding errors

It is not just in manual handling processes that errors can occur. By incorrectly operating machinery or making errors when programming, employees can quickly generate significant costs or even stop production altogether.

This is where software comes into play as the linchpin of modern production, in addition to the automation of processes and machines. Consider the issue of data entry for example. By connecting bar codes and maintaining a continuous data flow, it is also possible to avoid errors across all machines.

By achieving a perfect harmony of software, machines and organisation, businesses can give themselves a significant competitive advantage. One major benefit is an improvement in productivity and sales.

If CNC programming is moved to the office, for example, then the capacity on the CNC will increase. This will increase production capacity, resulting in a direct increase in sales. CNC programs can be saved centrally on the server, allowing new programs or changes to be available instantly on all machines.

By using bar code labels, programs can be automatically loaded onto the machines and additional work steps like assembly or commissioning can be simplified. To achieve this, it is necessary first of all to establish the correct infrastructure in the company.

Cutting costs

Every machine must be connected to the network and data storage must be organised centrally on the server. Another advantage is that productivity will increase and costs will fall as a result.

2 *A ‘networked’ industrial setup means increasing machine automation, implementing a continuous flow of information from sales to production, and organising the surrounding environment effectively.*



3 *Work piece identification and acquisition is done via bar code, QR code or RFID.*

This can significantly reduce the amount of programming required, as well as make work preparation more efficient and minimise the number of manual work steps involved. Production throughput times also become shorter, since complete production information is available for all of the elements being manufactured.

Through individual part drawings, wood lists, labels and complete CNC programs, errors and subsequent queries are avoided to a considerable extent. This in turn significantly reduces quality costs.

The formula behind all of this is automated data generation, with a focus on optimising data processing during work preparation. The question is: How do you get from the customer request to the production data?

This may be achieved by using a CAD/CAM system like woodCAD|CAM. At the same time, this makes the business more flexible in terms of its product range, since individual items can be planned and produced in a much more cost-effective way.

Horizontal networking

The next step toward “joinery of the future” is horizontal networking and the optimisation of production processes that accompanies it. At present, production planning in the trade is usually left to the workshop manager. Tasks in the workshop are organised manually based on a great deal of experience, instinct and a commitment to the job.

What this approach lacks is transparency, since the current situation in the workshop is not immediately clear. Questions about workload (Do I have enough capacity to complete this job on time?), job progress (Have I produced all the components for job

XY yet?) and machine utilisation cannot be answered directly.

It is here that Homag finds the key to achieving further optimisation. In future, the organisation of production will involve greater transparency and will be supported by software, from production planning and capacity planning to order and parts tracking, right through to the organisation of reworking, order picking and shipping.

The component will become a “smart work piece” in the production control system, meaning all of the relevant information about it can be retrieved at any time.

When considering these aspects, the correct machine technology is not the only thing needed to keep a business viable for the future. When planning to invest in machine technology, joiners and manufacturers must consider even at this early stage that, ultimately, optimum performance can only be achieved if the machinery is well organised and equipped with the correct software.

Every company is different – and that means they will differ in terms of how they embrace networking. The perfect solution for a specific business is always made up of multiple components that must be individually combined and customized: smart machinery, intelligent software concepts, optimal workshop organisation and efficient service structures.

They provide major opportunities for companies to get themselves ready to face the many challenges of the future – and these opportunities have nothing to do with company size. In particular, approaching the issue in a gradual and tactical manner can make the necessary work more manageable. ■

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Securing 'responsible' wood supply for domestic needs

India is the second-largest importer of tropical species, but the regions supplying them are facing the consequences of drastic deforestation on account of unsustainable logging. What are our options?

By Philip Tapsall

The planet's timber resources are facing unprecedented global demand. Wood-dependent industries are under increasing pressure to both secure supply and avoid adverse environmental and social impacts caused by unsustainable forestry practices.

Global demand for timber is soaring. The 'Living Forests' model of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) projects annual wood removals in the year 2050 will be three times the volume reported for 2010.

For Indian manufacturers, responsible timber sourcing will be crucial to securing long-term supply, while simultaneously ensuring continued access to markets where regulations underpin sustainable trade.

The journey of wood from the forest to end product is long and complex, and often one

that is difficult to trace – new technology and increasing supply chain visibility is, however, making this challenging task a little simpler.

Due to the scarcity of domestic supply and growing domestic consumption, log imports in India have doubled since 2006, and the demand for softwood log imports is expected to triple by 2021, and more than double for teak log imports.

Industrial round wood used in construction, as well as veneer and plywood for furniture, fixtures and flooring are major drivers of this demand.

'Illegal' wood

A vast majority of India's wood imports are from forest-rich tropical countries in the South-East Asian region. India is the second largest importer of tropical round wood. The impact of this activity is being increasingly felt

1 Logs being rafted to a plywood processing plant in East Kalimantan on Borneo island, Indonesia. ©WWF/Simon Rawles

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on natural forests that are home to endangered species like elephants, tigers and rhinos, and also communities that depend on these forests for livelihoods.

Forests are also valuable in mitigating climate change: over the last few decades they have absorbed as much as 30% of annual global CO2 emissions. Sadly however, according to a WWF report, 'Ecosystems in the Greater Mekong', between 1973 and 2009, the five countries comprising the region – Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam – lost almost one-third of their forests for timber and to clear land for agriculture.

In 2014 Cambodia logged the world's fastest rate of deforestation. These countries supply over 55% of India's plywood imports.

With the growth projected for the Indian economy, it is critical for Indian companies to map, measure and manage their impact in such eco-sensitive regions. A strategic approach aimed at establishing a credibly certified supply chain will also ensure continued access to high value markets.

Global crackdown

India imports timber (industrial round wood, veneer and plywood) from some of the most 'high conservation value' landscapes in South-East Asia that are also predicted to be among the world's major "deforestation fronts", which will witness the highest forest loss and degradation over the next two decades without interventions to prevent losses.

In recognition of the need for collective effort

on this front, a number of public and private initiatives have emerged in recent times. Regulatory frameworks such as the Lacey Act in the US and FLEGT (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade) and EUTR (EU Timber Regulation) in the European Union have been introduced, aimed at driving greater legality and transparency in global forestry supply chains.

At a global level, the Paris Climate Agreement in 2015 recognised and acknowledged the key role that resilient forests and landscapes play in mitigating climate change. Nearly 80 countries identified the 'land sector', which covers agriculture and forestry, in their climate action plans as an area of focus for reducing emissions.

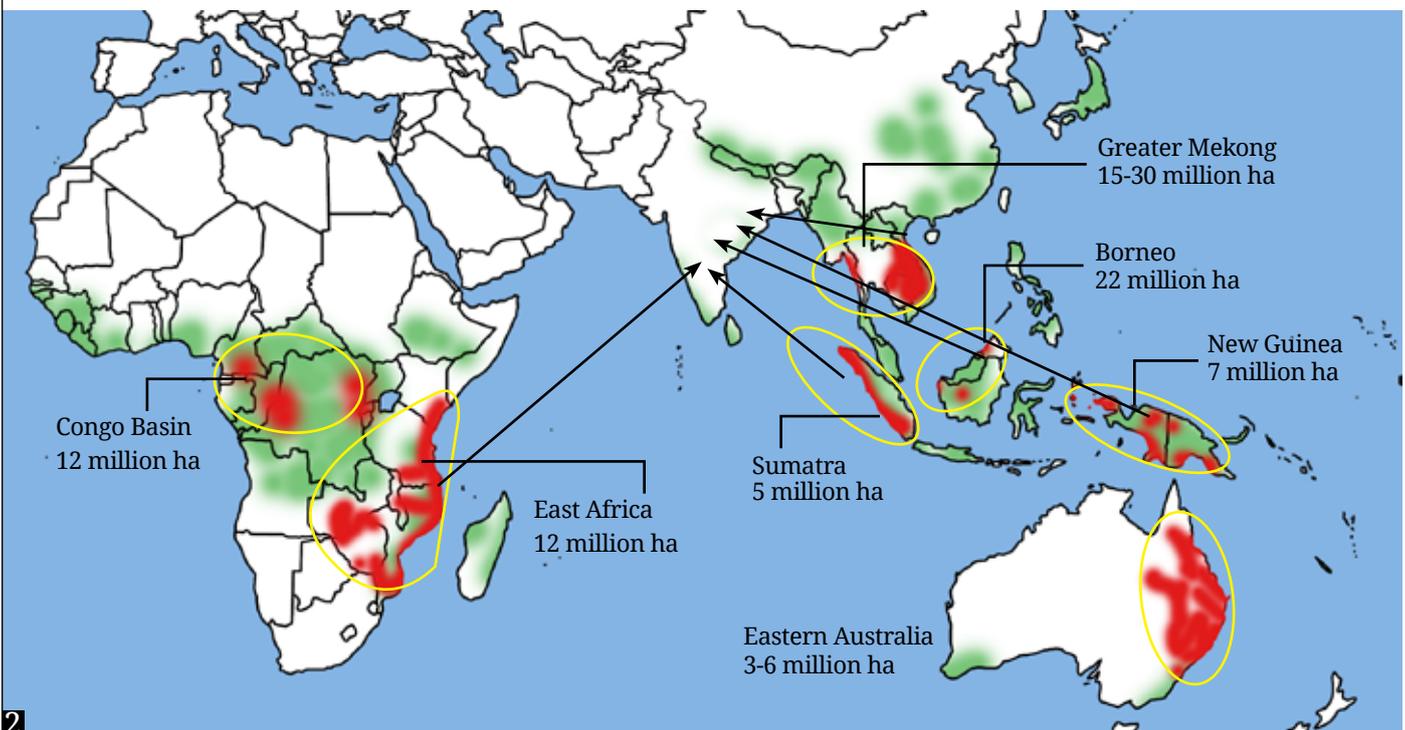
Forests thus, play a major role in the pledges made by countries towards meeting the targets set, as they have the potential to meet up to a quarter of green-house gas emissions reductions up to the year 2030.

The 2014 Climate Summit in New York saw 53 of the world's largest companies – among them Cargill, PepsiCo, Unilever and General Mills – sign the New York Declaration on Forests (NYDF), through which they committed to eliminate deforestation from their supply chains.

Hundreds of companies from the Consumer Goods Forum have made the same pledge in recognition of the need for collective effort to address deforestation and its related impacts.

Since the adoption of the NYDF in 2014, the

2 Not all of India's supply sources have a clean record of sustainable wood extraction from their forests.



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3

3 Aerial view of the local timber industry in Balikpapan, Kalimantan Timur, on Borneo island, Indonesia. ©WWF/Tantyo Bangun



4

4 PT Ratah Timber, as a member of GFTN, practises reduced impact logging, which determines which trees can be cut and how they are felled and extracted from the forest to minimise damage to standing trees. ©WWF/Simon Rawles

movement to tackle deforestation linked to agricultural commodities like palm oil, timber, pulp and paper, soy and cattle, has developed rapidly, particularly with the private sector.

Ikea's commitment

A living example of this approach is Ikea's commitment to become "forest-positive" by 2020, in recognition of its responsibility as one of the largest users of wood in the world. Through this commitment, 100% of the wood sourced by Ikea will be from sustainable sources, defined as Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified or recycled wood.

To ensure that this is met, suppliers to the company are obligated to provide information on the forest source, as well as the legality of the wood that they supply. Beyond the company's own needs, Ikea has also committed to promote the adoption of sustainable forestry methods across the wider industry to contribute to global efforts to end deforestation.

Some Indian companies have started the journey towards greater understanding and management of sustainability risks in their supply chains. A step-wise strategy involves:

- Understanding where timber supply is grown;
- Identifying potential "unwanted" sources linked to deforestation risks;
- Establishing measurable targets to achieve certified supply chains;
- Establishing strategic relationships with producers to improve performance;
- Continuous improvement to move towards a responsible supply chain.

Way forward

The WWF's Global Forest & Trade Network

(GFTN) is an ideal platform for companies to get started on this journey. Its structured, step-wise approach provides assistance to companies in understanding the environmental performance of its raw material sourcing throughout its entire supply chain.

This further helps in overcoming the challenges to responsible forest management and wood purchasing by offering technical inputs and guidance on better management of forest resources, responsible procurement policies and risk management.

Through its global platform GFTN also means better resource mobilisation and innovative collaborations with a wider industry network, connecting responsible producers and buyers across the international forestry sector. GFTN hand-holds a company through these steps, with the ultimate goal being to attain credible certification across its entire supply chain.

A more responsible timber industry can support communities, protect and restore forests and improve yield and quality for farmers. Indian companies can benefit from improved supply chain resilience and meet the future requirements of an evolving customer base.

This approach will also be key to ensuring that rising global demand for wood can be met in a sustainable way.



– The writer is Director (Sustainable Business) at WWF-India. For further information on sustainable supply chains, contact ptapsall@wwfindia.net.

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1

Is it the end of road for forest-based saw millers?

Stringent government regulations have resulted in acute shortage of Indian timber. But there could be some way forward!

1 *Any furniture making unit is completely exempt from the new regulations, unless it uses a band saw or rip saw with a diameter exceeding 30 cm.*

By Ramesh Vishwanathula

Timber in India has always held importance in the living style of its population. It is widely used for the purpose of construction and building houses in almost all regions of the country, particularly the states in South and North-East India.

Starting from the pillars to roof-top supports timber is used extensively. Almost every house in these regions is made with the best available hardwood timber in India, and

exhibit the best of local carpentry skills and native construction expertise.

After the 1900s, the living style of Indian families changed: households introduced wooden furniture as part of their home needs. By the middle of the 20th century most houses, big or small, came to be furnished with wooden furniture. The requirement of skillful producers of such furniture also increased.

Because of its enormous requirement of conversion of timber into different forms for



granted in the legislation to the erstwhile princely states of Hyderabad, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Bharat, Patiala & East Punjab States Union, Rajasthan, Saurashtra, and Travancore-Cochin.

Over the decades, many states – notably Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala – enacted their own legislation to deal with state forest lands. But there was no agreement on the movement of timber from one state to another, no regulation of timber and other forest produce.

Demarcation of forest lands was not possible due to their extension into neighbouring states. Such feeble regulations and loopholes in law all over the country led to irregular timber migration and rampant illegal forest exploitation. Forests were being cleared for timber (often in

day-to-day activities, every village in India has its own recognised carpentry families who earn their livelihood exclusively from the skilled conversion of wood and timber into utilitarian and decorative items.

Around the 1950s, cement and iron began replacing timber in construction activities. In recent times, more and more families prefer living in towns and cities, in buildings made of steel and cement. Even then, each such urban household uses timber for purposes such as cupboards and shelves, kitchen and storage shutters, resting furniture, etc.

Forest exploitation

After India's independence from British rule, most Central legislation was revamped to meet the needs of the country; but not the Forest Act, 1927. It was originally enacted to consolidate the laws relating to forests, the transit of forest produce and the duty that could be levied on timber and other forest produce across the country.

Then there was the problem of exemptions

the name of expansion of agriculture and industry) without a thought to maintaining a balance with their replacement or growth.

Court interjection

This situation was reported and debated through the mid-1990s, and came up before the Supreme Court through various petitions by non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The cases filed by Goa Foundation, World Wildlife Fund for Nature, Godavarman and others came to be collectively known as “forest cases”.

In the Godavarman case in the year 2002, the Supreme Court shook up all forest-related and timber trading activities across the country, with the apex court taking total control of the forest regulatory system. It is the first time that a judicial forum has taken on an administrative task.

At one point in time all illegal WBIs and saw mills were shut down, all timber transportation in the country came to a halt and consignments were stranded. ▶



2

2 *The orders of the Supreme Court in the 'forest cases' were aimed at safeguarding Indian forests from extinction, such as in this elephant-assisted logging camp in Arunachal Pradesh.*

The Supreme Court set up a high-level committee to administer forest-related matters and regulatory affairs of wood-based industries (WBI), which includes saw mills. This committee has been given absolute powers to monitor and control the situation, and functions under the Supreme Court's day-to-day orders.

The orders passed by the apex court were so severe as to draw punishment of forest officials and principal secretaries of the many states for contempt of court by permitting unlicensed saw mills to function.

New guidelines

On orders of the Supreme Court and under guidance of the high-level committee, the Union Ministry of Environment & Forests, has enacted stringent regulations for monitoring and control of WBIs all over the country. These regulations are called the Wood Based Industries (Establishment & Regulation)

Guidelines, 2016, which applies to any industry using timber as raw material.

State-level committees (SLCs) are being established across the country, with the head of forest force (often the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests) as its chairman. There is a provision for invitation of one representative from WBI association for each SLC meeting.

The powers of the forest department relating to regulation and monitoring of WBIs states have been withdrawn, by giving special status to the SLCs. Earlier District Forest Officials or Divisional Forest Officials had powers to license, regulate and monitor WBIs in their regions.

Another major function of the SLCs will be to conduct wood assessment and availability study every 5 years. Depending on reports of availability of Indian timber, licenses relating to WBIs will be allotted. SLCs are expected to

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maintain a database of timber and other raw material utilised by each WBI unit for each financial year.

Stringent measures

Under the new regulations brought in by the Government of India, there is a restriction on establishment and operation of any WBI within 10 km of the boundary of any notified forests or protected area. However in the North-East, WBIs are permitted to establish units in industrial estates.

This means that about 30% of WBIs with sanctioned licenses will not be able to renewed them the next year. A major closure of the saw milling sector is imminent in the coming days, especially those operating their units to convert timber located within 10 km of forest areas.

Another major decision of the government is implementation of record-keeping in all WBI units: each one has to record receipt of timber, conversion and final yield of wood. Though this situation is harsh on the units, the records will help update the database of SLCs every year.

These records will be tabulated for calculations to assess the quantum of timber used in the country every year. The usage and availability of private timber from farmers' lands will also be revealed from this data.

New regulations notified by the government recently restrict the annual requirement of timber for WBI units. They are categorised on the capacity of machines, for which electrical power consumption is sanctioned.

WBI units having 10 HP or less are restricted to an annual use of up to 540 cubic metres only. The maximum allowed for units with more than 60 HP is 2,160 cubic metres. This will perhaps prod the units into reducing waste and employ more efficient machinery.

Furniture factories

A welcome development in the newly notified regulations is the exemption granted to furniture manufacturing! Any furniture unit established solely for making furniture is completely exempt from the new regulations – unless the unit uses a band saw or rip saw with a diameter exceeding 30 cm.

