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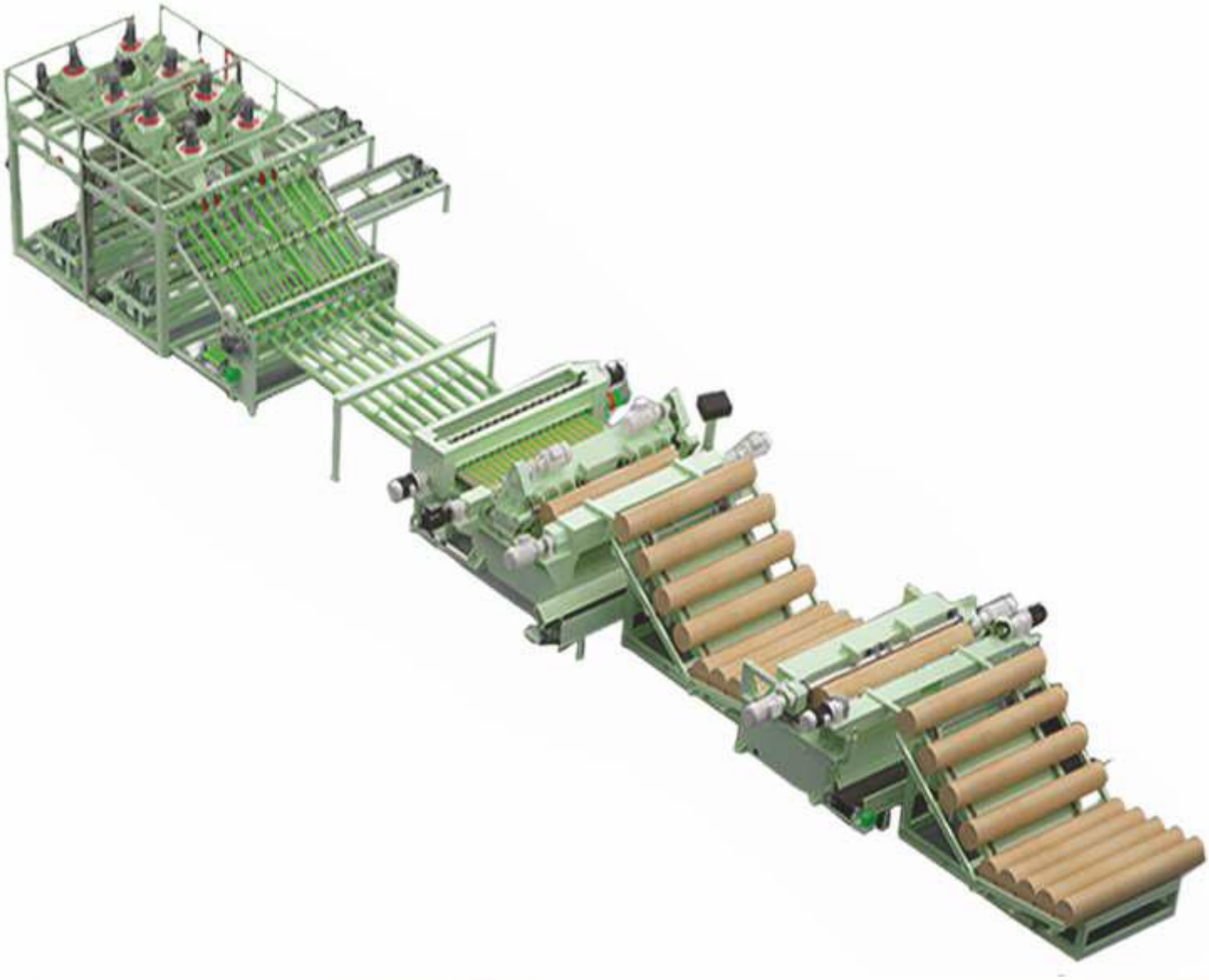
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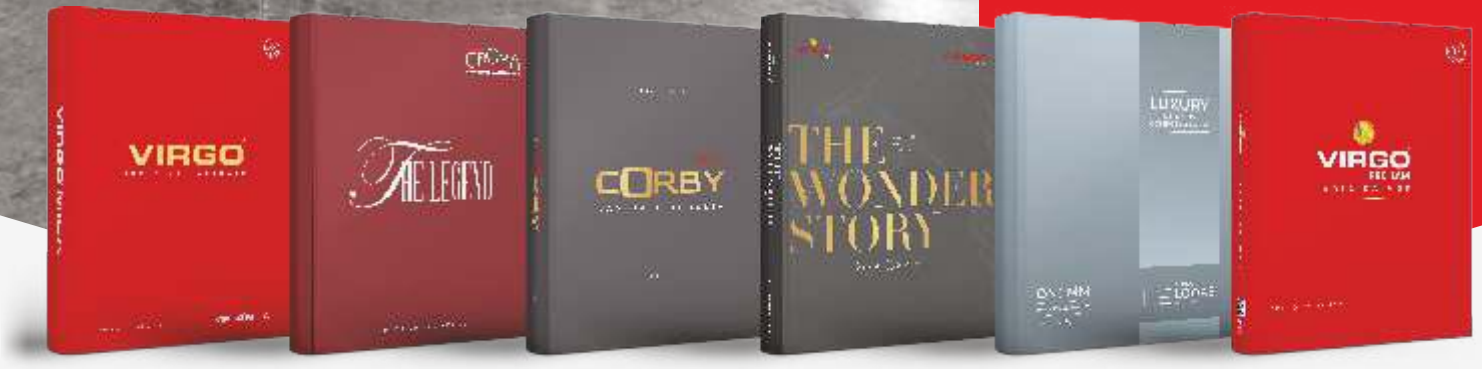
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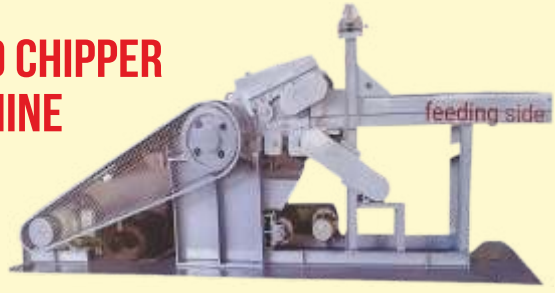
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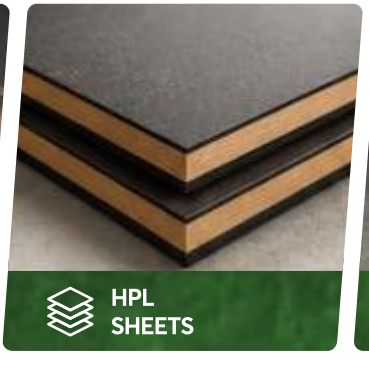
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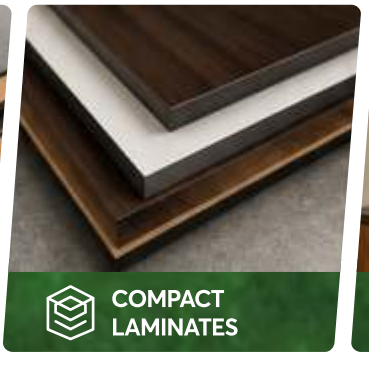
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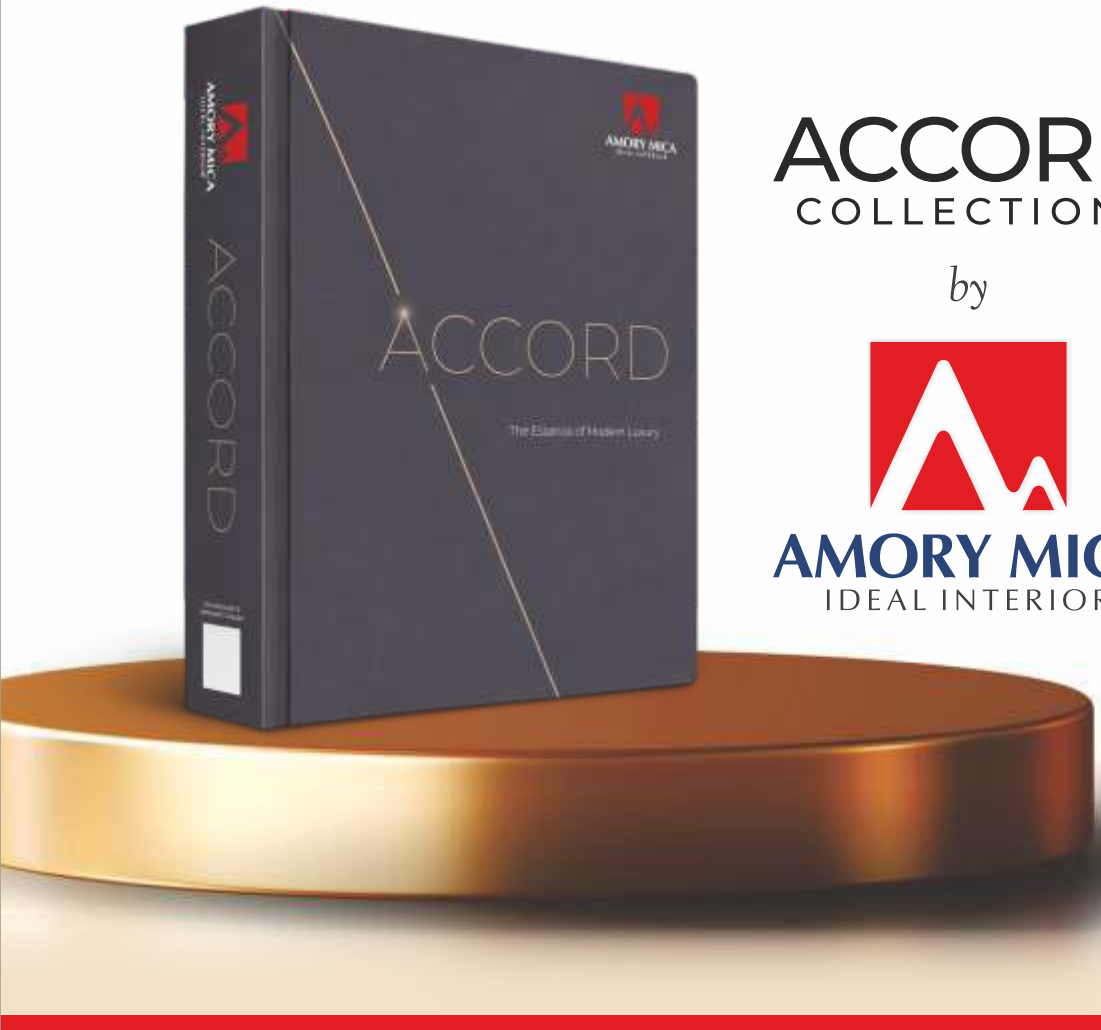
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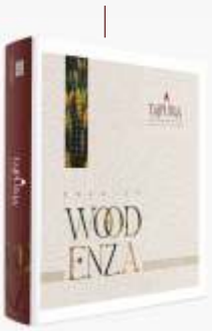
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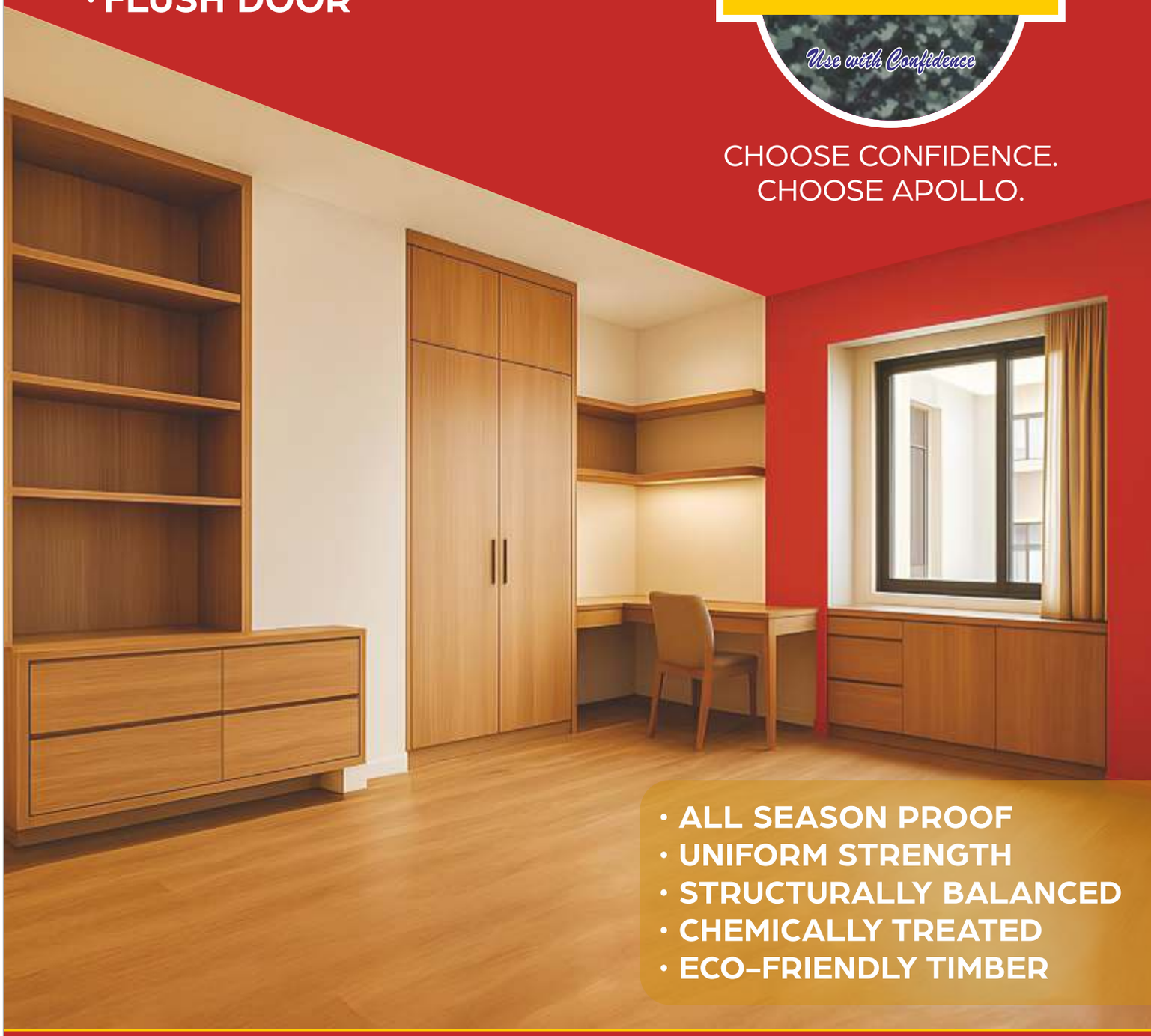
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Flags Laminate Price Hikes as Raw Material Costs Surge



Surinder Arora
President, ILMA

Ahmedabad headquartered Indian Laminate Manufacturers Association (ILMA) has issued an advisory signalling an increase in laminate prices, citing a sustained rise in raw material costs that is squeezing production margins across the industry.

