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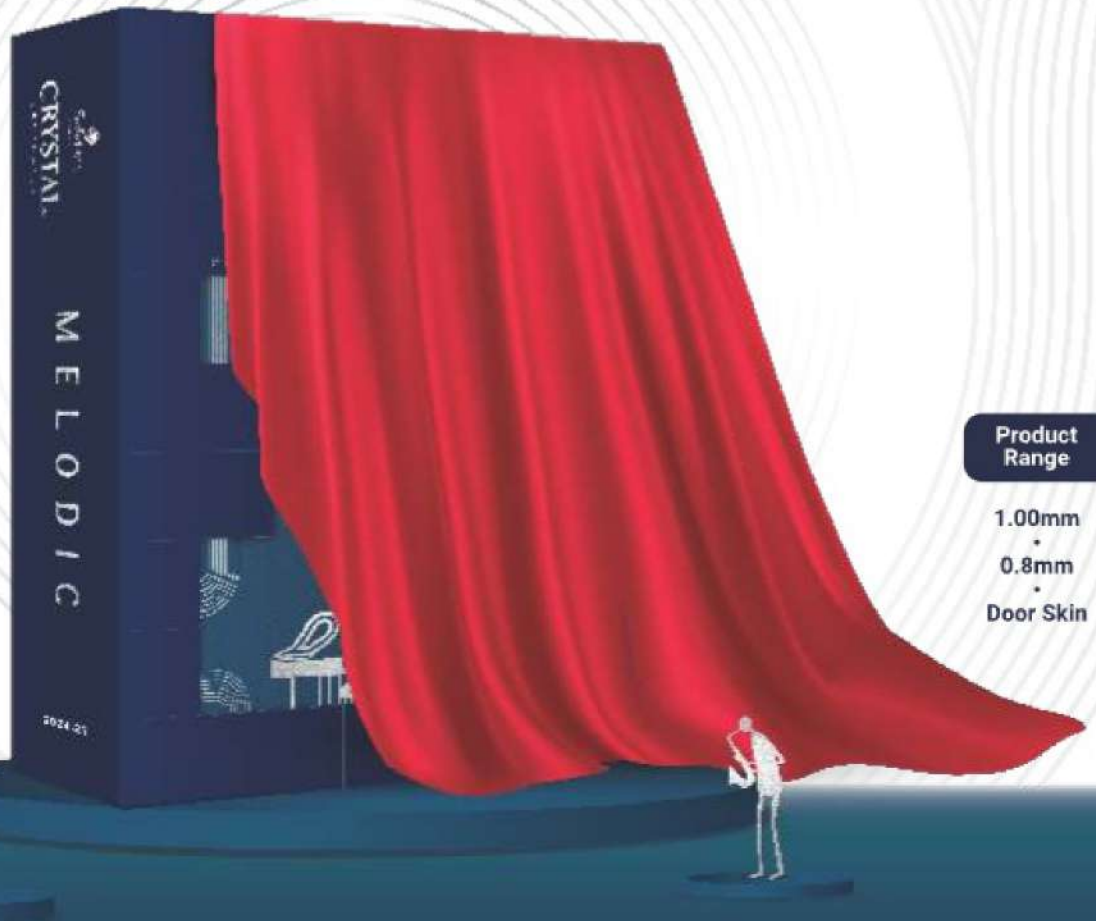
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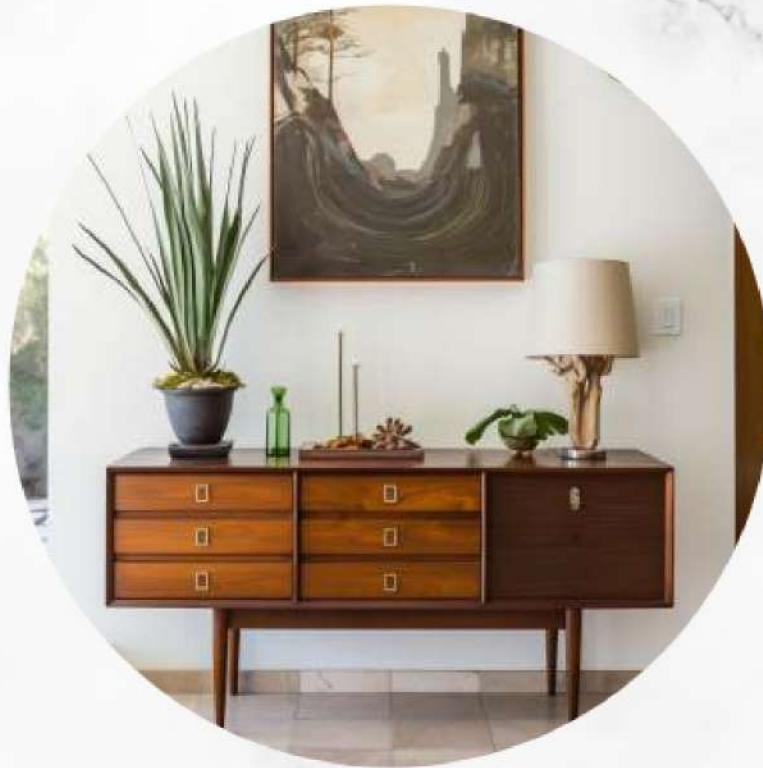
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Panel Industry Facing Challenges

The panel industry is facing one of its most challenging phases, marked by a mixture of adverse factors that have disrupted its operations and profitability. From plywood and laminates to MDF and particle boards, the entire sector is coping with significant trade problems that have intensified in the months following Diwali.

The rotation of money in the market has tightened considerably, putting businesses under financial strain. Demand has gone down while supply continues to rise unabated, creating a stark imbalance. Compounding this issue, raw material costs have surged, but selling prices remain subdued, leaving manufacturers with squeezed margins. The burden of high interest rates further troubles business owners, making financial management an uphill task.

Labour shortages have added another layer of complexity, affecting production schedules and output. Retailers too, are struggling, with defaults increasing. This has disrupted the supply chain and left manufacturers with rising inventory and delayed payments, aggravating their cash flow problems.

The situation is uniformly grim across

all segments of the panel industry. While new MDF plants are incurring cash losses, particle boards are battling a similarly precarious financial position. Laminates and plywood manufacturers face parallel challenges, with rising expenses for exhibitions and promotional activities adding to their woes. Despite these efforts, the market remains not so warm, with fewer working days and the cold weather in North India further dampening productivity.

Despite the current bleak scenario, there is hope on the horizon. Many industry stakeholders believe that the implementation of Quality Control Orders (QCO) in the next financial year could bring about much-needed improvements. Stricter quality standards and regulatory measures might stabilise the market and provide a platform for recovery. Until then, businesses must weather this storm with resilience, innovation, and prudent financial management.

The panel industry stands at a crossroads, hoping for a turnaround that will enable it to reclaim its position as a vital contributor to the economy. The coming months will reveal more, but with collective effort and strategic interventions, recovery is within reach.

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Haryana Plywood Manufacturer's Association (HPMA) And Kandla Timber Association (KTA) Announces Plywood Price Hike

The plywood and allied industries are set to witness an immediate price hike as key associations respond to escalating raw material costs. The Haryana Plywood Manufacturers' Association (HPMA) has implemented a 5% increase in the rates of all plywood, block boards, and flush doors following a decision made during its Executive Committee meeting on 18th December, 2024, at the Gymkhana Club. This adjustment reflects rising production expenses due to the soaring costs of wood, fuel, and formaldehyde, ensuring continued operational efficiency and quality standards.

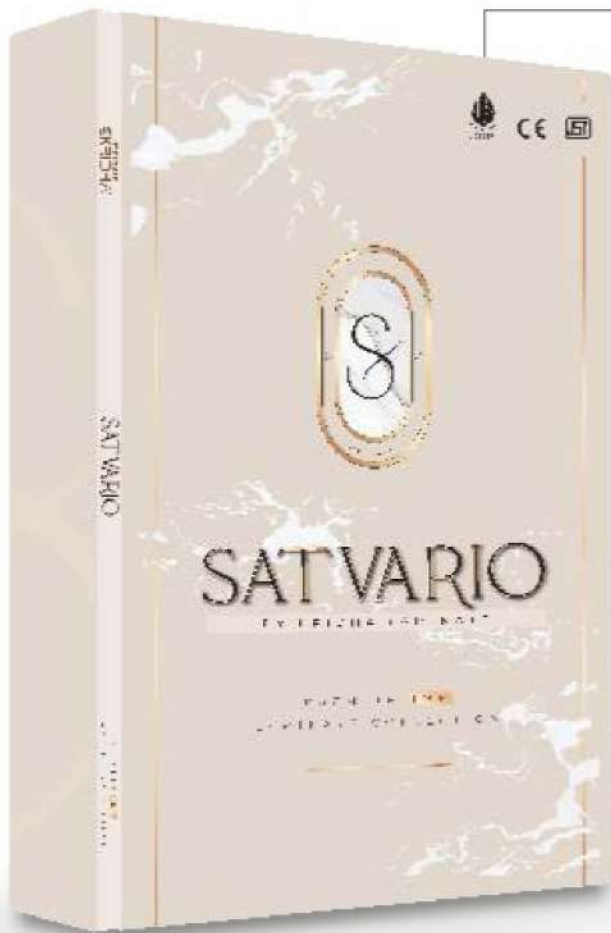
Similarly, the Kandla Timber Association (KTA), representing timber importers, traders, and plywood manufacturers, has also announced a price

adjustment effective from 18th December, 2024. During a meeting held on 17th December, 2024, at Timber Bhavan, Gandhidham, the KTA approved a 5% rate increase for plywood and a Rs. 3 per square foot increment for block boards and flush doors. The decision comes in response to heightened timber, resin, and labour costs, aimed at sustaining the industry's viability and delivering quality products to consumers.

These unified actions by HPMA and KTA underscore the challenges posed by rising raw material costs. Both associations are committed to adapting to market pressures while maintaining industry standards and safeguarding the long-term sustainability of their operations.

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Thin MDF Prices Rise by 4-5%

The rising timber prices in India are driving up the cost of thin MDF, with prices rising by up to 5% across thicknesses ranging from 1.9mm to 6mm. Market trends and pricing studies indicate that while the thin MDF segment is experiencing a surge in demand, resulting in price acceptance, the thicker MDF range continues to face a supply push.

The ongoing festive and marriage seasons have fuelled steady demand for thin MDF, particularly in sectors such as gifting, sports, framing, and décor. The use of pre-laminated thin MDF has seen a rise in applications for furniture and interior design, including wardrobes, almirahs, and bedside tables. An added factor contributing to this growth is the shift from importing thin MDF to increasing local production, which has been

steadily catching up.

Until recently, India relied heavily on imports to meet its demand for thin MDF, while domestic production was limited. However, the introduction of Conti roll lines by local manufacturers has significantly bolstered the supply of thin MDF. Key players like Century Prowud, Action Tesa, Rushil Decor, Pioneer and Green Panel are now supplying both plain and pre-laminated thin MDF, contributing to market stability.

Additionally, the export of MDF by Indian producers to international markets has helped achieve a more balanced supply-demand equilibrium within the local market. This shift has not only supported the domestic sector but also contributed to a more consistent availability of thin MDF in India.

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Morbi and Rajkot - Gujarat's Laminates Powerhouse

Nestled in the vibrant state of Gujarat, the city of Morbi is popular as India's "ceramic city." However, alongside its dominance in ceramics, Morbi has also carved a niche for itself in the laminates industry. What began 25–30 years ago with just two manufacturing units has grown into a sprawling industrial sector, making Morbi synonymous with laminates production.

The journey of laminates manufacturing in Morbi started post-2016, with an extraordinary rise in the number of operational units. By 2016, there were approximately 12 laminates units in Morbi. However, in just eight years, this number has tripled, with around 42 factories now operating in Morbi and its surrounding areas. An additional 8–9 factories are running in nearby Rajkot, reflecting the region's growing prominence in the sector.

The Morbi-Rajkot belt stands out in India for its concentration of laminates units. Interestingly, while the older factories date back several decades, many of the newer facilities have commenced production within the past decade. Despite this growth, only about 10 factories in Morbi have more than one press, a distinguishing factor compared to other regions. Expansion plans in the region often involve establishing new units under separate names, a trend that is reflected in Rajkot.

While Morbi and Rajkot collectively host around 50-52 laminates manufacturing units,

the press daylight capacity, the measure of output, is comparatively lower than other regions. This unique characteristic shapes the market focus of the manufacturers. The products primarily cater to Central and South India, where demand for laminates in 0.92 mm and 1 mm thickness is high. In contrast, the North Indian market prefers 0.8 mm laminates, resulting in limited supply from Morbi and Rajkot to the northern states due to higher transportation costs and longer delivery times.

Yet, the region has an advantage. As a hub for the ceramics industry, Morbi benefits from an extensive network of transporters, ensuring timely and cost-effective delivery to markets. This logistical convenience has enabled local manufacturers to expand their footprint even to far-reaching markets, including some in North India.

Manufacturers in Morbi and Rajkot are steadfast in their commitment to quality. Rather than engaging in direct competition with each other, they focus on outperforming producers from other regions. The North India market, in particular, serves as a significant benchmark for many laminates manufacturers here.

Products range from the commonly demanded 0.92 mm and 1 mm laminates to thicker varieties of 2–3 mm, which are also exported as commercial laminates. This versatility ensures that manufacturers cater to

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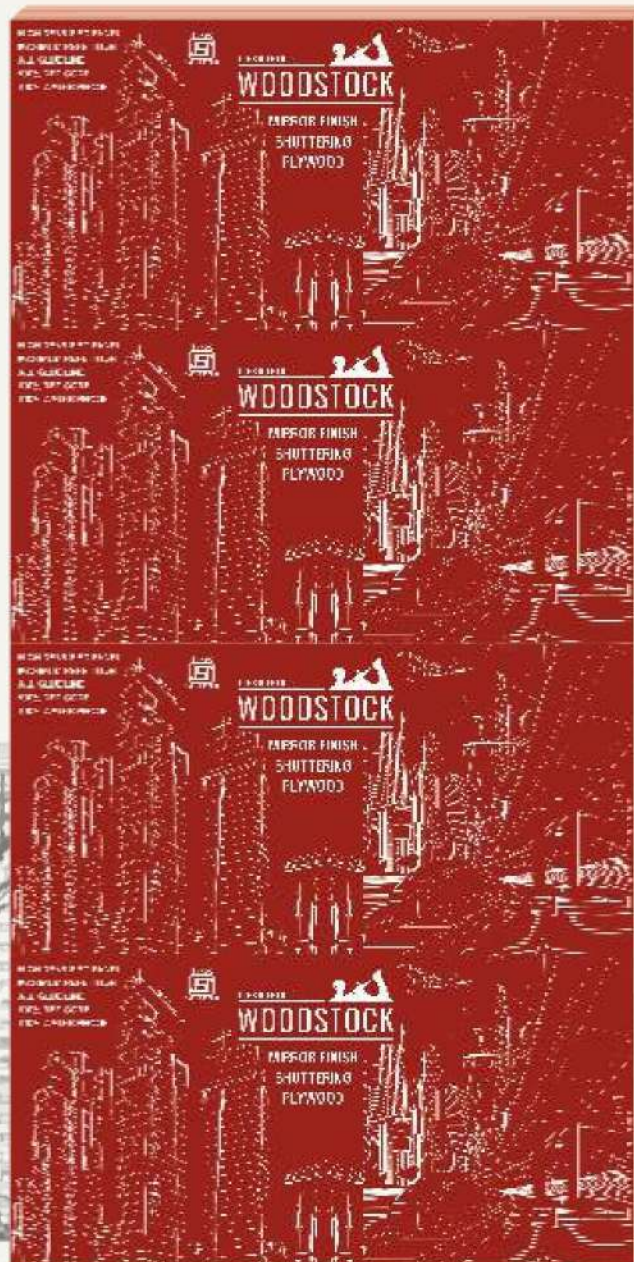
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diverse markets and maintain a competitive edge.

Atulbhai of Bell Laminates emphasises the importance of maintaining quality across all product ranges, a strategy that has earned his unit a strong reputation.