Normally furniture units, big or small, do not use high capacity saws that are mainly required to convert wood logs. Since conversion of timber is not their primary concern, furniture makers buy sawn timber from various legal sources. Hence these units are exempt from the new regulations.

Some furniture units are as big as a factory with hundreds of employees. These large furniture makers are also not covered by the new regulations, so long as they do not establish a rip saw or circular saw with a diameter exceeding 30 cm.

But if a furniture unit is attached to a WBI, or established within the premises of a WBI, a separate license to operate it will be required under the new regulations.

Imported wood

The orders of the Supreme Court in “forest cases” were aimed at safeguarding Indian forests per se. If the same timber or wood is imported into the country from a legal source, these stringent guidelines do not apply.

In fact, some Indian states have already categorised WBI units exclusively consuming imported wood, so that these regulations do not apply to them.

The new regulations permit fresh licenses as required for the units that solely operate on imported raw material. The assessment and wood availability study is not a requirement for such fresh licenses. However, the switch of licenses from imported to domestic wood category is not permitted.

With these stringent regulations being notified and their implementation a certainty, the existence of WBIs using Indian forest wood has become a challenge. Whether they use private timber or that from forests, WBIs are accountable with records maintenance, restriction of quantities, restriction of location of operation, restriction of operation hours, restriction of machinery, etc.

Such restrictions will not only hamper the growth of the industry, but also increase the price of wood manifold. With such highly restricted trade, most traders are looking to importing timber. Around 30% of the 1,50,000 saw mills across the country have already done so. For the rest, there is no option.



– The writer is a senior advocate based in Hyderabad. He specialises in environment and forests, science and technology matters and represents the Federation of Telangana Timber Merchants, Saw Millers & Allied Industries, in high courts and the Supreme Court. He can be reached at ram.attorney@gmail.com.



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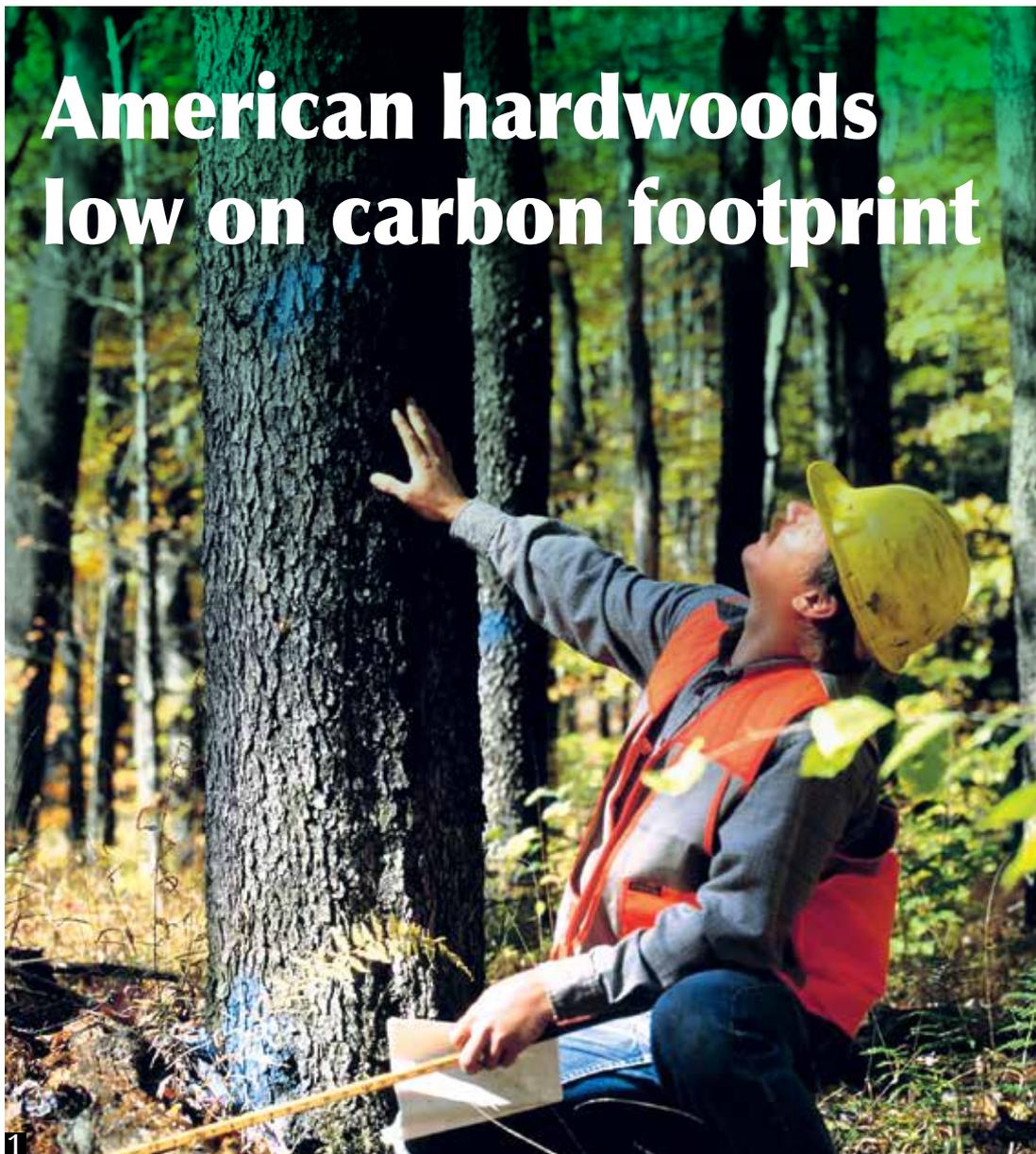
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American hardwoods low on carbon footprint



1

New study confirms they are among the world's most environment-friendly building materials

1 Owners of American hardwood forests practice selective harvesting, involving removal of only a few trees per hectare, rather than clear-felling.

A life cycle assessment (LCA) study commissioned by the American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC), the leading international trade association for the American hardwood industry, reveal the strong environmental performance of American hardwoods – underpinned by an expanding forest resource, sustainable management and low carbon emissions.

According to the study, the carbon footprint of kiln-dried American hardwood lumber shows that sequestration of carbon during the growth of the tree more than offsets total carbon emissions during extraction, processing and shipment to India.

It also underlines how ocean transport is a

relatively minor factor in the overall carbon footprint of American hardwoods. In addition, the heavy dependence on bio-mass (rather than fossil fuel) energy during processing is a particularly important factor in keeping the overall carbon footprint of American hardwoods low.

Sustainable design

In embracing sustainability, designers are not simply responding to a new fashion. Nor are they only seeking to minimise the direct impact of their own creations on the environment.

They are promoting desirable visions that compel people to want to live sustainably. And, by doing so, designers are becoming a ▶



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2 3 *Converting wood into usable building products requires less energy than most other materials, and much of that energy is bio-energy.*

key part of the process to move towards a more sustainable future.

The choice of materials is a key component of sustainable design. By using American hardwoods, designers are assured that they are minimising their impact on the environment throughout all the stages of the product life cycle, from extraction, through processing, use, reuse and final disposal.

At the same time, through their choice of particular species and grades of American hardwoods, designers have a central role to play to reduce waste and maximise utilization of this valuable natural resource.

American hardwoods have a low impact on the environment at all stages of their life cycle, right from the point of extraction. Forest management in the sector is not intensive, one outcome of the fact that most American hardwood forests are owned and managed by individuals, families, or small companies rather than large timber corporations.

Forest holdings are relatively small, mostly under 10 hectares, limiting the size of harvesting operations. The primary motivation for owning the land is usually not timber production or economics, but simply the enjoyment of forest ownership!

Expanding resource

Because timber production and economic return to shareholders are not primary objectives, the owners of American hardwood forests tend to manage less aggressively and to grow their forests on longer rotations. Selection harvesting is typical, involving removal of only a few trees per hectare, rather than clear-felling.

After harvesting, forest owners usually rely on natural regeneration, which is abundant in

the deep fertile forest soils of the United States. There is little need or incentive for addition of chemical fertilisers. No non-native 'exotic' or genetically modified species are used.

Regular forest inventories undertaken by the US federal government every 10 years clearly demonstrate that American hardwoods are not only renewable, but are an expanding resource. The latest data from the US Department of Agriculture was published in 2009 in preparation for the 2010 inventory report.

It shows that between 1953 and 2007, the volume of US hardwood growing stock more than doubled from 5 billion cubic metres to 11.4 billion cubic metres. Hardwood growing stock volumes have continually increased for the past 50 years, even in times when timber harvesting was most intensive.

The survey also shows that forests are aging and more trees are being allowed to grow to size before being harvested. The volume of hardwood trees with diameters 48 cm or greater has tripled.

Positive impact

While other industries – such as steel, concrete and plastic – often emphasize efforts to reduce their negative environmental impact, American hardwoods are one of the very few materials that make a positive environmental impact.

Long-term management of US hardwood forests for sustainable timber production makes a significant contribution to carbon storage. Each year for the last 50 years American hardwood forests stored around the equivalent of 165 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (excluding harvested material). ▶



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This direct contribution of America's hardwood forests to carbon sequestration excludes the carbon held in long-term storage as a component of American hardwood products. With useful lives spanning generations, furniture, flooring, cabinetry and trim crafted of American hardwoods act as an additional carbon store for many decades.

The process of converting wood into usable building products requires considerably less energy than most other materials. Furthermore, much of the energy needed to produce American hardwood products is bio-energy.

A 2007 study of 20 hardwood sawmills in north-eastern US revealed that 75% of the energy required to manufacture kiln-dried lumber was derived from bio-mass (tree bark, saw dust and wood off-cuts). As a result, even less carbon dioxide is emitted when producing American hardwood lumber than when producing many recycled materials.

Carbon footprint

Assessment of the carbon footprint of American hardwoods from forest to European

distributors indicates that carbon sequestration during forest growth of the tree more than offsets the total carbon emissions resulting from harvesting, processing and transport. In fact, transport is a relatively minor factor in the overall carbon footprint.

This is particularly true of ocean transport. Transporting American hardwoods by ship across the Atlantic, a journey of over 6,000 km, requires little more energy than an overland journey of 500 km. In fact, even a complete circumnavigation of the world by sea (40,000 km) would be readily offset by the carbon sequestered in the wood product.

The health risks associated with a natural material like American hardwood, which requires no glues or other chemical treatment during processing, are minimal. Where needed, a wide range of low-VOC finishes can be used to protect the aesthetic appearance and performance of American hardwoods.

American hardwoods are easy to maintain with non-toxic cleaners and they don't trap dust, dirt and other allergens. Simple regular maintenance such as dust mopping, sweeping and vacuum cleaning keeps the environment

4 *American hardwoods are untarnished by mixing with other materials and chemicals.*



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allergen-free. For this reason, they are recommended for chemically sensitive individuals, or those who suffer from allergies or asthma.

Commercial ‘afterlife’

A key principle of sustainable design is that products, processes, and systems should be designed for performance in a commercial “afterlife”. This is allied to a new trend towards bio-mimicry, involving the re-design of industrial systems on biological lines and enabling the constant re-use of materials in continuous closed cycles.

The most direct way to achieve bio-mimicry is through use of natural organic renewable materials like American hardwoods. Because they are untarnished by mixing with other materials and chemicals, American hardwoods are readily reusable and recyclable at the end of a building’s life span.

Those American hardwood components needing to be disposed of are bio-degradable and non-toxic. They may also be safely incinerated, providing a carbon-neutral source of energy.

The US wood products industry has a strong

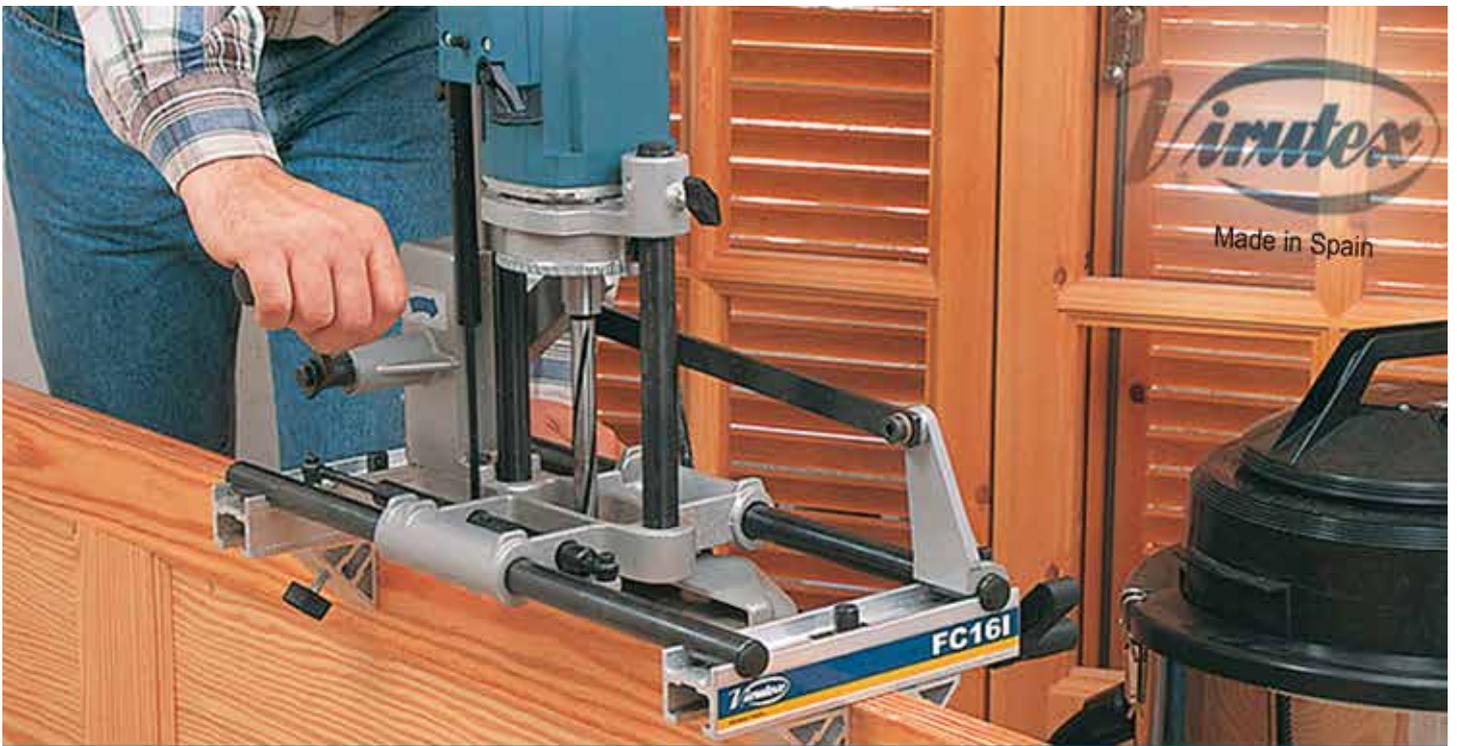
waste minimisation record. Over the last 50 years, throughout the US there has been a 39% increase in the amount of wood and paper products produced per cubic metre of wood input. Longer lasting and better functioning products have to be replaced less frequently, reducing the impacts of producing replacements. Hardwood floors can last 50 years or more. Broadloom and tile carpeting, on the other hand, has a life span of up to 6 years!

When sourcing American hardwoods, you can be assured that these issues are comprehensively dealt with through a fully-enforced regulatory framework in the US. This is the story of a natural organic product derived from rural families and communities in the US that have been managing forests for generations and are guardians of the world’s largest renewable hardwood resource.

AHEC represents these committed exporters among US hardwood companies and hardwood production trade associations. It runs a worldwide programme to promote American hardwoods in over 50 export markets, and also produces a full range of technical publications. (www.americanhardwood.org).

5 With useful lives spanning generations, furniture, flooring, cabinetry and trim crafted from American hardwoods act as an additional carbon store for decades.





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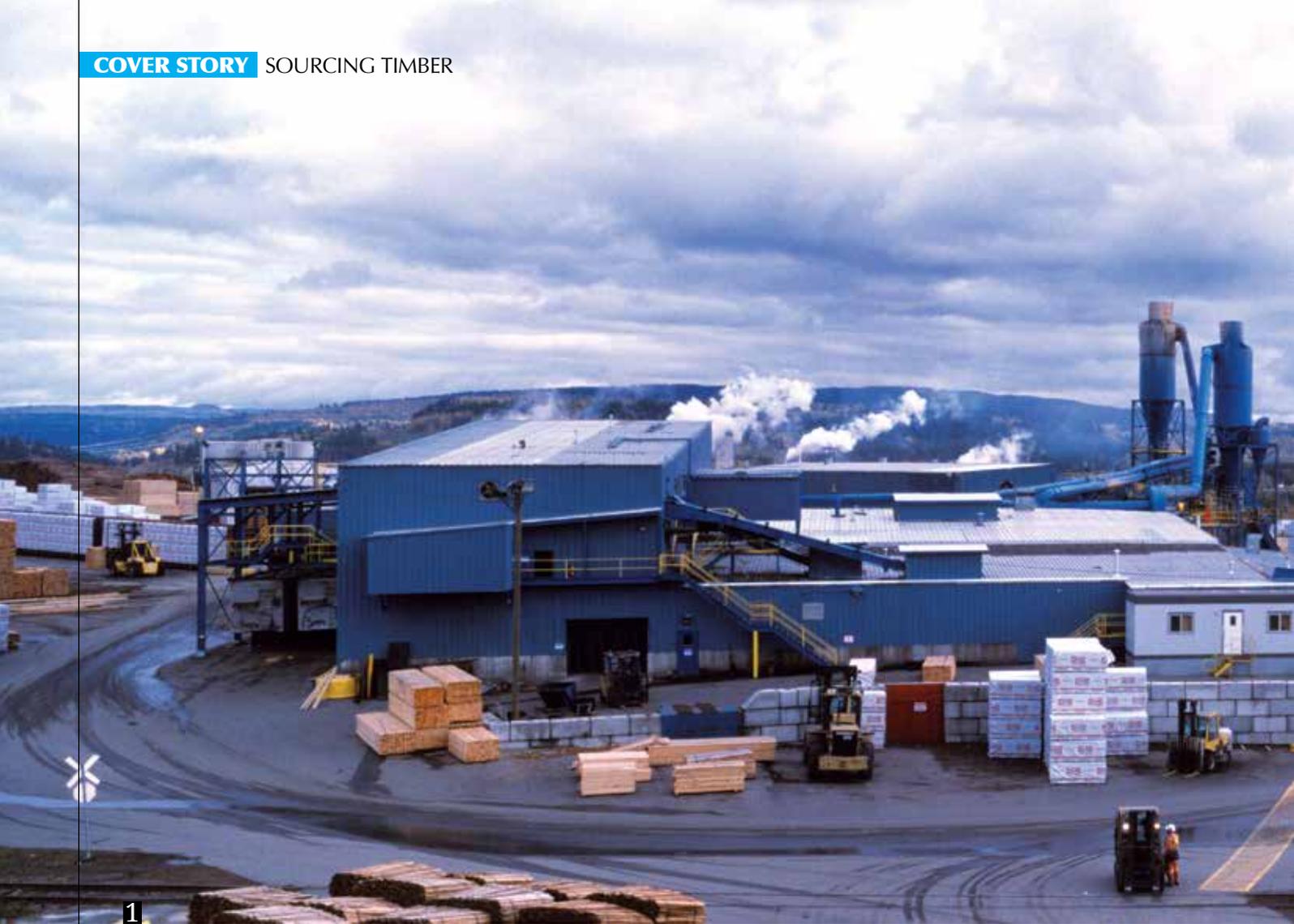
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1

Already making inroads into India

Only 10% of the world's forests are certified, and Canada has 37% of the world's forest certification on its 168 million hectares

▮ *A saw mill in British Columbia with water-proof packing of timber (right) ready for export.*

British Columbia (B.C.), in Canada, is world renowned for its sustainable forest management practices and has 52 million hectares certified to one of three internationally recognized certification standards: PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification), SFI (Sustainable Forestry Initiative) and FSC (Forest Stewardship Council).