According to the association, headed by Surinder Arora, President of ILMA and Managing Director, Virgo Group, minimum cost additions have been calculated for different laminate thicknesses to reflect the escalating input expenses. For 0.7mm laminates, the net cost is set to rise by Rs 15 plus GST, while 0.8mm laminates will see an increase of Rs 20 plus GST. Thicker variants face steeper hikes, with 0.9mm laminates rising by Rs 25 plus GST and 1.00mm laminates by Rs 30 plus GST.

ILMA said the adjustments were necessary given the "relentless rise" in raw material rates, which have been steadily pushing up the cost of manufacturing finished laminate products. The association's Board Members are said to be closely tracking the situation and evaluating its ongoing impact on the sector.

ILMA urged member companies to stay alert and coordinate with broader industry measures as the cost environment continues to evolve. However, the association was careful to clarify that the advisory is intended only as general guidance for the industry, and not as a binding directive.

Each manufacturer, ILMA noted, must arrive at its own commercial decision based on individual costing structures, production efficiencies and market positioning. The association emphasised that industry stakeholders are best placed to determine the appropriate response for their own operations, in tune with the suggested cost framework.

The move comes amid a broader trend of input cost pressures affecting manufacturing sectors reliant on paper, resin and chemical-based raw materials, many of which have seen price volatility in recent months. For laminate producers already navigating competitive pricing pressures, the advisory offers a benchmark, even as the final pricing call rests with individual companies.

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Anti-Dumping Duties (ADDs)

India Proposes ADDs on Chinese Melamine

India has moved closer to imposing antidumping duties (ADDs) on melamine imports from China, with the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) recommending duties ranging from $245 to $403 per tonne for five years. The recommendation follows an investigation initiated in September 2025 after a complaint from Gujarat State Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd. (GSFC).

The DGTR's final findings on the melamine investigation were issued on 28th September 2026. The agency's investigation examined imports from China following allegations that dumped imports were causing injury to the domestic industry.

GSFC is currently India's sole domestic melamine producer, with three plants having a combined production capacity of 55,000 tonnes per year. According to the investigation findings as reported by industry sources, GSFC has been forced to suspend production at two plants with combined capacity of 15,000 tonnes per year amid pressure from imported material.

Melamine is an important industrial chemical used in the production of melamine-formaldehyde resins. These resins are widely used in decorative and industrial laminates because they provide properties such as hardness and resistance to scratches, stains, water, and heat.

The proposed duties could therefore have implications for the plywood, laminate, furniture, and decorative surfaces industries, where melamine-based resins are key inputs. Manufacturers and resin producers are likely to assess the potential effect on sourcing costs and downstream pricing if the duties are eventually implemented.

The recommendation now moves to the Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance, which will decide whether to impose the duties. The DGTR's action is therefore a recommendation rather than a final customs duty at this stage.

India has previously applied anti dumping measures on Chinese melamine, with duties imposed for five years in 2004 and subsequently extended in 2010 and 2016. In August 2021, the DGTR again recommended duties, but the government did not ultimately impose them.

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HDMA

Plywood Makers Raise Film Face Prices by Rs 2 per Sqft

The Haryana Densified Manufacturers Association (HDMA) has announced a price increase of Rs 2 per square foot on Film Face (12mm) Plywood, citing mounting raw material costs that manufacturers say have become unsustainable to absorb.

The decision was finalised by mutual consent among members at a full body meeting held in Yamunanagar on 19th September, with the revised pricing to be applied according to each product's respective weight and thickness.

Association members pointed to a combination of external pressures driving the hike. Persistent volatility in global sea freight rates, compounded by a sharp rise in petrochemical prices linked to the ongoing conflict in West Asia, has pushed up the cost of key inputs, particularly phenol and formaldehyde, over the past few weeks. Both chemicals are critical to plywood manufacturing and have seen uncontrolled price escalation, according to the association.

HDMA said manufacturers have reached a threshold beyond which further raw material and chemical cost increases from importers can no longer be absorbed without compromising production standards. The price revision, it said, was made in the interest of maintaining consistent product quality despite the challenging cost environment.



The association has appealed to channel partners, including distributors and dealers, to extend cooperation and support during this period of uncertainty, stressing that a collaborative approach is essential to keeping industry operations running smoothly.

The move reflects wider pressures facing India's wood panel and plywood sector, where manufacturers have increasingly had to contend with imported chemical costs tied to global supply chain disruptions and geopolitical instability. With freight and petrochemical markets showing little sign of near-term stabilisation, industry watchers suggest further price actions from regional manufacturing associations may follow in the coming months as producers work to protect margins while sustaining output quality.

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Kerala HC Halts Fresh Licences, Pending Final Wood Availability Report

Court directs no new licences until Kerala Forest Research Institute submits final assessment, as NMPDMA challenges committee's compliance with Ext.P6 Rules.

The Kerala High Court has directed that no fresh licences be issued to wood-based industries in the state until the Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI) submits its final report assessing wood availability, in compliance with the Rules. The order came on an interim relief plea filed by the North Malabar Plywood & Door Manufacturers Association (NMPDMA) and other industry stakeholders.

The petitioners' senior counsel argued that Rules mandate the constitution of a State Level Committee to assess wood availability before any license is granted to wood-based units. While Ext.P7 purported to set up this committee, the petitioners contended that officers had not actually been nominated, rendering the committee non-functional. They sought a halt on fresh licences until the committee was properly constituted and its legal requirements fulfilled.

The state, however, submitted that relevant departments have since nominated officers, effectively bringing the State Level Committee into operation. KFRI has been



tasked with conducting the wood availability study, and two interim reports have already been submitted, with the final report still pending. The Special Government Pleader (Forest) assured the court that fresh licenses would be issued only after the final KFRI report is received and Rule requirements are satisfied.

Taking these submissions on record, the Court ordered that no new licences be granted to industries covered under Ext.P6 Rules until the final report is obtained and compliance is ensured. The interim order remains subject to the petitioners' objection that KFRI is not a legally competent body under the Rules to conduct such a study, leaving the matter open for further judicial scrutiny.

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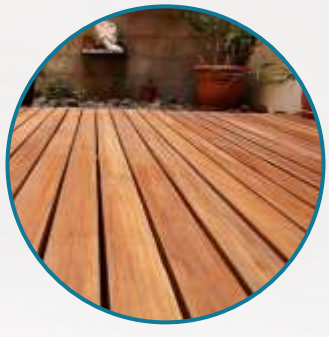
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PVC Edgeband

Prices Rise 10% as AIEMA Cites Raw Material Uncertainty

The All India Edgeband Manufacturers Association (AIEMA) has advised its member companies to raise product prices by 10% with immediate effect from 8th September, citing persistent uncertainty over the availability and cost of key raw materials.

In a communication to members, the Association attributed the decision to ongoing disruptions in global supply chains, which it said have been aggravated by an unresolved international conflict continuing to affect logistics networks worldwide. Since a significant share of raw materials and chemicals used in domestic edgeband production is imported, manufacturers have been directly exposed to these fluctuations.

According to the Association, raw material prices have been climbing steadily since the beginning of August 2026 and have now crossed levels that domestic producers can reasonably absorb without compromising margins or product quality. "The input cost burden has reached a point where manufacturers can no longer sustain current pricing without impacting production standards," the advisory noted, adding that the price correction was necessary to preserve consistency in output.

Industry observers say the edgeband sector, a critical supplier to India's furniture



and interior manufacturing industries, has been particularly sensitive to import cost volatility given its reliance on PVC-based raw materials sourced largely from overseas markets. A sustained rise in landed costs, compounded by freight and currency pressures, has left manufacturers with limited room to absorb further cost escalation internally.

AIEMA said it would continue to track global logistics developments and raw material trends, and would issue further guidance to members should market conditions change. The Association did not specify whether the price increase would be reviewed or revised in the coming months, but indicated that further communication would follow "as the situation evolves."

The price hike is expected to have a cascading effect on downstream furniture and interior manufacturing costs, industry sources said, though the full impact on retail pricing remains to be seen.



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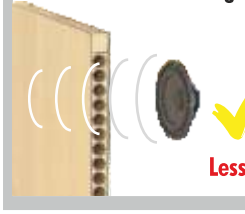
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NMPDMA

Kerala CM Urged to Boost Wood Raw Material Resources in the State

The North Malabar Plywood and Doors Manufacturers Association (NMPDMA) presented a memorandum to CM V. D. Satheesan, seeking policy reforms to promote agro-forestry and ease timber plantation norms.

NMPDMA met Kerala Chief Minister V. D. Satheesan on 9th September, 2026, presenting a memorandum highlighting the urgent need to augment wood raw material resources across the state.

The delegation pressed for the utilisation of non-forest degraded lands, unused government and public lands, fallow lands, and private lands to promote agro-forestry and social-forestry initiatives centred on native species such as Malabar Neem (Melia Dubia), Anjali, and Mahogany. The Association emphasised that such an approach would simultaneously address raw material shortages while safeguarding the state's biodiversity.

The representation called for a detailed due diligence and techno-commercial study to assess the feasibility of these proposals, alongside policy reforms aimed at easing regulations around timber plantation and harvest across Kerala. Association members argued that simplifying these processes would encourage greater investor participation in farm-wood and social forestry-based wood production, ultimately strengthening domestic raw material availability for the wood-based panel industry.

H. Vaidyanathan, technical advisor to the Association, briefed the Chief Minister on the wood-based industry's decades-long, understated contribution to rural livelihoods and plantation development in Kerala. He also highlighted the sector's role in nurturing technical expertise through academic collaborations, including Kannur University's Wood Science & Technology master's programme.

The delegation included NMPDMA President T. P. Narayanan, Chairman Vasudevan, Secretary Abdul Gafoor, and Treasurer Zainudeen.

The meeting signals a renewed push by the plywood industry to secure long-term raw material sustainability in Kerala, with the Association hopeful that policy support and land-use reforms could pave the way for a more self-reliant timber ecosystem in the years ahead.

The delegation pressed for the utilisation of non-forest degraded lands, unused government and public lands, fallow lands, and private lands to promote agro-forestry and social-forestry initiatives

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Arishply Industries

Opens plywood plant in Chakri in Siwan, Bihar, 300 jobs expected

Arishply Industries Private Limited formally opened its manufacturing plant at Chakri Bazar in Siwan district on Tuesday. Bihar's Industries Minister Shreyasi Singh inaugurated the unit as chief guest.

The plant, spread over roughly 70,000 square feet in Raghunathpur block, will make high-quality plywood, block board, solid commercial ply and doors. Management plans round-the-clock production, and the unit is expected to create direct and indirect jobs for 100 to 300 people. Capital investment is reported at ₹6 crore to ₹15 crore.

Managing Director Uday Pandey said the company aims to supply quality ply board and doors at reasonable prices. It is initially targeting markets in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha, with a special focus on Bihar, where he said the potential for growth is immense.

S. Singh said the government has now moved on to promoting industry and employment, after strengthening basic facilities such as electricity, roads and water under Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. She added that Bihar's changing picture did not come about in a day, and that efforts are under way to encourage industry in every district so that young people find work close to home.

Senior BJP leader Mrityunjay Tiwari called the unit an important step for the



region. He said it would create opportunities for local youth, accelerate economic development, and carry the benefits of government industrial policy to rural areas.

Sikta MLA Samriddhi Verma, former Raghunathpur MLA Harishankar Yadav and industrialist Kundan Dubey were among those present, along with district industry officials and local dignitaries. The plant is also expected to benefit transport, raw-material supply and small local businesses.



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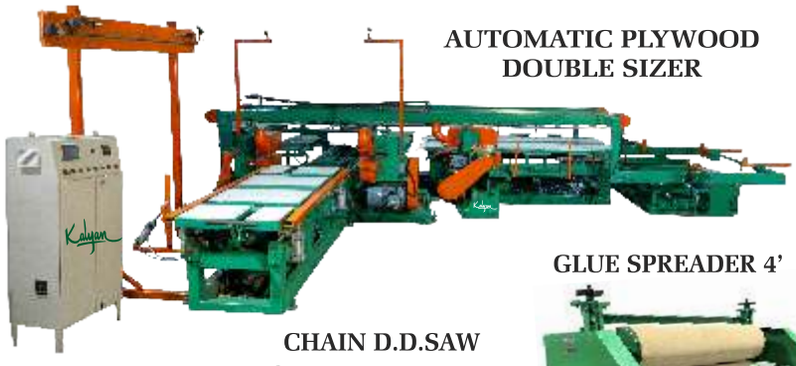




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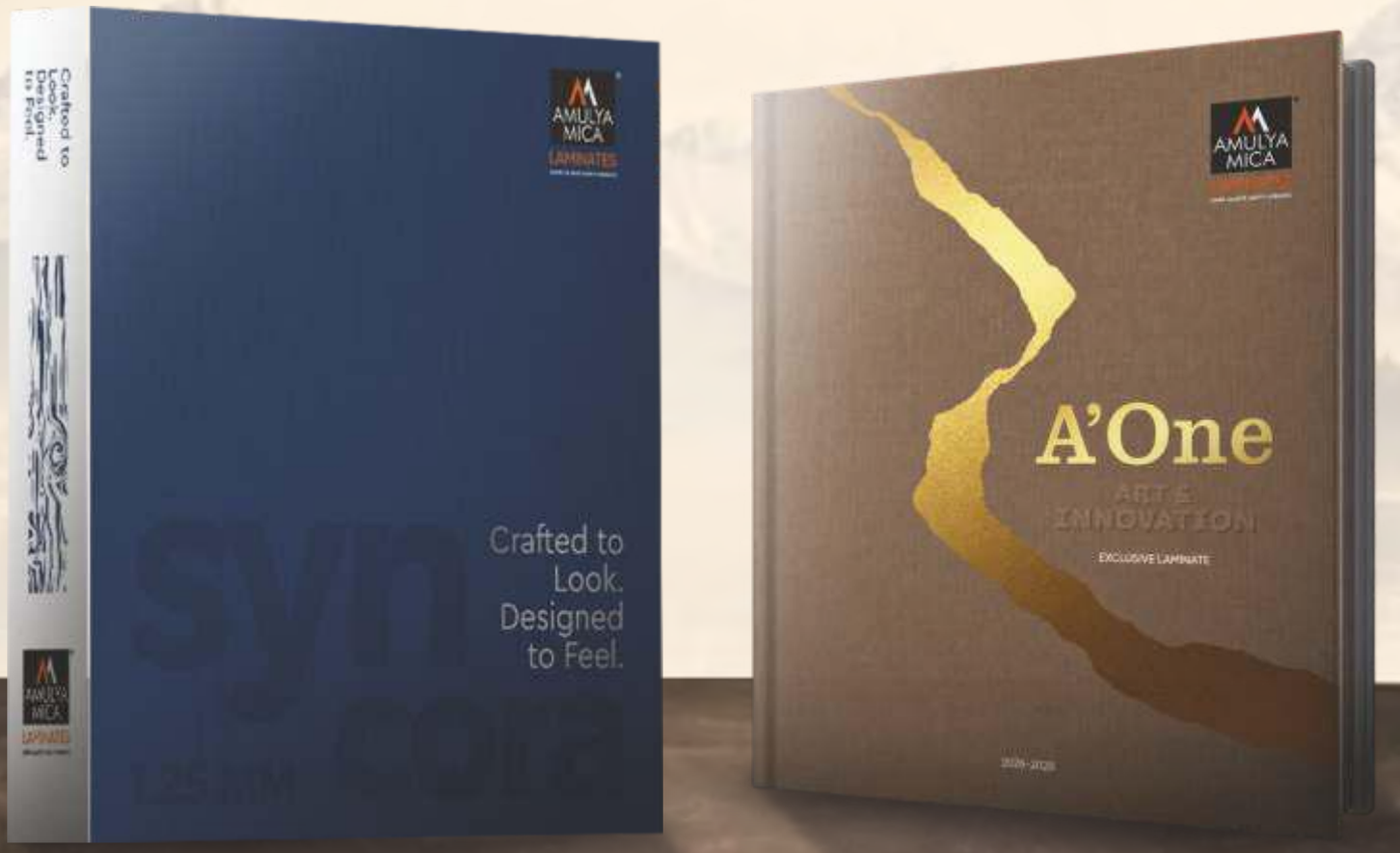
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Amulya Mica

Unveils A'ONE and SYNCORA Laminate Collections in Delhi, Charts New Design Story

Recently, Amulya Mica brought together its extended business and design fraternity in Delhi on 19th September 2026 for an evening of product innovation, partnerships and forward-looking conversation. In an industry where laminates are increasingly judged not merely as surfaces but as elements of design, experience and expression, this was a difference.