Similarly Anandbhai of Monal Laminates highlights the focus on 1 mm thickness laminates, which align with market demands.

Jaydeepbhai of Nelson Laminates notes that the robust network of transporters has significantly eased the process of supplying goods to North India. "Today, we are able to reach new markets efficiently and at lower costs," he shares, underlining the role of logistics in expanding market reach.

Morbi and Rajkot's laminates industry continues to grow, driven by quality, innovation, and efficient logistics. Manufacturers are now exploring ways to set up stock points in North India to improve accessibility and streamline operations. With its strong foundation and forward-looking approach, this industrial hub is poised to reinforce its position as a key player in India's



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laminates sector.

From a humble beginning with just two units, the laminates industry in Morbi and Rajkot has blossomed into a story of relentless growth and unyielding commitment to excellence. As this dynamic sector evolves, it not only meets the demands of Indian markets but also strengthens its identity as a powerhouse of quality and reliability.





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BIS to Enhance Collaboration with Industry for Advancing Standards

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has announced a follow-up meeting with industry associations to enhance collaboration and streamline the development and implementation of Indian Standards. Scheduled for Friday, 29th November 2024, under the chairmanship of Pramod Kumar Tiwari, the Director General of BIS. The meeting aims to discuss several key points to improve coordination between BIS and the industry.

The discussions will focus on strengthening the functioning of Standardisation Cells within industry associations to ensure better alignment with BIS. A primary focus will be the nomination of Chief Standardisation Officers by large and medium industries to act as nodal points for all standardisation-related activities, fostering more effective coordination with BIS.

Another crucial topic will be the development of indigenous Indian Standards for consumer products, aimed at meeting local needs and enhancing trust in domestic goods. Industry participation in BIS technical committees will also be emphasised, with industries encouraged to identify emerging areas for new standards and actively contribute to the drafting of documents for standard development. This will ensure that the standards remain relevant and practical.

The meeting will also highlight the need for industries to take a proactive role in

reviewing and updating standards in line with technological advancements. The industry will be encouraged to address gaps in current standards and eliminate outdated practices. Additionally, there will be discussions on the development of sector-specific codes of practice for sustainability, drawing from the best practices within the industry.

Training needs for quality control and management personnel will be identified to enable BIS to create targeted capacity-building programmes. Furthermore, industries will be encouraged to highlight product conformity to Indian Standards in their promotional advertisements, helping to build consumer confidence and promote quality assurance.

BIS also aims to focus on the unorganised sectors by identifying areas for targeted interventions to improve efficiency and reliability. The meeting will explore ways to leverage BIS digital platforms, including the BIS Care app, to encourage active participation, access information, and report complaints regarding QCO non-compliance and misuse of BIS marks.

Finally, the meeting will cover the nomination of experts to represent Indian industry interests in international standardisation efforts. The goal is to ensure that India's needs and priorities are well-represented in the global standardisation landscape.



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Government Tackles Non-Tariff Barriers for Exporters

In a significant step to support exporters, the government is devising a strategy to tackle non-tariff barriers (NTBs) that impede international trade. By forming a dedicated committee and planning the launch of an online portal, authorities aim to streamline the process of identifying and resolving these barriers.

Non-tariff barriers, unlike traditional tariffs or duties, encompass a range of measures such as documentation procedures, import restrictions, seasonal duties, tariff rate quotas, and public procurement practices. These are often seen as discriminatory against imports and can take years to resolve.

The timing of this initiative is crucial, as India negotiates free-trade agreements (FTAs) with several developed economies. Non-tariff measures, especially those related to environmental and sustainability norms, have emerged as significant hurdles for Indian exporters in these discussions.

A committee has been established to analyse the various barriers faced by exporters. Its mandate includes determining whether the regulations imposed by trade partners align with World Trade Organization (WTO) rules or if adjustments are required on India's end to address these challenges. The committee will

also review past objections raised by India and assess whether similar norms are adhered to by other countries.

The government has identified between 100 and 200 non-tariff barriers affecting Indian exports and is currently compiling trade data. To facilitate communication and expedite resolution, an online portal is set to launch in the coming months.

The portal will serve as a platform for exporters to report non-tariff barriers, helping determine if these challenges are WTO-compliant and whether they affect specific companies or multiple stakeholders. It will also provide insights into the history and frequency of such barriers, documenting how often they have been discussed with trade partners.

Additionally, the portal will act as a tracking system, allowing stakeholders to monitor progress in addressing these issues. By combining detailed analysis with accessible reporting tools, the government aims to reduce exporters' woes and ensure smoother trade operations in a competitive global market.

With this proactive approach, India hopes to not only enhance trade relations but also strengthen its position in the evolving landscape of international commerce.



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Rushil Decor Gears Up for Strong FY26 Growth with Strategic Expansions

Rushil Decor Limited is charting a new path to growth with a series of strategic initiatives aimed at broadening its market reach and product offerings. The company has announced ambitious plans, including the launch of its Jumbo Laminate Project and an entry into the plywood industry, both of which signal its intent to solidify its position in the decorative surfaces market.

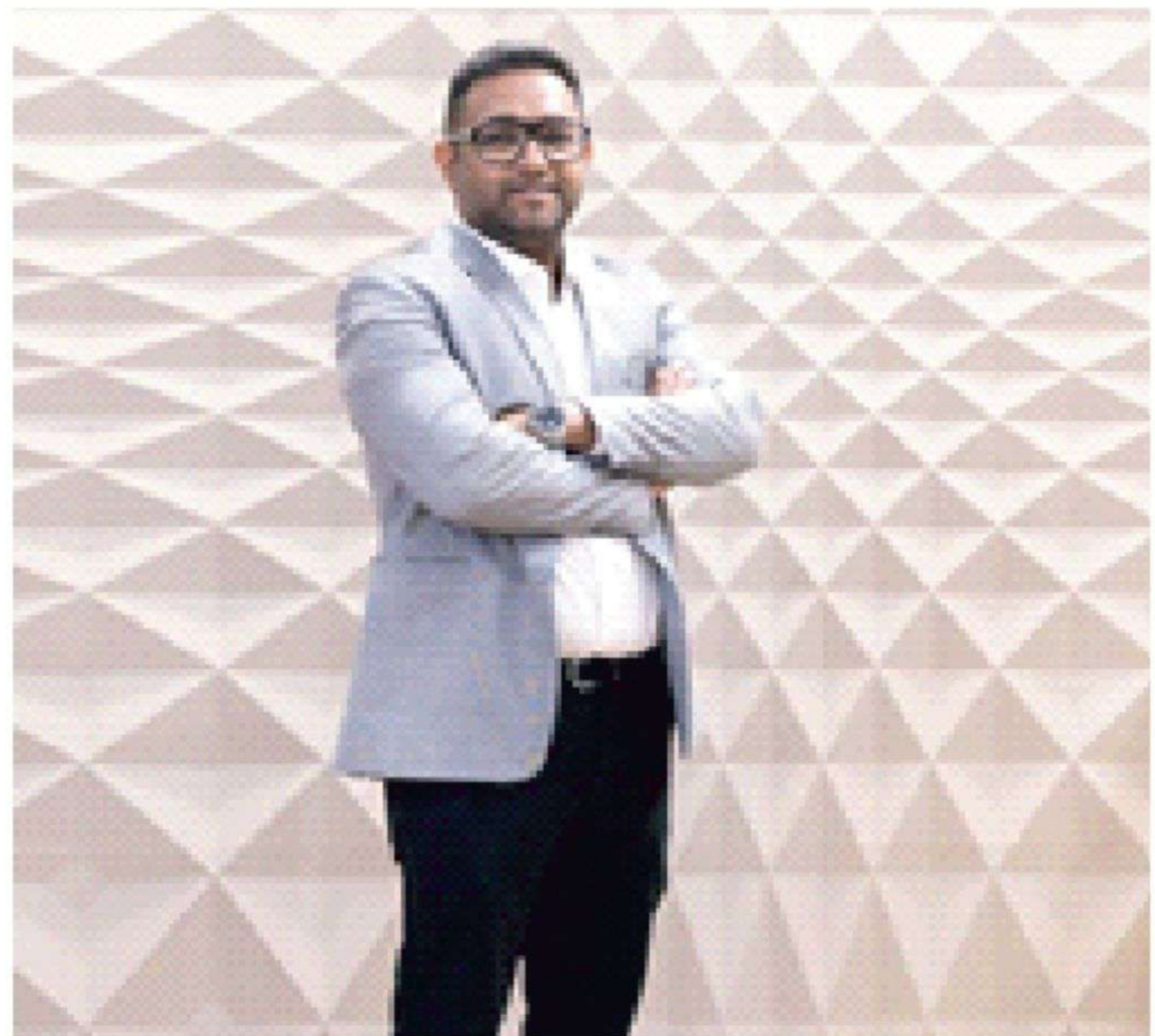
Jumbo Laminate Project: A Bold Step Forward

Set to begin operations in Gandhinagar by the end of FY2025, the Jumbo Laminate Project marks a significant milestone for Rushil Decor. Despite minor delays caused by supply chain challenges and adverse weather conditions, the plant is on track to deliver impressive production capacity. Once fully operational, it will produce approximately 25 lakh sheets annually, catering to the growing demand for thicker-format decorative laminates.

The company is targeting export markets, particularly in the USA and Europe, where demand for jumbo laminates is on the rise. To ensure success, Rushil Decor has begun building a strong sales and marketing network, hiring distributors, and recruiting talent to establish a firm foothold in these regions.

Venturing Into Plywood: Strengthening Domestic Presence

As part of its diversification strategy, Rushil Decor is making a strategic entry into the plywood market, focusing exclusively on the Indian market.



By offering a comprehensive range of wood panel products, the company aims to create synergies across its product lines and unlock cross-selling opportunities. This move not only strengthens its portfolio but also enhances its value proposition to distributors and end-users.

Driving Sustainable Growth

Commenting on the company's outlook, Managing Director Rushil Thakkar expressed confidence in the initiatives. "Our strategic expansions, including the imminent launch of the Jumbo Laminate Project and our entry into plywood, position us to deliver sustainable growth in FY2026. With a focus on capacity expansion, market-driven strategies, and long-term value creation, we remain committed to meeting the evolving needs of our stakeholders."

A Promising Future

Rushil Decor's proactive approach to exploring new markets and diversifying its offerings demonstrates its commitment to staying ahead in the competitive decorative surfaces industry. With its strong focus on quality, sustainability, and innovation, the company is poised to capture significant growth opportunities in the coming years.

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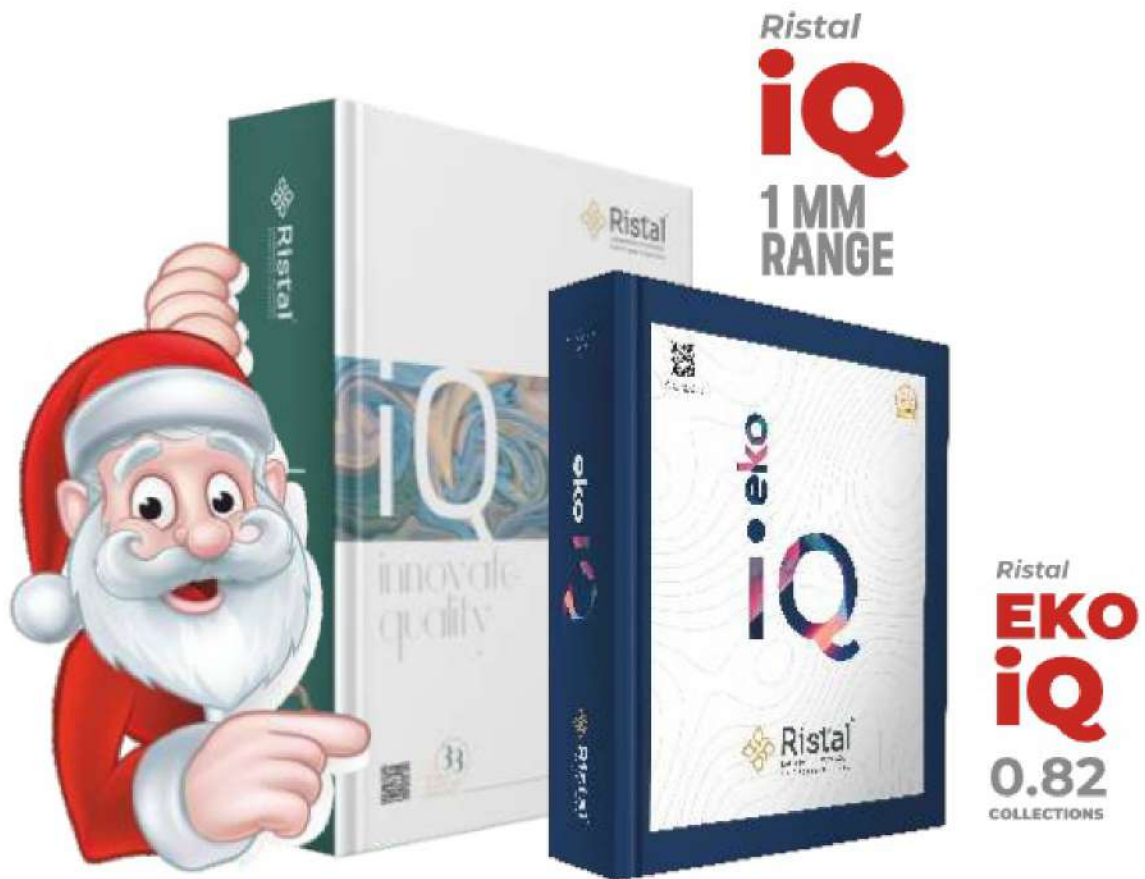


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Birmi Group

Unveiling of Treelab MDF

Recently, the Birmi Group unveiled their latest innovation, Treelab MDF. This launch marked a significant step in enhancing their product portfolio, renowned for their commitment to quality and innovation in the wood panel industry.

Treelab MDF promises to be a game-changer in the market, combining cutting-edge technology with the renowned quality of Birmi Group. The product is expected to set new standards for MDF manufacturing, catering to both the domestic and international markets, with a focus on sustainability and innovation.

Vinay Bansal, Birmi Group shared insights into the philosophy and progress of Treelab, touching upon its legacy, product quality, market strategies, and future plans.

He attributed the success of the Birmi Group to its foundation in joint Indian culture, likening the growth of their joint family to the expansion of their business and its contributions to the country. He emphasised that trust was a cornerstone of their operations, stating that the group fosters lifelong relationships with its channel partners, which has become a defining principle of their success.

He reflected on the group's evolution, starting with timber trading and diversifying into WPC products, textiles, and MDF. Each



step, he noted, was informed by market demands and a commitment to quality. Highlighting a significant milestone, he shared that the group set up a new MDF plant in 2022 after extensive market analysis, recognising MDF as a forward-looking product. Operations began in July 2024, with deliveries commencing in August.

Vinay Bansal explained that Treelab offers a comprehensive range of WPC solutions, including door frames, printed sheets, PVC laminates, and marble sheets. Their focus remains firmly on manufacturing rather than trading, ensuring consistent quality across their product portfolio.

He elaborated on the state-of-the-art MDF plant in Yamuna Nagar, which spans 25 acres and has a production capacity of 300 cubic metres per day. He emphasised their adherence to BIS standards and use of advanced machinery to maintain quality. Treelab

prioritises high-density MDF, specifically HDMHR 850+ as a premium offering, while also producing HDMHR 750+ to remain competitive. He highlighted their commitment to environmental responsibility, ensuring all MDF boards meet E0 and E1 emission standards from the outset.

Vinay Bansal stressed the importance of transparency, asserting that products like green boards must be properly labelled to avoid misleading customers. Treelab, he said, is dedicated to educating customers and providing ethical products. Despite challenges, the group remains resolute in adhering to principles and avoiding unethical practices.

He revealed that the MDF plant is currently operating at 60–70% capacity, with a target to achieve 100% utilisation by March. This ambitious goal, he explained, reflects both their commitment and the market's trust in their offerings.