While the three programmes used in B.C. have differences, they all promote principles, criteria and objectives that are viewed as the

basis of sustainable forest management around the world. All three have balanced governance, with boards representing environmental, social and economic interests, and all three revise their standards regularly through an open public process.

Long before a tree is cut, forest professionals identify the eco-system that keeps the forest as natural as possible. A silvicultural system covers all activities such as early planning, logging and planting new trees.

Resource managers in B.C. maintain forest diversity by planting native tree species in combination with natural regeneration. After harvesting on public land, forest companies in B.C. remain responsible for regenerating the forest site until the trees have grown into a new, healthy forest.

On average, over 200 million tree seedlings are planted annually on public forest land in B.C. and only a fraction of 1% of B.C.'s forests are harvested annually. By law these lands are reforested promptly. Only 3% of its land has been permanently converted to other uses such as farming, ranching and urban development.



Natural choice

- Douglas-Fir has a long-standing reputation for its distinctive natural attributes, including strength and beauty. It is commonly used for building and construction purposes due to its extraordinary strength-to-weight ratio and availability in large dimensions.

In India it has found a market in solid doors and door frames, furniture and general millwork and is highly recommended in post and beam construction.

It has a good surface quality; excellent strength and workability; good machining qualities; excellent screw holding and resistance to splitting; bonds well with a range of adhesives under a range of bonding conditions; and has excellent sanding, staining and painting properties.

- Western Hemlock is an outstanding wood for mouldings and interior woodworking. It is a perfect option for joinery and millwork such as doors, windows, and other appearance products because of its durability, light colour, and freedom from pitch and resin.

Hemlock has found a solid market in India for furniture and is recommended for solid doors and door frames. Interior panelling in Hemlock gives a plush look to any space.

It has good strength-to-weight ratio; excellent machining properties; good sanding, staining and painting properties; glues satisfactorily; has moderate nail and screw holding ability; and it polishes beautifully.

- Western Red Cedar is a popular Canadian species for outdoor furniture and projects, including playground equipment. It exhibits outstanding decay and termite resistance along with dimensional stability.

The appealing colour palette, light weight and soft texture makes it popular for various interior applications as well. Its flexibility and versatility enables its usage in roof shingles, exterior siding and cladding, green-houses and saunas.

It is ideal for outdoor furniture, pergolas, gazebos, decking, cladding, soffit, screens, indoor panelling, shutters and blinds.

It is lightweight, can be sanded to a smooth ▶



2

❏ *Dry-docked logs ready for transportation to saw mills.*

satin finish, planes and shapes well, glues easily, has moderate screw and nail holding properties, and is appropriate for outdoor usage.

- Spruce-Pine-Fir (SPF) refers to White Spruce, Engelmann Spruce, Lodgepole Pine and sub-alpine Fir, all having common characteristics and properties. SPF's strength, light weight, ease of handling and woodworking properties have made it a popular wood for all types of framing applications in construction.

SPF has great dimensional stability and strength, making it a popular choice for pre-fabricated eco-homes. In India SPF is recognised as a superior wood for solid door, door-frame, furniture carcass making and modular housing. It is ideal for structural pre-fabricated cottages, furniture framing and flush door frames.

It has good planing and shaping quality; excellent nail and screw holding properties with very good resistance to splitting; good staining properties; and great strength and dimensional stability.

- Yellow-Cedar is one of the world's most durable woods with exceptional longevity. It's even and fine texture makes it a top choice for wood carving and turning. In India it has proven popular for door frames, solid wood doors and windows and manufacturing. It is also an excellent wood

species for furniture, both indoors and outdoors.

It has exceptional working properties, turns, planes and shapes well; good gluing properties; good nail and screw holding ability; and takes good finishes.

Lumber processing

Canada's lumber and wood industries convert logs into various products, from lumber to wood chips. Softwood, derived from coniferous trees, supplies most of the manufacturers in these industries and is cut primarily in B.C.

Mechanical or hydraulic debarking is the first step in converting a saw log into lumber. In conventional sawmills, large logs are placed on a moving log carriage and passed repeatedly through a band or circular saw, each pass producing boards that normally require further processing on edgers, resaws and trim saws.

In sawmills that process small-diameter logs, the primary unit may be a chipper canter with integrated sawing units, or a system of multiple-band or circular saws, designed to operate at speeds up to 100 metres per minute.

About three-quarters of the lumber produced in Canada is further processed in planer mills that smooth the rough surfaces and dimension the pieces. Over half the lumber is dried, either in kilns or outside, to remove excess



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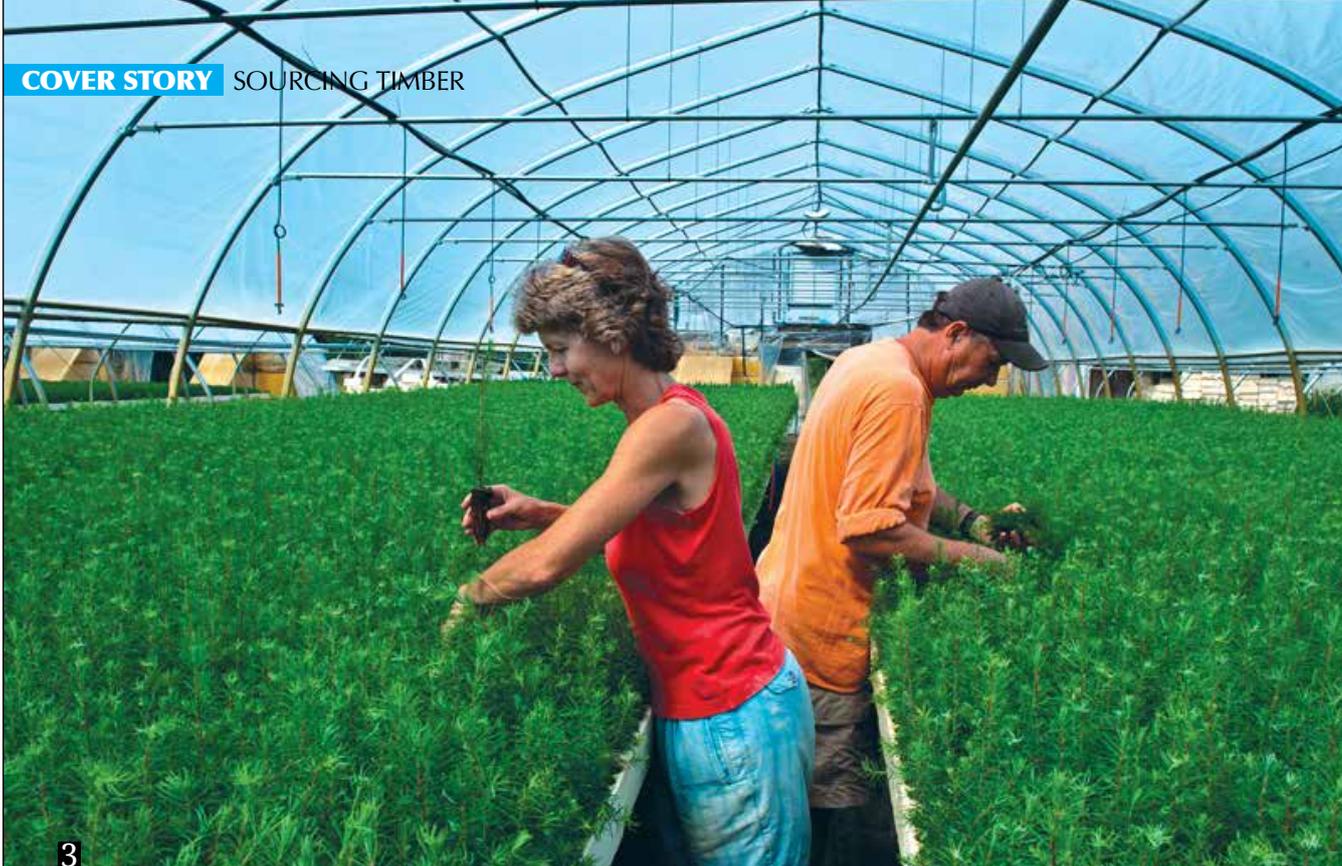
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3



4

Due to its astounding capacity to offset carbon emissions and natural properties, wood is the most promising material of the future. The important factor that one needs to bear in mind is that wood used should be responsibly sourced and certified.

In India

The five most popular Canadian Wood species are now easily available in India. You may find them at SLV Saw Mill & Wood Industries in Bengaluru (info@slvtimber.com), Ajeet Impex (pinankgandhi@gmail.com) and Agarwalla Timbers (kandla@agarwallatimbers.com) in Gandhidham; Jagat Decor (jagatdecor@gmail.com) in Indore; Chalet International (hardeeps@chaletinternational.com) and Surinder Timber Store (sandeep@surindertimber.com) in Ludhiana; Sahibzada Timber & Ply (sahibzadatimberply@yahoo.in) in Mohali; B.F. Wadia & Sons (wadsons@mtnl.net.in) and Ambica Traders (ambicatim009@yahoo.co.in) in Mumbai; Pyramid Ply & Wood Products (pyramidtimber21@gmail.com) in New Delhi; Singla Timbers (arpitgupta26@gmail.com) in Patiala; Bhavani Saw Mill (bhavani@thewoodexpert.com) in Trichy; Saras Ply (smangilal58@gmail.com) in Valsad; and Balaji Timbers & Plywood (nikhil@balajitimber.com) in Zirakpur.

❏ Over 200 million tree seedlings are planted annually on public forest land in British Columbia.

❏ Lumber is dried to remove excess moisture and pathogens in the wood.

moisture and/or kill pathogens that may be present in the wood.

Imported wood from B.C. is gaining a lot of popularity among builders, architects, contractors and consumers alike. The wood comes in standard grades and sizes, guaranteeing consistent quality every single time. It is also beautiful, durable, high quality and environment-friendly.

Though the distance between India and B.C. is significant, its transportation does not have a negative impact on the environment. For every container of lumber sent to India from B.C., 17,498 kg of carbon gets taken out of the environment for the life of the products.

FII India, funded by the government of B.C., represents Canadian wood in India for all its five species. FII works closely with architects, manufacturers, importers and real estate developers to provide technical and procurement assistance for their requirements free of cost. (www.bcfii.in). ■



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1 **2** Close-up on the grain of sawn Oak (left). Oak sleepers (right) for landscaping, or to be re-sawn to a customer's specifications.

In France, timber resources are exceptionally abundant: with a standing volume of more than 2 billion cubic metres, increasing by 88 million cubic metres a year. French forests are in good health, and out of 126 different species, some 30 are used for sawn timber.

This bio-diversity, unique in Europe, is caused by the great variety of soils and climates. It also explains the country's farming and wine-making traditions. Hardwood species account for more than 60% of the available volume: pediculate and sessile Oak and Beech are the predominant species.

Thanks to management principles which have stood the test of time, France is now the leading producer of top quality Oak and Beech. The success of French hardwood can be explained by the constant quality of the supplied wood: long length, straight grain and fine texture are characteristics of French Beech and Oak.

Also, the knowhow of French saw millers is recognised worldwide: they can cut boules and boards from thin to very thick. Perfect drying is also very important: French saw

mills have made enormous investments in the past years to offer their customers the best in kiln-dried timber.

Sustainable supply

Furthermore, French suppliers offer their customers the possibility of purchasing wood certified by PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification). With rising concerns about ecological sustainability nowadays, this certification is especially important to the end consumer.

French saw millers participate in sustainable management of resources through PEFC programmes, which guarantee the origin of the products French saw mills offer their customers.

The future prospects on export markets are looking rather promising for the actors of the French wood industry. Asia is one of the most interesting, dynamical and fastest growing markets in the industry, and India is one of the most promising markets for superior quality French Beech and Oak.

The development of demanding, quality

oriented industries, such as furniture manufacturing and interior decoration, will ensure a steady and promising flow of business between France and India for years to come.

French Oak

Oak is a broadleaf tree found in all French forests. Its sapwood is light and narrow. Its heartwood ranges from whitish-brown to dark brown. The wood is

straight-grained, regular, coarse-textured with porous areas.

Quarter-sawn Oak has distinctive bright rays, termed silver-grain. The colour of the wood darkens over time. For furniture, cabinet-makers particularly value the aesthetic qualities of white Oak.

Oak is a dense wood, moderately hard and moderately heavy, with a good level

of stability (expansion/contraction is minimal). The wood is regular, with short fibres offering a good level of compression resistance.

Drying of Oak is a slow and very delicate process to avoid the risk of splitting and collapse. However sawing and shaping offer no difficulties, and abrasive resistance is minimal.

Gluing the dense, acidic wood also presents no specific problems, but use of alkaline glues

carries a high risk of staining. Since the wood is acidic, it can be finished with a lime wash.

Oak is certainly the most widely used wood in France. It is used in timber frame carpentry, interior and exterior joinery, stairways and flooring, and also for solid wood and veneer furniture.

Oak is commonly known among coopers as “stave wood”, and is good for barrel making because it contains tannin. Oak is also highly valued by sculptors.

Oak heartwood is naturally durable. It can be used at risk level 3 without preservative treatment. After impregnation, Oak can be used at risk level 4.

French Beech

Beech is also a broadleaf and the second most widespread broadleaf species in France. It has a light white wood, cream to pinkish in colour, with no distinct

sapwood. Beech is homogeneous and is distinguished by its scattered and prominent rays.

Beech is a hardwood with a fine texture and straight grain, moderately heavy and solid, with good mechanical properties. It has particularly high resistance to compression, though less so to bending or tension because of its short fibres.

Because of its very fine texture, it has a ▶



3 Inside an oak saw mill.



4



5

4 5 *Oak staves (right) for manufacturing wine barrels.*

tendency to warp substantially when exposed to changes in humidity. This inconvenience can be countered by way of a steam treatment, which turns it to a pink to reddish colour.

Drying is easy, but must be carried out carefully because of a risk of splitting. Sawing and shaping offer very good detail definition. It also accepts stain easily.

Beech is an easy wood to work with, and offers a wide range of possibilities.

Its fine, even texture and short fibres make it a natural choice for machining to very good levels of definition. It bends very well after steaming.

Beech is an excellent wood for joinery, cabinet-making and interior fittings. It is

also often found in flooring, staircases, paneling and everyday objects: kitchen utensils, clothes pegs, broom handles and toys.

Beech is frequently used for all types of chairs. It is very commonly used for curved furniture pieces in two forms: as a rotary-cut veneer for moulded plywood (chair shells), and as bent solid wood after steaming (furniture).

Beech has poor resistance outdoors and is not durable when exposed to bad weather. However, it is easy to impregnate, and after treatment it can be used in

risk level 4 situations (in contact with water).

Besides these, France also exports Chestnut, Ash, Poplar, Sycamore Maple, Cherry and Walnut. Its softwood exports include European Spruce, Maritime Pine, Scots Pine and Douglas Fir.

In order to promote export of lumber sales, the French wood industry is represented on international markets by a trade association called 'French Timber'. Created by the National Wood Federation and a group of French saw millers, French Timber has two main goals:

- To promote, on a national as well as international basis, the use of different sawn timber species and processed wood products, coming from sustainable managed French forests.
- To ease supplies of sawn timber to foreign companies by increasing the visibility of the French saw mills' offers and expertise.

French Timber is a tool created especially to facilitate search of quality sawn timber by distributing technical and economic information to international purchasers (importers, wholesalers, industrial consumers) and trade consultants.

To connect with the best French Oak and Beech saw mills visit www.frenchtimber.com.



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1

Attractive propositions from West Africa

The Gabonese Republic is aiming to turn into a world leader in certified tropical timber production through an industrial strategy aimed at sustainably managing timber stocks and by promoting secondary and tertiary processing.

Forestry and timber processing has been one of the driving sectors of the economy of Gabon. Boasting the second highest forestry potential in Africa, Gabon's forests cover 22.8 million hectares or 88% of the country's land surface.

▮ *Okoume is widely recognised as one of the world's best materials for rotary cut veneers.*

The tropical forest offers enormous possibilities with a logging potential of 12.5 million hectares with more than 400 species, including Okoume, Okan, Padouk, Tali and Kevazingo.

Until 2010 (before ban on export of raw logs) Gabon was the largest exporter of raw wood in the region, and its sales represent 20% of Africa's raw wood exports. Gabon's reserves of exploitable timber are estimated at 400

million cubic metres, including 130 million cubic metres of Okoume.