Held at The Leela, Delhi, the event drew more than 400 delegates, including distributors, dealers, architects, interior designers, business associates and members of the design fraternity, alongside Amulya Mica's leadership and senior sales team. The event was centred on the launch of the company's newly curated 1.00 mm A'ONE and





1.25 mm SYNCORA laminate collections, unveiled under the company's larger strategic vision, Mission 200K.

The evening was designed as more than a catalogue launch. From ceremonial lamp lighting, a Ganesh Vandana and the National Anthem to the product unveiling, partner recognition and presentations on the company's evolving retail and design strategy, the proceedings brought manufacturing, distribution, design, technology and relationships onto a single platform. Guests were welcomed with high tea and interactive experiences including a canvas activity, photo booth, video-byte zone, caricature booth and personalised fridge-magnet station, with a flash mob and Colours of India performance lending an energetic tone to the formal programme.

Welcoming the gathering, Rakesh





Agarwal, Managing Director, Amulya Mica Industries Pvt. Ltd., placed partnership and collective progress at the centre of his address, acknowledging the contributions of distributors, dealers, architects, designers and colleagues in building the Amulya Mica journey. He said changing consumer expectations and the growing influence of architects and designers require manufacturers to look beyond product supply toward a more informed and experiential buying journey, while reaffirming the company's focus on manufacturing capability, technology and capacity expansion.

That theme fed into the evening's larger narrative, Mission 200K, which Director Abhishek Agarwal and VP (Sales) S K Tharad described as a shared business ambition requiring manufacturing strength, an energised sales organisation and empowered dealers working in tandem to create scale.

The unveiling itself featured Dr Ujjwal Patni, and Director (Marketing) Shailja Agarwal Todi, among others, who together





captured the launch's essence: "One launch. Two distinct sell stories. One stronger portfolio."

The A'ONE 1.00 mm Premium Laminate Collection has been developed as a broader, more contemporary design library, expanding to 562 final pieces with 43 new





décor papers and 15 new textures, including Cork, Interweave, Abstract Linear and Quilted Maple, alongside décor stories spanning Sucupira, Walnut, Oak, Teak and Liquid Metal expressions. Where A'ONE emphasises breadth, SYNCORA 1.25 mm is positioned around depth and tactile experience, growing to 92 décor papers and 41 textures under the line "Crafted to Look. Designed to Feel." tracing back to Amulya Mica's first synchronised laminate launch in Bali in 2015.

Shailja Agarwal Todi connected the launch to a broader shift in the laminate buying environment, noting that product presentation is becoming as important as availability, citing the company's growing







Experience Centre initiative and visualisation tools such as Click & Look. Amulya Mica aims to expand this gallery concept into Tier-II and Tier-III markets, complemented by Amit Burman's presentation on designer and influencer engagement.

Dr Patni's business session addressed entrepreneurs and channel partners directly, offering practical frameworks on USP, KPIs and customer relationships, while fifty channel partners were recognised with an exclusive Switzerland trip, and delegates participated in a Delhi Darshan the following day.



Ultimately, the Delhi launch represented more than two new folders: A'ONE brings greater design breadth, SYNCORA deepens décor-texture synchronisation, and Mission 200K provides the overarching framework, reflecting Amulya Mica's belief that in a crowded laminate market, the real differentiator lies in curating, communicating and connecting better.

Modak Ply

Introduces Next-Generation NEFC Boards

Modak Composites LLP has introduced Modak NEFC (Natural Engineered Fibre Composite), a next-generation engineered material designed as an alternative to conventional wood-based panels. Combining natural fibres with advanced polymer technology, the NEFC board is positioned for applications where durability, dimensional stability and resistance to environmental conditions are important.

Says Gagan Aggarwal, Director (Sales), "Modak NEFC offers resistance to water, moisture, termites, borers, fungi and harsh weather conditions. Unlike conventional wood-based products, the material is engineered to resist swelling, cracking, splintering, warping and rotting. It is available in thicknesses of 6 mm, 12 mm, 16 mm and 18 mm."

"The board is promoted for both indoor and outdoor applications and features fire-retardant properties, UV resistance, mouldability, high impact strength and high density. It also offers screw-holding capacity for carpentry applications. According to Modak Composites, the product is recyclable and designed with zero VOC and zero formaldehyde emissions, aligning with growing demand for performance-oriented and environmentally conscious building materials."



Gagan Aggarwal, M.D. (Sales)

"Compared with standard MDF, NEFC is resistant to water, termites, borers and fungal growth, along with its suitability for exterior applications. Its dimensional stability is intended to support long-term use in humid or wet environments while reducing maintenance requirements".

The NEFC is a flexible panel solution incorporating advanced composite technology and eco-friendly materials. The product is ideal for construction, interiors and other applications requiring durable panel solutions.

Modak Composites' wider product portfolio includes calibrated, marine, Gurjan and fire-face plywood, Modak Glitz mirror-gloss film-face plywood, NEFC boards, doors and door frames, natural veneers, particle boards, PVC laminates and WPC products.

Calibration

The Invisible Craft Behind Every Flawless Interior

Tajpuria highlights how calibrated plywood, precise and uniform, quietly determines the difference between an average finish and a premium one.

When it comes to planning a dream home or workspace, attention naturally gravitates toward laminates, colour palettes, and statement furniture. Yet the real determinant of a flawless interior often lies beneath all of that, in a process most consumers never think to ask about: calibration.

Calibration refers to the manufacturing process that ensures plywood boards maintain uniform thickness across their entire surface. It's an attribute invisible to the untrained eye, yet one that has an outsized bearing on how an interior ultimately performs and looks. A calibrated surface allows laminates to adhere evenly, eliminating the uneven patches, gaps, and surface undulations that can undermine even the most carefully designed kitchen, wardrobe, wall panelling, or office furniture. It also enables cleaner edge alignment and more precise joinery, both essential to achieving a seamless finish.

Beyond aesthetics, calibration has practical implications for durability and efficiency. It supports more accurate machining, reduces material wastage during



fabrication, and speeds up installation, benefits that carpenters, architects, and interior designers increasingly value for the consistency and reliability it brings to their craft.

Tajpuria has built its plywood offering around this principle, positioning calibrated boards as the foundation of its promise of precision, strength, and premium finish. The brand's philosophy centres on combining innovation, durability, and aesthetics into a single manufacturing standard.

Reinforcing this positioning is brand ambassador Ranvijay Singha, whose reputation for confidence and reliability aligns with the trust-driven image Tajpuria seeks to project in the market.

Ultimately, the message is a simple one: a beautiful interior isn't defined by décor alone, but by the quality of what lies beneath it. As Tajpuria's positioning suggests, calibration isn't a feature; it's the foundation everything else stands on.

Yamuna Nagar

Sees 22% Drop in Agriculture-Grade Urea Consumption, Signals Shift Toward Urea-Free Resins

Industry trials of urea-free resin technology show promise as plywood sector eyes lower emissions and reduced dependence on conventional raw materials.

Yamuna Nagar has recorded a notable decline in the consumption of subsidised agriculture-grade urea during FY 2025-26, according to Point of Sale (POS) data from the Haryana Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department. Total urea consumption in the district fell in 2024-25 compared to 2025-26, quite a major drop.

Industry sources attribute much of this shift to growing research interest in urea-free resin technology within the plywood sector. Initial industrial trials have shown encouraging results, suggesting strong potential for commercial-scale adoption in the coming years. Urea-free resins can be formulated using materials such as soya protein, wheat flour, melamine, lignin, and starch, among other reactive chemicals, offering manufacturers an alternative route that reduces reliance on conventional urea-based inputs.

Parallel research is also underway on soya-based and other bio-based materials aimed at reducing formaldehyde emissions from wood-based panels, a long-standing environmental and health concern in the panel manufacturing industry.

If adopted at scale, urea-free resin technology could deliver a range of benefits for the plywood sector nationally, including reduced dependence on urea-based resins, opportunities to lower production costs, greater manufacturing flexibility, and the potential to produce plywood with significantly lower emissions.

Taken together, the decline in urea consumption in Yamuna Nagar and the parallel advances in urea-free resin research point toward a broader shift in the industry's raw material strategy, one that could steer plywood manufacturing toward a more sustainable and cost-efficient future, provided commercial-scale adoption keeps pace with early trial results.

If adopted at scale, urea-free resin technology could deliver a range of benefits for the plywood sector nationally

BIS Certification

Quality norms roll out; MSEs get fee concession

Mandatory Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification under the Furniture Quality Control Order (QCO) will come into force for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) operating small-scale furniture units from 13th August, 2026. To ease the transition, small-scale domestic units have been granted a 50% concession on BIS marking fees, a move aimed at softening the compliance burden on smaller manufacturers.

The furniture QCO covers a wide product range, requiring alignment with notified standards including IS 17632 for work chairs, IS 17633 for general-purpose chairs and stools, IS 17634 for tables and desks, IS 17635 for storage units such as wardrobes and cabinets, and IS 17636 for beds and bunk beds. The order builds on earlier Quality Control Orders implemented across other product categories, extending the same regulatory rigour to furniture manufacturing.

How the furniture segment absorbs this shift remains to be seen, given the industry's fragmented, largely unorganised structure, particularly among smaller producers who may lack the infrastructure or resources for immediate certification. Industry watchers note that enforcement and awareness at the grassroots level will be key



determinants of how smoothly the transition unfolds.

That said, the QCO is widely expected to work in favour of small and medium enterprises over the medium term, pushing them toward standardised, quality-assured production. As compliance becomes the norm, demand for key raw materials feeding into furniture manufacturing, including MDF, particle board, plywood, laminate, adhesive, edge band, liner laminate, and WPC boards, is expected to see a noticeable uptick.

For an industry long criticised for inconsistent quality benchmarks, the QCO could mark a turning point, provided implementation matches intent.

World Bamboo Day 2026

Seven New Ambassadors Named as Global Movement Grows

The World Bamboo Organization (WBO) marked World Bamboo Day on 18th September by welcoming seven new bamboo ambassadors, bringing the total number to 55 worldwide. The organisation also confirmed that the 13th World Bamboo Congress will take place in Rotterdam, Netherlands, from 7th to 11th June 2027, hosted by Summum Engineering.

This year's theme, "Bamboo for a Regenerative Future: A Global Call to Grow, Build and Prosper with Nature," called on governments, businesses, researchers and communities to recognise bamboo as a strategic resource for climate action, ecological restoration and sustainable development. Established in 2009, World Bamboo Day has grown into an international platform highlighting bamboo's contribution to both people and the planet.

The WBO emphasised that the message for 2026 is one of urgency and acceleration, arguing that solutions to climate and development challenges already exist within bamboo's expanding applications across construction, furniture, textiles, paper, energy and emerging bio-based technologies. When responsibly managed, the organisation said, bamboo can help restore degraded landscapes, generate rural livelihoods, support circular economies and provide renewable alternatives to carbon-intensive materials.

Central to this year's campaign was a focus on the people behind bamboo's global value chain, farmers, artisans, architects, scientists and entrepreneurs, whose work transforms bamboo from raw material into economic opportunity. The WBO stressed that development must go beyond increasing production, calling instead for inclusive value chains that ensure local communities meaningfully benefit from bamboo's growth.

The organisation also issued a broader appeal for cross-sector collaboration, urging governments to craft enabling policies, researchers to expand scientific understanding, and companies to build responsible supply chains. Celebrations worldwide took various forms, including bamboo planting, workshops and community exhibitions, reflecting what the WBO described as a shared global movement rooted in one plant with far-reaching possibilities.

Central to this year's campaign was a focus on the people behind bamboo's global value chain, farmers, artisans, architects, scientists and entrepreneurs, whose work transforms bamboo from raw material into economic opportunity

FIPPI

Joins ICFRE Workshop on Carbon Accounting Methodology for Agroforestry

The Federation of Indian Plywood & Panel Industry (FIPPI), in collaboration with the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), participated in a Consultation Workshop on the Draft Methodology on Carbon Accounting for Agroforestry in India, held on 23rd September at Van Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

The workshop convened a diverse group of stakeholders, including policymakers, retired Indian Forest Service officers, scientists from leading research institutions, representatives from the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), carbon project development agencies such as VARHAA, and industry leaders, all working toward developing a scientifically robust framework for agroforestry-based carbon credits under India's Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS).

A key highlight of the session was a presentation by Saurav Didi, Director at BEE, who outlined the Offset Mechanism under CCTS, emphasising its potential to strengthen the Indian Carbon Market while opening new opportunities for the agroforestry sector.

This was followed by detailed technical discussions led by ICFRE scientists on the draft carbon accounting methodology, during which participants offered extensive



feedback aimed at refining the framework further.

A strong consensus emerged among attendees that the methodology should prioritise farmer benefit, enabling farmers to earn carbon credits for farm-grown timber and thereby create an additional income stream that encourages broader adoption of agroforestry practices.

Participants also stressed that the framework must remain industry-friendly, given that wood-based industries will play a central role in implementing the methodology at the ground level. The initiative's long-term success, they noted, will depend on seamless adoption by both farmers and industry stakeholders.

FIPPI reaffirmed its commitment to collaborating with all stakeholders to build a robust agroforestry carbon ecosystem, one that supports farmer prosperity, secures sustainable raw material supply, and advances India's broader climate action goals.

Indian Chamber of Commerce

98th AGM with Leadership Transition, and Felicitation

The Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) held its 98th Annual General Meeting and Annual Session recently, drawing together an eminent gathering of industry leaders, dignitaries and business stalwarts to mark a significant milestone in the Chamber's century-long history.

Gautam Adani, Chairman of the Adani Group, was felicitated as Chief Guest at the session, where he outlined his vision for Bengal's economic growth, including the Group's proposed investments across the state. His remarks underscored the region's growing importance in the industrialist's broader expansion plans.

The evening also saw the launch of ICC's Centenary Book, a commemorative publication celebrating one hundred years of the Chamber's journey and its contribution to Indian industry and commerce.

In a defining moment for the organisation, the session marked a change in leadership, with Parthiv Neotia, Managing Director, Ambuja Neotia Group taking over as President of the Indian Chamber of Commerce from outgoing President Brij Bhushan Agarwal. The transition signals a new chapter for the Chamber as it moves into its next century of operations.