He reiterated the group's focus on delivering high-quality products with the end user in mind. He assured that Treelab avoids any form of malpractice, supported by BIS certifications in MHR and HDF categories, alongside compliance with emission-free standards. He also noted that while they could manufacture certain products, they prioritised obtaining certifications, such as the CARB certificate, to ensure both compliance and consumer confidence.

He acknowledged the inherent challenges of business, affirming their resilience and optimism. Timber, he remarked, has been a key driver of their growth and will remain so. To counter inflation and competitive pricing, the group has adopted a proactive approach, successfully implementing a recent

4% price increase in wood products.

V Bansal highlighted their commitment to sustainability through extensive plantation activities. The group has completed 500–700 acres of plantations and continues to encourage local farmers to adopt this practice, emphasising its superior economic benefits over other crops. Their efforts are concentrated in areas like Yamuna Nagar and Panipat, leveraging Panipat's prominence as a timber hub.

He shared plans to integrate Konti Roll technology to improve thin MDF board production, complementing their successful range of thicker boards valued by the furniture industry. He expressed confidence that this would be implemented once production increases.

Vinay Bansal detailed their ambitions to expand, revealing that preparations for a new plant have already begun, including land acquisition near the existing facility. With operations nearing full capacity, he hinted at the launch of two new MDF products by February.

He attributed Treelab's growth to its robust dealer and distribution network. Their partnership-driven approach, he stated, positions them to expand further, with readiness to adapt swiftly to market demands.

Treelab, under the guidance of Vinay Bansal and the Birmi Group, continues to uphold its commitment to quality, sustainability, and ethical practices. From rigorous certifications to plantation initiatives and strategic expansions, the group remains dedicated to leading with innovation and integrity.

Greenply Partners with Pushpa 2: A Blockbuster Branding Move

Greenply Industries, a leader in India's plywood and interior infrastructure sector, has announced its branding association with the highly anticipated film "Pushpa 2: The Rule". The film, starring Allu Arjun and set for a worldwide release on 5th December, 2024, is one of the most awaited sequels of the year. Greenply's collaboration with this cinematic wonder is seen as a strategic effort to strengthen its consumer engagement and reinforce its market presence.

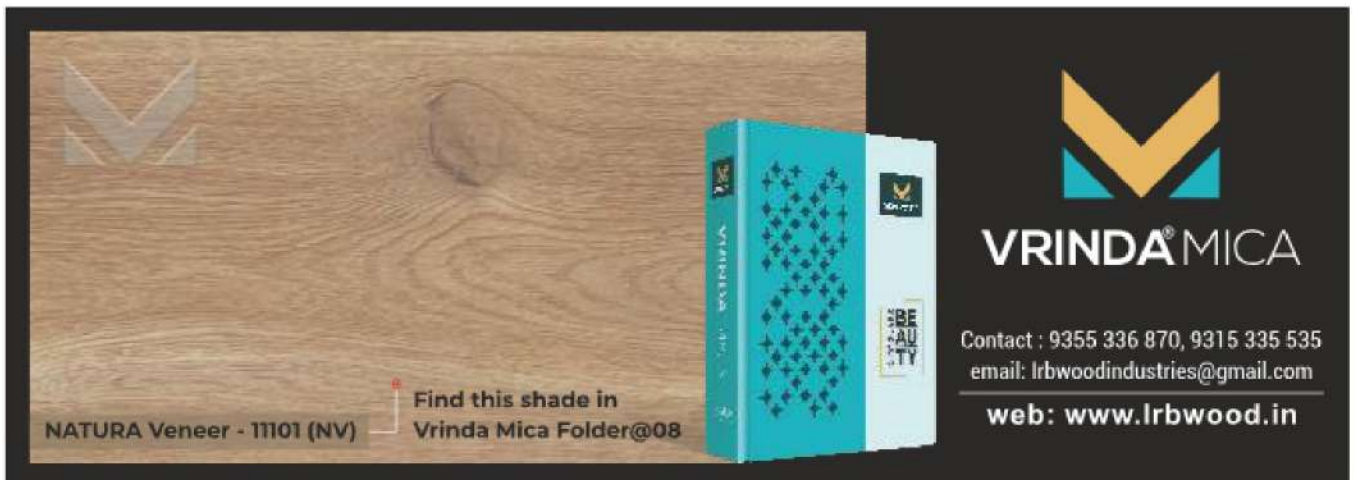
The prequel has already generated immense excitement among audiences, making it an ideal platform for Greenply to highlight its innovative advertising initiatives. The brand, renowned for its cutting-edge solutions in the interior design space, aims to connect with its audiences through the shared enthusiasm for larger-than-life narratives that resonate with millions of Indians.

In a statement, Sanidhya Mittal, Joint Managing Director of Greenply Industries,

emphasised the company's commitment to creativity and innovation in reaching consumers. He noted that collaborating with a cultural phenomenon like "Pushpa 2: The Rule" provided a unique opportunity to showcase the brand in an impactful way, merging its reputation for excellence with high-quality entertainment.

Echoing this sentiment, Cherry, CEO of Mythri Movie Makers, lauded Greenply's contribution as the film's "Interior Excellence Partner." He remarked that Greenply's meticulous approach and innovative solutions significantly enhanced the film's environment, creating a cinematic experience that would deeply resonate with audiences.

This partnership is part of Greenply's larger vision to create immersive brand experiences. The company has launched a series of exciting campaigns surrounding the association, including interactive social media contests and digital content initiatives aimed at



The advertisement features a large wood veneer sample on the left with a faint logo. Below it, text reads: "NATURA Veneer - 11101 (NV) Find this shade in Vrinda Mica Folder@08". To the right is a blue and white product folder with a pattern of small icons and the text "BEAUTY CITY". On the far right is the Vrinda Mica logo, a stylized 'V' in yellow and blue, with the text "VRINDA MICA" below it. At the bottom right, contact information is provided: "Contact : 9355 336 870, 9315 335 535 email: lrbwoodindustries@gmail.com web: www.lrbwood.in".

capturing the attention of new audiences. These efforts align with Greenply's ongoing mission to remain at the forefront of interior solutions while engaging meaningfully with its consumers.

Greenply Industries' involvement with Pushpa 2 underscores its commitment to innovation and audience-centric marketing. With the film expected to dominate entertainment conversations, the brand is poised to further establish itself as a cultural mainstay, leveraging storytelling and creativity to build deeper connections with its audience.

Greenply Industries Ltd. (GIL), a leader in plywood and interior solutions, operates four advanced manufacturing units across India.

Offering premium products like plywood, MDF, block boards, and PVC, it serves over 1,100 locations nationwide through a robust network of 2,300 dealers, 6,000 outlets, and 50 branches.

Known for innovation and sustainability, Greenply pioneered India's E-Zero plywood in FY21 and published the industry's first sustainability report in FY22. It has been a Great Place to Work from 2020 to 2022, setting benchmarks in product excellence and workplace culture.

By associating with "Pushpa 2: The Rule", Greenply demonstrates its ability to merge innovation with cultural relevance, reaffirming its position as a leader in India's interior solutions industry.

Must-Attend Event for Design Enthusiasts and Professionals

ABID Interiors 2025 promises to be the event of the season, offering an unmatched platform for interior design professionals, brands, and enthusiasts. Set to take place from 10th to 13th January, 2025, at the Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan in Kolkata, this exhibition is set to showcase the finest in the world of interiors.

From established names in the industry to emerging brands, ABID Interiors 2025 is the perfect opportunity to discover the latest trends, innovations, and groundbreaking ideas in interior design. The event will bring together a diverse range of products, services, and solutions, making it

the ideal space for professionals to network, collaborate, and find their next big inspiration.

Whether one is a seasoned professional looking to stay ahead of the curve, or a design enthusiast eager to explore the possibilities of space, ABID Interiors offers something for everyone.

Expect a rich experience filled with exhibitions, seminars, and interactive opportunities to engage with the industry's finest.

Don't miss the chance to be part of this exciting event that promises to shape the future of interior design in India.

Market Fee Discussion for Raw Materials from Outside the State

A significant discussion took place regarding the market fee on raw materials, including wood veneer and other materials coming from outside Uttar Pradesh. The discussion was held between Ashok Agarwal (Vidya), the Chairman, and Manoj Kumar Singh, the Chief Secretary of the Uttar Pradesh Government.

During the meeting, A. Agarwal expressed the concerns of industry stakeholders regarding the imposition of market fees on raw materials entering the state. In response, the Chief Secretary assured that the matter would be given prompt attention. A memorandum outlining the issues was submitted to the Chief Secretary, emphasising the challenges faced by the industry due to the current market fee structure.

Manoj Kumar Singh responded positively, assuring that he would convene a meeting with senior officials from the Market Department in the near future to discuss and resolve the matter. This proactive approach is expected to lead to a fair and balanced solution that benefits both the industry and the state, ensuring that the concerns raised are adequately addressed.

The resolution of this issue will have a significant impact on businesses that rely on raw materials imported from outside the state, ensuring smooth operations and reducing financial burdens. The assurance from the Chief Secretary reflects the government's commitment to fostering a supportive environment for businesses in Uttar Pradesh.



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FIPPI Managing Committee Meeting: Highlights

The Managing Committee of the Federation of Indian Plywood & Panel Industry (FIPPI) convened on 22nd November 2024, at 3pm under the leadership of FIPPI President Rajesh Mittal. The meeting, held both in-person and virtually, brought together prominent industry leaders and members to discuss pressing issues and future plans for the sector.

Opening Remarks and Agenda Approval

Rajesh Mittal welcomed all members and extended a special acknowledgement to Sajjan Bhajanka, Chief Patron and Past President, who congratulated R Mittal on his first meeting as President. S Bhajanka expressed optimism about FIPPI's growth under the guidance of Dr. M.P. Singh, Director General. Following this, the minutes of the 41st Annual General Meeting (held on 6th November 2024) were unanimously approved.

Key Agenda Items

1. Office Space Purchase and Renovation

Senior Vice President Jaydeep Chittlangia informed members about the finalisation of office space at Vikrant Tower, Rajendra Place, New Delhi. Members unanimously authorised J Chittlangia and Dr. Singh to execute agreements and oversee renovations, with an estimated budget of ₹10 lakh.

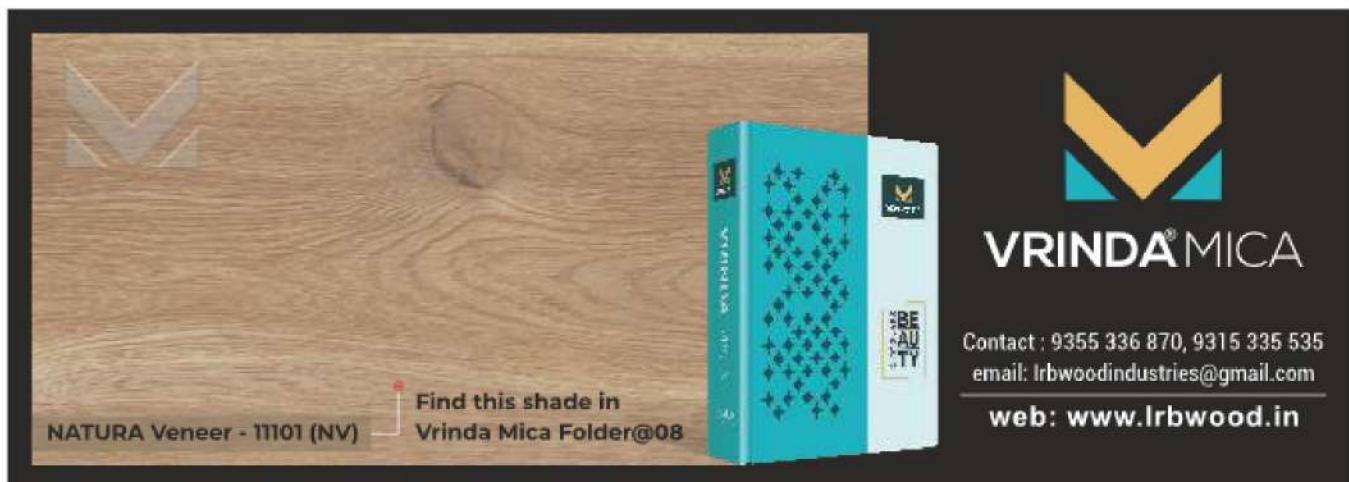
2. Roadmap Implementation

Dr. M.P. Singh sought member input on various thematic areas:

Organisational Matters:

The new subscription fee structure will be based on turnover from the preceding financial year and applied starting 2025-26.

Members with pending subscription fees



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were given a grace period until 31st December, 2024, to retain committee membership.

Regional manufacturing associations will have increased representation, and young leaders were included as alternate committee members to nurture future leadership.

Product Standardisation and Innovation:

Two subcommittees were formed: one for plywood, led by Abhishek Chittlangia, and another for panels, led by Jikesh Thakkar.

Concerns about COO implementation and laboratory sampling were discussed, with plans to address these issues in a meeting with DG BIS on 29th November, 2024.

Trade Issues:

Members deliberated on reducing import duties on wood logs and veneers and discussed GST-related proposals from Ernst & Young, to be further reviewed on 29th November, 2024.

Raw Material Sustainability:

Discussions highlighted regional disparities in raw material costs and the need for enhanced plantation efforts. A subcommittee was proposed to address raw material supply gaps.

Policy and Institutional Change:

Members emphasised pursuing the establishment of a Timber Products Council and updating FIPPI's roadmap for engaging with government and forestry departments.

3. Seminar Planning for FIPPI Foundation Day

Dr. Singh proposed forming a dedicated committee for organising a seminar to

celebrate FIPPI's Foundation Day on 4th January, 2025. Members suggested aligning the event with a clear vision and ample preparation.

4. Souvenir Contributions and Content Development

Contributions from key members, including Sajjan Bhajanka and Rajesh Mittal, were acknowledged. Plans were outlined for publishing a coffee-table book covering FIPPI's journey and industry insights. Members emphasised high-quality contributions and suggested engaging external experts to enhance the publication.

5. Miscellaneous Decisions

The committee authorised decisions regarding vehicle procurement for FIPPI office bearers to be finalised during the 29th November meeting in Delhi.

Closing Remarks

The meeting concluded with positive reflections from members. Jaydeep Chittlangia expressed gratitude for the active participation and noted the importance of young leaders joining the discussions. He recalled FIPPI's past successes, such as lifting the CPWD ban on wood products, and urged members to continue working collaboratively for the industry's growth.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair, reinforcing FIPPI's commitment to addressing industry challenges and fostering innovation.

FIPPI proposes solutions for BIS Quality Control Orders on Plywood

In a letter addressed to the Director General, Bureau of Indian Standards, the Federation of Indian Plywood & Panel Industry (FIPPI) has expressed its appreciation for the proactive steps taken by the Bureau of Indian Standards in revising standards to align with the evolving raw materials and usage patterns of wood-based products. Currently, 18 standards related to Wood-Based Boards, Plywoods, Wooden Flush Door Shutters, and Resin-Treated Compressed Wood Laminates are under revision or finalisation and have been included under the Quality Control Orders (QCOs) of 2024.

However, the industry is encountering several challenges in meeting the QCO requirements. Firstly, the BIS licensing scenario shows that only about 25% of the total units in this sector currently hold BIS licenses. The response from new industrial units seeking BIS licenses has been poor, with only 30-35 new industries approaching BIS so far. Additionally, there are logistical issues with the insufficient number of testing laboratories, there are only 24 labs across the country to serve approximately 3300 small, medium, and large manufacturers. As a result, the waiting time for test reports for plywood samples has increased to nearly 40-60

days.

In order to address this, FIPPI proposes the establishment of more testing labs in key plywood manufacturing clusters with a quick turnaround time. For MICRO and small-scale manufacturers, it is almost impossible to set up their own labs due to economic constraints. Allowing BIS certified private labs to operate in cluster areas would be a great relief to those industries.

Another concern is the sampling requirements under the BIS circular no. CMD-1/2 dated 10th April 2023, which mandates drawing 2 samples from each factory and 4 samples from the market annually for each license. This means, if a factory holds 4-5 licenses or more, around 24 to 30 samples may need to be withdrawn every year, causing significant operational challenges and a heavy financial burden for MSMEs to maintain BIS licenses.