Over the past 10 years, Gabon has gone through a profound process of reforms affecting the forest and environment. A new forest law has come into force that emphasizes sustainable forest management (SFM) as the overall approach in the forestry. Forestry is, and will remain, one of the pillars of Gabon's economic and social development.

The private sector has become a major driver of industrial forest development and the export of forest products. Gabon has a low deforestation rate, forests rich in valuable timber species, and among the best prospects for a healthy and sustainable forest industry.

The timber industry is already the largest private sector employer, employing 28% of the working population, and represents an extremely significant growth potential.

'Red gold'

Commercial forest harvesting in Gabon began as early as in 1892, but only in 1913 was Okoume, Gabon's most valuable wood, introduced to the international market. Gabon supplies 90% of the world's Okoume, known worldwide for the production of plywood.

Aucoumea Klaineana (Angouma, Gaboon or Okoume) is a tree in the family *Burseraceae*, found in equatorial West Africa in Gabon, the Republic of the Congo, and Rio Muni. Okoume is a medium-sized hardwood tree growing to 30-40 metres tall with a trunk diameter of up to 2.5 metres.

Its attractive appearance means that it is often used decoratively as the top surface veneer in paneling and furniture or, in solid form in luxury items such as boxes for cigars or other high value items such as audio equipment.

Widely recognised as one of the world's best materials for rotary cut veneers, Okoume timber is easy to work and is as suitable for the manufacturing of furniture as for interior joinery. Moreover, it is a species of a very even colour, good bonding performances and good compatibility with finished products. Okoume as a wood species is homogenous and, therefore, does not require synthetic repairs.

The log quality of Okoume in Gabon is very high. The first grade is normally used for veneer and the second grade for sawn wood, which still is an excellent quality for the production of sawn timber. Okoume at solid timber stage shows a durability level of Class 4 in accordance with EN 350-2.

Okoume plywood

It is a single species with uniform colour and density, and is easily workable on account of absence of coarse grains. It is durable and resistant to dry wood borers, so does not require any preservative treatment. It is suitable for staining and polishing without much variations across the grain and so gives a better finish.

It has a reliable and sustainable production with assured availability in quality and quantity. Since the sawn timber has very little defects there is less wastage in end usage.

Face veneers peeled from Okoume are in high demand in Europe, China and the USA. Its demand is gradually picking up in India as well. Plywood entirely made from Okoume is in most cases used in exterior conditions because of its high resistance to impact and weather.

It is particularly adapted to the most severe conditions when being used in the construction, boat building, vehicle building industries and as internal or external joinery fitting. Its mechanical properties remain very close to those of solid wood, but offer more regularity and better stability. ▶

Common Name	Okoume, Gabon
Scientific Name	<i>Aucoumea Klaineana</i>
Distribution	Central Africa (primarily Gabon)
Tree Size	30-40 metres tall, 0.6-1.8 metres trunk diameter
Sapwood	Demarcated, greyish white, narrow
Heartwood	Colour: Salmon-pink to dark-pink, darkening on exposure Grain: Slightly interlocked to frequently interlocked Texture: Fine to medium Silver figure: Fine (barely visible)
Technical Properties	Green weight (kg/m ³): 550-650 kg/m ³ Specific gravity at 12% moisture content (kg/m ³) MV12: (light) 440 Volumetric swelling for 1% MC variation V%: (small) 0.33 Total tangential swelling T%: 7.5 Total radial swelling R%: 4.8 Crushing strength (N/mm ²) C12: 36 Static bending strength (N/mm ²) F12: 87 Modulus of elasticity (N/mm ²) E12: 7800
Possible end uses	Plywood, furniture components, mouldings, boxes and crates, interior joinery, rotary peeled veneer



▣ *Gabon supplies 90% of the world's Okoume, known in Europe and America for the production of veneer and plywood. Its demand is also picking up in Asia.*

▣ *Okoume at solid timber stage shows a durability level of Class 4 in accordance with EN 350-2.*

▣ *Okoume's mechanical properties remain very close to those of solid wood, but offer more regularity and better stability.*

Since Okoume faces can easily receive all types of finishing systems, plywood constitutes an ideal substrate for painting or vanishing finishing systems. Okoume also has a high strength-to-weight ratio, which is why it is the plywood of choice for racing boats and applications where weight is important.

Okoume marine grade plywood is lightest in weight among all available marine plywood products. It can be used for hull and deck components, structural bulkheads and latches.

Far from being an endangered wood species, Okoume is an endless source of supply as long as sustainable management rules are applied. Okoume grows rapidly and regenerates well in clearings which makes it a very renewable.

Sawn timber

Okoume is a perfect wood species for the air-dried and kiln-dried international lumber market. It is quite similar to Meranti from Malaysia in terms of appearance, colour and other characteristics, and can serve as an alternative to Malaysian Meranti. Like Meranti, the end-use markets are doors and widow frame makers.

Also usable for interior furniture, Okoume has the advantage to be easy to process, polish and varnish even with different coloration. If you saw in quarter cut or flat, its regular structure allows different woodworking with a high quality finishing level.

Okoume is a very popular species in West Asia, Europe, China and North Africa for sawn timber. Mainly available in 50 mm thickness, Okoume demands are strongly increasing in Vietnam, Philippine and China. The European demand is steady and growing.

With the transformation capacity available at Gabon SEZ (Nkok), Gabon is able to offer sustainable and uninterrupted supply of sawn Okoume. They are available in stock all year in thicknesses from 27-80 mm, widths of 100 mm or more, and lengths of 2,150 mm or more. Part of the product range is FSC certified, and the other part of the range has guarantees of legality in accordance with international practices.

The Gabonese Republic has embarked on a journey to provide amenable ecosystem and infrastructure to facilitate the processing of timber within Gabon. In this pursuit it has partnered with Olam International Ltd. of Singapore to develop a Special Economic Zone, spread over 1,126 hectares at Nkok, 20 km from the capital city of Libreville. (www.gsez.com).

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1

Malaysian timbers: diverse, versatile, sustainable

Tropical hardwood supplier to the world, it is also a major resource for expanding needs of the Indian market

Malaysia is home to more than 2,650 tree species and has more than 55% of its land area under natural forest cover. The country's strategic location in the tropics allows its forests 365 growing days in a year without seasonal interruptions.

Malaysia offers a myriad selection of timbers from which to choose and they have been utilised in various structural and interior applications. Its commercial hardwoods range from heavy and medium weight construction timbers to fine furniture woods which are appreciated for a variety of uses and performance.

Some of the popular species include Balau, Dark Red Meranti, Keruing, Kempas and Merbau, among others, that have versatility for various applications and usage. These timbers are available in a range of export grade timber and timber products. The multitude of colours and grains available also represents an artist's palette, enabling an

endless expression of creativity for architects and interior designers.

From the humblest of beginnings during the last century – when logs from the forests were sawn manually to produce planks and boards – the Malaysian timber industry has undergone tremendous development and evolution to become a vibrant multi-billion-dollar industry and a well-known global leader in the production and trading of timber products.

Trade with India

A diverse range of products is offered to the marketplace, from sawn timber, mouldings, veneer to plywood, particle board, medium density fibreboard, builders' carpentry and joinery products, wooden and rattan furniture, as well as niche market products such as picture frames, pre-finished parquetry, glued laminated timber and laminated veneer lumber.

1 A water villa at Park Hyatt Hadahaa, in the Maldives, featuring Malaysian Kapur wall panelling and slats, and large Balau framed windows.



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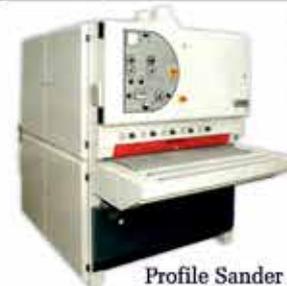
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Double Side Planner



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Chengal*Neobalanocarpus heimii*

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Door & window frames, Joinery, Furniture, Plywood, Interior fittings, Paneling, Partitioning, Moulding, Fancy Doors, Boat Construction, Veneer

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Paneling, Partitioning, Plywood, Furniture, Flooring, Laminated scantlings

Kasai*Pometia spp.*

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Kelat*Syzygium spp.*

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Keledang*Artocarpus spp.*

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Kembang*Semangkok Scaphium spp.*

Decorative plywood, Flooring, Interior finishing, Paneling, Partitioning

Kempas*Koompassia malaccensis*

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Keruing*Dipterocarpus spp.*

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Mengkulang*Heritiera spp.*

Plywood, Furniture, Flooring, Superior joinery, Door & window frames, Boat framing, Interior finishing, Paneling

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Flooring, Decorative work, Interior finishing, Paneling, Superior joinery, Cabinet making, Door & window frames, Furniture

Merpauh*Swintoniaw spp.*

Paneling, Partitioning, Plywood, Furniture, Flooring, Laminated scantlings

Mersawa*Anisoptera spp.*

Plywood, Purlins, Door & window frames, Flooring, Ceilings, Weather boards

Nyatoh*Ganua, Palaquium & Payena spp.*

Furniture & components, Paneling, Moulding & skirting, Superior joinery, Plywood

Red Balau*Shorea spp.*

Decking, Posts, beams & joists, Frames for wagons/ trucks/ lorries, Heavy duty flooring, Heavy duty furniture, Door & window frames, Railway sleepers

Rubberwood*Hevea brasiliensis*

Furniture, Paneling, Parquet floors, Staircases, Utility articles, Block board, MDF

Sepetir*Sindora spp.*

Furniture, Plywood, Decorative finishing, Interior finishing, Joinery, Paneling, Flooring

Yellow Meranti*Shorea spp.*

Flooring, Plywood, Paneling, Partitioning, Light construction, Planking, Laminated scantlings

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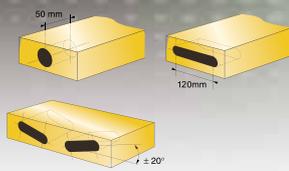


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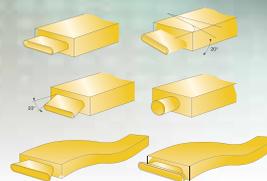
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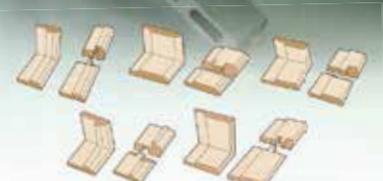
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2

Timber certification is carried out by the Malaysian Timber Certification Council.

Coupled with years of intensive research and development, it enables Malaysia to ensure a continuous line of innovative, cost-efficient and environment-friendly products.

The forestry and timber industries play a very important role in the socio-economic development of Malaysia. In 2016, Malaysia's export of timber and timber products was valued at RM 21.86 billion (US\$ 5 billion), which accounted for 17.92% of the total export earnings by the commodity sector and 2.78% of the country's total export earnings.

The major products that contributed to the export earnings were furniture, plywood, sawn timber, saw logs, fibre board and builders' joinery and carpentry.

In 2016, Malaysia's export of timber and timber products to India amounted to RM 1.53 billion (US\$ 351 million). India was Malaysia's third-largest timber trading partner after Japan and USA in 2016.

The major timber export from Malaysia to India are logs, sawn timber and wooden furniture. Export of sawn timber increased by 38.7% in 2016 as compared to 2015. Exports of fibreboard (149.9%), mouldings (43.7%), plywood (41%) and wooden furniture (4.5%) also grew over the previous year.

Malaysian companies are keen to invest in India for manufacturing and marketing of their products. Malaysia and India have established the Malaysia-India Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (MICECA) on 24 September, 2010. It aims to boost trade and investments between the two countries.

Under MICECA, both countries will progressively reduce or eliminate tariffs on

industrial and agricultural products. MTC is in the process of setting up an office in India to promote and popularise Malaysian timber and timber related products.

The office in India will be the fourth MTC office overseas after the United Kingdom, Dubai and China.

'Green' credentials

There are various institutions and agencies responsible for forest management and timber industry development. They work closely together to ensure best practices towards sustainable forest management and trade in timber and timber products.

Malaysia has protected forest areas that have been legally gazetted by law. These protected areas cover both terrestrial and marine environments.

Almost half of the total land area or 14.55 million hectares in Malaysia are under permanent reserved forests (PRFs) and are managed for their economic, social, and conservation values. About 78% of the total PRFs are set aside for sustainable management of timber, while the remaining areas are strictly protected as National Parks, wildlife and bird sanctuaries.

Within the PRF, harvesting is only allowed in the production forests. Each of the 13 states in Malaysia is required by law to draw up forest management plans based on the concept of rational land use and multiple functions of the forests.

Malaysia has developed an extensive set of Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management (MC&I), to assess progress at the national and forest management unit levels.

It has been a pioneer in tropical forest certification. Certification is carried out by the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC), which has utilised the Criteria and Indicators (1998) of the International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) and the MC&I as a basis for developing the standards.

The Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) became the first tropical timber certification scheme in the Asia-Pacific region to be upheld by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) in May 2009. It is also recognised under 'green' building schemes in Australia, Italy, Singapore, The Netherlands, UK, Canada, USA, Japan and Abu Dhabi and the UAE.

(For more information look up www.mtc.com.my).

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1

Swedish delights in furniture, architecture

Strategic location, long experience gives Sweden the edge in the global timber market.

With 70% of its land covered in forest, Sweden is the third-largest exporter of sawn timber in the world. In Europe, the Swedish saw mill industry holds a prominent position, as the second-largest producer and the largest exporter of sawn softwood.

1 *Load-bearing construction in glue-laminated timber. ©Eson Lindman*

The Swedish saw mill industry has long experience of global exports and Sweden's geographical location makes it possible to reliably deliver wood anywhere in the world. Big consuming markets of Swedish wood are Europe, Asia, the Persian Gulf and North Africa.

Swedish saw mill companies are well established to handle foreign trade and are increasing their exports to India.

The total Swedish production of sawn and planed timber stands at 18 million cubic metres, of which 13 million cubic metres are exported. Large investments in the modernisation of the Swedish saw mills have resulted in automated high-speed manufacturing technology.

This enables the saw mills to produce high quality products in accordance with customer demands in an efficient way. Exported sawn timber from Sweden is quality sorted, length packaged and dried to the final moisture content relevant to the end use of the product.

Many sawmills can also plane, profile, glue, finger-joint and pressure-treat the timber, if required by the customer. More and more

products are being refined into finished end products at the saw mills.

Swedish wood can be used for the manufacture of structural elements in all sorts of buildings, for cladding products and joinery.

Pine & Spruce

Swedish sawn timber consists mainly of two conifer species: pine (*Pinus Sylvestris*) and spruce (*Piceaabies*). Swedish sawn timber is of high quality and has medium coarse texture with uniform and straight grains.

Heartwood colour can vary from red/ brown to yellow/ white and sapwood color is often yellow/ white. Swedish Pine and Spruce are light weight, which adds to its good machining properties.

Swedish timber is very strong in relation to its weight and natural presence of fresh knots gives wooden surfaces a lively structure.

The wood quality of Swedish timber is usually specified via appearance grading in line with standard SS-EN 1611-1, according to a company-specific grading, or via strength grading of the wood.

Swedish saw mills produce a wide selection of different qualities of sawn and planed Pine and Spruce. They can also provide specially ordered grades of timber and timber with special dimensions.

The dimensional accuracy of the wood is improved through planing, known as dimension planing. Profiling is used for certain products, such as skirting and architraves.

Dimensional stability

Nearly all sawn timber from Sweden is kiln-dried: 50% is dried in compartment kilns and 50% in progressive kilns. Compartment kilns are becoming more common. The target moisture content is in general 16% for planed timber and 18% for sawn timber.

For joinery and mouldings the target moisture content is 12% and for timber in furniture it is 8%. Dried timber has increased dimension stability and is ready to use in the right application.

Swedish wood is used for furniture, floors, wall panels, mouldings, windows, doors, outdoor decking, packaging and as a construction material. Traditionally, Swedish



Spruce is used for construction and Swedish Pine for interior decoration and decking.

Thanks to its high quality, Swedish Pine is a material that is very well suited for furniture, as it is easy to work with in the production process. The Swedish saw mill industry delivers wood adapted to the needs of the furniture industry that specifies wood with a consistent quality, precise dimensions and a low moisture content.

The surface of Swedish Pine and Spruce also offers endless aesthetic possibilities and, for example, can be brushed, sanded or carved to give the wood different textures. Swedish Pine and Spruce also have the advantage of being light-coloured wood species, so they can easily be stained in different colours and shades.

Inside-Outside

Swedish Pine is also used for wall panelling, floor boards and mouldings, as well as for doors and windows. Panels and floor boards ▶

▣ *Single family housing is an increasingly important sector across Europe which is consuming Swedish timber.*
©Eson Lindman



3 4



3 4 Pallet with collars (left) and furniture in Pine.
©Tuomas Harjumaaskola

are available in a wide range of profiles and finishes, to create either a traditional style or give a more modern appearance to the room.

The Swedish saw mill industry can deliver panels and floor boards in many different styles and dimensions, and in some cases also ready-painted and treated panels and boards.

Wooden windows and doors are available in a wide variety of designs and finishes, to suit all architectural styles. The Swedish saw mill industry can also produce window components that are ready for use.

Pressure treated wood for outdoor use is another use for Swedish Pine. It can be used for construction, landscaping, marine environments, railways, garden products and many other applications. It offers good moisture resistance and enjoys an extended service life.

Other uses

Glulam (glue-laminated timber) opens up many architectural possibilities. Glulam consists of individual laminates of structural timber, providing a highly effective utilisation of the raw material. The laminates are finger-jointed to give greater lengths and then glued together to produce the desired size.

In relation to its weight, glulam is one of the strongest construction materials available. This means that glulam beams can span large distances.

The interest in timber construction for multi-storey buildings is increasing worldwide due to its efficiency and climate friendliness. The construction of a multi-storey building in wood reduces the emission of carbon dioxide by approximately half, compared to concrete.

Swedish timber is also used for packaging purposes and suits various functions and quality requirements. Examples of wood packaging are pallets, pallet collars, cable drums and packaging crates.

Swedish forestry is sustainable in the long term. Economic, social and biological sustainability are all cornerstones of sustainable forestry. About 50% of the Swedish forest land is owned by individual families and 25% by private companies. State-owned companies own another 14%.