Alongside Neotia, the newly elected office bearers include Keshav Bhajanka, who takes on the role of Senior Vice President, and



Keshav Bhajanka, Century Ply with Gautam Adani, Adani Group

Gyanesh Chaudhary, appointed Vice President. Their induction reflects ICC's continued efforts to bring dynamic leadership into its governance structure as it navigates evolving economic priorities across West Bengal and the wider region.

The 98th AGM and Annual Session reinforced ICC's position as one of India's oldest and most influential business chambers, with the presence of prominent figures like G. Adani highlighting the growing convergence between industry, policy and regional development. As the Chamber approaches its centenary, its new leadership team is expected to steer ICC's engagement with government and industry stakeholders into its next phase of growth.

Euro Pratik

To Acquire 56% Stake in Fab Wood, Marking Entry into Timber Business

Euro Pratik Sales Limited, a leading organised player in decorative wall panels and laminates, announced on 23rd September, 2026 that it will acquire a 56% controlling stake in Fab Wood, a South India-focused timber and value-added wood products business, in a deal marking the company's strategic entry into the premium timber segment.

The transaction, valued at an aggregate investment of ₹42.70 crore, including a capital infusion of ₹8.40 crore in Fabwood Solutions LLP, is expected to close by 8th October 2026, subject to customary conditions. The acquisition will be funded in phases through internal accruals, reflecting Euro Pratik's strong balance sheet and cash-generation capability.

Founded in 1999, Fab Wood has built a significant presence across South India, offering timber, engineered wood solutions, cladding products, doors and other architectural wood applications. Its client base spans architects, interior designers, furniture manufacturers, contractors, builders, OEMs and homeowners.

Pratik Singhvi, Chairman and Managing Director of Euro Pratik, called the acquisition an important step in the company's growth strategy, noting it follows earlier acquisitions of URO Veneer World and Chawla Brothers. He said Fab Wood's regional strength and industry relationships complement Euro Pratik's distribution network, creating opportunities for cross-selling and broader market access.

Singhvi added that the company remains debt-free with strong internal cash generation, positioning it well for continued value-accretive expansion. He outlined plans to scale Fab Wood beyond South India using Euro Pratik's pan-India distribution capabilities.

The deal represents Euro Pratik's third strategic acquisition in a short span, reinforcing its focused approach toward geographic expansion and product diversification. Together, the companies aim to build an integrated interior decorative and surface solutions platform, offering customers a broader product range through a single trusted partner.

PLY GAZETTE
MONTHLY REPORT ON THE INDIAN PANEL AND SURFACE INDUSTRY

Prices Surge in South India, Squeezing Plywood Manufacturers

Timber prices across southern India have risen sharply over the past two months, with industry stakeholders attributing the spike to reduced log availability during the monsoon season, a development that is now weighing heavily on plywood manufacturing operations in Karnataka and Kerala.

According to industry sources, log cutting activity typically halts during the rainy months, disrupting the regular supply chain and creating upward pressure on prices across multiple wood species. The resulting shortage has begun to directly affect production schedules at plywood units throughout the region.

Dr Prashanth M A, Director at AK Appleply Pvt Ltd, said “Rubber wood prices have risen by 10%, while Silver Oak has seen a steeper 20% increase. He added that prices for other mixed wood varieties have climbed between 15% and 20% in key timber markets, including Perumbavoor and Kannur in Kerala, as well as parts of Karnataka”.

"Usually the availability of timber is affected in the current monsoon season, consequently the functioning of the plywood unit is impacted in such a scenario," Dr Prashanth noted, underscoring the seasonal nature of the disruption while acknowledging its compounding effect on an already strained supply chain.



Industry observers point out that this latest price surge comes on top of persistently high raw material costs that manufacturers have grappled with in recent months. As a result, plywood producers may be compelled to explore alternative sourcing strategies, including procuring species such as Melia Dubia from neighbouring states or turning to imported timber from overseas suppliers to offset domestic shortages.

With the monsoon season expected to continue affecting log harvesting in the coming weeks, manufacturers in the region are likely to face ongoing cost pressures, potentially influencing plywood pricing and availability in downstream markets across southern India.

Action Tesa

Carpenters' Day Celebrated at Over 50 Locations, New Welfare Schemes Unveiled

Action TESA marked Carpenters' Day on 24th September, 2026 by expanding its celebrations to more than 50 locations across the country, continuing an initiative the company began in 2024 to honour and support carpenters as the backbone of the furniture industry.

In a heartfelt video message addressed to carpenters nationwide, Ajay Aggarwal, Action TESA's Managing Director spoke not as a company executive but, in his words, "as a member of your family." He acknowledged that while Action TESA manufactures boards, it is carpenters who bring those boards to life through their skill and craftsmanship, describing them as "not just carpenters" but "the life of our industry."

The company noted that it was the first in the country to dedicate an annual celebration specifically to carpenters, but stressed that meaningful relationships are built through sustained commitment rather than a single day of recognition. In line with this philosophy, Action TESA announced four major welfare schemes for carpenters associated with its Tessa Connect programme.

The initiatives include financial contribution towards carpenters' daughters'



weddings, support for children's higher education, access to carpentry training courses with job placement assistance, and accidental insurance coverage in case of unforeseen incidents. The company described the package as "a small gift" aimed at deepening its relationship with the carpentry community.

The Managing Director emphasised that the company's intent extends beyond a professional association, expressing a desire to be part of carpenters' lives, not merely their work. He extended greetings to carpenters on behalf of the entire Action TESA family, reaffirming the company's commitment to moving forward together.

Indeed, Action TESA's Carpenters' Day initiative reflects a broader industry push to formally recognise and invest in the welfare of skilled tradespeople who remain vital to furniture manufacturing across India.

ICFRE-IWST

Campus Placement Drive for 36th PG Diploma Batch on 30th October, 2026



The Institute of Wood Science and Technology (ICFRE-IWST) at its IPIRTI Campus in Bengaluru will hold a campus interview on 30th October 2026 for trainees of the 36th batch of its one-year Post Graduate Diploma Course in Wood and Panel Products Technology (PGD-WPPT). The institute has invited wood-based panel industries, allied industries and other organisations to take part in the placement drive.

An autonomous body under the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, ICFRE-IWST describes itself as a premier national research and training institute in plywood and panel

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products, equipped with well-established laboratory and pilot plant facilities. The institute says it has long supported the manpower needs of the growing panel industry, supplying trained professionals for roles such as production managers, quality control managers, marketing managers, team leaders and chemists.

The interviews will be conducted on campus at the IPIRTI facility, located behind Peenya Metro Station on HMT Link Road, off Tumkur Road, Yeshwanthpur. Interested companies have been asked to confirm their willingness to participate by email to dir_iwst@icfre.org and director.iwst@gmail.com.

Any corrigendum to the notification, along with trainees' biodata and other details, will be made available on the institute's website, iwst.icfre.gov.in. For further clarification, industry representatives may contact Ms. Sujatha D, Head of the PPPT Division, or Dr. Vinod Kumar Upadhyay, Scientist-E and Course Director, who has also requested that the notification be published for the benefit of trainees, industry members and other stakeholders.

With demand for skilled technical and managerial talent rising across India's panel sector, the campus placement offers manufacturers a direct route to recruiting trained graduates equipped with industry-relevant expertise in wood and panel products technology.

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SICAM 2026

Set to Open in Pordenone with Nearly 700 Exhibitors

Preparations are complete for the 17th edition of SICAM, the International Exhibition of Components, Semi-finished Products and Accessories for the Furniture Industry, which will run from 20th to 23rd October at the Pordenone exhibition centre. Exhibition space, spanning 20,000 net square metres, has been sold out for months, with 700 exhibitors confirmed, 32% of them from outside Italy.

Carolina Giobbi, Head of Marketing and Communications at SICAM, described the fair as a mature, well-established event recognised globally for connecting suppliers with buyers in what she called a relaxed, business-friendly atmosphere. Organisers expect visitor numbers to match last year's edition, when 24,000 attendees from 9,300 companies travelled to Pordenone, with 39% arriving from 112 countries.

This year's edition strengthens its international reach through a renewed partnership with the Italian Trade Agency (ITA), bringing delegations from Indonesia, Vietnam, South Africa, Canada and Mexico. Additional collaborations have secured attendance from Uzbekistan, the United States, Angola, and Asia-Pacific markets via the FIND-Design Fair Asia partnership. SICAM will also host the Kyiv International Furniture Summit, creating networking



opportunities for Ukrainian architects, designers and manufacturers.

The fair continues to operate on a turnkey model, offering exhibitors a comprehensive package that includes exhibit space, lighting, catering, catalogue inclusion, press support and international promotion, allowing companies to focus solely on business during the event.

Visitors can access the halls via free online registration, receiving a QR code for badge printing on-site. A complimentary shuttle service will run between the exhibition and Venice and Trieste airports, alongside dedicated SICAM welcome desks at both locations.

Alongside the exhibition, the "Enjoy Pordenone with SICAM" programme returns, offering evening events as the city prepares for its designation as Italy's Capital of Culture in 2027.

EGGER

Expands Italian Footprint with Acquisition of Recycling Firm Lenocart

Austrian wood-based materials manufacturer EGGER has acquired full ownership of Lenocart S.r.l., a recycling company based in the Milan metropolitan area, in a move to deepen its access to recycled wood in one of Italy's key economic regions. The deal, completed on 28 July 2026, sees EGGER take over 100% of Lenocart's shares, including its transport fleet, as part of the group's broader push to expand its international recycling network under the EGGER Timberpak brand.

Lenocart has long been a business partner of EGGER, and the acquisition builds on that relationship while laying the groundwork for further growth in Italy's recycling sector. Giuseppe Conti, Plant Director at EGGER's Caorso facility, said the Milan region holds strong potential for recycled wood collection, adding that the company aims to work with Lenocart's experienced team to advance circular resource use.

Operational control of the Lenocart site will remain with Dario Lenoci, whose family founded the business in the 1950s. Lenoci described EGGER as a partner that shares the company's values and supports long-term regional development.

The Lenocart facility currently collects around 10,000 tonnes of recycled wood annually, which will help supply EGGER's Caorso plant, where particleboard is manufactured entirely from recycled wood. The acquisition fits into EGGER's Timberpak network, which collects, sorts and pre-shreds recycled wood regionally before transporting it to EGGER plants for final processing.

Lenocart's origins trace back to founder Nicola Lenoci, who began collecting waste paper and textiles in Milan using a handcart. Over decades, he and his sons built the venture into a respected name in recyclable materials collection and trade. With the acquisition, Lenocart's employees join the EGGER Group, bringing decades of regional expertise into the company's expanding circular economy operations.

PLY GAZETTE
MONTHLY REPORT ON THE INDIAN PANEL AND SURFACE INDUSTRY

Art of Interior Transformation

Why Premium Veneers and Plywood Matter

Bhutan Tuff positions wood not merely as material but as narrative, betting on veneers and BWP-grade plywood to redefine modern Indian interiors.

In interior design, the foundation of a beautiful space rarely announces itself; it lies beneath the surface, quietly dictating not just aesthetics but longevity. Whether the brief calls for a minimalist sanctuary or a grand executive suite, the timber chosen determines the soul of the environment as much as its look. At Bhutan Tuff, this belief anchors the brand's approach to premium veneers and plywood, treating wood less as a commodity and more as a medium for storytelling.

Central to this philosophy is the appeal of natural veneers, prized precisely because no two sheets are identical. Unlike synthetic laminates, veneers carry an organic fingerprint, offering visual depth and a tactile texture that responds beautifully to ambient light. The range spans from the deep, smoky richness of Smoked Oak to the airy lightness of Ashwood, giving designers considerable creative latitude.

But aesthetics, the brand argues, mean little without structural integrity beneath them. In India's climate, where humidity and temperature swings punish inferior wood, the plywood "skeleton" becomes non-negotiable.



Boiling Water Proof (BWP) grade plywood is positioned as essential for kitchens and bathrooms prone to warping and swelling, while advanced treatment processes aim to guard against termite and borer damage over decades of use.

Sustainability runs as an underlying thread through Bhutan Tuff's positioning as well. By slicing a single log into hundreds of thin veneer layers, manufacturers maximise the yield from each tree, framing engineered wood as a route to luxury that doesn't come at the forest's expense.

The brand draws a clear distinction in application: decorative veneers for surface finishing, wardrobes, and feature walls; premium plywood for structural work like cabinetry and beds. As Bhutan Tuff puts it, quality is a habit, not a one-time act, and it's this consistency the brand is banking on to win over architects, designers, and homeowners alike.

New Zealand

Bets on Timber as India-FTA Removes Tariff Barriers

As India's cities expand and demand for sustainable building materials grows, New Zealand is positioning itself as a long-term timber partner rather than just a one-off supplier. The newly signed New Zealand-India Free Trade Agreement, which eliminates tariffs on more than 95% of forestry and wood products as soon as it takes effect, is expected to accelerate a trade relationship that has already tripled in value in just two years.

New Zealand's wood exports to India rose from NZ$64.4 million in the FY24 to NZ$193 million in FY26, driven largely by logs, which alone brought in NZ$111.86 million. Pulp exports and a fast-growing sawn timber category also posted sharp increases.

"As tariffs drop, we're not just opening a door for greater trade volume, but working together to identify deeper, longer-term partnerships between New Zealand producers and Indian manufacturers," said Graham Rouse, New Zealand's Trade Commissioner and Consul-General to India.

The trade push centres on radiata pine, which covers roughly 70% of New Zealand's 1.8 million hectares of production forest. The species is prized for consistent quality, ease of machining and its capacity to absorb protective treatments, making it resistant to



termites, insects and moisture damage. Roughly half of India's wood demand is currently met through imports, and New Zealand exporters see an opening as Indian policy increasingly favours timber in housing and construction.

Beyond raw logs, New Zealand is promoting engineered wood products, including cross-laminated timber, laminated veneer lumber and glulam, which are gaining traction globally for their structural strength and carbon-storage properties. Companies such as Abodo and Wood Engineering Technology are already supplying treated and engineered timber to demanding markets, including tropical resort developments comparable to India's Maharashtra coast.

With tariff-free access now on the table, industry figures say the opportunity extends beyond simple timber imports toward broader partnerships across the wood value chain.

Rotary Cutting of Veneer in Spindleless Lathe

Uday D N

*The article reproduced below is Chapter 12 – "**Rotary Cutting of Veneer in Spindleless Lathe**" from the book entitled **Plywood Manufacturing Practices in India - 2nd Edition.** The book has been compiled and edited by Dr. S.K. Nath, Joint Director (now Retd.), Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI), Bengaluru (Karnataka). The book covers the entire production line of plywood manufacture suitable for small and medium scale industry under the Indian conditions.*

The use of spindleless or centreless veneer lathes has rapidly expanded, primarily for peeling small–diameter logs. Spindle–less veneer lathes, provide the advantage of being able to peel logs down to very small diameters. This technology was originally developed in the 1980s to further process the large peeler cores (rest roller) produced from spindled lathes. In more recent years, spindle–less lathes have been further developed and adopted through many Asian countries for processing bolts from very small diameter trees with success. In India, at present, almost all veneer mills and plywood factories use spindle–less peeling lathe for peeling small girth logs.