Moreover, the license cancellation policy, applied retroactively from 10th April 2021, poses challenges for manufacturers who struggle to meet the high standards on multiple samples. The threshold of 50% sample failures over two years, resulting in automatic licence cancellation, adds an additional burden for the

industry.

To facilitate a smoother transition and help manufacturers adapt to the new standards, the body recommends a 50% reduction in sampling requirements for the first two years under QCO compliance. This approach will allow manufacturers more time to build quality into their processes without incurring excessive costs.

In addition, it's essential to expand access to testing facilities, particularly by setting up more labs in key plywood manufacturing clusters across the country. This would significantly reduce logistical costs, make testing more affordable, and increase participation in quality compliance efforts,

especially for MSMEs.

The Federation of Indian Plywood & Panel Industry believes that bringing awareness and educating the industry about the importance of quality products and improvements in production processes is crucial. It is advisable for BIS, in association with DPIIT, FIPPI, and state-level plywood manufacturers associations, to initiate an awareness programme to ensure broader compliance.

FIPPI appreciates BIS's attention to these matters and looks forward to a prompt response. It remains committed to supporting BIS in achieving its mission of delivering high-quality products to consumers.

Cabinet Approves National Mission on Natural Farming

On 25th November 2024, the Cabinet approved the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) as a standalone Centrally Sponsored Scheme under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare. This initiative aims to promote sustainable agricultural practices and support farmers in adopting natural farming methods.

Key features of the mission include the establishment of 10,000 need-based Bio-input Resource Centres to ensure farmers have easy access to ready-to-use

natural farming inputs. Additionally, approximately 2,000 Natural Farming Model Demonstration Farms will be created at Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Agricultural Universities, and farmers' fields to showcase and encourage the adoption of these practices.

The mission also introduces a streamlined certification system and a dedicated common branding approach to help farmers market their natural farming produce effectively.

QCO, opportunities and challenges

The Quality Control Order (QCO) for plywood is designed to enhance domestic production, improve product quality, reduce reliance on imports, and stimulate job creation within India. With the enforcement of this order, plywood products must comply with Indian Standard IS 303:1989 and carry the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) mark, ensuring adherence to quality norms.

The QCO will be implemented in two phases: Phase 1, covering MDF, block boards, and particle boards, is set for 10th February 2025, while Phase 2, including plywood and related categories, will be enforced by 28th February 2025. Adhering to these deadlines is crucial to maintain the credibility of the initiative and avoid market disruption.

Despite widespread awareness, smaller manufacturers continue to face challenges in meeting the QCO requirements due to limited technical expertise, financial constraints, and infrastructure deficiencies. These challenges are compounded by concerns over the financial burden of upgrading facilities and the complexities of obtaining necessary certifications. Additionally, the market's sluggish demand and the influx of substandard imports have created resistance to adopting QCO standards, with many stakeholders feeling there is little incentive to comply.

The QCO presents significant

opportunities for the Indian wood panel industry, including enhancing product quality, increasing consumer confidence, and positioning Indian products as reliable both domestically and internationally. By aligning with global standards, the QCO will open new export markets, promote eco-friendly materials, and drive innovation in manufacturing. To ensure successful implementation, manufacturers must be encouraged to invest in compliance, while the government should provide support to SMEs and enforce stringent regulations on substandard imports. With collaboration from all stakeholders, the QCO can transform challenges into opportunities, ensuring the industry's long-term growth and sustainability.

The implementation of the Quality Control Order (QCO) for the plywood and panel industry in India has garnered significant attention from various trade associations across the sector. The Federation of Indian Plywood and Panel Industry (FIPPI), along with other associations such as All Bharat Plywood and Laminate Traders Vyapari Association (ABPLTA), the Rajasthan Plywood Manufacturers Association (RPMA), Furniture Manufacturers Association (FMA), Bengaluru Plywood Manufacturers Association (BPMA), Plywood Manufacturers Welfare Association (PMWA), Bareilly, All India Plywood

Manufacturers Association (AIPMA), Plywood Manufacturers Welfare Association, Shahjahanpur UP, J&K Plywood Manufacturers Association, Jammu, are advocating for the timely and stringent enforcement of the QCO. These stakeholders emphasise that the QCO will help protect the domestic industry, boost innovation, promote rural employment, and align with India's broader goals of environmental sustainability and self-reliance.

We highlight key concerns, addressed by these bodies to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)

Federation of Indian Plywood & Panel Industry (FIPPI)

Importance of QCO Implementation

The Quality Control Orders (QCO) issued by DPIIT are pivotal for driving sustainable growth and enhancing the global competitiveness of India's plywood and panel industry. With the plywood sector growing at a 10% CAGR and MDF and particle board sectors at 15-20%, a robust quality assurance framework is crucial. QCO implementation will ensure stringent quality standards, resulting in durable, eco-friendly products, boosting consumer trust, and fostering innovation. It aligns with India's sustainable development goals by promoting agroforestry-based industries, rural employment, and balanced regional growth, while strengthening the organised furniture sector to compete globally.

Industry Readiness and Call for Action

The plywood and panel industry, supported by BIS, is actively preparing for QCO

implementation by modernising standards and conducting awareness programmes on compliance and registration. FIPPI emphasises the urgent need for QCO to safeguard consumer interests, elevate domestic manufacturers, and position the industry as a global leader. Reinforcing its commitment to quality and efficiency, FIPPI seeks immediate action to realise the transformative potential of QCO for the sector.

The All Bharat Plywood and Laminate Traders Vyapari Association (ABPLTA)

Industry Concerns

The All Bharat Plywood and Laminate Traders Vyapari Association (ABPLTA) highlights challenges in implementing BIS standards, including misuse of ISI marks, quality compliance gaps, and unfair practices such as rebranding non-compliant imports. These issues undermine market credibility and create risks of monopolies, disadvantaging small and medium manufacturers and traders. Additionally, imported materials often outcompete domestic products in quality and price, while brand duplicacy further confuses consumers and disrupts the market. Disparities in applying BIS standards to finished goods but not raw materials, along with unequal access to state-specific raw materials, exacerbate the challenges for local industries.

Proposed Actions and Way Forward

ABPLTA calls for stricter enforcement of BIS regulations, penalties for fake certifications, and greater transparency in compliance. It advocates for subsidies, training,

and education programmes to support small manufacturers and traders, alongside stricter accountability for larger players. The association suggests conducting industry surveys to assess compliance gaps and challenges while urging collaboration to improve quality standards. Acting as a bridge between policymakers, manufacturers, and traders, ABPLTA aims to promote transparency, equitable growth, and protection for smaller players in the plywood and laminate industry.

The Rajasthan Plywood Manufacturers Association (RPMA)

Critical Importance of QCO

The Rajasthan Plywood Manufacturers Association (RPMA) underscores the transformative potential of the Quality Control Order (QCO) for India's wood-based panel industry, which is growing at a 10% CAGR. Implementing robust quality standards will ensure durable, eco-friendly, and sustainable products, fostering global competitiveness, consumer trust, and industry innovation. QCO will also promote sustainable development, support agroforestry practices, enhance rural employment, and drive balanced regional growth, while strengthening India's organised furniture sector to secure a stronger position in global markets.

Call for Immediate Implementation

RPMA highlights the industry's readiness, with BIS modernising standards and conducting awareness programmes in collaboration with RPMA Jaipur to prepare manufacturers for compliance. The association

emphasises the urgent need for QCO implementation to safeguard consumer interests, uplift the domestic plywood sector, and enhance India's global competitiveness. This timely action will catalyse growth, ensure fair practices, and propel the industry toward sustainable progress.

The Furniture Manufacturers Association (FMA)

Key Concerns in the Furniture Industry

The Furniture Manufacturers Association (FMA) highlights critical issues in BIS regulations, noting inconsistencies between raw materials requiring ISI markings and finished furniture products exempt from such standards. This discrepancy risks increasing furniture imports, particularly from China, threatening Indian manufacturers with high raw material costs and limited supply. Plywood, MDF, and particle boards, key to residential and infrastructure growth, face challenges from substandard imports, escalating domestic wood prices, and inadequate plantation initiatives compared to countries like Thailand and Vietnam. Strained wood resources, coupled with rising demand from projects like smart cities, further emphasise the need for sustainable practices and standardisation.

Requests for Fair Policies and Quality Standards

The FMA calls for aligning BIS standards for raw materials and finished products to protect domestic manufacturers and ensure fair competition. Expedited ISI licensing audits for foreign suppliers and mandatory BIS

certification for imported engineered wood are critical to addressing trade delays and safeguarding the industry. Support for MSMEs through balanced policies, access to affordable raw materials, and sustainable agroforestry practices is essential. Additionally, adopting global quality benchmarks like E1/E0 emission standards and CARB regulations will enhance product competitiveness, while promoting high-quality, eco-friendly engineered wood to meet evolving market needs.

The Bengaluru Plywood Manufacturers Association (BPMA)

Challenges from Low-Cost Imports

The Bengaluru Plywood Manufacturers Association highlights the threat posed by low-cost imports from countries like Nepal, Thailand, Vietnam, and China, which often fail to meet quality standards. These substandard imports erode market share, revenue, and employment opportunities for domestic manufacturers, endangering the sustainability of the Indian plywood industry. Addressing this issue requires stringent measures to curb inferior products and protect Indian businesses from unfair competition.

Call for QCO Implementation

The Association advocates for the expedited implementation of the Quality Control Order (QCO) to enforce higher quality standards, boost domestic competitiveness, and reduce dependency on imports. Aligning with the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, QCO will promote indigenous production, safeguard jobs, and enhance the plywood sector's

economic health. Additionally, the Association seeks a meeting with government officials to discuss the urgency of QCO implementation and explore collaborative solutions for the industry's growth and survival.

The Plywood Manufacturers Welfare Association, Bareilly

Support for QCO Implementation

The Plywood Manufacturers Welfare Association, Bareilly, fully supports the Quality Control Orders (QCO) scheduled for February 2025, covering wood-based boards, plywood, and wooden flush doors. With over 3,500 plywood manufacturers in India, most large and medium industries are already BIS-registered, and small-scale units will receive a 3-6 months relaxation period for compliance. The association opposes further delays, as past extensions have led to a surge of cheap, inferior imports from countries like Nepal, Vietnam, Thailand, and China, harming MSMEs and causing closures and unemployment.

Call for Timely Implementation

The association emphasises the urgency of adhering to the February 2025 deadlines to protect the industry from substandard imports and ensure economic and employment stability. With sustainable raw material supplies supported by agroforestry and many factories already meeting international standards, the industry is export-ready and well-positioned to compete globally. Timely enforcement of QCO will safeguard MSMEs, prevent job losses, and contribute to the sector's long-term growth and resilience.

The All India Plywood Manufacturers Association (AIPMA)

Support for QCO Implementation

The All India Plywood Manufacturers Association appreciates DPIIT's efforts in introducing Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for plywood, wooden flush door shutters, and block boards. These measures are critical for improving domestic quality standards and fostering sustainable growth. The industry is prepared for immediate implementation as notified and opposes any timeline extensions. However, the dumping of substandard imports, often with fake BIS markings, poses a threat to indigenous manufacturers, misleads consumers, and jeopardises the livelihoods of farmers and workers reliant on plantation timber like Eucalyptus and Poplar.

Alignment with National Goals and Urgent Action

QCO enforcement will promote agroforestry-based industries, benefiting farmers, mitigating environmental pollution, and supporting regional economic growth in states like UP and Haryana. By ensuring sustainability and enhancing global competitiveness, the orders align with India's ecological and industrial goals. Awareness programmes by FIPPI and BIS are equipping stakeholders for compliance. The association urges DPIIT to expedite QCO implementation to safeguard consumer interests, protect the domestic industry, and reinforce India's leadership in sustainable industrial practices.

The Plywood Manufacturers Welfare

Association, Shahjahanpur UP

Support for QCO and Industry Readiness

The Plywood Manufacturers Welfare Association, Shahjahanpur UP, welcomes the Quality Control Order (QCO) by DPIIT and BIS, recognising its significance in standardising plywood, wooden boards, and flush doors. Large and medium industries are already BIS-registered, with sufficient compliance time (3-6 months) provided for smaller units. However, past extensions have enabled the influx of low-quality imports from countries like Nepal, Vietnam, Thailand, and China, undermining domestic manufacturers, reducing production capacity, and causing closures of MSME units, leading to unemployment and economic strain.

Call for Timely Implementation

The association emphasises the need for strict adherence to the February 2025 QCO enforcement dates to curb substandard imports and protect the domestic industry. Agroforestry growth, driven by favourable returns from timber plantations, ensures sustainable raw material supply, while many domestic factories already meet export standards. Timely action will enhance employment, support fair competition, and align the industry with global benchmarks. The association appreciates the department's efforts and requests decisive steps to safeguard the sector's future.

The J&K Plywood Manufacturers Association

Support for QCO and Industry Benefits

The J&K Plywood Manufacturers Association strongly endorses the Quality

Control Order (QCO) to tackle challenges from foreign competition and safeguard the Indian plywood industry. By enforcing minimum quality standards, the QCO will protect domestic manufacturers from unfair competition, enhance consumer safety by addressing substandard products, and drive innovation and quality improvements, bolstering the global competitiveness of Indian manufacturers.

Urgent Call for QCO Implementation

The association urges the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to implement the QCO without delay to secure the industry's future and protect livelihoods. With widespread industry support, the QCO represents a critical step toward sustainable growth, agroforestry promotion, and economic modernisation. Its prompt enforcement will ensure a level playing field, foster long-term development, and strengthen India's global position in the plywood and panel sectors.

Delhi-NCR Plywood Manufacturer Association (DPMA)

BIS Certification: Strengthening Quality Control in Imports

The Indian government has adopted mandatory BIS certification as a key regulatory tool to curb the import of substandard products and enforce adherence to national quality standards. This policy ensures that imported goods, such as plywood, meet specific Indian Standards (IS codes) and carry the ISI mark or BIS registration before entering the market. To streamline implementation, BIS collaborates

with customs authorities to block non-compliant imports at ports, aligning this initiative with the "Make in India" campaign to bolster domestic industries. These measures aim to curb the influx of cheap, low-quality imports, protect consumers, and promote local production.

Ensuring Compliance Through Swift Enforcement

The government's "No Delays" policy mandates immediate enforcement of BIS certification to minimise loopholes. Real-time collaboration between customs and BIS officials ensures non-compliant imports are swiftly identified and barred from clearance. Industries like plywood must meet strict standards such as IS 303 and IS 710 to gain market entry. Non-compliance results in significant penalties, including fines, seizure of goods, and cancellation of import permits. By enforcing stringent quality control and aligning imports with domestic standards, BIS certification safeguards consumer interests and supports India's economic growth.

The South Indian Plywood Manufacturers Association (SIPMA)

Raising Standards in the Wood-Based Panel Industry

The Indian Wood-Based Panel Industry, with a market size of over ₹500 billion, plays a crucial role in the country's economy. However, challenges such as lack of standardisation, environmental concerns, and an unregulated market hinder its growth. To address these issues, the government has proposed a Quality Control Order (QCO) for plywoods,

blockboards, flush doors, particle board, and MDF. The initiative, led by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), aims to establish uniform quality standards, promote sustainable forestry, and enhance the industry's reputation. This measure is expected to boost exports, generate government revenue, and create job opportunities, especially in rural areas through sustainable wood sourcing.

Benefits for Consumers and the Nation

The QCO ensures that wood-based panels meet quality benchmarks, offering consumers durable, safe, and high-performing products. It safeguards against counterfeit goods, promotes transparency, and provides better value for money. Additionally, the QCO aligns with the "Make in India" initiative, fostering environmental sustainability by encouraging plantations and reducing deforestation. For the country, it translates to increased exports, enhanced industry growth, and significant government revenue through certifications and taxes. With its focus on quality, safety, and environmental stewardship, the QCO is a pivotal step in supporting the wood-based panel industry's long-term development and strengthening consumer confidence.