Sweden has sustainable forestry that is subject to legislation requiring nature conservation and replanting. There are also voluntary international forest certification systems, under which forestry is verified through so-called third-party certification. The two systems used in Sweden are the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

– For further information about wood properties, wood products, suppliers, the Swedish saw mills and sustainable forestry visit: www.swedishwood.com.

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Virginia Woods comes to India

Virginia's resource-based world-class industry, its infrastructure and export services combine to create an excellent source for quality forest products.



By Devna Khanna

Virginia has been exporting forest products since the early 1600s. Ships from Jamestown, the first permanent English colony in the New World, returned to Europe with wood products from the shores of Virginia.

The industry has since grown along with its reputation as a global supplier of quality forest products, fostered in an ecosystem that supports renewable, quality forest resources. A careful and a controlled forest resources management system has resulted in a net annual forest growth that exceeds harvest.

The state is located in the middle of the US Atlantic Coast, making it ideal for international trade. The state's resource-based world-class industry, infrastructure and export services combine to create an excellent source for quality forest products needs. As a result, there has been a dramatic increase in forestry.

The industry's efficiency and proximity to the Port of Virginia allow the state's producers to have some of the most cost competitive lumber operations in the world.

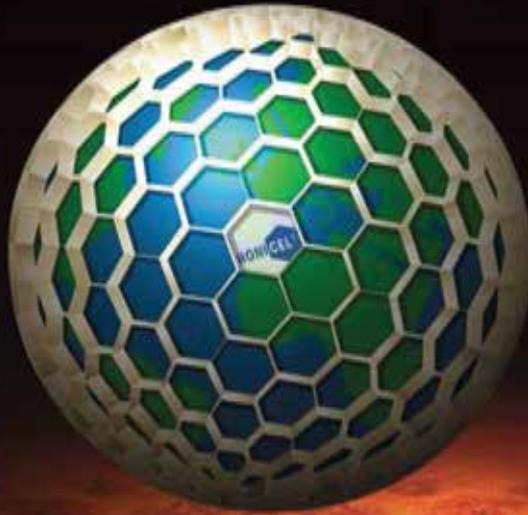
Different regions

Virginia's forest products industry supplies saw and veneer logs; softwood and hardwood lumber; veneers; hardwood flooring; hardwood furniture dimension, molding and other millwork; laminated lumber; preservative-treated lumber; plywood; furniture; pulp; specialty papers; newsprint and paperboard.

Wood chips, pulpwood and fuel wood are also available. Virginia's timber resource include major export species like White and Red Oak, Tulipwood, Hickory, White Ash, Walnut, Cherry and Southern Pine.

These are grown in three geographically ►

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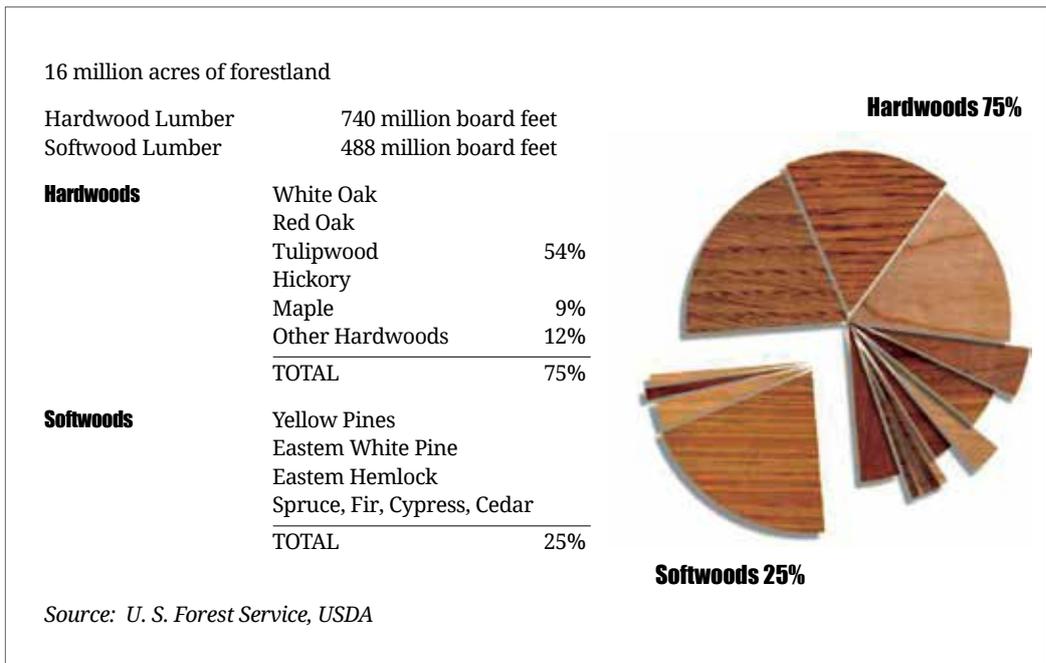
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distinct areas of the state: the Appalachian mountains, the Piedmont region, and coastal plains. The Appalachian and Piedmont regions are within the broader Appalachian commercial zone, which produces hardwood species prized by international buyers. It is generally known for slow growth and fine-textured woods.

The coastal plains are within the southern commercial zone, where woods generally have a faster growth rate and a heavier texture. However, distinct variations can exist in timber originating only a short distant apart. A buyer with a narrow range of specifications needs to be very familiar with the timber source.

Forest species

Known locally as Tulip Poplar or Yellow Poplar, it is one of the most abundant species in Virginia and grows in all regions. Because of its white sapwood and excellent machining properties, Tulipwood is gaining favour in many export markets.

It is used for furniture parts, molding, interior trim, siding, boxes and crates and veneer core stock and backs. Tulipwood holds paint, enamel and stains well.

White Ash wood is hard, very strong, tough and elastic. The heartwood of commercial White Ash is brown; the sapwood is light coloured or nearly white. A popular, easy-to-finish, furniture wood, Ash is also excellent for panelling, handles, bending stock, veneer and sporting goods.

White Ash lumber may be substituted for White Oak in selected applications. It

commonly grows on fertile, upland Virginia soils.

Black Cherry wood is best when grown in the high mountain regions of the state. Its wood is reddish brown with yellowish sapwood, moderately heavy, hard, strong, fine-grained and unsurpassed in its finishing qualities. Cherry is excellent for furniture, fine veneer, woodwork, cabinets and wooden ware novelties. It usually sells at a premium price because the wood is well-liked by furniture makers.

Black Walnut is a classic American hardwood that finishes beautifully with an impressive grain pattern and colour. The colour varies from a rich chocolate brown to a dark purplish brown. The outstanding uses of black Walnut are for furniture, architectural woodwork and decorative panels. Other important uses are gun stocks, cabinets and interior finishes.

Hickory is very heavy, very hard, stiff and strong; the colour is white to cream with tan heartwood. It has very high resistance to shock and is, therefore, a favoured wood for tool handles. Other uses are furniture, panelling, flooring, charcoal and specialties. Hickory has become quite popular in kitchen cabinets and flooring.

Red and silver Maple are distributed throughout Virginia, although red Maple is more abundant and thus one of the most widely distributed species in the state. A favourite of American furniture makers, soft Maple is creamy to light brown.

Although softer than hard Maple, it is still a very hard wood and offers great resistance to ▶



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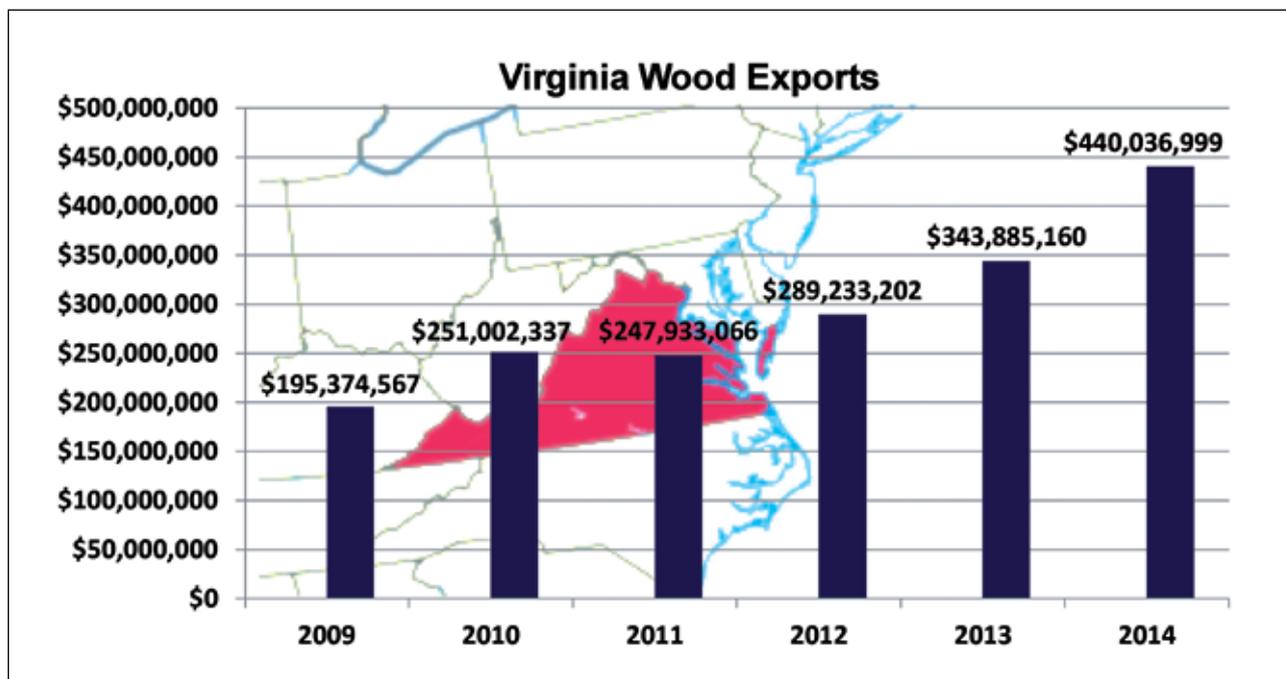
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abrasion. Other uses include flooring, panelling, interior finishing, cabinets and novelties.

There are a number of other trees found in Virginia that may be in demand and can be made available if market conditions warrant. These include Red Spruce, Northern Hemlock, White and Red Cedar, Black Willow, Cottonwood, Birch (river, yellow and sweet), Ironwood, Hornbeam Beech, Elm Hackberry, Cucumber tree, Sassafras, Sycamore, Black Locust, Sugar Maple, Basswood, Black Persimmon and Royal Paulownia.

Drying & grading

Drying times will vary enormously depending on thickness and species. For example, 25.4-mm Tulipwood can be dried from green in 7-10 days, whereas 76.2-mm White Oak may take up to 8 months to kiln. This explains why larger thicknesses of species like Oak are rare and may be more expensive.

Economics dictate that in the majority of cases domestic and export lumber is kilned together. Therefore, export lumber will usually be dried to the domestic standard moisture content of 6-8%. Thicker material in some species may be up to 10-12%. Refractory drying species, such as the Oaks, require air

drying or controlled drying in pre-dryers prior to kilning to minimise degrade.

Lumber is graded to the rules of the National Hardwood Lumber Association (NHLA), which set minimum requirements for yields of clear (free of defect) cutting areas.

The level of technology and efficiency implemented in Virginia-produced kiln-dried lumber is very high. As a result of this technology, Virginia-produced kiln-dried lumber is some of the highest quality hardwood and softwood lumber in the world.

India's construction and furniture manufacturing industries use Southern Yellow Pine and hardwood species grown in Virginia to build and outfit homes and offices for the countries growing population. Over the years, many Indian buyers have traveled to Virginia, and many Virginia lumber manufacturers have spent time with customers across India to understand and meet the burgeoning requirements.

– The writer is from the office of international marketing at i2i Consulting, which represents the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in India. She can be contacted at devna@i2iconsulting.biz.



Focus on adaptable living spaces



Living space is at a premium today, especially in cities. More and more people are living in smaller and smaller living spaces. This has prompted Interzum exhibitors to rethink the design of furnishings.

Their objective is to provide great comfort in the smallest of spaces with adaptable furniture and interior concepts. Doing a lot with a little space is the challenge facing planners today.

Growing numbers of architects and designers are responding to the shortage of space by proposing home living concepts for the smallest dwellings, using flexible furniture and well-thought-out planning to create more space. "Less is more" is being applied to the home.

The social trend for cutting back is being reflected in how we design our own living spaces. "Small has a future," is what architect Ms. Krista Blassy thinks, too: "Flexible, compact apartment solutions are becoming increasingly popular."

She collaborated with Hafele on its recent study on micro homes, MicroApart 20/30. The fittings specialist and exhibitor at the coming Interzum says the concept can be scaled to individual requirements – from a minimum living space of just under 20 square metres.

Furniture, including a walk-in cupboard, a sofa bed and a sideboard that doubles up as a table provides flexibility, comfort and convenience. The modular kitchen and multifunctional column in the bathroom increase the concept's versatility.

Folding tables, pull-out sofa beds and similar two-in-one furniture are ideally suited to making the most intelligent use of small spaces. They can be adapted in different ways to suit requirements and the time of day.

Multifunctional furniture, like the examples presented in the micro-homes study, combines comfort with technology. The new launches that have been developed for designing these artists of transformation will be presented at the coming edition of Interzum.

As the world's largest event for the industry, held in Cologne (Germany) from 16 to 19 May, the trade fair provides a comprehensive overview of the innovations in interior construction and furniture production: doors, flaps and pull-outs for opening and closing furniture; easy-to-use fittings; new storage space solutions; sliding door systems for creating movable room dividers and electronic closing systems for excellent ease of use.

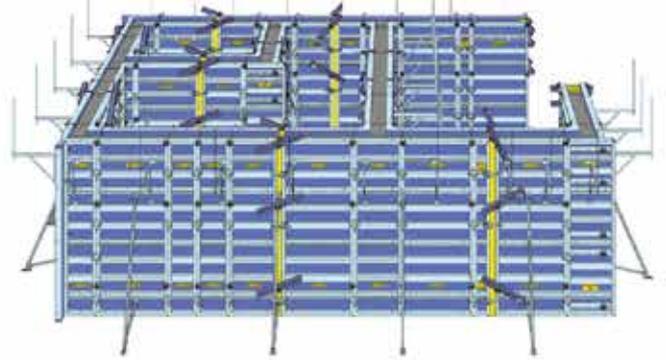
The many materials and surfaces on show will also provide a rich source of inspiration for new ideas for homes. Many of the exhibitors at the fair are equally active in both home furnishing and the fitting out of vehicles. New products and ideas from the conventional furniture sector, such as surfaces, textiles and fittings, are likewise used in cars, ships and aeroplanes.

The trade fair has a dedicated 'Mobile Spaces' special event area, which will showcase innovations such as the Tiny House project. Covering just 8 square metres, the mini-home provides a living space with a table, kitchenette, washroom and a comfortable sleeping loft.

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1 Many of the exhibitors at the fair are equally active in both home furnishing and the fitting out of vehicles.

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Robots are a major growth area

There are the wood industry summit, seminars and training workshops too: something for everyone!

With automation on the rise across the economy, robots are increasingly finding their way into manufacturing technology. Their roles range from parts handling to component processing and assembly. High-performance controls ensure short throughput times and high plant utilisation rates.

Robotic “colleagues” are also increasingly found in woodworking. The world’s first building with a robot-manufactured hardwood Beech frame was erected in Gmund, Germany, in 2015.

Robots have also gained permanent footholds in painting, grinding, polishing and assembling. Ligna exhibitor Maka, in collaboration with Siemens, demonstrates how easily robots can be integrated into manufacturing: The ‘Run my Robot’ option enables complete programming and operation of the robot using the CNC interface.

System partnerships between industrial robot manufacturers, programming specialists and mechanical engineers play a decisive role in the implementation of robotics solutions. Interested businesses will find representatives of all these sectors at Ligna 2017.

In its factory automation showcase, Siemens demonstrates with its open, modular Sinumerik architecture how easily controls can be adapted to an existing machine’s

operational philosophy. Beckhoff Automation promotes its unified automation platform for all robot types.

B&R Industrie Elektronik is presenting the Power Panel 500, computer-based controls that cover even the most complex robot applications while ensuring the highest security standards. On the end-user side, Homag is exhibiting as one of the leading specialists for robot-supported construction of production cells.

Minda sorting robots are working successfully in glued-laminated timber manufacturing. With its cleverly designed, modular PUR laminate building set, Burkle shows how widespread robot applications have become. Mohringer uses vacuum robots for automatic stacking in sawmill engineering.

A host of innovations like these await visitors at Ligna 2017, both in the new machine components and automation technology display and in the many other sections of the show. Everyone – whether from industry or the skilled trades – will get the full picture at Ligna.

Industry summit

The display categories at Ligna 2017 are: Tools and machinery for custom mass production; surface technology; wood-based panel production; saw mill technology; energy from wood; forestry technology; and machine components and automation technology.

Following its successful premiere at Ligna 2015, the Wood Industry Summit in 2017 will once again be staged by Deutsche Messe and the German Forestry Council (KWF), with major emphasis on the topic of ‘Access to resources and technology’

From 22 to 26 May, Hall 26 will once again be home to the summit, the international platform for forestry and energy technology. On debut it became a success, with international customers achieving an investment volume of some €30 million.

The summit is divided into three areas: an exhibition, a forum and a matchmaking hub. Every day from Tuesday (23 May) to Friday (26 May) the forum of the wood industry summit will highlight a topic of current international interest in the industry, with experts from Germany, Austria, Canada, Russia, Sweden and Spain giving presentations and fielding questions from the audience.

Both exhibitors and trade visitors can take advantage of the forum, which brings together international participants to generate new business leads in fast-growing markets for their international projects. Forum participation is free of charge for visitors and delegations, and advance registration is not required.

Training workshops

Throughout Ligna 2017, Deutsche Messe and Germany’s Sprint Academy will be running courses for joiners, cabinet makers, carpenters and mobile assemblers and installers. Selected companies will be stepping up as training partners, sharing their expertise with trade practitioners in the pavilions on the open-air site at the Hannover Exhibition Centre.

Equipment manufacturers will serve as training partners, answering questions and providing trade professionals with the information they need on machinery, tools, materials and production supplies.

Jowat SE will start the programme on Tuesday (23 May) with a workshop on adhesive bonding. The next day (24 May), Festool will show participants how to create perfect edges on moulded parts using a mobile edge-banding system and how to achieve perfect surface finishes using handheld power tools.