Arnold reported that the adoption of this technology dramatically changed China's veneer processing industry because there is no longer the usual prerequisite for large diameter billets. Instead, small diameter logs (small end diameters of 6 cm or less) from plantations as young as 4 to 5 years old can be processed economically to yield high value veneer .In India, the production success in a large number of small–scale operations located close to the raw material resource, each using equipment with a low capital cost and dependent on the availability of timber of plantation origin.



Fig. 12.1 Top View of Spindleless lathe

Description of the mechanism

As the name suggests, a spindle–less veneer lathe is not provided with spindles at all, so that the torque required for peeling veneers is solely provided by a peripheral drive system from the beginning of peeling operation .Key of peeling control is coordinating the feed rate of the tool post with

the actual peripheral speed of the log.

Fig. 12.2 shows the position of a log (1) with respect to a veneer knife (15) and a peripheral drive system (20) in a spindle–less veneer lathe during veneer peeling. The peripheral drive system comprises peripheral drive rollers (3) disposed at axially spaced intervals on a common drive shaft 3a. Each roller (3) has a number of spikes (3a) which are arranged on the peripheral surface thereof to be engageable with the peripheral surface of the log. The peripheral drive system (20) further comprises horizontal pressure rollers (21) and a vertical pressure roller (31) for both preventing the log from bowing by force applied thereto and for stably holding the log during peeling. At least three sets of rollers are required to support a rotating log in a stable manner; for instance, four rollers may be radially arranged at right angles from the rotational axis A of the log around the peripheral surface of the log. The three sets of rollers are controlled to have the same feed rate so that the rotational axis A of the log may be maintained at the same position during peeling operation as with the spindle–assisted veneer peeling method. If, for example, the thickness of a peeled veneer (4) is to be 4 mm. a feed mechanism (18) is to continuously feed the peripheral drive rollers (3) at the rate of 4 mm toward the rotational axis A of the log for each rotation of the log based on the measurement by a rotational angle detector. Similarly, the horizontal and vertical pressure rollers (21) and (31) are also fed at the same rate toward the rotational axis A of the log in a continuous manner for each rotation of the log. Unlike the above method, in which the rotational axis A of the log is held in a stationary position with the three rollers fed toward the center A, some other feeding method may be employed. For example, the peripheral drive rollers (3) may be stationary while the vertical pressure rollers (21) are fed at the rate based on the thickness of the veneer (4) be peeled and the horizontal pressure roller (31) fed at twice as fast a rate, which eliminates the necessity of moving the heavy tool post. In this case, however, the vertical pressure rollers (21) need to be moved horizontally as well at the same time.

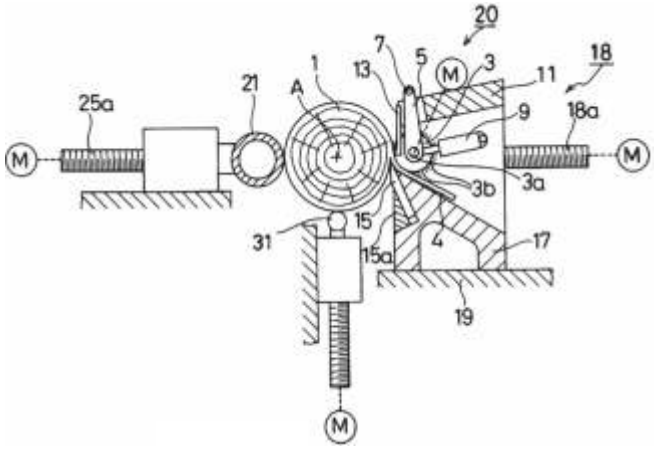


Fig. 12.2 Mechanism of Peeling in a Spindleless Lathe

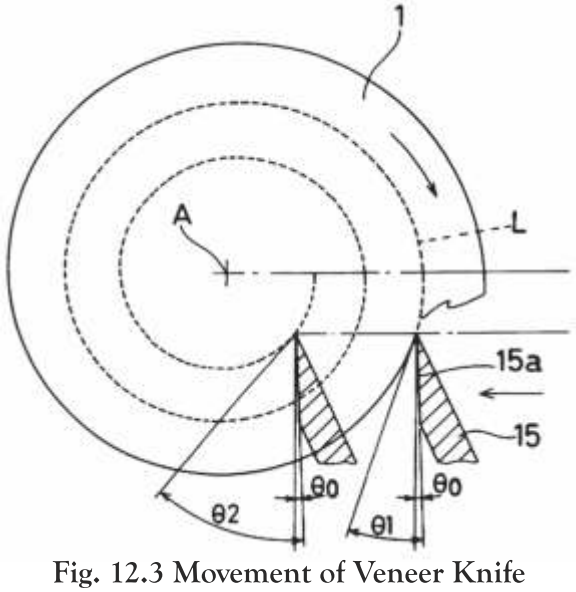


Fig. 12.3 Movement of Veneer Knife during Peeling

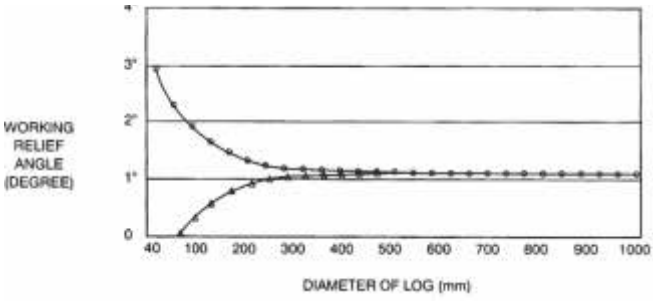


Fig. 12.4 Clearance Angle Curve of Knife

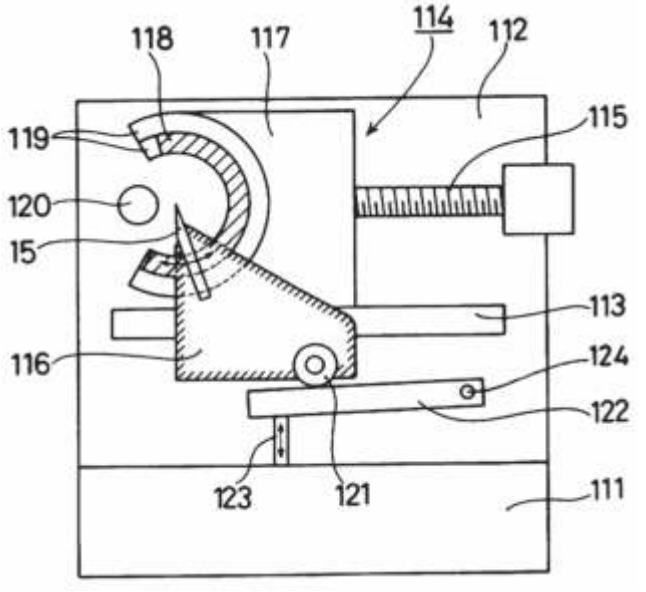


Fig. 12.5 Central Sectional Side View

Referring to Fig. 12.3, a spiral L represents the path along which the edge of a veneer knife (15) moves on the cross section of the log as the peeling operation proceeds. Theta 0 is the apparent angle of relief of the veneer knife (15) formed between a relief (15a) of the veneer knife (15) and the vertical line from the point where the cutting edge is in contact with the peripheral surface of the log. On the other hand, the angle formed between the relief (15a) and the tangent to the spiral L from the cutting edge is called the clearance angle, such as theta 1 or 2. The clearance angle changes as the direction of the tangent to the spiral L changes during the process of peeling operation. Fig. 12.4 shows typical clearance angle curves over the diameter reduction of the log. The curve marked with circles represents the change in the clearance angle when the cutting edge is positioned below the rotational axis of the log while the curve marked with triangle represents the change in the clearance angle when the cutting edge is positioned above the rotational axis. It is readily understood from the first curve that when the cutting edge is below the rotational axis of the log, the clearance angle remains approximately the same level until the diameter approaches the minimum peelable diameter of 200 mm, at which the clearance angle steeply increases. With the increase of the clearance angle of the veneer knife (15) to the peripheral surface of the log, the veneer knife (15) may vibrate or chatter against the log surface, so that the peeled veneer may have roughened surface or cracks on the back, resulting in uneven thickness or general poor quality of the peeled veneer. In particular, the surface of the veneer becomes increasingly more roughened toward the end of the peeling operation since the clearance angle rapidly increases as the log is peeled down close to its minimum peelable diameter as shown in Fig. 12.4. Different methods have been practiced to maintain the clearance angle at approximately the same over the range of the diameter of the log as explained hereinafter. Fig. 12.5 shows a central sectional side view of a known cutting angle adjusting apparatus for controlling the angle of the veneer knife (15) so as to maintain the clearance angle at approximately the same while the diameter of the log decreases. Although shown here as applied to a spindle driven veneer lathe, the

cutting angle adjusting apparatus may also be applicable to a spindleless veneer lathe. More particularly, the apparatus includes a bed (111), a pair of frames (112) attached to the sides thereof and a pair of guide rails (113) provided on the frames (112). The guide rails (113) support a tool post (114) on its left and right sides and also function as guides, therefore, when the tool post (114) is moved horizontally by the rotation of a feed screws (115). The tool post (114), in turn, includes a knife carriage (116) and a tool post support (117). The knife carriage (116) has, at either side, a pair of semicircular slide members (118) (only one being shown) which are freely rotatably fit in a pair of semicircular holders (119) (only one being shown) of the tool post support (117). The rotational axis of the semicircular slide members (118) is located on the cutting edge of the veneer knife (15) and on the same horizontal plane as the rotational axis of spindles (120) (only one being shown) is on. The knife carriage (116) has, at its bottom, a plurality of rollers (121) (only one being shown) which are supported by respective slopes (122) which regulates the rotation of the knife carriage (116). One end of each slope (122) is supported by a pivot (124) while the other end is supported by a lifting member (123) that can be lifted and lowered by a slope angle adjusting mechanism (not shown) as indicated by the double-headed arrow in Fig. 12.5. This construction allows the angle of the slopes (122) to be easily adjusted by lifting or lowering the slope. In normal peeling operation, the left ends of the slopes are lowered by moving the lifting members (123) down ward to rotate the knife carriage (116) on the rotational axis along the edge of the knife, so that the clearance angle of the veneer knife can be kept the same while maintaining the cutting edge at the same height. Referring again to Fig. 12.3, the cutting edge of the veneer knife is shown in a position much lower than in normal peeling operation for the sake of explanation. If the cutting edge is positioned ti pi (t=veneer thickness) lower than the horizontal plane on which the rotational axis A of the log lies. The clearance angle remains the same throughout veneer peeling because the tangent to spiral L from the cutting edge coincides with the vertical line from the cutting edge. (The position of the cutting edge t/2 pi lower than the horizontal

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plane on which the rotational axis A of the log lies will be referred to as the reference cutting edge position hereinafter.) When the cutting edge is above the rotational axis A of the log, however, the clearance angle remains approximately the same for a while until it starts to decrease gradually as the peeling operation proceeds. Then, as the diameter approaches the minimum peelable diameter, so the clearance angle rapidly decreases as shown in the clearance angle curve marked with triangles as shown in Fig. 12.4. As mentioned before, a method based on this geometric theorem has been practiced for controlling the clearance angle. By this method, the cutting edge is held in the reference cutting edge position throughout the peeling operation, maintaining the same clearance angle over the reduction in the log diameter. This method has been also applied to spindle–less veneer lathes because such a change in the clearance angle occurs in a spindle–less veneer lathes as well. The above–described two techniques, however, have the following problems and disadvantages. First, the cutting angle adjusting apparatus shown in Fig. 12.5 is structurally complicated, comprising a number of parts, including some that need to be manufactured with high precision so that the veneer knife is pivotal on the cutting edge. For instance, it is no easy task to manufacture the semicircular slide members (118) and the semicircular holders (119) with sufficient precision to rotatably fit the former members in the latter members. Moreover, the slidable interfaces between these members (118) and (119) need proper lubrication; otherwise rust may develop on the interfaces which hampers the control of the rotation of each semicircular slide member (118). As the apparatus is composed of numerous members, relatively small manufacturing tolerance in each member may add up to a significant tolerance upon assembly. As a result, the right and left slopes (122) may not have the same angle or height, for example. The problem of being composed of many parts often reduces the mechanical strength of the apparatus or causes backlash between parts and reduced mechanical precision. When the cutting edge is maintained in a fixed height, the pattern of change in the clearance angle in the process of peeling varies according to the thickness of the veneer as explained above. Therefore, even if the cutting angle adjusting apparatus is employed, difficult adjustments are still necessary to maintain the same clearance angle every time the thickness of the veneer is changed. Even with these inherent disadvantages, this type of apparatus has been used to date in the absence of a better alternative. By the second method, in which the cutting edge of the knife is held in the reference cutting edge position, the clearance angle employing a complicated apparatus such as the cutting angle adjusting apparatus. Other problems, however, arise with this method. Even if the clearance angle remains the same, the contact area between the relief (15a) of the veneer knife (5) and the peripheral surface of the log decreases as the diameter of the log is reduced by peeling. The cutting edge tends to cut deeper into the log when the contact area is small. This causes the peeled veneer to have a roughened surface or uneven

thickness. Furthermore, since it is a common practice to use one veneer lathe to peel veneers of different thickness, this method necessitates changing the reference cutting edge position according to the selected veneer thickness. In the type of spindle–less veneer lathe as shown in Fig. 12.2, the peripheral drive system equipped with spikes solely provides all the torque required for peeling. If the rotational axis A of the log and the common drive shaft (3a) remain on the same respective horizontal planes throughout the peeling operation, the spikes (3b) incise the log less deeply as the peeling proceeds, which in turn results in insufficient torque transmitted for veneer peeling. The conventional spindle–less veneer lathe of Fig. 12.2 attempts to solve this problem by having a pressure member (9) press the peripheral drive rollers against the log. Toward the end of peeling, when the log is peeled down close to a minimum peelable diameter, however, the incision of the spikes (3b) into the log may still become insufficient, so that freshly peeled veneer may be stuck adjacent to the cutting edge. If this occur, the stuck peel must be removed before resuming operation, thereby reducing the operating efficiency.

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Wood and Panel 2026

The Industry Will Come Together in Navi Mumbai, This December

The Wood Panel & Machinery Expo, branded Wood and Panel 2026, will be held from 25th to 27th December 2026 at the CIDCO Exhibition & Convention Center in Navi Mumbai. The organisers are billing the three-day show as a leading trade platform for India's wood, plywood, panel, laminate, flooring and furniture manufacturing sectors.

The exhibition is designed to bring manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, architects, builders and interior designers under one roof. Visitors can expect a broad showcase of wood processing technologies, plywood and decorative panels, laminates, particle boards, MDF and HDF, veneers, sawn timber, flooring systems, doors and windows, adhesives, coatings and modular furniture hardware. Live demonstrations of woodworking machinery and product launches are also planned.

Exhibitors are expected to include plywood and panel makers, laminate brands, machinery manufacturers, timber merchants, hardware suppliers and modular kitchen solution providers, all seeking direct access to bulk buyers and decision-makers from across India and abroad.

The programme will include technical seminars, buyer-seller meetings, networking sessions and industry presentations. The target audience spans furniture manufacturers, architects, builders, saw millers, carpenters, forestry officials, hardware dealers and industrial buyers.

Visitors are advised to register online in advance. Entry for business visitors is generally expected to be free with prior registration, while on-spot registration may carry a nominal charge, depending on organiser policy.