Haryana Plywood Mfr. Association (HPMA)

Industry Ready for QCO Implementation - A Step Towards Quality Assurance

The plywood and wooden door manufacturing cluster in Haryana, comprising over 350 units, has expressed readiness to implement the Quality Control Orders (QCO)

for Plywood and Wooden Flush Doors. Initially scheduled for 2024, the QCO deadlines were extended to February 2025 to accommodate merchant requests. However, the industry asserts that further deferrals would be counterproductive. The QCOs, supported by BIS workshops and amendments, aim to enhance product quality and curb the influx of substandard imports, ensuring a competitive edge for domestic manufacturers. BIS's provision of shared testing facilities further supports micro and small enterprises, enabling smooth compliance with the new standards.

Safeguarding Farmers and Employment Through Timely Implementation

The timely enforcement of QCOs is crucial to protect Indian farmers cultivating Poplar, Eucalyptus, Kadam, and Melia Dubia trees. Delays would allow low-quality imports to undermine domestic production, leading to reduced wood prices and discouraging tree plantation efforts. As a labor-intensive sector, the plywood industry provides significant employment opportunities, particularly to unskilled workers. Ensuring adherence to QCOs will not only stabilise domestic production but also sustain rural livelihoods and encourage sustainable forestry practices. The industry urges the government to prioritise the QCO deadlines to foster quality, economic stability, and environmental sustainability in the wood-based manufacturing sector.

Punjab Plywood Manufacturers Association (PPMA)

A Timely Boost for the Wood-Based Industry

The Indian plywood and wooden door industry welcomes the Quality Control Orders (QCOs) issued by the DPIIT, aimed at eliminating substandard imports and promoting high-quality domestic production. Industry stakeholders assert their readiness for immediate implementation and emphasise that no extensions are required. The QCOs are expected to protect consumers from deceptive practices, such as fake BIS markings on inferior imports, while also aligning with the government's "Make in India" initiative. By enforcing strict quality standards, the QCOs will bolster the competitiveness of indigenous manufacturers, ensuring better products for consumers and safeguarding the integrity of the Indian plywood market.

Supporting Farmers and Curbing Substandard Imports

The industry highlights the critical role of QCOs in preventing the influx of low-quality plywood that threatens both local manufacturers and farmers. Reliant on plantation-grown trees like Eucalyptus and Poplar, the sector has provided farmers with

viable alternatives to traditional crops, improving their livelihoods. However, unchecked imports risk undermining this progress, destabilising the market, and endangering jobs for lakhs of workers. Mandatory BIS norms under the QCOs will ensure quality control, curb counterfeit practices, and uphold the economic stability of the wood-based industry while reinforcing sustainable forestry practices essential for rural income and employment generation.

The Indian plywood and panel industry is poised to embrace the QCO adoption scheduled for February 2025, with significant progress in BIS standardisation and the formalisation of ISI mark norms. Despite challenges, industry efforts are boosting readiness, especially among SMEs and MSMEs. QCO implementation is expected to curb the influx of cheap imports, enhance the quality of domestic products, and boost demand for Indian plywood. Let's hope for a bright future with robust macroeconomic support for sustained growth.

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One Plus Density MDF Finds Favour in Restroom Cubicles

The development of 850 Kg/cubic metre density MDF has been a gamechanger of India's MDF sector growth. Its acceptance as a High Density + Moisture Resistant product has supported this sector to reach a new height. The recent introduction of 1000 Kg/cubic metre plus density MDF is setting a new benchmark of this sector. This product is widely being accepted for the Toilet Cubicles purpose. This product is 25 % economically priced compared to HPL compact sheets in this segment with similar features as per contractor's report.

Action Tesa has developed this product in India, and named this BOILO HDF Boards, available in different thicknesses and sizes but for cubicle purposes it is available in 6 ft. pre-

laminated boards with one plus density. These cubicles are being used for commercial purposes such as Airport, Railways, Offices, work stations, wall partitions and kitchens.

Action TESA is the first company to introduce this sort of product globally. The BOILO board is produced using cutting-edge technology and an inventive process. It has low-flammability features thanks to its nano-engineered particles. Also, recognising the unique challenges posed by water in kitchen spaces, Action TESA takes pride in being the first in India to unveil premium boiling lower case waterproof boards exclusively designed to combat water-related issues.

BOILO boards possess unique properties of BWF



(Boiling Water-Proof), HDF (High-Density Fibreboard), and Fire Resistance, making them exceptional for kitchen applications. These boards are not only suitable for diverse environmental conditions but also resistant to fungus, addressing the specific challenges posed by damp kitchen spaces.

Following in the footsteps of HDHMR Board's popularity, Action Tesa Boilo Boiling Water Proof (BWP) with FR Grade HDF Boards is on a similar trajectory and quickly rising to the top of the list among architects, builders, interior designers, and homeowners. Rising climate change, escalating fire incidents, and more such life-threatening and asset killing catastrophes drove Action TESA to innovate BOILO.

BOILO-BWP FR HDF Boards stand out as a high-density solution, boasting a density exceeding 1000+ Kg/M³. These boards offer a Toughened Surface, High Impact Resistance, Termite Proofing, Environment

Friendliness, and Fungus Resistance, making them the ideal choice for kitchen environments.

Ajay Aggarwal, Managing Director, Action TESA says, "Action Tesa is one company that has always prioritised addressing consumer concerns over safety and quality in addition to investing in research and technology. BOILO is Action TESA's unique product that reflects our commitment to quality and innovation. From kitchen areas to restroom cubicles and various construction applications, Fire retardant is one of the greatest safety features you can have in your home, office, or other such spaces."



15th anniversary of World Bamboo Day

The 15th anniversary of World Bamboo Day was recently celebrated in Chiang Mai, marking a significant milestone for the global bamboo community. Reflecting on the visit, participants remarked that returning to Chiang Mai after many years felt surreal, as the city had transformed into Thailand's second-largest metropolis, bustling with tourists and activity, much like other parts of Asia.

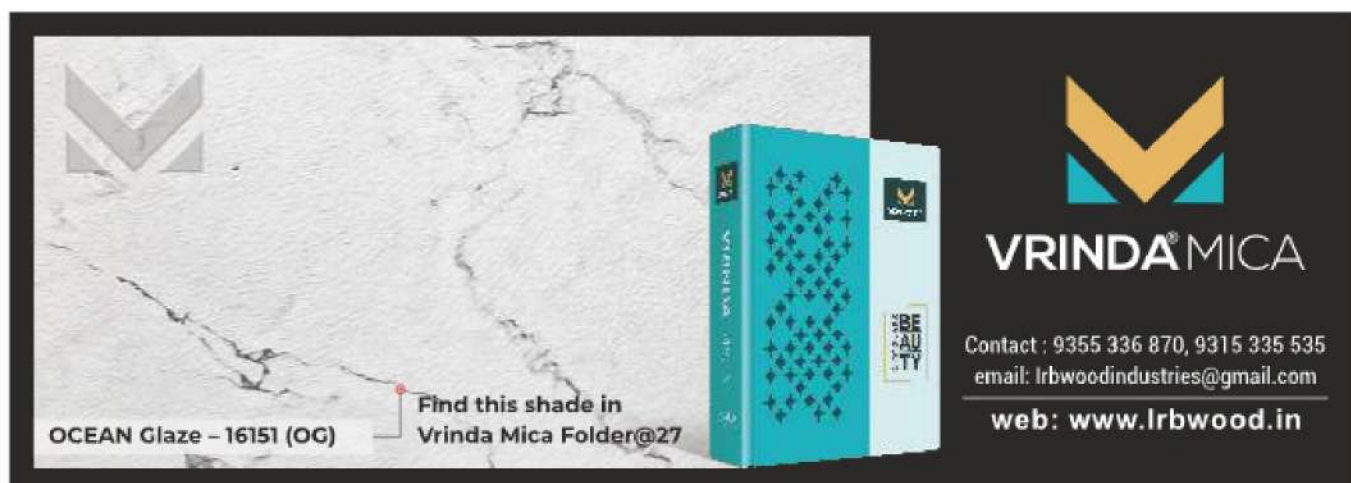
The event, organised by former WBO president Kamesh Salam, took place from 18th to 21st September 2024, at the Faculty of Architecture, Chiang Mai University. Alongside the main proceedings, an engaging bamboo workshop for students ran concurrently, showcasing the material's versatility.

The event offered a platform to showcase the newly launched WBO website, developed with contributions from WBO Ambassador Memo Mortera, and to engage in discussions about bamboo's future. However, the standout moment was an evening gathering hosted by

architect and World Bamboo Ambassador Markus Roselieb at the Panyaden School, situated near the city.

The school's stunning bamboo-bundle cathedral served as a testament to innovative bamboo architecture. Roselieb shared his vision and design philosophy, offering valuable insights for those aspiring to use bamboo as a construction material. The occasion was said to resonate strongly with a similar meeting on bamboo architecture held earlier in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

Through various forums, such as congresses, meetings, symposiums, and workshops, it has become clear that using bamboo in construction represents a meaningful shift for younger generations. Far from being merely an escape, it reflects a deepening awareness of sustainable resources and a commitment to innovative design solutions.



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DHA Updates Standards for Hardwood Plywood

The Decorative Hardwoods Association (DHA) has a history of maintaining and publishing the American National Standard for Hardwood and Decorative Plywood (ANSI/HPVA HP-1) for nearly a century. This standard plays a crucial role in ensuring effective communication and specification for the timeless appeal of natural hardwood plywood. The DHA is proud to announce the release of the latest version: ANSI/HPVA HP-1-2024.

Hardwood plywood, primarily intended for interior use, is a bonded assembly featuring at least one decorative wood veneer surface. Its core can be crafted from various panel products, such as veneer core, medium-density fibreboard (MDF), particleboard, or oriented strand board (OSB). The face veneer, available in species like oak, maple, hickory, walnut, and cherry, offers a natural and unique beauty, ensuring no two veneers are exactly alike. This

diversity provides designers with an expansive palette to achieve their desired aesthetic.

The goals of the HP-1 standard are to establish globally recognised aesthetic and performance criteria and to provide a shared understanding of hardwood plywood's characteristics across the supply chain. As an ANSI-accredited standards development organisation (SDO), DHA is tasked with revising or reaffirming the standard at least every five years. The 2024 revision, initiated in 2023, reflects extensive updates after a rigorous, consensus-based review involving diverse stakeholders.

Key Revisions to Veneer Grading Tables

For the first time in over two decades, the veneer grading tables were significantly updated to align with contemporary raw materials and evolving supply chain expectations. Key highlights include:

Hickory and Pecan:

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Replaced D and E veneer grades with '1 (back)' grade, aligning with the C grade except for allowances regarding 'scattered sound and repair knots,' which resemble the B grade.

Red and White Oak:

- For A grade, revised the 'mineral streaks' requirement to 'blending.'
- Clarified the B grade's allowable mineral streaks to 'unlimited up to 305mm (12") long.'
- Simplified the count of inconspicuous burls and pin knots for A and B grades, replacing them with 'Yes: Blending.'

Western Red Alder:

Increased allowable repair knot holes for 1 (back) grade from 10 to 16.

Softwoods (Douglas Fir and Redwood):

Adjusted requirements for colour streaks, rough cuts, sapwood, open knots, and pitch streaks to more accommodating 'blending' and 'slight' thresholds.

1 (Back) Grades:

- Allowed up to six repaired knotholes (maximum diameter of 3.2mm or 1/8").
- Broadened bark pocket allowances for hickory and pecan to 9.6mm (3/8").

Additional Updates

Beyond grading, several broader updates were made:

Revised tables for physical properties and common veneer patterns to reflect the top 10–15 species dominating domestic production.

Introduced a new section dedicated to reconstituted veneer, marking its first inclusion in the standard.

Updated Table 9a to specify rustic grades and limitations for inner plies in Type II (interior) grade plywood.

Added tolerances for soak and dry times in multi-cycle durability tests.

Defined new terms, including colour variation, crow's foot, and knife mark.

Explicitly included OSB as a core type for hardwood plywood.

A Comprehensive Revision

The ANSI/HPVA HP-1-2024 represents a major update to the hardwood plywood standard, addressing the needs of producers, architects, and users. These changes reflect the evolving industry landscape and set a foundation for ensuring quality and consistency in hardwood plywood products for years to come.

The DHA's commitment to excellence and collaboration has once again resulted in a standard that strengthens the integrity and versatility of hardwood plywood in the global market.

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20th Meeting of CED 09 TTSSC

The 20th meeting of CED 09: Timber and Timber Stores Sectional Committee under the Bureau of Indian Standards was conducted on 2nd December 2024. The meeting, chaired by Dr. Renu Singh, Director of the Forest Research Institute (FRI) and President of CED 09, took place in a hybrid

format at the Board Room of the Forest Research Institute, Dehradun.

Participants discussed key matters pertaining to standards and policies in the timber and timber stores sector, emphasising collaborative approaches to improve quality and sustainability.

Laminated Doors Market Steered by Rising Real Estate Demand

The laminated doors market has seen significant growth, driven largely by the housing sector. Contractors highlight that these doors are maintenance-free, offering both durability and an appealing aesthetic. The variety of colours and designs has made laminated doors a popular choice, even replacing Moulded Panel Doors in many areas, particularly in Delhi-NCR.

Leading brands like Century Doors, Merino, Kalpataru Doors, and Splice Doors are meeting both project and retail demand. Middle and upper-middle-class homeowners favour laminated doors for their ease of maintenance and wide range of design options. Companies often offer catalogues and laminate folders for

customers to choose from, and they are flexible in producing custom colours and designs.

Retailers, recognising the growing demand, are increasingly stocking laminated doors, with many homeowners preferring factory-made options over carpenter-crafted ones. This preference stems from the belief that factory-made doors offer better quality, value for money, and less wastage.

Retailers mentioned that in the past, they preferred selling door-sized decorative laminate sheets, which carpenters would apply on-site. However, due to the inferior quality of these sheets, they are now reluctant to offer them to discerning clients.

BIS Certification for ACPs Extended to March 2025

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has announced an extension for mandatory certification under IS 17682:2021 for Aluminium Composite Panels (ACP), pushing the deadline to 22nd March, 2025. This decision offers significant relief to stakeholders in the ACP sector, allowing more time to meet the required standards.

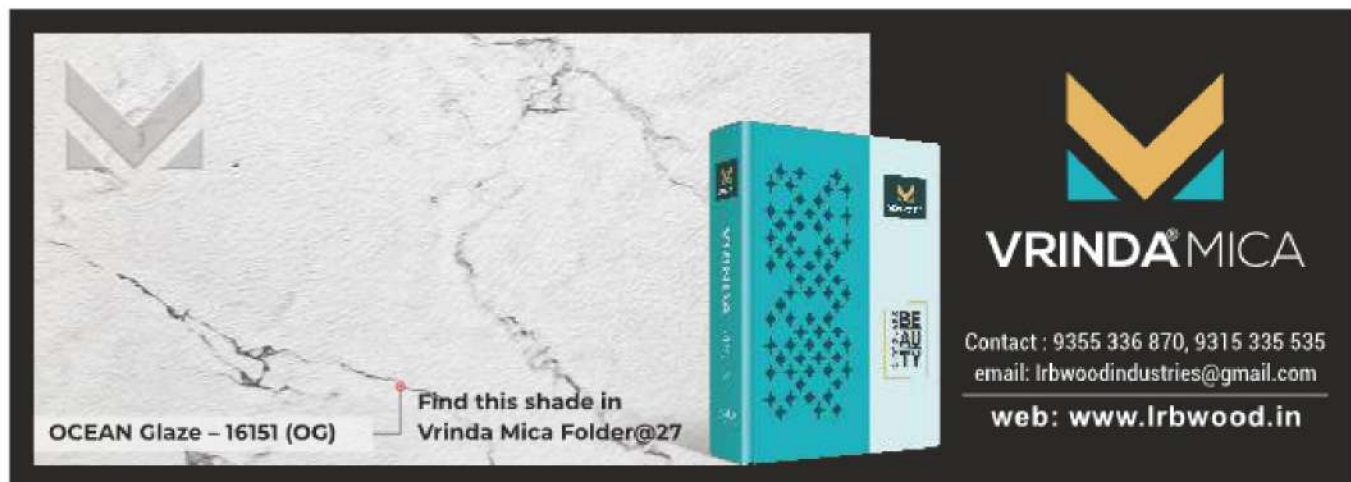
The IS 17682:2021 standard outlines specifications for ACPs used in various applications, including external façades, cladding, curtain walls, soffits, and high mast monoliths. It also covers internal uses such as partitions, ceilings, and column encasements, with a focus on fire-retardant materials and weather resistance. These standards aim to ensure product safety, reliability, and compliance with essential quality parameters.