Participants will be able to learn about and try out a wide range of products and processes. Participation is free of charge, but requires prior registration.





50% exhibition space sold out

More skill development programmes, business opportunities on the cards

Close on the heels of business success in DelhiWood 2017 in March this year, and riding on the momentum of that trade show, MumbaiWood 2017 is all set to attract more exhibitors and visitors from across India and abroad.

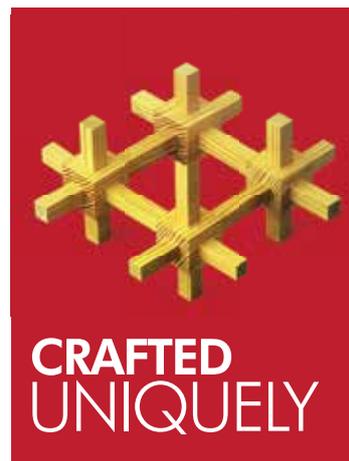
Western India is already well placed to be the highest revenue contributor to the Indian furniture market due to the presence of a large number of industrial hubs and upcoming infrastructure developments in the region.

MumbaiWood is getting more traction from both the demand and supply sides and exhibition space is likely to be sold out by June this year. Already the organiser, PDA Trade Fairs, is planning for additional exhibition space.

Keeping this in mind, MumbaiWood 2017 is scheduled to be held from 12-14 October, 2017, at the Bombay International Convention & Exhibition Centre, in Goregaon, according

Mumbai
WOOD

12–14 October 2017
Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai



to Mr. Sivakumar, General Manager and Exhibitions Director at PDA Trade Fairs.

Visitor promotion

Pre-registration is underway and more visitors are registering for MumbaiWood 2017 from smaller towns of Maharashtra and Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Goa and Gujarat.

The Mumbai-Thane and Pune-Nashik belt in Maharashtra, the Ahmedabad-Surat corridor in Gujarat and the Jodhpur-Jaipur cluster in Rajasthan are already poised for further growth in the furniture and panel manufacturing sectors.

Tier-II and Tier-III towns such as Satara-Kolhapur, Indore-Bhopal and Raipur-Bilaspur belts in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh respectively are also racing to set up furniture manufacturing, to meet the enormous demand for office and residential furniture and doors sets.

MumbaiWood aims to bring together all sectors of the industry precisely for the benefit of these expanding hubs in the hinterland. Moreover, Sivakumar says, nearly 50% of the total employment in furniture manufacturing

is concentrated in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Bihar and Chhattisgarh.

More opportunities

For carpenters, skill development programmes in association with the Furniture and Fittings Skill Council (FFSC), and other B2B forums for business opportunities will make MumbaiWood a sought-after show in the region.

“Looking at the growth of IndiaWood-2016 and DelhiWood-2017 in terms of participation and the visitor turnout, we believe MumbaiWood will soon transform into a must-visit exhibition for the industry,” Sivakumar says.

Riding on the back of two previous successful events (2013 and 2015), the organiser of MumbaiWood is ramping up its efforts to attract visitors from across Asia.

The event will be a unique platform for domestic and global brands to showcase furniture manufacturing and woodworking technologies, raw materials, fittings, accessories and products for wood-based industries and interior design.

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Another leap for Asia's biggest furniture technology show



Bookings open for the 10th edition of IndiaWood, the bi-annual trade fair for the woodworking and furniture manufacturing sector, which will be held at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre from 8-12 March, 2018.

IndiaWood 2018 is all set to expand exponentially, from 38,000 square metres of exhibition space in its previous edition to 50,000 square metres. With regular exhibitors inquiring for more space, and many new enquiries flowing in, the organiser, PDA Trade Fairs, has already added 17,500 square metres to the existing halls at the BIEC.

Bookings are open now; and strictly on a 'first come first served' basis.

IndiaWood 2018 is set to attract more than 65,000 visitors from all over India, neighbouring countries and from across the globe. Multiple registration counters are planned to manage the flow of visitors during the 5-day trade fair.

As the leading platform for this sector, IndiaWood gives buyers a complete overview of the market in all its dimensions. It is seen as a driving force behind innovation and success

in the global scenario for furniture production technologies and the woodworking sector. The trade fair consistently sets the pace for the next two years.

Through proactive engagement with stakeholders and a genuine commitment to excellence, IndiaWood has evolved in line with industry demand, and is globally recognised for doing so.

Evidently, exhibitors continue to value the strength of IndiaWood 2018 as a strategic

Highlights

50,000 square metres of space

65,000 professional visitors expected

650+ exhibitors from 40 countries

More than 100 media representatives

platform, showcasing the very latest technology and innovations that are currently shaping modern woodworking and the furniture production industries.

Advantage GST

By the time IndiaWood 2018 arrives, the new Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime would have settled down to serious business. It would have created an encouraging environment for the expansion of manufacturing and trade in products and services across the country, including in the furniture sector.

According to Mr. Sivakumar, General Manager at PDA Trade Fairs, GST would have brought clarity on taxation, ease in the movement of goods, and created a level playing field for small and medium enterprises in the furniture business.

“GST is expected to reduce the cost of manufacturing, ease inter-state trade and logistics, and attract more entrepreneurs into investing in this sector,” he said, adding: “All of which makes IndiaWood 2018 an even more attractive proposition for its participants on the supply and demand sides.”

In 2016, more than 700 companies from 30 countries presented their exhibits on 38,000 square metres of space, from leading international manufacturers to specialized newcomers.

More than 50,800 visitors from 53 countries and 823 cities in India attended IndiaWood 2016. Of these 80% visitors came from across India: they were those that participate in the decision-making process.

At IndiaWood 2018, more than 650 companies – representing a vast array of furniture production technologies, woodworking machineries, tools, fittings, accessories, raw materials and products – will take part, indicating yet again the trade show’s leading role in the growth and development of the furniture manufacturing industry on the sub-continent.

International show

More than 65,000 craftsmen, woodworkers and furniture manufacturers; distributors, dealers and manufacturers of hardware and accessories; plywood and particle board manufacturers and traders; manufacturers of wood-based products; architects, interior designers and builders; and the entire woodworking ecosystem from all over India and South-East Asian and South Asian countries is once again looking forward to IndiaWood 2018.

There will be representations from Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Myanmar, Bhutan, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines.

As the sector-leading B2B platform, IndiaWood continues with the support of industry stakeholders and associations, among them Eumabois (the federation of 14 national associations of woodworking technology and accessory manufacturers in Europe), the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, the Indian Laminate Manufacturers’ Association, the Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute, the Association of Furniture Manufacturers and Traders, and the American Hardwood Export Council.

Special attractions

- Distributors’ Summit to help convert market opportunities into business partnerships. This will be a special area on the show floor earmarked for furniture manufacturers and entrepreneurs to showcase the latest, innovative ideas, as well as elegant furniture and furnishing designs, to help them expand their sales pipelines through dealers, distributors and retailers.
- Architects’ Seminar by speakers of international repute, organised by *WoodNews* magazine, in association with professional associations of Indian architects and interior designers.
- Sourcing Forum, also organised by *WoodNews* magazine, is a B2B connect between furniture manufacturers from across India and retailers from e-commerce platforms and established furniture chain stores that are looking at sourcing innovative products.





Time to charm Vishakhapatnam, Hyderabad

FII-India, the market development agency for Canadian lumber in India, held educational seminars in the cities of Vishakhapatnam and Hyderabad in March, 2017. The events were in partnership with *WoodNews*.

The topic of 'Wood from Sustainable Sources', conducted by Mr. Peter Bradfield, Technical Advisor to FII-India, dwelt on various aspects of building and designing with wood, innovation in interiors, emerging trends and new-age wood technology; showcasing projects and products produced by Indian manufacturers.

The Q&A round threw up questions regarding timber milling practices adopted by Canada, glulam technology, kiln-drying and heat treatment of lumber, and technical information on each species' physical and working properties, leading to a high quality finished product.

This opened the participants' mind to new wood species that are perfectly suited to Indian conditions.



The seminar also provided an opportunity to discuss the usage of softwood in varied applications. The event was attended by senior industry leaders in the woodworking field.

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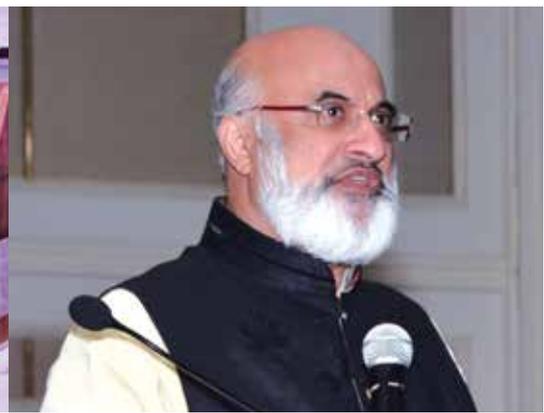
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Thinking caps share important perspectives

In times when concrete development has become a norm across the globe and people are struggling to find space and general comforts of living, the need to engage in responsible dialogues as a community takes prominence.

1 *Hafele's Mr. Juergen Wolf spoke about functionality in design; while noted architect, Mr. Karan Grover (right), dwelt on sustainability.*

The Designers' Talk is one such platform that encourages interactions among industry professionals with the underlying thought that "We together can bring a positive change".

The first edition of Designers' Talk was organized by Hafele India Pvt. Ltd. and co-hosted by renowned architect, Mr. Karan Grover, on 31 March at the Oberoi Trident Towers in Mumbai.

This was the third and final chapter of the traveling Designers' Talk after the very successful pilot runs in Bengaluru and Delhi last year. The overwhelming response of over 150 attending participants from the buzzing designers and architect fraternity of Mumbai confirmed the promise and need of having such forums.

Some eminent names who attended the event were architects Premnath (Premnath & Associates), Chirag Jain (U.C. Jain), Mujib, Nuru Karim, Prasanth Sutaria, Bharath (Team One Architects), Shashi Prabhu (Shashi Prabhu & Associates), Ratan Batliboi, Shantanu (Interics Design), Kshitij Kamat, Ketan Vaidya (IIID Chairperson of Mumbai chapter) along with other IIID architect members and architects from Hafeez

Contractor, Ahmed & Associates, and WorkspHERE, among others.

An invigorating presentation was made by Mr. Juergen Wolf, Managing Director, Hafele South Asia, on 'Design and Functionality'. "While aesthetics and design play an integral role in uplifting any interior space; it is really functionality that enables good aesthetics and designs," he said. "What often goes unnoticed is that we (at Hafele) are really complete solution providers and have the competence to engage with architects and designers right from the very start of any interior project.

He also emphasised on the increasing challenges of finding development spaces in major cities across the globe and how intelligent solutions from Hafele can optimally utilise small spaces and multiply the applications that can be achieved through such solutions. "These solutions have been specially designed for small spaces and enable "micro-living", a trend that is now gaining importance among city dwellers," Wolf added.

Architect Karan Grover took a more serious and introspective route through his thought-provoking presentation on 'The Power of Change'. He said that "sustainable" development is that which inherently and consciously takes environmental harnessing into account.

"We are often so selfish and ambitious about infrastructure development that we don't realise the impact of our actions on our surroundings," Grover said, and cited examples of such conscious architects and designers who are now actively taking sustainability into account while developing their projects across the globe.

In today's times, functionality in designs and sustainability in structures are elements that are easily overlooked as against aesthetics and commerce. The Designers' Talk presents itself as the ideal platform to address such issues and instigate the right change among industry peers, he noted.

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2

Knock-knock: all about wooden entry doors

A design and material guide to help you choose the right door for interiors and outdoors

By Pranesh Chhibber

The front door of a home always makes the first impression. It makes a statement of who you are and what people can expect when they walk through the door.

1 A solid wood door with glass insets and two side-lights.

Preferences change, trends may come and go, but the classic, elegant look of a solid wooden door is here to stay. Wood's timeless and natural appeal makes it an ideal material for any luxe project which cannot be replicated by fibreglass or steel.

2 Western Hemlock carved door stained to a walnut finish (left) and Douglas-Fir rustic designed solid door (right) on display at Canadian Wood's office in Mumbai.

The entry door extends a warm and friendly welcome to your client's abode; hence selecting an entryway can be completely overwhelming, but fortunately this design and material guide will provide a few helpful tips.

Wood species used for doors need to meet

very demanding conditions and be tough enough to withstand natural elements of wind, rain, scorching sun, etc. At the same time it has to be durable and look good to meet your client's design sensibilities.

The front door should fit in architecturally with the rest of the home. But one can take the opportunity to let this say something about one's personality as well! Design styles range from the traditional – Colonial, Cottage, Craftsman, Ranch, Split Level and Victorian – to the contemporary: solid wooden doors with glass or metal inserts.

Why wood?

Western Hemlock and Douglas-Fir are well-suited for this application. Hemlock's lighter, creamier colour accepts a variety of stains and finishes, making it a designer's dream. Douglas-Fir, on the other hand, is stronger

than teak and characterised by tight, vertical grain and warm colouring, giving it an enduring appeal.

Wood used for exterior doors must be highly durable, and provide excellent dimensional stability by having a low tangential to radial shrinkage (T/R) ratio. A low T/R value makes these wood species less prone to shrinking and swelling when in service. A nightmare most homeowners face during monsoons.

When choosing the right kind of specie for an exterior door, one can look at Western Red Cedar and Yellow-Cedar. They possess properties which make them naturally resistant to termites, rot and decay, making them the perfect choice for any outdoor use.

Their markedly fine and stable grain structure will not allow the door to warp or twist, ensuring years of reliable operation.

Generally heavier and more traditional in style, wooden doors are an all-time favourite. From the antique haveli doors in Rajasthan to the hand-carved doors in Kerala, India has always had a love affair with wood.

Indians love the substantial weight of a wooden door, which adds a sense of security and sturdiness to one's home. However, a solid wooden door with hand carvings can set the client back by a few lakh rupees!

Economy option

A more economical option is the use of flush doors. Featuring veneer on both sides of the construction with a solid or hollow core, most flush doors have free-floating centre panels surrounded by stile-and-rail frames.

Spruce-Pine-Fir's (SPF) strength and stability makes it ideal in the framing of a flush door.

Chaukhats (door frames) are the key to long-lasting doors. Door frames made of Yellow-Cedar STK grade are strong, stable and resist attacks from termites and rot. Consumers today can even buy a complete door set with chaukat and the door.

For decades wood has held a special place in architectural usage, earlier as an only option to becoming a popular choice today. A wooden door can be custom crafted in virtually any shape or size and incorporate all types of mouldings, carvings, panel configurations, stains, finishes and looks as one may please.

Given the technology and labour available in the country, wooden doors are also relatively easier and cheaper to repair and maintain.

If you are concerned about the environmental impact of the door as well as its energy efficiency, you can purchase a door made from wood certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). These assure you that the wood was sustainably grown and harvested.

Artistically appealing and highly versatile, wood offers limitless possibilities in interiors and outdoor space. Considering the numerous benefits wood comes with, it has definitely caught the imagination and interest of many homeowners.

– The writer is Country Director, Forestry Innovation Consulting India Pvt. Ltd.

3 *Wooden doors can be custom crafted in virtually any shape or size, mouldings and carvings, colours and finishes.*

3



Shreeji Woodcraft crafts doors in top quality

Mumbai-based Shreeji Woodcraft Pvt. Ltd. is among the few door manufacturers in India, with more than two decades of experience in timber engineering and technology. With ISO 9001:2015 certification, the company is one of the leading manufacturers of superior quality finished door frames, modern designer doors and solid wood flooring.

Production facilities are located in Silvassa, 120 km from Mumbai. It has an industrial shed of 1,00,000 square feet and a skilled work force of around 230 people.

The fire retardant doors have a rating of 1 Hour and 2 Hours, and various other door constructions are all tested and approved by major institutes like the Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI) and the Central Building Research Institute (CBRI).

Frames include wood-clad frames, polished frames, painted frames, door frames, finger jointed, laminated frames, while the flooring includes wooden sports flooring and parquet flooring.

The products undergo several processes with the help of modern machinery and standard processes. The sophisticated vacuum pressure preservative impregnation process in accordance with IS-401:1982, protects the timber against fungus, termites, borer and other organisms, making doors and frames durable and decay-proof.

All its products give high strength, stiffness, impact resistance, durability against high moisture and cyclic changes in weather. To ensure this absolute care is taken in using standard quality raw materials. Laboratory is equipped with sophisticated instruments for research and development, quality testing and constant product improvement. The lab is equipped with a moisture meter, bevel protector, spring balance, humidity control oven, thermostatic oven, pressure stove and a spractical leather belt to ensure quality testing standards.

The doors are more economical than site fabricated doors since they are completely prefabricated and ready to fix, thus saving on time and money. The Company provides 360 degree solutions from import to installation of doors to major prestigious names in realty business on pan India.

The company pays utmost attention to the origin of every raw material that enters its production facility and every wood log comes selected and tested that verifies its origin.

Production waste and other effluent are also neutralised before they are released into the ecosystem.



Delivering world class solutions has been the company's goal and to this end it has built up world class infrastructure with the state-of-the-art machinery that includes a hot press machine, core drying machine, wide belt sander, DD saw, automatic wood finger jointing line, CNC machine and automatic painting line.

The company's core competence is doors and door frames, and its product range covers an array of flush doors, laminated doors, veneer door, skin moulded doors, laminated moulded doors, fire retardant doors (FRD), wooden panel doors, and fibre-reinforced plastic (FRP) doors.



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Elesa+Ganter bring ergonomic tubular handles



Elesa+Ganter, Noida-based maker of standard machine elements, also offers a wide range of tubular handles that, by virtue of the wide variety of production materials (polymer, aluminium, steel or stainless steel), design and ergonomics makes them unique in size and able to meet the most varied market requirements.

Some Elesa+Ganter tubular handles, which generally are widely used for manoeuvring of large heavy doors in different industrial sectors, thanks to the possibility of modularity, are also suitable to be used for the realisation of handrails.

Thanks to the know-how and continuous R&D activities, Elesa+Ganter can also provide customised technical solutions to meet specific customer requirements.

The M.1043-HEI tubular handle, equipped with handle shanks in techno-polymer and tube in glass-fibre reinforced polyester, has been designed to provide high electrical insulation.