Organisers point to Mumbai's strong infrastructure and its thriving furniture and construction market as key reasons for choosing the location, positioning the city as a gateway to a large consumer and industrial base.

As manufacturers face rising input costs and growing demand from the interiors sector, the expo aims to help companies find new suppliers, explore dealership opportunities and build long-term partnerships across the wood and panel value chain.

Vietnam

Weak Supply Chain Links Restrict Higher-Value Timber Exports

Vietnam's timber industry is seeking to shift toward higher-value production, but weak linkages across its supply chain remain a major obstacle, according to the Vietnam Timber and Forest Product Association (VIFOREST).

The country's roughly 4 million hectares of production forests, involving over 1 million forest-growing households, currently channel about 74% of planted-forest timber into wood chips and pellets, with another 18% used for plywood and laminated veneer lumber. Together, these consume around 80% of raw material supply but generate only 3-4 billion USD of the sector's 18 billion USD export turnover, VIFOREST reported. Deeper processing, furniture and laminated boards, uses just 20% of raw material yet delivers 14-15 billion USD in value, underscoring the gap between volume and value-added output.

Ngo Sy Hoai, VIFOREST's Vice Chairman and Secretary General, identified fragmented forest landholding as a key barrier, noting that despite policies enabling land leasing and investment partnerships, difficulties in consolidation have prevented businesses from establishing concentrated raw-material zones. He warned that without stronger raw-material-to-export linkages, businesses will struggle to meet tightening traceability and sustainability requirements under mechanisms such as the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) and VPA/FLEGT.

VIFOREST said it would promote certified domestic and legally imported timber use, accelerate digital traceability, and encourage long-term partnerships between businesses, cooperatives and forestry households.

Ha Cong Tuan, Chairman of the Vietnam Association of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development, called for a shift from individual tree-planting support toward integrated value-chain ecosystems, with forest growers becoming production partners rather than mere suppliers, backed by tailored credit, tax incentives and forest insurance.

Experts also urged piloting longer harvesting cycles of six to twelve years, noting most forests are currently felled before five years, limiting yields to low-value chips rather than higher-value timber products.

Brazil

Forestry Sector Faces Multi-Front Challenge to Sustain Global Competitiveness

Brazil's forestry sector holds significant structural advantages, high productivity, short growth cycles, deep technical expertise and a diversified industrial base but sustaining its competitive edge will depend on navigating a complex set of climate, cost, labour, logistics, licensing and traceability challenges, according to a report by maisfloresta.com.br.

Climate change was identified as a growing and pressing risk to the sector. Forest planning increasingly needs to integrate genetic improvement, diversified planting materials, continuous monitoring and adaptive management strategies. Integrated fire prevention and rapid-response systems were flagged as particularly critical to reducing losses in an increasingly volatile climate environment.

Cost and productivity pressures also remain structural concerns, compounded by ongoing labour availability and skills shortages. While mechanisation and digitalisation offer clear efficiency gains, the report noted these advances require significant investment in new workforce capabilities. Meanwhile, logistical bottlenecks, including poor road conditions, limited transport availability, and constraints in rail and port infrastructure, continue to affect both timber competitiveness and supply chain reliability.

On the institutional front, the report emphasised that predictable licensing processes, legal certainty and robust traceability systems are essential for the sector to meet tightening environmental and regulatory demands, both domestically and in export markets. Strengthening engagement with local communities, rural





producers and other stakeholders was also highlighted as key to reinforcing the sector's social licence to operate, reducing land-use conflicts and unlocking additional value creation opportunities.

Digital tools, including remote sensing, artificial intelligence, drones, telemetry and integrated management systems, were cited as having strong potential to improve decision-making across forestry operations. However, their effectiveness depends heavily on reliable connectivity, sustained capacity building and sound governance frameworks.

Taken together, the report concluded that Brazil's future forestry competitiveness will hinge on the sector's ability to combine economic efficiency with environmental adaptation, technological innovation and responsible, community-engaged territorial management.

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12th Nepal Wood International Expo

Set for Kathmandu in January 2027

The 12th edition of the Nepal Wood International Expo has been announced, set to take place from 28th to 31st January, 2027 (14–17 Magh 2083) at the Bhrikutimandap Exhibition Hall in Kathmandu, bringing together the country's woodworking and furniture manufacturing community for another edition of trade, technology and craftsmanship.

Building on the success of its previous edition, the expo continues to position itself as a comprehensive platform spanning the entire wood value chain, from raw material sourcing to manufacturing technology and finished craftsmanship. Organisers describe the show as an opportunity to explore not only the finished products that wood ultimately becomes, but also the machinery, materials and ideas that make such craftsmanship possible.

The previous edition offered visitors a close look at wood products, manufacturing technologies and the intricate processes involved in shaping wood for contemporary living and working spaces. Exhibition floors featured a busy mix of machinery, raw materials, finished furniture and skilled craftsmanship, alongside continuous networking and business conversations among industry professionals.



True to its ethos, the upcoming 2027 edition aims to showcase the many ways wood shapes everyday surroundings, highlighting everything from foundational materials to final interior finishes. The expo is expected to draw manufacturers, suppliers, machinery producers, designers and craftsmen from across Nepal and the wider region, reinforcing its role as a key B2B gathering for the local woodworking sector.

As Nepal's woodworking and furniture industries continue to evolve alongside growing construction and interior design demand, the Nepal Wood International Expo remains an important meeting point for expertise, innovation and business opportunity, reaffirming wood's central role in shaping modern spaces across the country.

Wood Panel & Machinery Expo

Coming to Chandigarh from 20th to 23rd November 2026

The Wood Panel & Machinery Expo (Chandigarh Edition) will be held from 20th to 23rd November 2026 at the Exhibition Ground, Sector 34, Chandigarh. Organised by India International Tech Expo (IIT Expo), the four-day business-to-business event is positioned as a regional trade platform for plywood manufacturers, raw wood suppliers and panel and laminate distributors. Opening hours are typically 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

The Chandigarh show is part of a wider expo series. Visitors should confirm dates and venues directly with the organisers, as event details can change.

The Chandigarh edition focuses on North India's agroforestry-dependent timber market, which relies heavily on plantation species such as poplar and eucalyptus. The expo is designed to help industry players discover regional trade solutions, source raw materials and explore new technology.

Exhibits will span the wood processing and manufacturing chain. Raw materials and supplies include agroforestry timber species, face veneer and adhesives. Panels and laminates on show will range from premium plywood in BWP and BWR grades to particle boards, decorative MDF and designer laminates. Machinery and automation exhibits will feature heavy woodworking equipment, panel saws, press machinery, edge-banders, CNC routers and high-precision cutting tools.

The expected audience includes plywood manufacturers, lumber suppliers, laminate and veneer distributors, traders, architects and interior designers.

The timing may draw added interest as panel producers face rising input costs, from phenol and formaldehyde to timber, and look for suppliers, efficiency gains and automation to protect margins. With Yamuna Nagar's plywood cluster and other North Indian manufacturing hubs within easy reach of Chandigarh, organisers are betting the expo will draw strong regional participation from producers seeking new partnerships.

PLY GAZETTE
MONTHLY REPORT ON THE INDIAN PANEL AND SURFACE INDUSTRY

CAEx Build & Co. 2026

To Showcase Construction and Interior Trends in Tashkent

The third edition of CAEx Build & Co., an international exhibition of construction, building materials and design, will take place from 19th to 21st November 2026 at the Central Asian Expocenter (CAEx) on Milliy Bog' Street in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

The show brings together manufacturers and suppliers of construction materials, decoration and renovation products, and engineering equipment. It is aimed at targeted business visitors looking to buy construction and finishing materials, and is expected to serve as a hub for import and export partnerships across the region. The organisers place particular emphasis on regional distribution of laminates, wood panels and general building materials.

Exhibitors are expected to include importing companies and local manufacturers presenting a broad product range. Categories cover window technologies, ceramics, stone, panels and mouldings such as railings, stairs and ceiling systems, doors and locks, construction equipment and tools, wallpapers, paints and decorative plaster, flooring, interior and design solutions, bathrooms, and lighting and electrical appliances. Facades and roofing products also feature in the event overview.

The audience is expected to include contractors and construction companies,



architectural and design bureaus, real estate agencies, developers, and firms involved in road and bridge construction and repair. Visitors can connect with buyers from across Uzbekistan and neighbouring countries, source products and negotiate deals.

Alongside the exhibition floor, organisers plan networking events, educational sessions and workshops, offering additional avenues for business development and knowledge exchange.

The event arrives as Uzbekistan's construction sector continues to draw attention from international suppliers seeking access to Central Asian markets. For wood panel and laminate producers in particular, the show offers a platform to meet distributors, architects and developers in one location.

Companies interested in participating are encouraged to contact the organisers, as exhibitor registrations are open ahead of the events.

Cairo WoodShow 2026

Returns for 11th Edition, Targeting North Africa's Wood Sector

The 11th edition of Cairo WoodShow will run from 26th to 29th November 2026 at the Cairo International Convention Centre (CICC) in Nasr City, alongside IFAC Cairo. Open daily from 11:00 am to 8:00 pm, the show is billed as a leading business-to-business platform for wood, wood accessories and woodworking machinery across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

Part of the Global WoodShow series, which also includes Dubai and Saudi Arabia, the exhibition brings together manufacturers, importers, distributors, machinery suppliers and specifiers serving Egypt and the wider North African market. Exhibits span raw timber, MDF, veneer, decorative laminates, particleboard, HDF, OSB, engineered wood, cross-laminated timber, glulam, wood-plastic composites, machinery, tools, finishes and coatings.

Organisers point to strong results from the previous edition, which drew 18,195 visitors and 451 exhibitors representing 736 national and international brands from 68 countries, including ten country pavilions. Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt lead the visitor base, with Gulf and Indian buyers also attending. According to organiser figures, 90% of attendees are decision-makers or buyers, and 96% of exhibitors said they met their business objectives.



A WoodShow Conference will run alongside the exhibition, covering market outlooks, timber technology and sustainable practice. Exhibitors can also access a buyer networking reception, one-to-one meetings, personalised digital invitations, venue branding and sponsorship packages.

The show is organised by Strategic Marketing and Exhibitions. Some third-party listings carry inconsistent details, including different exhibitor and visitor figures and a reference to Saudi Arabia, so participants should verify information through the official website, woodshowglobal.com/cairo, where registration is available.

Positioned at the crossroads of Egypt's furniture-making heritage and modern production, the exhibition aims to help industry professionals compare production methods, source materials and form partnerships across the wood value chain.

Myanmar Wood 2026

Woodworking Technology in Yangon on Showcase in December

Myanmar Wood 2026, an international fair for wood processing machinery, cutting tools and hand tools, will be held from 15th to 18th December 2026 at the Yangon Convention Center (YCC). Organised by Taiwan-based Chan Chao International Co., Ltd., the four-day trade show is designed as a business-to-business platform linking regional furniture manufacturers, engineers and suppliers with global woodworking innovations.

More than 100 exhibitors are expected to take part, presenting products across the woodworking supply chain. Categories include machinery and equipment for forestry and primary processing, technical equipment for secondary processing, specialised blades, saws and router bits, and furniture fittings, accessories and raw materials. A conference and seminar programme will highlight new manufacturing methods and technological advances.

The fair is aimed at trade professionals, timber suppliers, furniture manufacturers and other industry stakeholders, with business visitors including key decision-makers. It follows an earlier edition held in December 2024, with the next edition scheduled for 14th to 17th December 2027, though dates remain subject to change.

The show arrives at a time when Myanmar's woodworking sector is looking to move up the value chain. The country has traditionally exported raw timber or minimally processed logs, a pattern often attributed to technological limitations. With labour costs rising in neighbouring manufacturing hubs such as China, and Myanmar close to large furniture markets, local producers are seeking infrastructure upgrades. The organisers say the fair offers access to the precision tools and machinery needed to shift towards higher-value furniture manufacturing.

Yangon will host several other trade shows during the same week, including exhibitions on textiles and printing, power, metalworking and plastics, which may allow visitors to combine multiple business engagements in one trip.

Interested exhibitors and visitors are advised to confirm dates and arrangements with the organisers before making travel plans.

PELICE 2026

Tenth Show Draws Panel Industry Leaders to Atlanta for Wide-Ranging Discussions

The 10th Panel & Engineered Lumber International Conference & Expo (PELICE), held from 16th to 17th April 2026, at the Omni Atlanta Hotel, brought together 41 speakers, 470 registrants and 95 exhibitors, marking a decade of the event billed as "the last conference in the world."

Co-hosted by Panel World magazine and Georgia Research Institute since its 2008 debut, the biennial gathering recognised 18 exhibitor companies that have participated in all ten editions. PELICE Co-Chairman Rich Donnell credited fellow Co-Chairman and GRI President Fred Kurpiel with conceiving the event in 2006.

Keynote speeches from producer executives opened proceedings, with Georgia-Pacific's David Neal highlighting the company's community engagement initiatives, while Boise Cascade's Rob Johnson outlined the company's focus on engineered wood products (EWP), noting the firm remains 95-100% self-sufficient in veneer production across its regions.

Roseburg's Jim Salchenberg detailed the company's $1.1 billion capital investment programme from 2021-2024, including a new MDF plant in Dillard, Oregon, slated for 2028 startup. Weyerhaeuser's Lofton Beasley emphasized that structural shifts toward engineered, system-based construction are permanent rather than cyclical, pointing to the company's new TimberStrand facility in Monticello, Arkansas, which will boost EWP capacity by 24%.

Chris Beard of John Burns Research and Consulting projected $485 billion in building product spending for 2026, down slightly, while forecasting recovery in single-family starts from 2027-2029. He identified repair and remodeling, driven by aging housing stock and high home equity levels, as a key growth opportunity.

Guillermo Velarde of AFRY Management Consulting addressed structural panel markets, noting OSB capacity growth, consolidation pressures in particleboard, and competitive positioning for new MDF capacity against imports.

Additional sessions covered artificial intelligence, catastrophe management, mass timber and fire safety technologies.

Timber Imports Stay Weak in H1 2026 as Construction Slowdown Bites

UK timber and panel product imports remained below last year's levels through the first half of 2026, according to the latest figures from Timber Development UK (TDUK), with total imports falling 3.9% year-on-year, driven by declines of 4.7% in solid wood and 2.5% in panel products. Following a brief recovery in March and April, volumes dropped 8% in May and a further 3% in June.

Softwood, which accounts for over 60% of UK imports, fell 4.9% to 2.898 million m³, weighed down by falling housing starts; the Construction Products Association has forecast a further 9% decline for 2026. Hardwood imports slipped 1.5%, though tropical hardwood bucked the trend, rising 3.5%. Plywood suffered the steepest fall, with total imports down 13.6%—hardwood plywood fell 7.4% and softwood plywood plunged 28.8%, largely attributed to reduced supply from China and Brazil.

Elsewhere, particleboard (+4.6%), OSB (+2.3%) and MDF (+13.1%) all posted growth, with Chinese MDF volumes doubling. Engineered wood products overall fell 13%, as CLT collapsed 60.7% and glulam dropped 17%, while LVL grew 8.5% and I-beam volumes held roughly flat.