Previously, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, through the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), mandated that all ACPs, whether

manufactured domestically or imported, carry the BIS certification by 23rd September, 2024. However, industry stakeholders highlighted significant challenges, including the lack of BIS-certified ACP manufacturers in India and insufficient laboratory infrastructure to test material quality per the prescribed standards.

The extension comes as a response to these concerns, providing time for manufacturers to align with BIS requirements. Industry representatives have called for DPIIT and BIS to collaborate with ACP producers to refine quality parameters and establish robust testing facilities.

With the extended timeline, the ACP sector now has an opportunity to focus on meeting stringent standards covering material composition, adhesion, coating durability, weather resistance, and fire protection. This move is expected to ensure safer and higher-quality ACP products for both domestic and international markets.



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Collaboration: Key to Advancing India's Furniture Manufacturing Industry

The Indian woodworking industry is witnessing a transformative phase, marked by advancements in technology, evolving consumer preferences, and increasing global competition. Recognising these developments, the Indian Woodworking Machinery Manufacturers' and Traders' Association (IWMMTA) recently hosted a panel discussion to address the current state of the industry and explore ways to navigate its future challenges and opportunities.

The event began with Ashok Dsouza, a key figure at IWMMTA, reflecting on the organisation's founding vision of uniting machinery manufacturers and fostering collaboration across the value chain. Over the years, IWMMTA has grown into a platform that

not only promotes technological advancements but also sets higher standards for the woodworking industry in India.

Highlighting the sector's growth, Gopi from Woodtech provided insights into the burgeoning Indian furniture market, which is currently valued in billions. He explained that increasing demand for residential and commercial furniture is driving growth in woodworking machinery, particularly in automation and precision manufacturing. CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machines, he noted, have revolutionised production by enhancing efficiency and reducing errors, a trend IWMMTA has been instrumental in promoting.

Nirav Shah of Jai Industries explored



how changing design trends, such as modular and space-saving furniture, influence machinery innovations. He emphasised that modern machines are now designed to meet these trends, enabling faster production without compromising on customisation or quality.

Automation was another focal point of the discussion. Satyan Thukral from Caple Industrial Solutions stressed the importance of automation in addressing consumer demand for personalised products with shorter lead times. "Automation bridges the gap between bespoke craftsmanship and scalable production, making it indispensable for today's manufacturers," he said.

On the topic of global competitiveness, Prahallada from Biesse India acknowledged the significant progress Indian manufacturers have made but noted that there is still room for improvement. He urged the industry to continue investing in cutting-edge technologies to strengthen its position on the global stage.

Mayank Singh of Felder India shared a glimpse into the future, highlighting innovations like artificial intelligence, machine learning, and 3D printing that are poised to redefine woodworking and furniture manufacturing. These technologies, he explained, have the potential to transform how furniture is designed, produced, and customised.

However, the panel also addressed some of the pressing challenges facing the industry.

The shortage of skilled manpower emerged as a significant concern. Satyan pointed out that as machines become more sophisticated, the need for skilled operators and technicians has grown. In addition, Prahallada highlighted external risks such as economic downturns, shifting consumer preferences, and the rapid pace of technological change. He emphasised the importance of adaptability and continual investment in upgrades to mitigate these risks.

The discussion also touched on the critical role of maintenance and lifecycle management of machinery. Mayank noted that predictive maintenance technologies are becoming increasingly popular, helping manufacturers optimise machine lifespan and improve overall operational efficiency.

The session concluded with a strong focus on collaboration as the cornerstone of future growth. The panelists agreed that fostering partnerships between machinery manufacturers and furniture producers is essential to maintaining the industry's competitiveness. Ashok Dsouza summed it up perfectly: "As the industry evolves, IWMMTA will continue to play a pivotal role in driving innovation and collaboration."

The insights shared during the panel not only highlighted the challenges ahead but also underscored the immense opportunities within the Indian woodworking and furniture manufacturing sectors. By embracing innovation, unity, and adaptability, the industry is poised to reach new heights in the coming years.

Amulya Mica wins Nexbrands' 2024 Emerging Brand award



Amulya Mica, a brand of Purbanchal Laminates Pvt. Ltd., was recognised as the Brand Vision's Emerging Brand of the Year – 2024 in the Laminate category at the Nexbrands India 2030 Leadership Conclave. The award was presented by Sharad Maheshwari, Managing Director of Vritilife, to Suresh Saini, Deputy Regional Manager of Amulya Mica Mumbai, who accepted it on behalf of the company.

The event saw the presence of distinguished corporate leaders such as Hemant Daga, Co-Founder & CEO of Neo Asset Management, Gopal Krishna Madabhushi, Senior Vice President South Asia of Veolia Water Technologies, Amit Gossain, Managing Director of KONE Elevator India, and Saurav Manjul, Chairman of Tega Industries. Renowned film personalities including Anupam Kher, Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Ada Sharma, Esha Gupta, and Fardeen Khan were

also in attendance. Other prominent brands like Muthoot Finance, ASER, Cosmic Birla Group, Khemani Group, ICFAI Group, and Mercedes Landmark were recognised at the event.

Acknowledging the recognition, Rakesh Aggarwal, Managing Director of Amulya Mica, described it as a significant milestone for the brand that further strengthens its value proposition. He expressed gratitude to his team, family, associates, channel partners, and customers for their continued support throughout the journey of the Amulya Group.



Amulya Mica's new Style Studio, inaugurated in Kolkata

Amulya Mica announced the grand opening of its latest Style Studio in Kolkata on 21st November, 2024. The new experience centre, at 51 C R Avenue near Central Metro Gate No. 1, replaces the previous Gallery 19 at Bow Bazar. Strategically situated in one of Kolkata's busiest commercial areas, the studio signifies the brand's commitment to expanding its presence across Eastern India. It offers a wide range of high-quality laminates, designed for home and business renovations, in an immersive setting showcasing decorative laminates and interiorsolutions.

The inauguration began with a traditional puja at 1 pm, followed by a ribbon-cutting ceremony led by Managing Director, Rakesh Agarwal and Director of Marketing, Shailja Agarwal. During the event, Amulya Mica launched its new C4 1mm catalogue,



inspired by the 4Cs of diamonds - Colour, Clarity, Cut, and Carat. The C4 collection, celebrated for its pillars of Classic, Contemporary, Creative, and Colour

An advertisement for Bhutan tuff BTPVC material. The background is a dark, draped fabric. In the center, a stack of three white and red BTPVC panels is displayed on a wooden stump. The text 'BTPVC' is written in large, white, bold letters. To the left, the Bhutan tuff logo is shown, along with the text 'Bhutan tuff' and '#AbTuffKaHaiZamana'. Below the logo, it says 'CHOOSE THE RIGHT MATERIAL FOR YOUR HOME, CHOOSE BHUTAN TUFF'. In the bottom right corner, there is a QR code and social media icons for Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter, with the text 'Bhutantuff' below them.



superiority, was well-received by architects, dealers, and distributors for its luxurious yet affordable designs.

Prominent national media, including The Telegraph, Times of India, and Sanmarg, covered the event. Speaking to the press, Shailja Agarwal highlighted Amulya Mica's vision of integrating digital and offline operations to enhance customer experiences and expand its footprint in Eastern India.

Rakesh Agarwal emphasised the company's dedication to innovation and



customer engagement. He noted, "The Style Studio provides a hands-on experience, enabling customers to visualise and realise their design aspirations. This advanced experience centre reflects our confidence in the region's potential and commitment to making premium solutions accessible."

The event also saw the participation of Kolkata's leading architects and interior designers, who explored the studio's offerings and the newly launched shades in the 1 mm category.



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ABPLTA, a Journey of Unity and Growth



YOGESH BANG



NARENDRA BAFNA



CHETAN PATEL



ALOK MOHTA



CHINTAN SHETH



Founded in 2022 under the visionary leadership of Yogesh Bang (Nagpur) and Narendra Bafna (Indore), the All Bharat Plywood and Laminate Traders Association

(ABPLTA) has quickly emerged as a prominent force in the industry. Beginning with just six founding members, the association has grown into a robust network of 114 members representing

42 associations across the nation. The journey of ABPLTA began at the India Wood Delhi Exhibition and gained momentum through impactful meetings at MATECIA Delhi and Acetech

Mumbai, highlighting its mission of unity and collaboration.

The foundation of ABPLTA was laid at the India Wood Exhibition 2022 in Delhi, with contributions from stalwarts such as Praveen (Jodhpur), Chetan Patel (Bhopal), and Alok Mohta (Bengaluru). The association solidified its position as a unified body at MATECIA Delhi 2023, where its mission and objectives were formally established. A key milestone was achieved at Acetech Mumbai 2024, with 46 members gathering to discuss industry challenges, strengthen networks, and establish a leadership committee to guide the association's growth.

The ABPLTA leadership committee embodies the vision of unity and progress. The current leadership includes President Yogesh Bang (Nagpur),

Deputy President Chetan Patel (Bhopal), and Vice Presidents Narendra Bafna (Indore) and Chintan Seth (Ahmedabad). The team is further supported by Secretary Dhanesh Bhatia (Mumbai), PRO/Joint Secretary Alok Mohta (Bangalore), and committee members Gautam Jain (Mumbai) and Sanjay Patil (Kolhapur). Together, they work to steer the association toward achieving its ambitious goals.

ABPLTA is dedicated to fostering growth, unity, and ethical practices within the plywood and laminate industry. Its key objectives include keeping members informed about government regulations, promoting business development through digital platforms and social media, and representing members' interests to government bodies and industry

stakeholders. The association also focuses on resolving trade disputes within legal frameworks, encouraging fair practices between traders and manufacturers, and organising regular meetings to strengthen unity and camaraderie among members. Additionally, it maintains a defaulters' list to protect members from bad paymasters, ensuring the integrity of business transactions.

Led by the motto, "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas – ABPLTA Ka Vikas," the association is committed to building a stronger and more united future for the plywood and laminate industry. With a focus on turning challenges into opportunities, ABPLTA aims to ensure sustainable growth and success for all its stakeholders.

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India Gears Up for Largest Plywood & Woodworking Machinery Expo

The Ekana International Cricket Stadium in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, is set to host the much-anticipated International Ply & Wood Machinery Expo 2024 from 20th to 22nd December. Organised by The Eventage, this three-day event promises to be a landmark gathering for the plywood and woodworking industry, drawing exhibitors and visitors from across India and abroad.

The expo aims to showcase the latest advancements in woodworking machinery, plywood production, and related industries, offering a platform for innovation, networking, and business growth. The organisers have announced a special limited-time offer of a 10% discount on stall bookings, encouraging businesses to secure their spaces early.

The event will run daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and is expected to attract a diverse crowd, including manufacturers, suppliers, industry

professionals, and enthusiasts. With support from prominent industry associations, the expo aims to highlight cutting-edge technologies and foster collaborations between key players in the sector.

For exhibitors, the International Ply & Wood Machinery Expo 2024 represents a unique opportunity to display their products and services to a highly targeted audience. Organisers Jitendra Shukla and Vijay Shukla have encouraged businesses to book their stalls promptly, emphasising the limited availability of discounted spaces.

With India's plywood and woodworking machinery market experiencing rapid growth, the expo aims to strengthen its position as a hub for industry innovation and collaboration.

Mark your calendars for this must-attend event that promises to be path breaking for the plywood and woodworking sectors.

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NWIPWM Expo 2024: Showcasing India's Largest Plywood and Woodworking Machinery Innovations

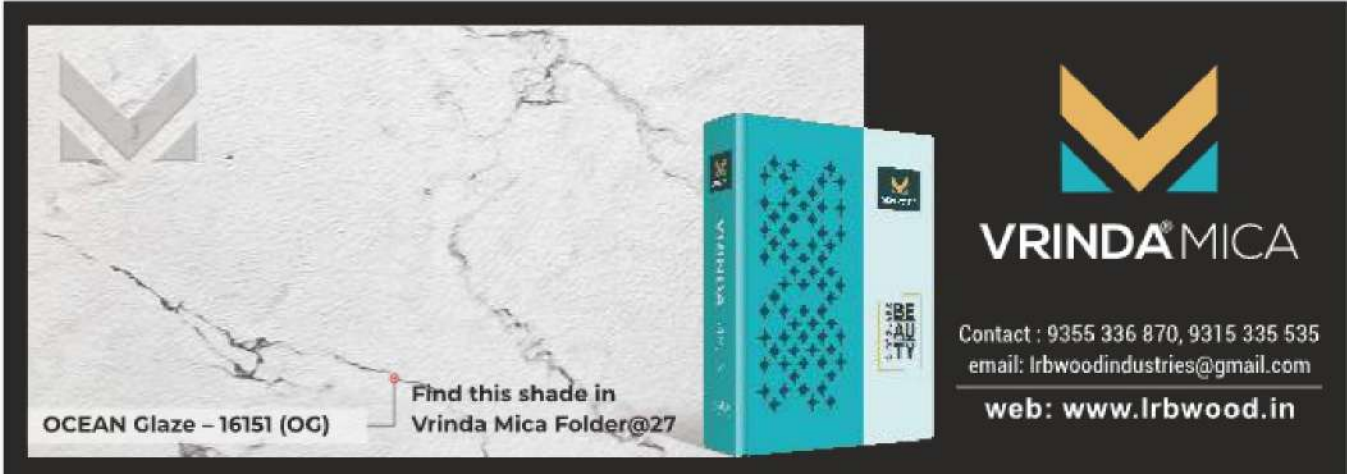
The Northern Wood International Ply and Wood Machinery Expo 2024 is scheduled to take place from 20th to 22nd December at the Ekana International Cricket Stadium in Lucknow, UP. Touted as India's largest exhibition for plywood and woodworking machinery, the event aims to bring together professionals, entrepreneurs, and enthusiasts to explore the latest advancements and opportunities in the industry.

Organisers announced that entry to the expo would be free for all visitors, with timings set from 10 am to 6 pm. Attendees can expect to see cutting-edge machinery, tools, and

materials, along with innovations in plywood manufacturing and allied industries.

The organizing teams, The Eventage and Seraphic, mentioned that exhibitors have the chance to book stalls with a 10% discount, an offer available for a limited time. They also shared that the event has garnered support from key industry stakeholders, ensuring a diverse and comprehensive showcase.

The event is expected to be a significant platform for networking and discovering innovations shaping the future of the plywood and woodworking sector in India.



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North East Wood Expo 2024 - Innovating the Wood Industry

Guwahati, Assam: The North East Wood Expo 2024, held from 22nd to 24th November at the Sursajai Stadium, concluded on a high note with enthusiastic participation from industry leaders and professionals. Under the leadership of Vice-President Gajendra Rajput, the Wood Technologist Association (WTA) made a significant impact as a key participant in the event.

During the three-day expo, numerous industrialists from the North East engaged with the WTA at their stall, discussing pressing issues faced by the wood industry. Among the top concerns raised were the challenges of wood seasoning and termite treatment. WTA members actively shared insights on minimising wood wastage during seasoning and provided detailed explanations of effective termite treatment processes.

In response to industry feedback, WTA Vice-President Gajendra Rajput announced

that the association would organise regular online webinars to address these technical issues, reinforcing WTA's commitment to supporting the industry with innovative solutions. This commitment was well-received by attendees and further cemented WTA's role as a trusted partner in the sector.

WTA Secretary Manoj Gwari, along with Mukesh Kumar Yadav and Dr. Sandeep Kumar, also contributed valuable perspectives during the event, highlighting the association's expertise and dedication.

As a token of appreciation, the Wood Expo organising team honoured the WTA with a trophy for their active participation and valuable contributions as a support partner. This recognition reflects the growing collaboration between industry stakeholders and the WTA, fostering progress and innovation in the wood sector.