The different standard solutions available in the company's catalogue can also be supplied in different colours or personalised with wording or pad-printed or laser engraved with logos.

Elesa+Ganter tubular handles are available with techno-polymer or metal shanks matched with tubes (diameter 20-35 mm) in anodised aluminium, epoxy coating or stainless steel.

Some executions have a special anti-rotation tube assembly system, studied to prevent rotation during manoeuvring operations, ensuring a safe and comfortable grip. Versions without side supports are set up by bars or aluminium tubes according to the diameter (20-28 mm), and are also available in double curve.

Completing the range, tubular handles with oval section offer high stability during manoeuvring operations. Modern and ergonomic design without any protrusions or recesses ensure a firm and secure grip. (www.elesa-ganter.in)

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Accoya meets designer home needs

Accoya, the world-leading modified wood manufactured by UK-based Accsys Technologies, is one of the most versatile and widely used brands, both in India and overseas. The wood has been used to construct windows and doors for a specially designed split level home located in Hastings, UK.

Designed by London-based architecture firm Alma-nac, the property, which is called the Split House, replaces a 1950's bungalow and run-down barn that the owners wanted to convert into a highly sustainable home that took advantage of its hilltop location. As a result, architect firm Alma-nac designed the property to extend out in three different directions, providing stunning views of the sea and nearby Dungeness headland.

The architects specified Accoya to construct the external windows, window reveals and doors for the stylish property. A whole of 38 fixed and opening windows were installed, as well as 22 glazed door leaves using the wood.

The doors and windows will require little maintenance over their lifetime due to the process in which the wood is made. The acetylation process, which is used to toughen the wood, delivers outstanding levels of performance, stability and durability.

Mr. Caspar Rodgers from Alma-nac commented: "We chose Accoya because we wanted to build using eco-friendly materials that could withstand the variable weather

conditions that are characteristic of England's southern coast."

Ms. Laura Ladd, head of marketing for Accsys Technologies said: "The Split House in Hastings is a uniquely engineered home that is very visually impressive. Accoya windows have undergone extensive testing, and have outperformed many other window applications."

Not only do the windows complement the look and style of the property but Accoya windows will also withstand the harsh winds and wet weather conditions that Hastings can experience.

Made from FSC-certified wood from legal, manageable and sustainable forests, Accoya is an attractive wood product which is perfect for a variety of uses from windows and doors to external cladding, structural projects and decking. It is one of the most durable, low maintenance and eco-friendly timber products available in India and is well suited to withstand monsoon season and the hot and humid climate.

Tests have shown that it offers improved dimensional stability when assessed against a range of other woods including teak, demonstrating advanced performance compared to competitor products. Accoya is distributed in India through Mumbai-based Ritikaa Wood.



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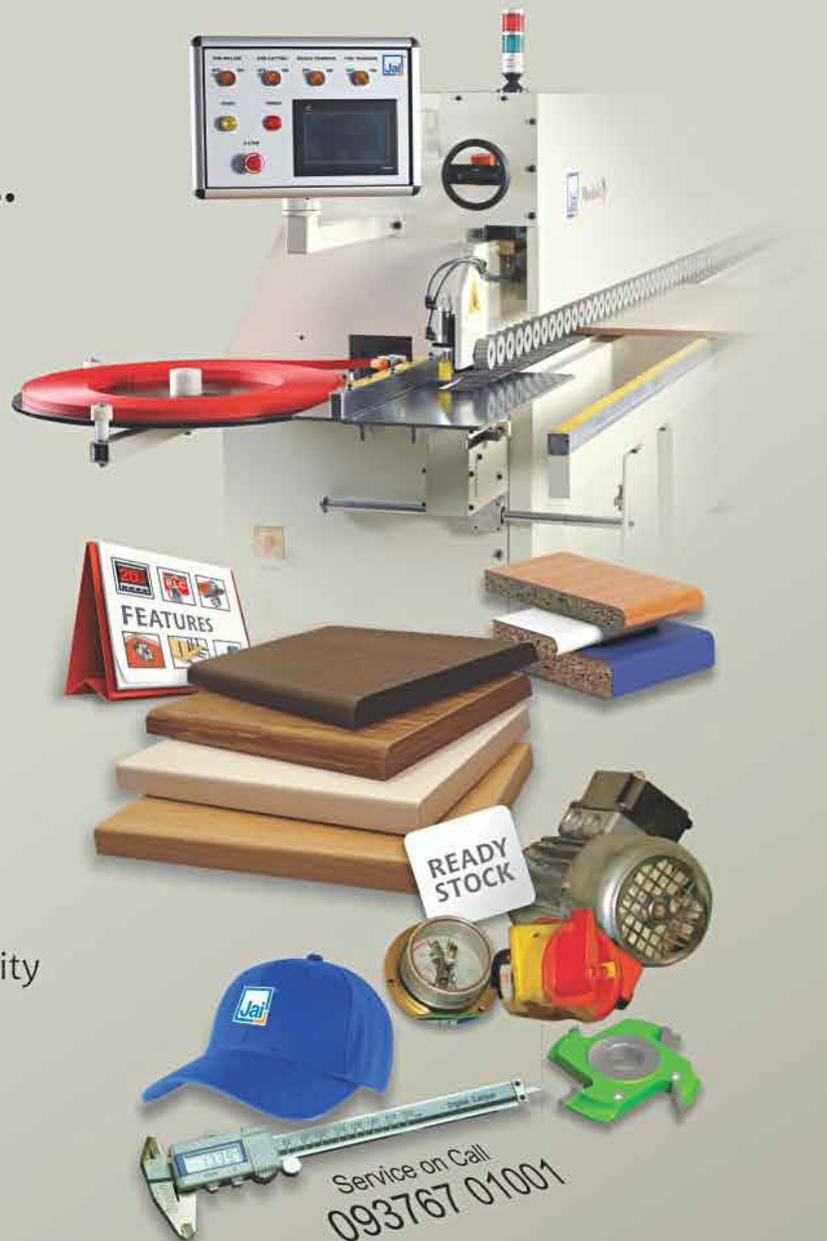
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1

Wood houses borrow from Lego fun

Wood bricks are meant to enable building a passive house, one that is energy-efficient, fully recyclable and natural

1 *The Brikawood wooden bricks just stick together in an intricate pattern.*

The construction of a house has never looked so simple and fun. French start-up Catharhome has developed an ecological and economical wooden brick named Brikawood.

Situated in the Pyrenees region, Catharhome has specialised in innovative products for wood construction for 30 years. Brikawood are wooden bricks which can be built like Lego blocks, without glue, nails nor screws!

This is the idea of engineers, Mr. Alain Romero and Ms. Patricia Dutreux, and has taken them three years of research to develop it after investing Euro 3,30,000 in this project.

The principle with these bricks is to produce timber frame walls for any type of architecture and thus enter the chain of sustainable development. They have been designed so as to limit the handling and the energy consumption.

Comprising four wood elements, two side plates that provide structure and two spacers for its structural coherence, it is designed to allow their engagement to maintain between each other and thus give the wall a structural coherence.

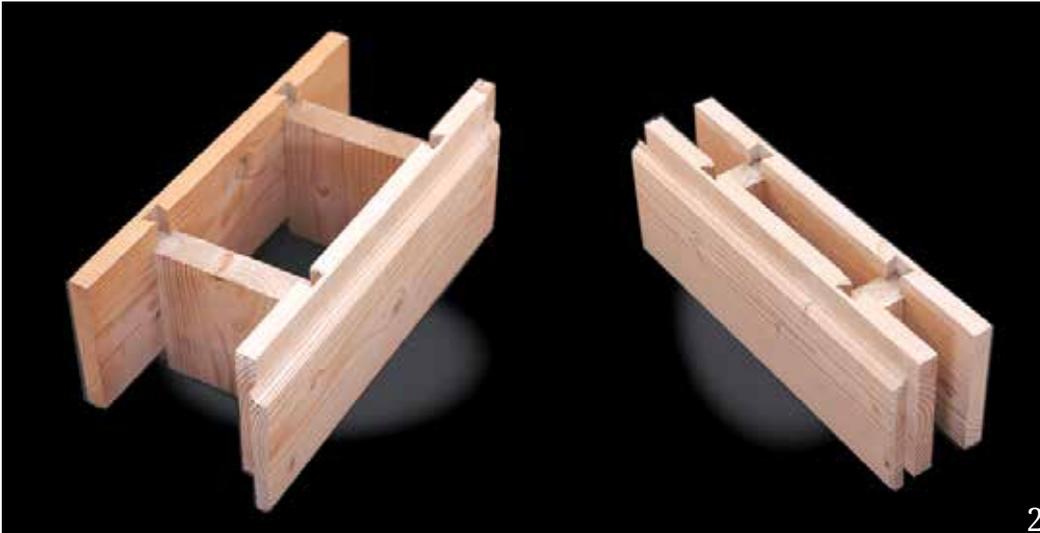
Installers need a rubber hammer to mount the bricks. A drill is required to secure the sill plate on the slab and the wall cap to close the walls and after blowing and conditioning the insulation (wood chips).

The Brikawood wooden house building bricks just stick together in an intricate but logical pattern. One wooden brick consists of four parts that by interlocking create a stable and durable surface.

Great performance

The brick consists of four wooden elements – two lateral flanges and two transverse spacers – machined in “dovetail” which are assembled together, by interlocking, thus giving a mechanical rigidity to the assembly.

The Brikawood brick is intended to be used alone, without cladding, rain cover or vapour barrier, only a special check valve specific to Brikawood, simplifying as much as possible the implementation of any type of construction, while ensuring performance and water-proofing.



2 Brikawood comes in basic brick (left) and the half-brick.



3 The corner bricks have a width of 500 mm and 750 mm for incoming and outgoing angles.

Brikawood developed three different models by its widths, each with a feature in the structure: the basic brick width is 500 mm, the half-brick is 250 mm in width, the corner brick has a width of 500 mm and 750 mm (incoming angle and outgoing angle).

Various tests were carried out with freezing rain simulations from zero to less 20 degrees Celsius and they proved satisfactory compared to houses with stacked beam poles. Brikawood can also withstand earthquakes of 8.5 on the Richter scale.

The Brikawood wall kit makes it possible to design any type of habitat with all possible types of roofing imaginable. The process eliminates any rise in moisture by the absence of “standing wood” in contact with the soil. It adapts to the construction of individual houses, industrial premises, collective habitats, extensions, elevations and separation walls.

The Douglas Fir used in the bricks is a spectacularly growing tree that can stand 60 metres tall on average and several metres in diameter. It comes from sustainably managed forests, it is eco-certified PFE and FSC.

The ‘Techno Pieux’ screwed pile acts as a large screw which is installed in the ground by a specialized machine until it reaches a floor allowing to obtain the required bearing capacity according to the structure, to guarantee the best possible insulation and eliminating thermal bridges.

A Brikawood house stands out for its great comfort, combined with a very low energy consumption. This comfort is achieved by the use of components approved for passive construction (windows that protect from cold, insulation, heat recovery).

For more information check www.brikawood-ecologie.fr.



'Too Good to Waste', an interactive installation designed by Ms. Benedetta Tagliabue of EMBT, crafted by furniture makers Benchmark, and initiated by the American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC) opened in April at the Università degli Studi di Milano.

On display as part of Salone del Mobile Milano 2017, the bold timber installation comprises four individual and unique pieces, wrapped around the statuesque pillars of the entrance to the Aula Magna auditorium, transforming at the hand of visitors to reveal hidden pieces of fine furniture.

A wall full of surprises

"We wanted to re-create this concept in a playful and modern way by creating a wall full of surprises, where the people who inhabit the wall will be real," said Benedetta.

Made from American Red Oak, soft maple, Cherry and Tulipwood, 'Too Good to Waste' seeks to question the validity of the current relationship between wood consumption and fashion.



Contrary to popular perception, not all forests are disappearing. In fact, the vast American hardwood forest is a quickly expanding resource and the volume of its standing timber has more than doubled in the last 50 years. However, due to fashion and colour trends, demand is too often focused on just a few species, while many others are underused or left in the forest, which is a lost opportunity for both design and carbon storage.

According to AHEC, 'Too Good to Waste' is an invitation to reflect on the responsible use of these forests and to discover species and grades of American hardwoods rarely found in homes or furniture stores in Europe, but that need to be considered if we want to contribute to a balanced and sustainable use of the forest.

"We are using species that are not getting the value they should. We are now using knots, sapwood and all sorts of character that 10 years ago would have been unthinkable in high end furniture and expressing it in a way that says 'This is beautiful, look, it is too good to waste!'" remarks Mr. Sean Sutcliffe, co-founder of Benchmark.

This project is not only a celebration of all varieties of species and grades of American hardwood, but also an invitation to discover the piece in the most literal sense: users are encouraged to touch and inhabit this piece, to interact and play with it, opening its different components by pushing, pulling, swivelling and discovering new configurations.



Ways to Extend Happiness



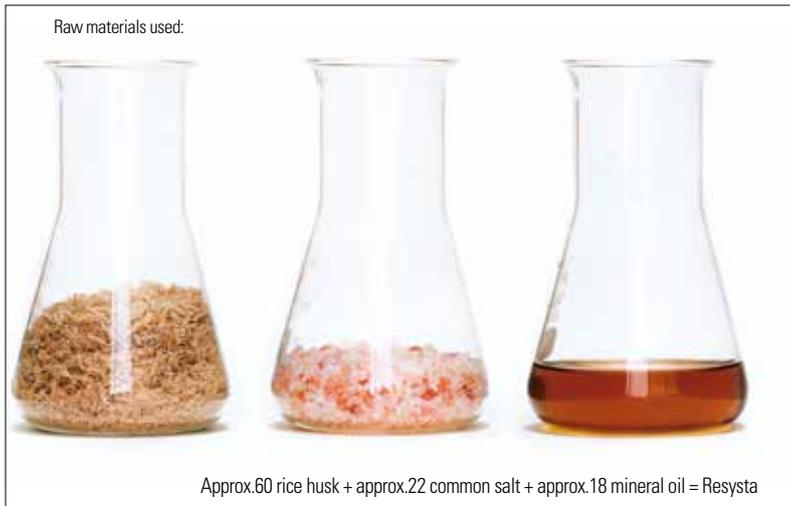
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Reliance inks pact for wood substitute



Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) has entered into a licence agreement with Resysta International GmbH, a leading German innovator, giving RIL exclusive rights of production and marketing of RelWood, a natural fibre polymer composite (NFPC), in India.

This compound will be the raw material for the production of sheets and profiles used in a wide range of wood and plywood replacement applications.

Touted as a alternative to wood it is a natural fibre compound that has been developed after more than 15 years of research and

development and is made of natural waste products.

With the look and feel of wood, the material is very durable, water-resistant and most comparable to tropical hardwoods; but it contains no wood. Suitable for decking, cladding or marine applications, it is flexible enough for all projects.

Composed of primarily rice husk along with common salt and mineral oil pressed into boards, it is an innovative material which takes advantage of the previously end of life rice husk, which is typically burned.

Another benefit, unlike wood, is that it does not contain lignin, a compound within wood that causes graying, therefore keeping its original colour. The material is also fully recyclable — the company will take back the product at the end of its use to reintroduce the material into the production cycle.

Available in a variety of profiles such as decking (smooth and corrugated), dowels, inlays, wall cladding, and typical board dimensions, the material can also be worked the same as wood without splintering or cracking.

Currently the product is manufactured in Indonesia, Vietnam and Germany.

Hafele's Flex corners space



Hafele, a recognized interiors specialist, ensures that every aspect of a home can be transformed into a truly functional zone with its wide offerings in home interior solutions.

The company has recently introduced the flex corner unit that allows maximum access in any corner cabinet and makes the best use of storage space while keeping things organised and accessible.

Flex corner maximises space in corner cabinets while allowing full accessibility to the entire unit. Right- and left-handed versions are identically arranged and no separate installation template in the cabinet is required. Individual height adjustment for the baskets can be done.

This non-handed corner unit is easily installed to the bottom of the cabinet. With the Flex corner all the space in corner cabinets is turned into functional, reliable and stylish storage space.

There corner unit fittings come with integrated soft closing on both the pull outs. The weight bearing capacity for the whole unit is 32 kg as the four individual baskets can take up to 8 kg each.

Details

- Cabinet width: 900 mm
- Door width: 450 mm
- Installation depth: 480 mm
- Installation height: min. 530 mm.

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Altendorf's Magis is a digital saw guide



Ligna 2017 brings the world premiere of Altendorf's trail-blazing new saw operator prompting system. Developed in-house at Altendorf, the Magis system guides Altendorf machine operators through the requisite steps to complete a pre-prepared cutting plan.

"The Altendorf Magis system is the first digital, mobile operator guidance system for a sliding table saw," explains Mr. Joerg F. Mayer, Altendorf Managing Director. "It shows the operator the cutting sequence to follow for fully cut-optimised panel processing. It simplifies the operator's job enormously and, being mobile, can be used with any Altendorf sliding table saw."

Altendorf Magis also helps to enhance safety in the workplace and reduces the time required to complete a defined job at the machine. The Altendorf Magis system consists essentially of software, a tablet and the tablet mount for the sliding table saw.

Altendorf Magis, Mayer takes care to emphasise, is not a cut optimisation program, but rather a visual digital operator prompting system. So intelligent is the software that it can acquire the relevant data from the cut optimisation package, detect the saw specification and then incorporate this information into the visualisation.

The clearly displayed uploaded dimension settings for manual stops and automatic adjustment for motorised stops simplify the cutting process from the very beginning.

The display guides the operator step-by-step through cutting plans involving even the most complex nesting using easily understood symbols. The system can also be used to apply labels to finished work pieces detailing subsequent processing instructions.

Altendorf Magis enhances safety in the

workplace for all machine operators, irrespective of their level of training, by ensuring that they always know exactly what they need to do next. The cutting of materials in panel and strip form is depicted visually even before the cutting process has begun.

Altendorf Magis leads the way through the pre-defined cutting sequence in a way that every operator can reliably follow, ensuring optimal utilisation of materials and speeding up production.

Altendorf Magis includes interfaces to a large number of well-known optimisation solutions for excellent flexibility. The tablet is mobile, so the data from the cut optimisation package is uploaded for production planning. Optional features of the Magis system include a printer and a bar code reader.