Pricing trends were mixed: softwood prices rose in Q1 before easing in Q2, though remaining above year-earlier levels. Plywood



prices broadly declined, with Chinese hardwood plywood down 8% and Brazilian softwood plywood down around 12%, while hardwood plywood prices firmed in May and June as cheaper Chinese supply eased.

Nick Boulton, TDUK's Head of Technical and Trade Policy, said overall import volumes stayed weak, with softwood and plywood declines offset partly by growth in particleboard, OSB, MDF and LVL.

Exports offered a brighter picture, with softwood shipments up 24% in the six months to June, 93% destined for Ireland, alongside a 46% jump in MDF exports and steady growth across OSB and particleboard. Boulton noted exports remain modest but are growing steadily.

Germany

Timber Trade Shows Divergent Trends Across Product Categories in H1 2026

Germany's timber trade displayed a mixed picture in the first half of 2026, with sharp contrasts emerging across wood product categories, according to data from the Global Wood Trade Network.

Between January and June, exports of oak raw wood edged up slightly year-on-year, even as shipments to China, Germany's most important destination for the product, fell by 3% compared with the first half of 2025.

Beech industrial wood, by contrast, recorded strong growth, with exports of softwood under 15 cm rising 67% over the same period a year earlier. Austria, the leading customer for this category, increased its purchases by 20%.

Beech sawn timber exports remained largely stable during the first six months of 2026. China, the dominant buyer, accounted for roughly a quarter of total exports, though its import volumes declined by 9%.

German exports of beech logs told a different story, falling 12% between January and June compared with the same period last year. A steep 32% drop in Chinese demand saw China lose its position as the leading customer, with Austria taking over as the top buyer.

Conditions in the residential construction sector showed little sign of improvement in August. Business climate surveys found just under 40% of companies rated current conditions as poor, nearly 50% described them as adequate, and fewer than 20% rated conditions as good, pointing to continued caution across the construction-linked timber supply chain.

Separately, the Federal Statistical Office reported that imports of particleboard, including OSB, fell 8% between January and June 2026 compared with the previous year, pushing the import surplus to 9%.

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LP Building Solutions

To Halt OSB Production at Texas Plant Amid Weak Demand

LP Building Solutions (LP) has announced it will indefinitely curtail oriented strandboard (OSB) production at its Jasper, Texas facility beginning in October 2026, citing persistently soft demand across the OSB market. The Jasper plant has an annual production capacity of approximately 475 MSF on a 3/8-inch basis.

The move follows a broader review of production requirements across LP's manufacturing network, with the company stating that the decision reflects current market conditions rather than facility-specific concerns. In weighing its options, LP said it considered a range of factors including operating costs, capital requirements, logistics and long-term asset utilisation before arriving at the curtailment decision.

LP CEO Jason Ringblom said the company's action was a direct response to prevailing demand pressures. "Current market conditions require us to align OSB production with demand," Ringblom said, adding that while the near-term outlook for OSB remains challenging, the company remains confident in its long-term strategy. He said curtailing production now allows LP to operate efficiently through the current down-cycle while preserving flexibility to ramp back up if and when market conditions improve.



Ringblom was also careful to distinguish the decision from any assessment of the Jasper facility's workforce, stating that the curtailment "is not a reflection of the performance or commitment of the Jasper team," whose work he said has strengthened LP over many years.

The announcement comes amid a broader slowdown affecting the North American wood products sector, with softwood and panel markets across the US and international markets facing pressure from weakened housing starts and construction activity. LP's decision reflects a wider industry pattern of manufacturers scaling back output to match subdued demand, while positioning themselves to respond quickly once market conditions turn more favourable.

Forest Products Society

Recognises Industry Leaders, Researchers at 2026 Excellence Awards

The Forest Products Society (FPS) honoured six outstanding leaders, researchers and emerging professionals at its 2026 Annual Excellence Awards, presented on 16th July at the FPS International Conference Banquet, Graduate Hotel in Eugene, Oregon.

Dr. Brian K. Via, President of FPS and Editor-in-Chief of the Forest Products Journal, received the Fred W. Gottschalk Memorial Award for exceptional service to the Society. Via, whose career spans academia and 14 years of corporate research, previously drove a $13 million revenue increase through pine genetics research at International Paper and later invented FlameBlock fire-retardant technology at Louisiana-Pacific.

Dr. Laya Khademibami of Mississippi State University received the Wood Engineering Achievement Award in the Young Engineer category, recognised for research on mass timber, structural insulated panels and wood preservatives, backed by federal funding from agencies including the U.S. Department of Defence and USDA.

The L.J. Markwardt Wood Engineering Award went to Dr. Dilpreet Bajwa, Professor and Head of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at Montana State University, honoured for his published research on sustainable, bio-based composite materials following a 12-year industry career with International Paper and Masonite.

Two graduate researchers received the FPS Wood Award: Roselle Barretto, a postdoctoral researcher at the USDA Forest Service–Forest Products Laboratory, took First Place for work on protein-based wood adhesives, while Haoran Ye, a Ph.D. candidate at Nanjing Forestry University, earned Second Place for research on electromagnetic-shielding wood composites.

Dr. Bob Breyer received the Distinguished Service Award for nearly 35 years with Georgia-Pacific Resins (now Bakelite Synthetics) and long-standing leadership within FPS, including service as Vice President and President, during which he strengthened the Society's financial stability and supported student development.

Minda

To Build Fully Automated Glulam Line for French Timber Leader Arbonis

Minda is constructing a fully automated production line for Arbonis, a VINCI Group company and one of France's leading timber construction firms, at a new facility in Chemillé-en-Anjou designed to manufacture straight glued laminated timber (GLT) and large-format curved beams.

Arbonis, which has led the French timber construction market for over 40 years with its own planning and engineering offices and three production sites, first engaged Minda in 2024 to develop a partner capable of economically producing both straight and curved architectural beams with minimal operational effort.

Working closely together, the two companies designed an integrated plant layout in which material flow, from board feeding through to finished beams, is fully automated, with operators primarily overseeing monitoring tasks rather than manual production steps.

The line features Minda's latest-generation DUOZINK 12 finger-jointing machine, paired with a newly developed block storage system offering fully automatic destacking. A hydraulic TimberPress V 220 flex, which applies pressing force from above for uniform, high-quality bonding, manufactures straight GLT beams up to 60 feet in length, followed by a finishing planer for standard and block-glued beams.

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A key focus of the project is curved beam production, for which Minda developed the new TimberPress C 500 flex, enabling cost-effective manufacturing of curved glulam beams up to 147 feet long. Unlike conventional pressing methods, packages of up to two beams are crane-loaded into the press bed, automatically shaped before tie rods are tightened, then moved aside to cure, creating a continuous, flexible production flow throughout each shift.

The entire process is managed through Minda's FlowMate user interface, offering employees step-by-step guidance and full production transparency.

Installation is currently underway, with production scheduled to begin in early 2027, adding new manufacturing capacity to the French market while advancing sustainable glulam production technology.

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Woodex Tehran

Returns with Expanded Footprint for Iran's Wood and Furniture Industry

The International Exhibition of Wood, Raw Materials, Accessories, Fittings, Machinery and Related Industries for Furniture, popularly known as Woodex, is set to return to Tehran, promising a larger showcase for Iran's wood processing and furniture sector. The 24th edition of Iran Woodex 2027, is slated for January 2027 at the Tehran International Permanent Fairground.

Billed as the most important international event for Iran's wood industries, the annual exhibition aims to inform participants about the latest developments in the sector and create business links between domestic and international players. Exhibitors and visitors are expected from Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Germany, Austria, Spain, Italy, Belgium, China, India, Malaysia, Turkey, Poland, Russia, the UAE and Japan.

More than 70 domestic companies and 200 established brands are expected to present their latest products. The show will cover panel and solid wood machinery, CNC woodworking equipment, hardware and tools, veneers and edge bands, MDF, chipboard, parquet, laminates, high-gloss panels, thermowood, and ventilation and



paint-spraying systems. Organisers say strong turnout at the previous edition has led to a 100% increase in both exhibition space and exhibitor numbers.

Organisers highlight Iran's wood resources, competitive labour costs and rising domestic demand as factors creating investment opportunities in wood-based production and distribution. For exhibitors, the show offers a route to bulk orders, contract negotiations and export markets, while visitors can compare suppliers, study market trends and explore investment prospects.

The exhibition is backed by the Iranian Society of Wood and Paper Science and Industries, the Iran Wood Industries Employers' Guild and Shahr-e Aftab Tehran.

TIWF 2026

Expands 51%, Cements Thailand's Role as ASEAN Woodworking Hub

The Thailand International Woodworking & Furniture Exhibition 2026 (TIWF 2026) opened at Halls 5–6 of the IMPACT Exhibition and Convention Center, Muang Thong Thani, with a 51% expansion in exhibition space over its 2024 debut, underlining growing international confidence in Thailand's woodworking sector.

Organised by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment alongside IEC Messe Co., Ltd. and IMPACT Exhibition Management Co., Ltd., the second edition brought together over 400 brands represented by 200 companies from 19 countries, running from 16th to 18th September at the venue.

Darika Saranket, Advisor to the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, said the exhibition provides an opportunity to bring together public and private sectors, industry stakeholders and international partners to exchange knowledge and technologies, supporting Thailand's woodworking industry and the wider ASEAN region toward sustainable growth.

Ludger Müller, Managing Director of IEC Messevertriebs GmbH, noted that the space expansion and participation of over 200 companies from 19 countries demonstrate the momentum behind the exhibition, while highlighting Thailand's potential as a business hub connecting technology providers and manufacturers across ASEAN.

Loy Joon How, General Manager of IMPACT Exhibition Management, described TIWF as more than a trade platform, positioning it as a gateway for international technologies and machinery to connect with Thai businesses.

The exhibition spanned the woodworking value chain, from processing machinery and automation to surface solutions, hardware and factory management software, alongside forums including the Sustainability Masterclass, AHEC Forum and Carpentry Masterclass.

Backed by 23 associations across six countries and 25 media partners from 14 nations, TIWF 2026 reinforced its ambition to link global technology providers with ASEAN manufacturers, driving the region's shift toward more efficient and sustainable production.

IWF 2026

Automation and Convergence Define Event

More than 900 exhibitors and tens of thousands of woodworking professionals gathered in Atlanta for IWF 2026, where automation, connected manufacturing and mass timber signalled the industry's next phase of growth.

Held at the Georgia World Congress Center from 25th to 28th August, the biennial International Woodworking Fair drew buyers from every US state and roughly 90 countries, reaffirming its position as North America's largest wood products technology and design trade show.



Across the exhibit halls, automation dominated conversation. Robotics, automated material handling and increasingly sophisticated CNC and panel-processing systems shared floor space with software designed to link production stages. Exhibitors positioned these technologies not merely for large manufacturers but for

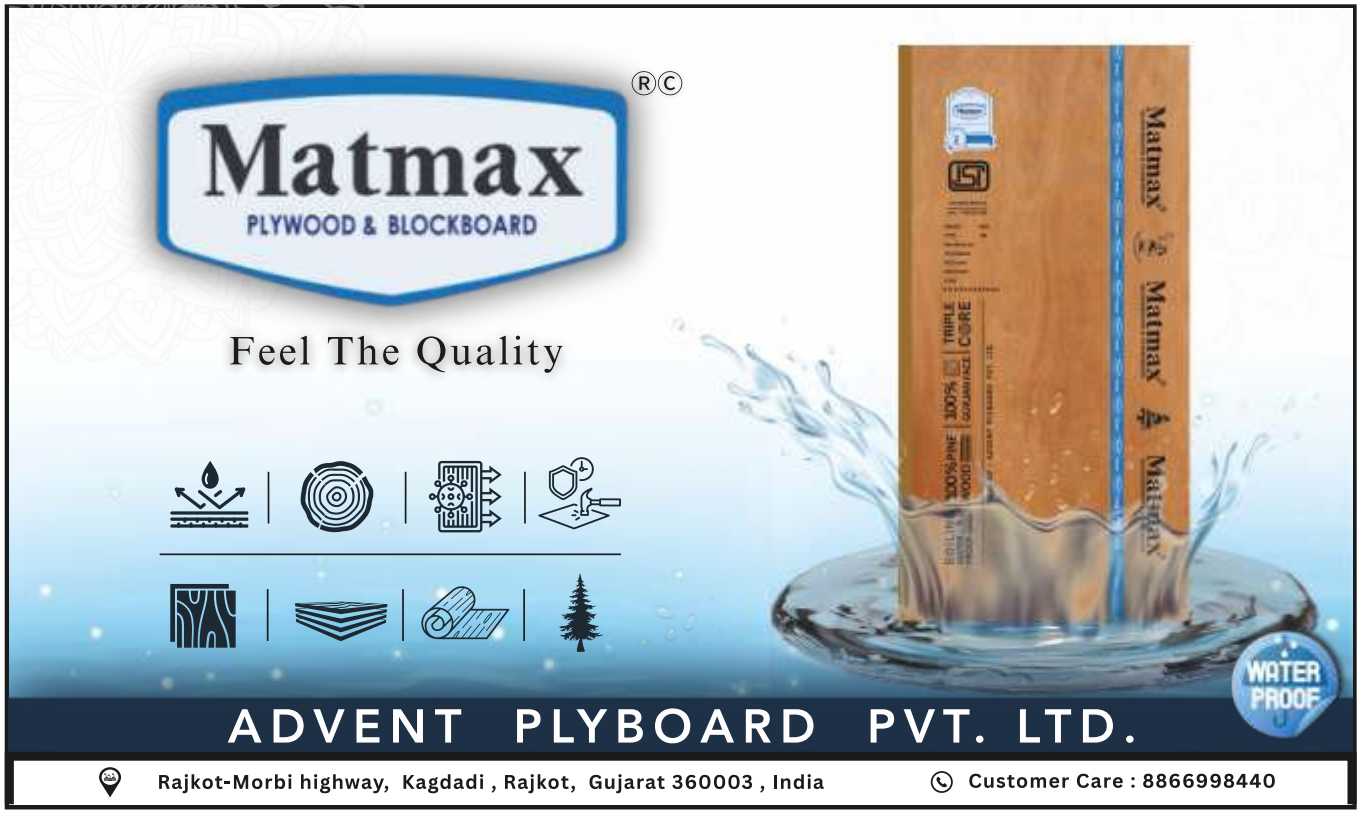
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operations of varying sizes seeking to cut manual work, improve consistency and address ongoing labour shortages. The theme carried into IWF's education program, where an Industry 5.0 and Smart Factory tour explored human-AI collaboration and end-to-end connected production.

Innovation was also recognised through the IWF Challengers Distinguished Achievement Awards, which drew 84 entries from 65 companies. Seven technologies were honoured, including Con-Vey's plywood repair system, Felder Group's Creator 1250, and Stiles Machinery's Venjakob VEN AIR Vortex coating technology, together reflecting industry priorities around automation, precision and material efficiency.

Panels, surfaces and finishing remained central to the show, with cutting, sanding, adhesive and finishing systems increasingly built around automated, software-driven production lines. A new addition this year, the Mass Timber and Prefabricated Construction Products Showcase, introduced cross-laminated and glue-laminated timber technologies, highlighting the growing overlap between traditional woodworking and engineered timber construction.

Ultimately, organisers and exhibitors said the show's defining takeaway was not any single machine or innovation, but their convergence - software, robotics, artificial intelligence and sustainability considerations increasingly operating as one interconnected system, pointing toward a more automated and flexible future for wood manufacturing.