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Nepal Wood International Expo 2025: Shaping the Future of Wood & Woodworking

The 10th Nepal Wood International Expo is set to be the ultimate gathering for the wood and woodworking industry, bringing together innovators, manufacturers, and key buyers under one roof. Scheduled to take place from 17th to 19th January 2025 at the Bhrikuti Mandap Exhibition Hall, Kathmandu, this prestigious event promises to redefine industry standards and create new opportunities for growth.

As the premier platform for showcasing innovations, the expo provides businesses with a unique chance to connect with decision-makers, present groundbreaking products, and position themselves as industry leaders. From plywood and laminates to woodworking machinery, furniture production technology, furnishings, tools, raw materials, and allied products, the event offers a comprehensive display of the latest advancements driving the sector forward.

The expo is not just an exhibition; it is a dynamic marketplace where businesses can

network with global players, learn about emerging trends, and find solutions to meet evolving market demands. Whether you're a manufacturer looking to showcase cutting-edge technologies or a supplier aiming to expand your reach, the event is tailored to create meaningful connections and business opportunities.

This year's theme, "Innovation Awaits: Be Part of the Big Thing," underscores the transformative potential of the woodworking industry. Participants will have the opportunity to lead the market with their solutions and gain a competitive edge by engaging directly with industry stakeholders.

Mark your calendar, and join the world's best at the Bhrikuti Mandap Exhibition Hall, Kathmandu, Nepal.

The Nepal Wood International Expo 2025 isn't just an event, it's a gateway to innovation, collaboration, and success. Don't miss your chance to shape the future of the woodworking industry!

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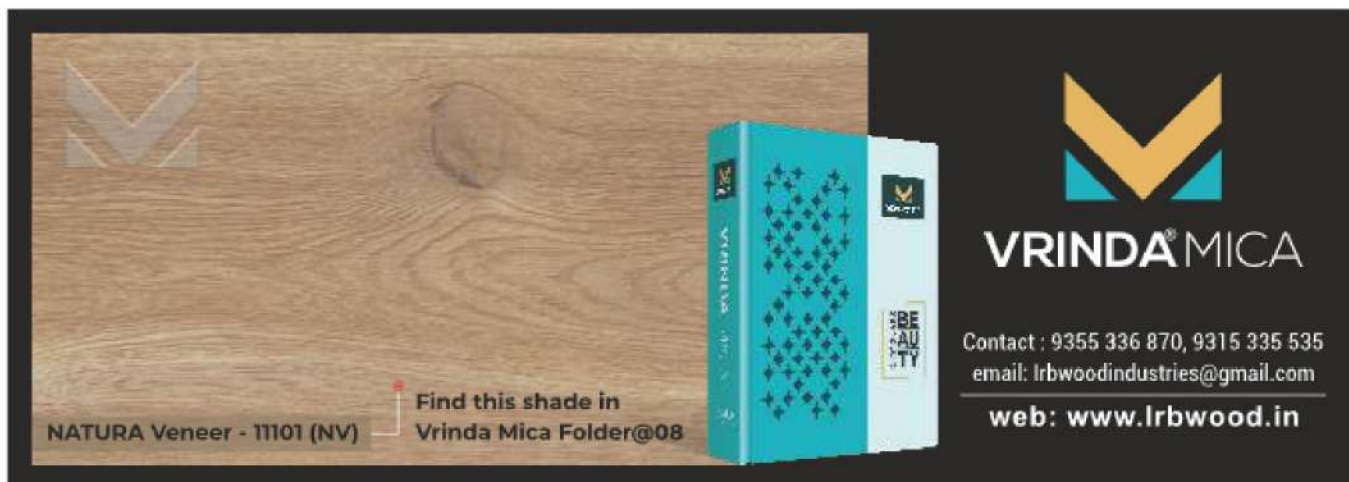
IFC 2025 Southern Edition: Showcase of Innovation and Collaboration

The India Furniture Conclave 2025 (IFC) Southern Edition, scheduled to take place from 21st to 23rd February, 2025, at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), is gearing up to be a defining event for India's furniture ecosystem. The third edition of this prestigious conclave aims to bring together leading businesses, architects, interior designers, showroom owners, and other key stakeholders in the industry. The event's primary objective is to catalyse collaboration, innovation, and growth across furniture manufacturing and related sectors, including kitchens, hardware, wardrobes, doors and shutters, accessories, appliances, and furniture machinery.

Organisers reveal that the conclave will

serve as a comprehensive platform for exhibitors and visitors alike. Exhibitors will have the opportunity to showcase their products to a diverse audience, including architects, interior designers, retailers, wholesalers, and OEMs from Southern India. They are expected to build connections with influential decision-makers from states like Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, and South Maharashtra. Moreover, businesses will be able to participate in panel discussions to position their brands as thoughtleaders in the industry.

For visitors, the event promises a rich experience filled with learning and networking opportunities. Attendees will gain insights from seasoned industry experts on navigating



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challenges and maximising opportunities in the dynamic furniture market. They will also have the chance to explore cutting-edge products and designs, ranging from furniture and architectural surfaces to hardware and highlighters. The interactive sessions with leading brands and industry leaders are expected to pave the way for meaningful collaborations.

The IFC 2025 will feature several key highlights. Panel discussions will focus on essential topics such as growth strategies, scaling up operations, and thriving in competitive environments. Simultaneously, a concurrent architectural design conference will be hosted, enabling attendees to participate in both events with a single delegate pass. Additionally, the exhibition will showcase innovative solutions from top furniture manufacturers associated with the MATECIA Exhibition.

Organisers emphasise the importance of the conclave in driving the future of the furniture and interiors industry. They encourage businesses and professionals to seize this opportunity to grow, connect, and innovate. Whether as an exhibitor or a visitor, participants can expect to be part of an event that not only highlights the latest trends and technologies but also fosters industry-wide growth and collaboration.

The event will take place over three days, with conferences planned for the first two days. Registrations are open, and organisers have invited interested parties to secure their spot at this landmark gathering.

The India Furniture Conclave 2025 promises to be a pivotal moment for Southern India's furniture industry, driving innovation and setting the stage for future advancements.

Organisers emphasise the importance of the conclave in driving the future of the furniture and interiors industry.

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हरियाणा प्लाईवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन (HPMA) एवं कांडला टिंबर एसोसिएशन (KTA) ने बढ़ती लागत के बीच प्लाईवुड की कीमतों में वृद्धि की घोषणा की।

प्लाईवुड और संबंधित उद्योगों में कच्चे माल की बढ़ती लागत के बीच तुरंत कीमतों में वृद्धि देखने को मिल सकती है। हरियाणा प्लाईवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन (HPMA) ने 18 दिसंबर, 2024 को जिमखाना क्लब में अपनी कार्यकारिणी समिति की बैठक में लिए गए निर्णय के अनुसार, सभी प्लाईवुड, ब्लॉक बोर्ड और फ्लश डोर्स की कीमतों में 5% वृद्धि की है। यह समायोजन लकड़ी, ईंधन और फॉर्मलिडहाईड की बढ़ती लागत के कारण उत्पादन खर्चों में वृद्धि को दर्शाता है, जिससे संचालन की दक्षता और गुणवत्ता मानकों को बनाए रखा जा सके।

इसी प्रकार, कांडला टिंबर एसोसिएशन (KTA), जो लकड़ी के आयातकों, व्यापारियों और प्लाईवुड निर्माताओं का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है, ने भी 18 दिसंबर, 2024 से प्रभावी कीमतों में समायोजन की घोषणा की है। 17 दिसंबर, 2024 को गांधीनगर

के टिंबर भवन में आयोजित बैठक के दौरान, KTA ने प्लाईवुड की कीमतों में 5% वृद्धि और ब्लॉक बोर्ड और फ्लश डोर्स के लिए प्रति वर्ग फीट 3 रुपये की वृद्धि को मंजूरी दी। यह निर्णय लकड़ी, रेजिन और श्रम की लागत में वृद्धि के कारण लिया गया है, ताकि उद्योग की स्थिरता बनाए रखी जा सके और उपभोक्ताओं को गुणवत्ता वाले उत्पाद प्रदान किए जा सकें।

HPMA और KTA द्वारा की गई ये एकजुट कार्रवाईयां कच्चे माल की बढ़ती लागत से उत्पन्न होने वाली चुनौतियों को रेखांकित करती हैं। दोनों संगठन बाजार दबावों के अनुसार समायोजन करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध हैं, जबकि उद्योग मानकों को बनाए रखते हुए अपने संचालन की दीर्घकालिक स्थिरता की रक्षा करते हैं।

सभी प्लाईवुड, ब्लॉक बोर्ड और फ्लश डोर्स की कीमतों में 5% वृद्धि की है।

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पतले MDF की कीमतों में 4-5% की बढ़ोतरी।

भारत में लकड़ी की कीमतों में बढ़ोतरी से पतले MDF की कीमतों में भी बढ़ोतरी हो रही है, जिसमें 1.9 मिमी से लेकर 6 मिमी तक की मोटाई वाले MDF की कीमतों में 5% तक का इजाफा हुआ है। बाजार के रुझान और मूल्य अध्ययन यह दर्शाते हैं कि पतले श्रेणी के MDF में मांग में वृद्धि हो रही है, जिससे कीमतों को स्वीकार किया जा रहा है, वहीं मोटे MDF की रेंज को आपूर्ति में दबाव का सामना करना पड़ रहा है।

चल रहे त्योहारों और शादियों के मौसम ने पतले MDF की मांग में स्थिरता को बढ़ावा दिया है, विशेष रूप से उपहार, खेल, फ्रेमिंग और सजावट जैसे क्षेत्रों में। पहले से लैमिनेटेड पतले MDF का उपयोग फर्नीचर और आंतरिक डिजाइन में बढ़ा है, जिसमें अलमारी, ऑफिस केबिन और बेडसाइड टेबल शामिल हैं। इस वृद्धि में एक और योगदान कारक यह है कि पतले MDF के आयात से लोग स्थानीय उत्पादन की ओर शिफ्ट हो रहे हैं, जो लगातार बढ़ रहा

है।

हाल तक, भारत अपनी पतली MDF की मांग को पूरा करने के लिए आयात पर निर्भर था, जबकि घरेलू उत्पादन सीमित था। हालांकि, स्थानीय निर्माताओं द्वारा Conti रोल लाइनों के परिचय ने पतले MDF की आपूर्ति को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से बढ़ा दिया है। प्रमुख खिलाड़ी जैसे सेंचुरी प्रोवूड, एक्शन टेसा, रुशिल डेकोर, पायनियर और ग्रीन पैनल अब plain और पहले से लैमिनेटेड पतले MDF की आपूर्ति कर रहे हैं, जिससे बाजार की स्थिरता में योगदान हो रहा है।

इसके अतिरिक्त, भारतीय उत्पादकों द्वारा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बाजारों में MDF का निर्यात स्थानीय बाजार में आपूर्ति और मांग के बीच अधिक संतुलित संतुलन प्राप्त करने में मदद कर रहा है। इस बदलाव ने न केवल घरेलू क्षेत्र का समर्थन किया है, बल्कि भारत में पतले MDF की अधिक निरंतर उपलब्धता में भी योगदान दिया है।

भारत में लकड़ी की कीमतों में बढ़ोतरी से पतले MDF की कीमतों में भी बढ़ोतरी हो रही है

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पैनल उद्योग चुनौतियों का सामना कर रहा है।

पैनल उद्योग अपने सबसे चुनौतीपूर्ण दौर में से एक का सामना कर रहा है, जिसमें विभिन्न प्रतिकूल तत्वों का मिश्रण है, जिसने इसके संचालन और लाभप्रदता को प्रभावित किया है। प्लाईवुड और लैमिनेट्स से लेकर MDF और पार्टिकल बोर्ड्स तक, पूरा क्षेत्र महत्वपूर्ण व्यापार समस्याओं से जूझ रहा है, जो दीवाली के बाद महीनों में और अधिक बढ़ गई हैं।

बाजार में पैसे का घुमाव काफी कम हो गया है, जिससे व्यवसायों पर वित्तीय दबाव बढ़ गया है। मांग में गिरावट आई है, जबकि आपूर्ति लगातार बढ़ रही है, जिससे एक बड़ा असंतुलन पैदा हो गया है। इस समस्या को और बढ़ाते हुए, कच्चे माल की लागत बढ़ गई है, लेकिन बिक्री मूल्य स्थिर बने हुए हैं, जिससे निर्माताओं के मार्जिन में कमी आ रही है। उच्च ब्याज दरों का बोझ व्यवसाय मालिकों को और भी परेशान कर रहा है, जिससे वित्तीय प्रबंधन एक कठिन कार्य बन गया है।

श्रम की कमी ने एक और जटिलता को जोड़ा है, जिससे उत्पादन की अनुसूचियाँ और आउटपुट प्रभावित हो रहे हैं। रिटेलर्स भी संघर्ष कर रहे हैं, और डिफॉल्ट बढ़ रहे हैं। इससे आपूर्ति श्रृंखला में विघटन हुआ है और निर्माताओं के पास बढ़ती हुई इन्वेंट्री और विलंबित भुगतान हैं, जो उनके नकदी प्रवाह की समस्याओं को और बढ़ा रहे हैं।

यह स्थिति पैनल उद्योग के सभी क्षेत्रों में समान रूप से गंभीर है। जबकि नए MDF संयंत्र नकद हानि

उठा रहे हैं, पार्टिकल बोर्ड्स भी समान रूप से कठिन वित्तीय स्थिति का सामना कर रहे हैं। लैमिनेट्स और प्लाईवुड निर्माताओं को समान चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है, जिसमें प्रदर्शनियों और प्रचार गतिविधियों के लिए बढ़ती लागतें उनकी परेशानियों को बढ़ा रही हैं। इन प्रयासों के बावजूद, बाजार अभी भी ठंडा है, काम करने के दिनों में कमी और उत्तर भारत में ठंडे मौसम के कारण उत्पादकता में और गिरावट आई है।

वर्तमान निराशाजनक परिदृश्य के बावजूद, आकाश में उम्मीद की किरण है। कई उद्योग हितधारकों का मानना है कि अगले वित्तीय वर्ष में गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) के कार्यान्वयन से आवश्यक सुधार हो सकते हैं। कड़े गुणवत्ता मानक और नियामक उपाय बाजार को स्थिर कर सकते हैं और पुनर्प्राप्ति के लिए एक मंच प्रदान कर सकते हैं। तब तक, व्यवसायों को इस तूफान को सहन करना होगा, लचीलापन, नवाचार और समझदारी से वित्तीय प्रबंधन के साथ।

पैनल उद्योग एक मोड़ पर खड़ा है, इस उम्मीद में कि उसे अर्थव्यवस्था में एक महत्वपूर्ण योगदानकर्ता के रूप में अपनी स्थिति फिर से हासिल करने का अवसर मिलेगा। आने वाले महीने और भी कुछ उजागर करेंगे, लेकिन सामूहिक प्रयासों और रणनीतिक हस्तक्षेपों के साथ, पुनर्प्राप्ति की संभावना उपलब्ध है।

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MONTHLY REPORT ON THE INDIAN PANEL AND SURFACE INDUSTRY

मोरबी और राजकोट - गुजरात का लैमिनेट्स हब।

गुजरात राज्य के जीवंत शहर मोरबी को भारत का "सिरेमिक शहर" के रूप में जाना जाता है। हालांकि, सिरेमिक में अपनी प्रमुखता के साथ-साथ, मोरबी ने लैमिनेट्स उद्योग में भी अपनी विशेष पहचान बनाई है। 25-30 साल पहले दो निर्माण इकाइयों से शुरू होने वाली यह यात्रा अब एक विशाल औद्योगिक क्षेत्र बन चुकी है, जिससे मोरबी को लैमिनेट्स उत्पादन के साथ जोड़ा जाता है।

मोरबी में लैमिनेट्स निर्माण की यात्रा 2016 के बाद शुरू हुई, जब संचालित इकाइयों की संख्या में असाधारण वृद्धि हुई। 2016 तक, मोरबी में लगभग 12 लैमिनेट्स इकाइयाँ थीं। हालांकि, केवल आठ वर्षों में, यह संख्या तीन गुना बढ़ गई है, और अब मोरबी और उसके आस-पास लगभग 42 फैक्ट्रियाँ संचालित हो रही हैं। इसके अलावा, पास के राजकोट में 8-9 फैक्ट्रियाँ स्थापित हैं, जो इस क्षेत्र की बढ़ती प्रमुखता को दर्शाती हैं।