These make it possible to label finished work pieces for reliable identification during subsequent processing. Bar codes can also be used to identify the job concerned and allocate work pieces.

Another of the useful accessories offered by Altendorf is a second display that enables an assisting colleague on the opposite side from the operator position to see the cutting plan as well.

"Altendorf Magis is versatile and enormously helpful in optimising workflows and workshop operations in small and mid-size organisations. It makes working with the sliding table saw easier and safer and can make a crucial difference for companies eager to maximise their profitability," Mayer concludes.



WOODNEWS

WoodNews thanks the various companies that have submitted information. For any editorial submissions, please contact Mr. Dhananjay Sardeshpande, Chief Editor, at dhananjay@pdatradedmedia.com. The information published in this, *Notes and News*, *Indiawood Products* section is as per the details furnished by the respective manufacturer / distributor. It does not reflect the views of *WoodNews* or of the management of PDA Trade Media.



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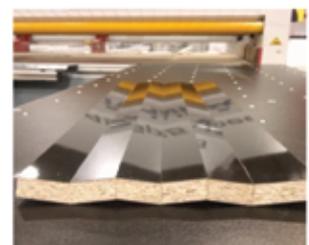
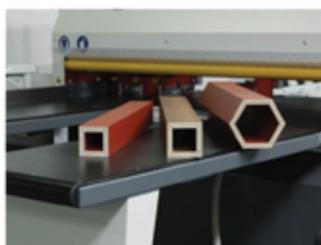
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Schelling Anlagenbau GmbH is headquartered in Schwarzach, Austria. The company has 400 employees worldwide at a total of 10 locations.

The product line includes cut-to-size saws and systems, as well as automatic area storage and stacking systems for wood materials, and precision saws and systems for plastics, NF-metals, ferrous metals and PCB materials.

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Worthy work horses from Jai's stable

The J-903 high-speed router is ideal for making volumes and profits at high speed. Designed for high speed production routing for getting clean, fast cuts when routing, moulding, making dovetails, grooving, mortising, tenoning and rebating. Engraving can be done on work piece by copying the design of master jig.

Salient Features

- Balanced spindles with pneumatic control
- Pedal control spindle travel
- Brake system for spindle
- High speed bearings
- Large tiltable tables and throat clearance
- Rigid construction for vibration-free operation
- Easily accessible controls.



Technical Data		
Specifications	Unit	Parameters
Throat Clearance	mm	750
Spindle	r/min	8000/16000
Guide Pin Diameter	mm	6 & 12.7
Cutter shank diameter	mm	12
Installed Power	kW	2.4/3

The J-940 (automatic) oscillation mortiser is equipped with two tables at the right and left side, allowing two operators to use it simultaneously. Table tilts $\pm 20^\circ$ at the right and left sides. Table is elevated by turning a hand wheel.

Salient Features

- Pneumatic clamps provided for convenience
- Mortising width and depth are adjustable
- Mortising tool oscillating speed is variable
- Mortising depth is accurately controlled
- Table height is adjustable
- Mortising bit oscillating speed is variable



The J-941 round-end tenoner has a PLC programmable device, allowing the moveable cutter runs as per data and profile. The processing is more stable, because only the cutter is moving.

Salient Features

- Double table design enhances productivity
- Pneumatic clamping for better gripping
- Tenoning width/ depth is adjustable
- Variable speeds for cutting soft/hard woods
- Solid tungsten carbide-tipped cutter
- Tilting table with a mitre gauge for bevel tenons
- Tenoning axis can be horizontal/ vertical/ 45°



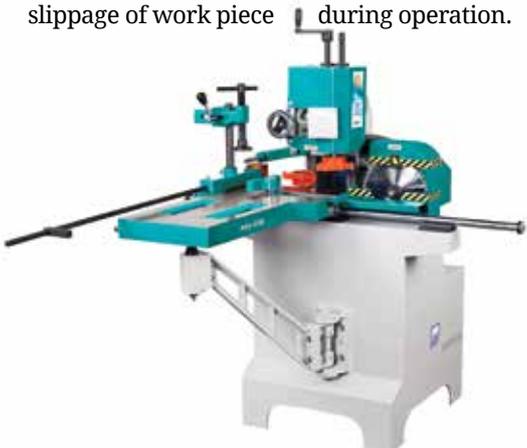
The J-1920 pneumatic chisel mortiser is a machine for master joint makers that no wood work industries can work without.



The J-1930 chain-n-chisel mortiser is a combined machine that allows you mortising, flexibility by replacing holding units. The chain mortiser holder unit has a support guide for motor shaft for better accuracy and rigidity with chip-free mortising. The chisel mortiser holder unit is optional and can be ordered any time separately.



The J-1919 Teno Mac-S is a tenoning machine with sliding table and end cutting unit for perfect tenon lengths. It's easy slide movement assures accurate tenoning with end cutting unit for perfect tenon length. The accurate and strong vice clamping system helps avoid slippage of work piece during operation.



Joway machines: Smooth as silk, tough as diamond



Joway Machinery Co. Ltd. is a leading manufacturer with over 28 years of working experience in Taiwan. With such rich experience in making sliding tables, Joway is without doubt a reliable partner for woodworking machinery.

The Joway sliding table saw comes in four sizes (by cutting length), the 1900, 2600, 3200 and 3800 mm. The 3200-mm or the P-32 model, is commonly used. It is able to cut through a piece of 5x10-foot panel.

A standard P-32 comes with following features: 7.5 HP main motor and 1 HP for the scoring motor. The main spindle speed is up to 8000 rpm. Each Joway P-32 is equipped with a 305-mm saw blade, which allows

cutting of a 100-mm height panel at 90° and 70-mm panel at 45°.

A 370-mm extension saw table and a 1300-mm cutting width device makes working smooth. To adjust the main saw height, blade tilting, scoring saw blade +/- direction, just slightly spin the hand wheels. A mitre fence allows the operator to make an angled cut.

The straight line rip saw, the JR-18 (10HP+2HP) equipped with a cast iron fence attached on a hard-chromium round bar, allows accurate positioning when operating.

The JR-18 has doubled-track chain conveyor that enables a wide working piece and making stable and precise operation. The maximum working thickness is 95 mm and the distance between saw to the column is 660 mm, the table area is 2000x1160 mm.

When it comes to safety, the JR-18 also equipped with a safety guard mounted on the auxiliary roller and a table with anti-kickback finger (optional).

Other optional devices are the digital control on the rip fence, powered elevation device and laser to make operation smoother and easier. There are features of JR-18 you wouldn't like to miss: variable speed conveyor, dual-bearing drive line for the conveyor table and auto-lube system.





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Ikea sourcing bamboo, Indian wood next



Global furniture retailer Ikea is looking to source bamboo and other sustainable indigenous wood species from India for its global operations as it looks to expand its portfolio of such products, *The Hindu Business Line* has reported.

The Swedish company is already in talks with Central and state governments, particularly in the North-East, to identify local species of wood which can be sourced from India.

The company is also in talks with the Union Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, along with a host of forestry institutes, to identify species of locally grown rubber wood, mango wood and neem, which could be sourced from various parts of the country.

Mr. Sandeep Sanan, Head of Business Development (South Asia) for Ikea, was quoted as saying that the company is working on identifying how long-term sustainable farming of these wood and grass species can be undertaken with various state governments and to incentivise the cultivation of such renewable wood products.

“We are constantly looking for new materials, including wood and natural fibres such as bamboo, sea grass, water hyacinth, jute and bagasse. Our focus is to find renewable material. Currently, we are mapping various species of bamboo which could possibly be sourced from India for our global requirements. India has the potential to be a global sourcing hub for wood and grass products,” he said.

Ikea is open to a public-private partnership model to expand its base and has already identified a dozen-odd suppliers for bamboo from Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka. The company will start sourcing from a supplier by 2018.

Currently, most of Ikea’s bamboo wood requirements are being met from China, Vietnam and Indonesia. Furniture products made out bamboo currently account for less than 1% of Ikea’s global sales.

Biesse acquires software developer Avant

Biesse Group has acquired control of Avant, a company specialising in the development of software for the integration and supervision of machining lines and working cells.

Avant’s applications are able to automatically manage information in the manufacturing process, from cutting to edge banding to boring operations and batch-one production system.

Biesse Group has had more than 1,000 systems installed worldwide, with a 170% increase in systems installed in the past 3 years. Technology developed by Biesse Group and Avant includes real-time tracking and management systems that provide specifically

generated reports that allow the client to have total control over the manufacturing process.

“It is a strategic operation,” said Mr. Paolo Tarchioni, assistant to Biesse Group’s CEO of Coordination and Product Development, “Aimed at optimising the know-how into which the group has always invested and strengthening our commitment to the creation of integrated systems and technological solutions in order to support our clients in the development of digital factories.”



Semi-automatic double-head boring machine



Adequate maintenance of the semi-automatic double-head boring machine (J-2101.in) is a crucial factor for longer life of the machine, and to obtain optimal working condition of the machine itself.

All maintenance operations must be done with the machine turned off and after wearing protective gloves.

The machine and working area must be kept clean from working scraps and anything that could hamper the working cycle or access to the machine itself. The machine must be cleaned every day.

Make sure that no material not needed by the machine gathers on it, preventing safe operation and causing danger to the operator during normal working cycle.

- Sliding guides, sliding bars and movement screws must be kept clean from working residuals

- Do not use detergents or lubricants.
- Make sure the machine is lubricated regularly. Grease the drilling head through grease nipple A (Fig.1)
- Check the electric system safety with the condition of electric cables. Make sure there are no signs of wear, scrapes, etc.
- Check the clamping of various mechanical components.
- Check air pressure: air supply pressure must be 6 kg/cm².
- Check the lubricant oil level in the air filter; top up if necessary. ▶

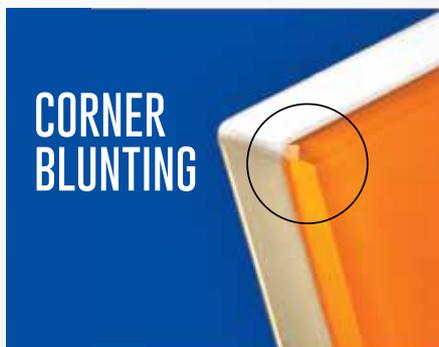
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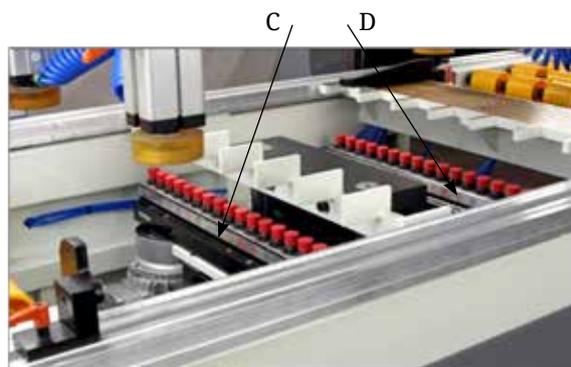
Problems	Causes	Remedies
Drills do not work	-the motor doesn't work -motor is burnt	-push the motor start push button -release the emergency push button -check the fuse -check the air pressure -replace the motor
Motor works but drills do not	-possible failure of gears, keys or drive joints	-replace them or call technical service staff
Hole is not accurate	-improper drill locking -drill wear -work piece improperly blocked	-check locking -replace -check clamp units, their seals and working air pressure
Drilling head is jerking	-working residuals on sliding rod -sliding rods not parallel	-properly clean the sliding rod -check the mounting of sliding rod B (Fig.2)
Hole distance or board thickness hole size not proper	-position indicator reading doesn't match due to improper setting -screw/nut thread damage	-adjust the position indicator, as per size (Fig.2) -replace the screw/nut
Drilled pieces are not parallel to the reference bar	-incorrect parallelism of the drills in relation to the reference stop	-check the heads in relation to the stop and the parallelism of the line of head 1(C) with head 2(D) in vertical position (Fig.3)
Drilling head to raise does not reposition	-air pressure insufficient -air cylinder limit switch contacts damage -limit switch not in position	-adjust the required air pressure -replace with new contact - make the proper adjustment



(Fig.1)



(Fig.2)



(Fig.3)

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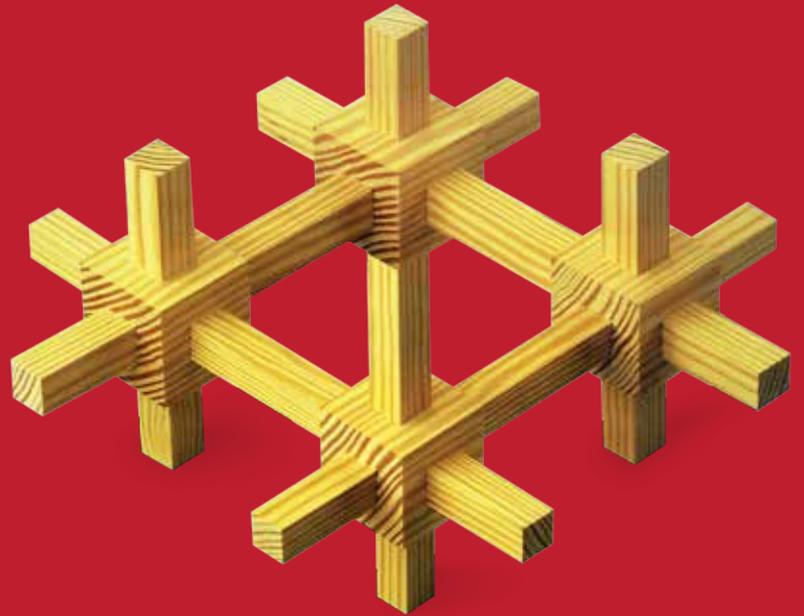
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16-19 May 2017

Venue: Koelnmesse, Cologne, Germany

The 4-day event showcases products like home textiles to furniture to lighting designs to contemporary heating solutions etc. in the electronics and electrical goods, home furnishings and home textiles, architecture and designing, furniture industries.

www.interzum.com

LIGNA

22-26 May, 2017

Venue: Hannover Exhibition Grounds, Hannover, Germany

The event, held biennially, will provide a comprehensive overview of the materials, design solutions and technologies currently available for the woodworking, wood processing and furniture industries. It covers a broad spectrum of exhibition topics, ranging from wood as a renewable material to wood working and processing technology to components for the furniture and interior finishing sectors.

www.ligna.de

UBM INDEX

08-11 June, 2017

Venue: Bombay Convention & Exhibition Centre, Mumbai, India

The 28th edition of this 4-day international interior, architecture and design exhibition will be held in Mumbai this year. Exhibitors from around the globe come here to showcase their products. Similarly corporate, builders, architectural houses, freelance designers attend the show to experience the latest innovations.

www.ubmindexfairs.com

FITECMA

13-17 June, 2017

Venue: Costa Salguero Center, Buenos Aires, Argentina

The 5-day fair takes place every two years in Buenos Aires and is aimed at professionals from the industry. International exhibitors are represented at the show to present here the latest machinery, materials and processing techniques.

www.fimma.com.br

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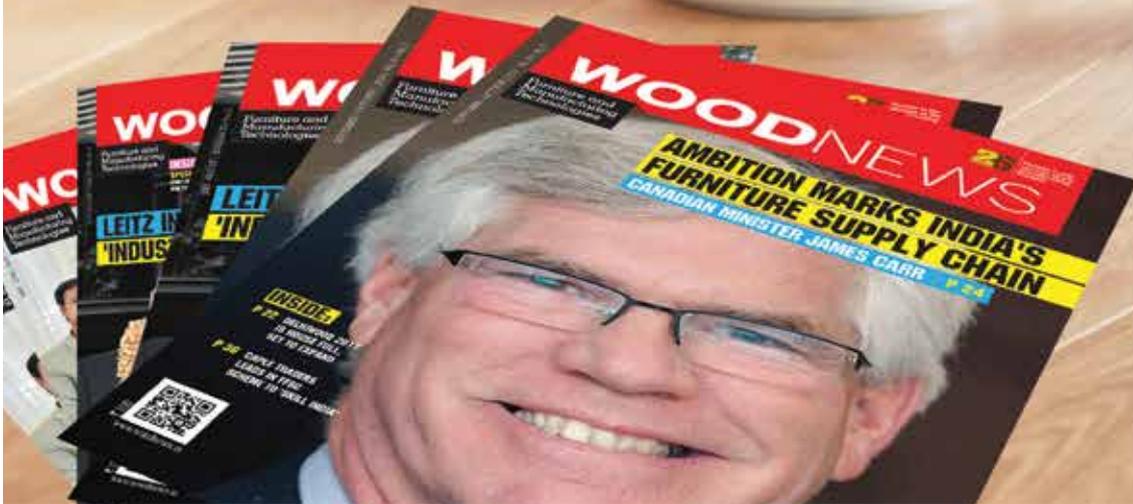
24-26 June, 2017

Venue: Gujarat University Exhibition Hall, Ahmedabad, India

The 3-day event showcases the latest products and offers the opportunity to meet wood, wood working professionals. By interacting with professionals in the field of agriculture, forestry, and business services industries here visitors can develop ideas for increasing the range and quality of one's business.

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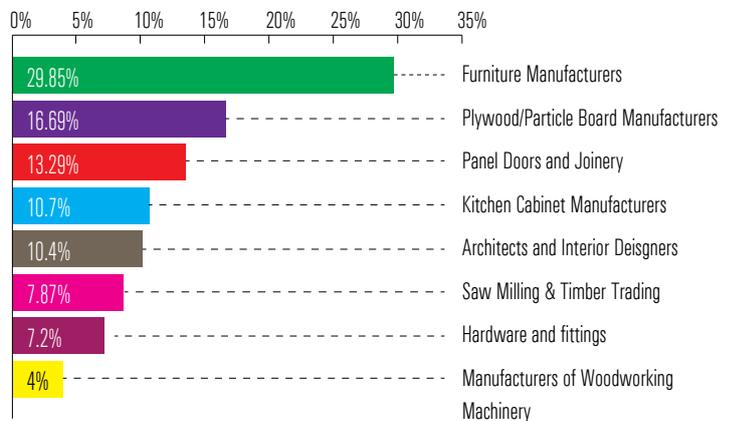
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| 3 Commercial Building | 4 Container Yard | 8 Police Station | 9 Fire Station |
| 5 Kiln Drying | | | 10 Clinic |



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