CIFM / Interzum Guangzhou 2027

Brought Together Global Furniture Industry Under "WeMake" Theme

CIFM / interzum guangzhou, a key indicator of Asia's furniture manufacturing strength, will return to the Canton Fair Complex in Guangzhou from 28th to 31st March 2027, spanning 170,000 sqm and hosting more than 1,700 domestic and international exhibitors across woodworking machinery, hardware, panels, adhesives and textiles.

Co-located with the China International Furniture Fair (Guangzhou) Office and Commercial Space, the combined events will form an integrated supply chain covering materials, machinery and finished products, drawing an anticipated 220,000 professional visitors from over 180 countries and regions.



Michiel Kruse, Managing Director of Koelnmesse China, said Asia continues to serve as a core manufacturing hub with strong industrial chains and rapid technology adoption, adding that the region is shifting from pure production capacity toward user-centric value creation. He described the 2027

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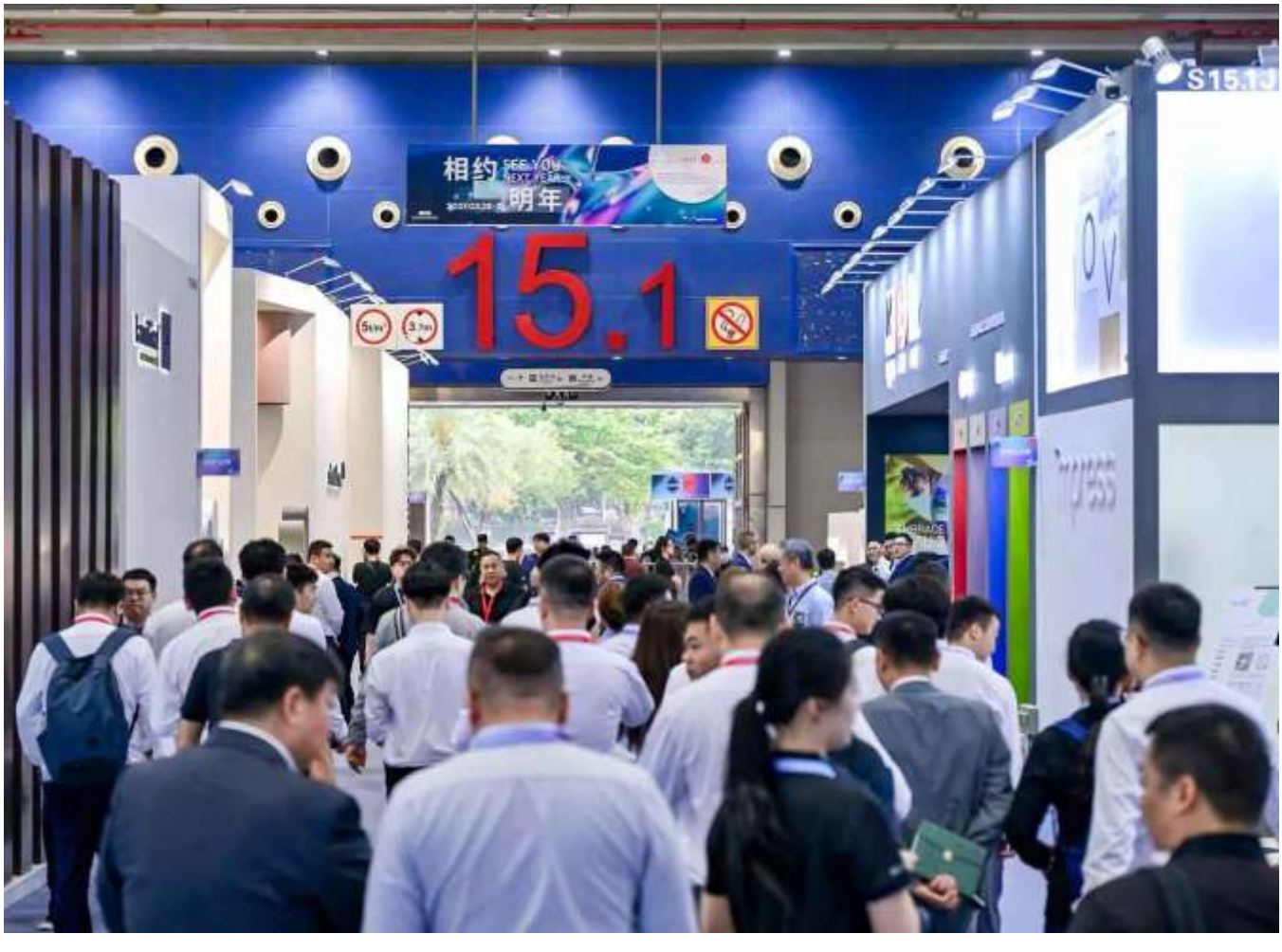
edition as an anchor for global collaboration and business opportunities across Asia-Pacific and beyond.

Following 2026's "Smart Revolution" focus, the fair's 2027 theme, "WeMake," shifts attention to manufacturing's human-centred core. Organisers say that as AI and automation become standard across production workflows, competitive advantage will increasingly depend on understanding end-user experience combining craftsmanship, technology and collaboration across the value chain.

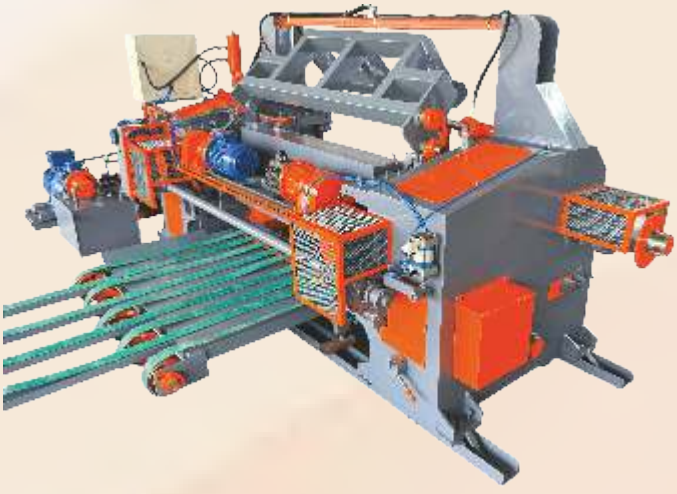
Backed by Koelnmesse GmbH and the China Foreign Trade Centre Group, the fair aims to help local enterprises refresh product portfolios, access China's domestic market, and expand overseas reach, while enabling exhibitors to evolve from single-product suppliers into comprehensive solution providers.

Confirmed international participants include Bostik, DewertOkin, IMA Schelling, REHAU, RENOLIT, SURTECO and LINAK, among others, alongside national pavilions from Germany, the United States, Turkey and Taiwan Region, currently open for exhibitor recruitment.

The 2027 edition reinforces the fair's role as a global connector, accelerating collaboration between suppliers, brands and manufacturers to shape a more people-focused, competitive future for the furniture industry.



PEELPRO



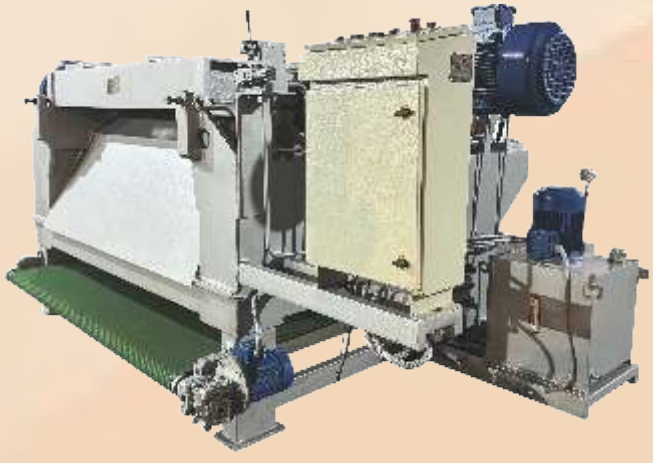
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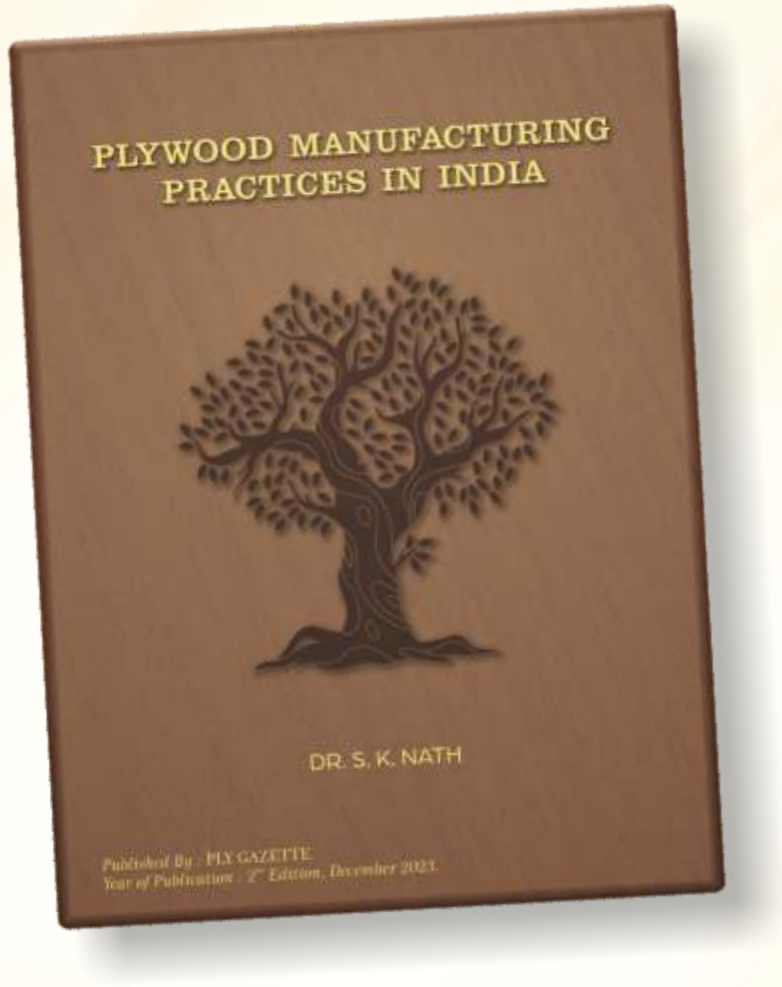
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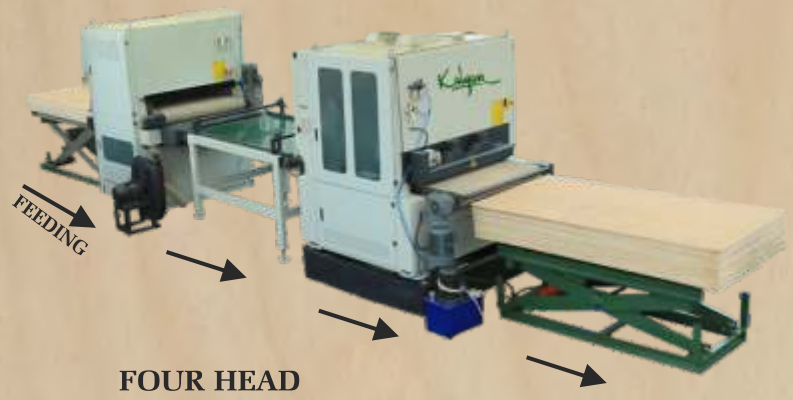
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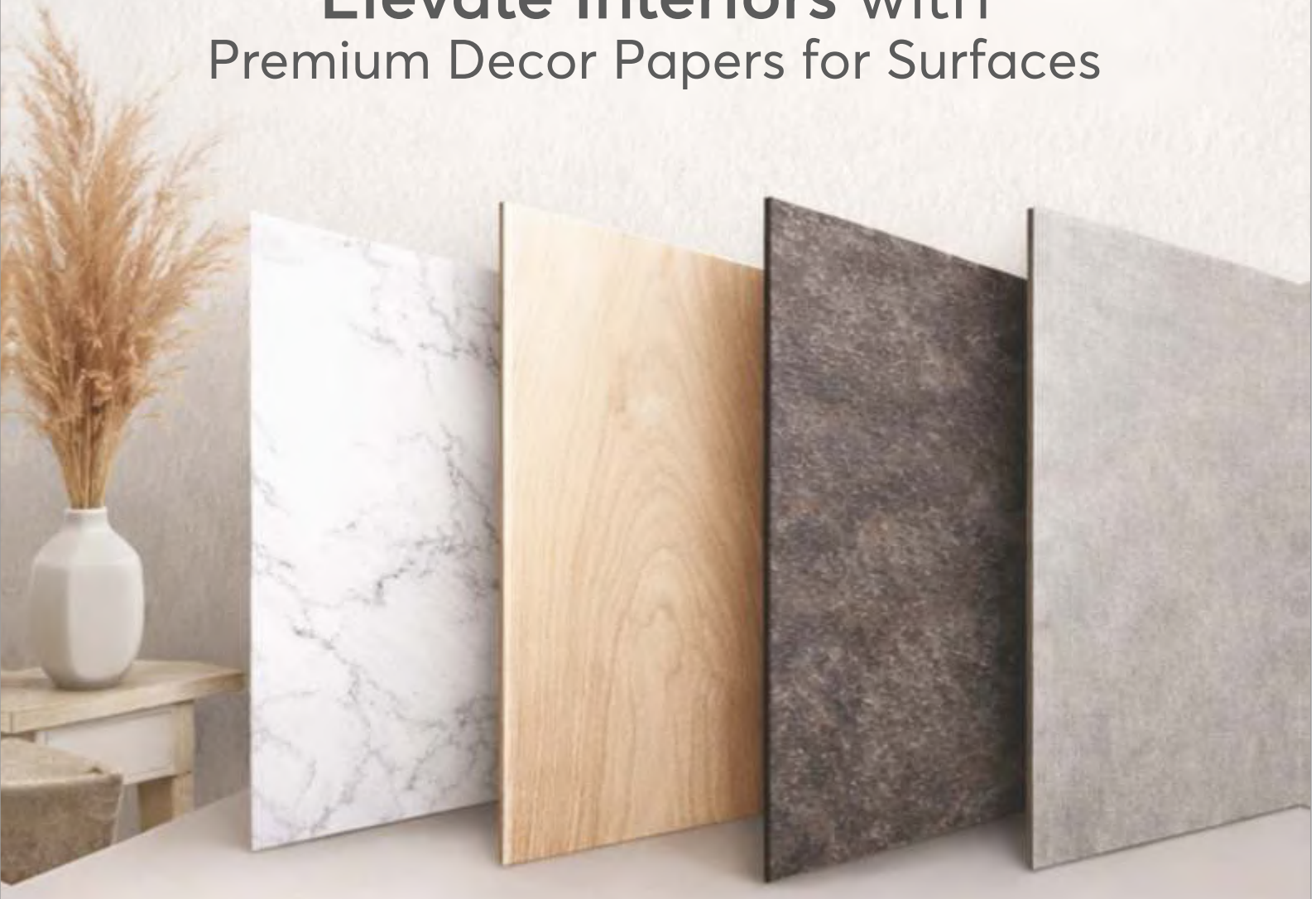
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