मोरबी-राजकोट बेल्ट भारत में लैमिनेट्स इकाइयों की एकाग्रता के लिए प्रमुख है। दिलचस्प बात यह है कि कुछ पुरानी फैक्ट्रियाँ कई दशकों पुरानी हैं, कई नई इकाइयाँ ने पिछले दशक में उत्पादन शुरू किया है। इस वृद्धि के बावजूद, मोरबी में केवल लगभग 10 फैक्ट्रियाँ ऐसी हैं जिनके पास एक से अधिक प्रेस हैं, जो अन्य क्षेत्रों की तुलना में कम है। इस क्षेत्र में विस्तार योजनाओं के अनतर्गत नई प्रेस लगाने के साथ साथ इस विस्तार को एक नया नाम देकर अलग से नई यूनिट की स्थापना का चलन अधिक है इसी कारण यहाँ इकाइयों की संख्या अधिक नज़र आती है, निर्माण इकाइयाँ करीब 52 के आस पास है, परन्तु प्रेस डेलाइट की संख्या करीब 65 है जो यहीं दर्शाती है फेक्ट्री बहुत है परन्तु छोटे लेवल की है

जो राजकोट में भी देखा जा रहा है।

हालांकि मोरबी और राजकोट में मिलाकर लगभग 50-52 लैमिनेट्स निर्माण इकाइयाँ हैं, प्रेस डेलाइट क्षमता, जो उत्पादन का माप है, अन्य क्षेत्रों की तुलना में अपेक्षाकृत कम है। यह विशिष्ट विशेषता निर्माताओं के बाजार पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने के तरीके को आकार देती है। उत्पाद मुख्य रूप से मध्य और दक्षिण भारत को लक्षित करते हैं, जहाँ मुख्य रूप से 0.92 मिमी और 1 मिमी मोटाई वाले लैमिनेट्स का निर्माण कार्य अधिक होता है। इसके विपरीत, उत्तर भारत के बाजार में 0.8 मिमी लैमिनेट्स की खपत ज्यादा रहती है जिसके कारण मोरबी और राजकोट से उत्तरी राज्यों को आपूर्ति सीमित रहती है क्योंकि परिवहन लागत अधिक और डिलीवरी का समय लंबा भी मुख्य वजह है।

फिर भी, इस क्षेत्र के पास एक लाभ है। सिरेमिक उद्योग का हब होने के नाते, मोरबी एक व्यापक परिवहन नेटवर्क से लाभान्वित होता है, जो बाजारों में समय पर और लागत प्रभावी डिलीवरी सुनिश्चित करता है। इस लॉजिस्टिक सुविधा ने स्थानीय निर्माताओं को अपने प्रभाव क्षेत्र को और दूर-दराज के बाजारों तक फैलाने में सक्षम किया है, जिनमें कुछ उत्तर भारत के भी शामिल हैं।

मोरबी और राजकोट के निर्माता गुणवत्ता के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता में दृढ़ हैं। वे एक-दूसरे के साथ सीधे प्रतिस्पर्धा करने के बजाय, अन्य क्षेत्रों के उत्पादकों से बेहतर प्रदर्शन करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हैं। उत्तर भारत का बाजार विशेष रूप से यहां के कई लैमिनेट्स निर्माताओं के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण मानक है।

उत्पादों की रेंज में आमतौर पर मांग वाले

0.92 मिमी और 1 मिमी लैमिनेट्स से लेकर 2-3 मिमी मोटे लैमिनेट्स भी शामिल हैं, जिन्हें वाणिज्यिक लैमिनेट्स के रूप में निर्यात किया जाता है। यह विविधता सुनिश्चित करती है कि निर्माता विभिन्न बाजारों को लक्षित करें और प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक बढ़त बनाए रखें।

बेल लैमिनेट्स के अतुलभाई ने बताया की हमारी इकाई उत्पाद की गुणवत्ता पर ध्यान केंद्रित करती है। तथा सभी रेंज की माइका को हम प्राथमिकता देते हैं, जो उनकी इकाई को एक मजबूत प्रतिष्ठा दिलाने वाली रणनीति है।

इसी तरह, मोनाल लैमिनेट्स के आनंदभाई 1 मिमी मोटाई वाले लैमिनेट्स पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने को महत्व देते हैं, जो बाजार की मांग के अनुरूप हैं।

नेल्सन लैमिनेट्स के जयदीपभाई बताते हैं कि सेरेमिक इंडस्ट्री के कारण परिवहनकर्ताओं का मजबूत नेटवर्क उत्तर भारत में माल आपूर्ति की प्रक्रिया को काफी आसान बना सकता है। “आज हम नए बाजारों तक कुशलतापूर्वक और कम लागत में पहुँचने में सक्षम हैं।

मोरबी और राजकोट का लैमिनेट्स उद्योग गुणवत्ता, नवाचार और प्रभावी लॉजिस्टिक्स के कारण बढ़ता जा रहा है। निर्माता अब उत्तर भारत में स्टॉक प्वाइंट (गोडाउन) स्थापित करने के तरीके तलाश रहे



आनंदभाई पटेल

हैं ताकि पहुंच में सुधार हो सके और संचालन को सरल बनाया जा सके। अपनी मजबूत नींव और आगे की सोच के साथ, यह औद्योगिक हब भारत के लैमिनेट्स क्षेत्र में एक प्रमुख खिलाड़ी के रूप में अपनी स्थिति को सुदृढ़ करने के लिए तैयार है।

केवल दो इकाइयों से शुरू होकर, मोरबी और राजकोट का लैमिनेट्स उद्योग अब निरंतर वृद्धि और उत्कृष्टता के प्रति अडिग प्रतिबद्धता की कहानी बन चुका है। जैसे-जैसे यह गतिशील क्षेत्र विकसित हो रहा है, यह न केवल भारतीय बाजारों की मांग को पूरा करता है बल्कि गुणवत्ता और विश्वसनीयता के पावरहाउस के रूप में अपनी पहचान भी मजबूत कर रहा है।

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QCO एक अवसर भी एवं चुनौतियाँ भी ।

प्लाईवुड के लिए गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) का उद्देश्य घरेलू उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देना, उत्पाद की गुणवत्ता में सुधार करना, आयात पर निर्भरता को कम करना, और भारत में रोजगार सृजन को बढ़ावा देना है। इस आदेश के लागू होने के साथ, प्लाईवुड उत्पादों को भारतीय मानक IS 303:1989 का पालन करना होगा और भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो (BIS) का चिन्ह होना चाहिए, जो गुणवत्ता मानदंडों के पालन को सुनिश्चित करता है।

QCO दो चरणों में लागू होगा: चरण 1, जिसमें MDF, ब्लॉक बोर्ड और पार्टिकल बोर्ड शामिल हैं, 10 फरवरी 2025 से लागू होगा, जबकि चरण 2, जिसमें प्लाईवुड और संबंधित श्रेणियाँ शामिल हैं, 28 फरवरी 2025 तक लागू किया जाएगा। इन समय सीमाओं का पालन करना इस पहल की विश्वासनीयता बनाए रखने और बाजार में व्यवधान से बचने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है।

व्यापक जागरूकता के बावजूद, छोटे निर्माता QCO आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने में चुनौतियों का सामना कर रहे हैं, क्योंकि उनके पास सीमित तकनीकी विशेषज्ञता, वित्तीय बाधाएँ और बुनियादी ढांचे की कमी है। इन चुनौतियों और सुविधाओं को उन्नत करने के वित्तीय बोझ और आवश्यक प्रमाणपत्र प्राप्त करने की जटिलताओं द्वारा और बढ़ा दिया गया है। इसके अलावा, बाजार में मंदी की मार और निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयातों का influx QCO मानकों को अपनाने में प्रतिरोध उत्पन्न कर रहा है, क्योंकि कई हितधारक महसूस करते हैं कि पालन करने का कोई खास लाभ नहीं है।

QCO भारतीय लकड़ी पैनल उद्योग के लिए महत्वपूर्ण अवसर प्रस्तुत करता है, जिसमें उत्पाद की

गुणवत्ता में सुधार, उपभोक्ता विश्वास में वृद्धि, और भारतीय उत्पादों को घरेलू और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर विश्वसनीय बनाना शामिल है। वैश्विक मानकों के अनुरूप होकर, QCO नए निर्यात बाजारों के द्वार खोलने, पर्यावरणीय रूप से मित्रवत सामग्रियों को बढ़ावा देने और निर्माण में नवाचार को प्रेरित करने में मदद करेगा। सफल कार्यान्वयन सुनिश्चित करने के लिए, निर्माताओं को अनुपालन में निवेश करने के लिए प्रेरित किया जाना चाहिए, जबकि सरकार को SMES को समर्थन प्रदान करना चाहिए और निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयातों पर कड़ी कार्रवाई करनी चाहिए। सभी हितधारकों के सहयोग से, QCO चुनौतियों को अवसरों में बदल सकता है, जो उद्योग की दीर्घकालिक वृद्धि और स्थिरता को सुनिश्चित करेगा।

भारत में प्लाईवुड और पैनल उद्योग के लिए गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) के कार्यान्वयन ने क्षेत्र के विभिन्न व्यापार संघों का महत्वपूर्ण ध्यान आकर्षित किया है। भारतीय प्लाईवुड और पैनल उद्योग महासंघ (FIPPI), साथ ही अन्य संघ जैसे अखिल भारत प्लाईवुड और लैमिनेट ट्रेडर्स व्यापारी संघ (ABPLTA), राजस्थान प्लाईवुड निर्माता संघ (RPMA), फर्नीचर निर्माता संघ (FMA), बंगलुरु प्लाईवुड निर्माता संघ (BPMA), प्लाईवुड निर्माता कल्याण संघ (PMWA), बरेली, अखिल भारतीय प्लाईवुड निर्माता संघ (AIPMA), शाहजहाँपुर यूपी स्थित प्लाईवुड निर्माता कल्याण संघ, जम्मू कश्मीर प्लाईवुड निर्माता संघ, जम्मू, समय पर और कड़े तरीके से QCO के लागू होने की वकालत कर रहे हैं। ये हितधारक यह बताते हैं कि QCO घरेलू उद्योग की सुरक्षा करने, नवाचार को बढ़ावा देने, ग्रामीण रोजगार

को प्रोत्साहित करने और भारत के व्यापक लक्ष्यों के साथ पर्यावरणीय स्थिरता और आत्मनिर्भरता के साथ मेल खाता है।

हम इन निकायों द्वारा उद्योग और आंतरिक व्यापार को बढ़ावा देने के विभाग (DPIIT) को संबोधित पत्रों में प्रमुख चिंताओं को उजागर करते हैं।

भारतीय प्लाईवुड और पैनल उद्योग संघ (FIPPI)

QCO कार्यान्वयन का महत्व

DPIIT द्वारा जारी किए गए गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) भारत के प्लाईवुड और पैनल उद्योग की स्थिर वृद्धि और वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ाने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं। जहां प्लाईवुड क्षेत्र 10% की वार्षिक वृद्धि दर (CAGR) से बढ़ रहा है, वहीं MDF और पार्टिकल बोर्ड क्षेत्र 15-20% की दर से बढ़ रहे हैं, वहां एक मजबूत गुणवत्ता आश्वासन ढांचा अत्यंत आवश्यक है। QCO का कार्यान्वयन कड़े गुणवत्ता मानकों को सुनिश्चित करेगा, जिससे मजबूत, पर्यावरण के अनुकूल उत्पाद मिलेंगे, उपभोक्ताओं का विश्वास बढ़ेगा और नवाचार को बढ़ावा मिलेगा। यह भारत के सतत विकास लक्ष्यों के साथ मेल खाता है, क्योंकि यह कृषि-वनवृक्ष आधारित उद्योगों, ग्रामीण रोजगार, और संतुलित क्षेत्रीय विकास को बढ़ावा देता है, जबकि संगठित फर्नीचर क्षेत्र को वैश्विक स्तर पर प्रतिस्पर्धी बनाने में मदद करता है।

उद्योग की तत्परता और कार्रवाई की अपील

BIS द्वारा समर्थित प्लाईवुड और पैनल उद्योग, QCO कार्यान्वयन के लिए सक्रिय रूप से तैयार हो रहा है, मानकों को आधुनिक बना रहा है और अनुपालन और पंजीकरण पर जागरूकता कार्यक्रम आयोजित कर रहा है। FIPPI उपभोक्ता हितों की सुरक्षा, घरेलू निर्माताओं को ऊंचा करने और उद्योग को वैश्विक नेता के रूप में स्थापित करने के लिए QCO की

तात्कालिक आवश्यकता पर बल देता है। गुणवत्ता और दक्षता के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता को मजबूत करते हुए, FIPPI इस क्षेत्र के लिए QCO के परिवर्तनकारी संभावनाओं को साकार करने के लिए त्वरित कार्रवाई की मांग करता है।

ऑल भारत प्लाईवुड और लैमिनेट ट्रेड्स व्यापारी संघ (ABPLTA)

उद्योग की चिंताएँ

ऑल भारत प्लाईवुड और लैमिनेट ट्रेड्स व्यापारी संघ (ABPLTA) BIS मानकों के कार्यान्वयन में आने वाली समस्याओं को उजागर करता है, जिसमें ISI चिन्हों का दुरुपयोग, गुणवत्ता अनुपालन में कमी और अवैध प्रथाएँ जैसे गैर-अनुपालक आयातों को फिर से ब्रांड करना शामिल हैं। ये समस्याएँ बाजार की विश्वसनीयता को कमजोर करती हैं और एकाधिकारों का खतरा पैदा करती हैं, जिससे छोटे और मंझले निर्माता और व्यापारी असहाय हो जाते हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त, आयातित सामग्री अक्सर गुणवत्ता और मूल्य में घरेलू उत्पादों को पीछे छोड़ देती है, जबकि ब्रांड की नकल उपभोक्ताओं को और भ्रमित करती है और बाजार में असंतुलन पैदा करती है। BIS मानकों का तैयार माल पर लागू होना, लेकिन कच्चे माल पर नहीं, और राज्य-विशिष्ट कच्चे माल तक असमान पहुंच, स्थानीय उद्योगों के लिए इन चुनौतियों को और बढ़ाती है।

प्रस्तावित प्रक्रियाएँ और आगे का रास्ता

ABPLTA BIS नियमों के सख्त प्रवर्तन, नकली प्रमाणपत्रों के लिए दंड, और अनुपालन में अधिक पारदर्शिता की मांग करता है। यह छोटे निर्माताओं और व्यापारियों का समर्थन करने के लिए सब्सिडी, प्रशिक्षण, और शिक्षा कार्यक्रमों की सिफारिश करता है, साथ ही बड़े खिलाड़ियों के लिए सख्त जवाबदेही का समर्थन करता है। संघ अनुपालन

में खामियों और चुनौतियों का आकलन करने के लिए उद्योग सर्वेक्षण आयोजित करने का सुझाव देता है, जबकि गुणवत्ता मानकों में सुधार के लिए सहयोग की अपील करता है। नीति निर्धारकों, निर्माताओं और व्यापारियों के बीच सेतु के रूप में कार्य करते हुए, ABPLTA का उद्देश्य पारदर्शिता, समान विकास और प्लाईवुड और लैमिनेट उद्योग में छोटे खिलाड़ियों की सुरक्षा को बढ़ावा देना है।

राजस्थान प्लाईवुड निर्माताओं संघ (RPMA)

QCO का महत्वपूर्ण महत्व

राजस्थान प्लाईवुड निर्माताओं संघ (RPMA) भारत के लकड़ी-आधारित पैनल उद्योग के लिए गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) की परिवर्तनकारी क्षमता को रेखांकित करता है, जो 10% की वार्षिक वृद्धि दर (CAGR) से बढ़ रहा है। मजबूत गुणवत्ता मानकों का कार्यान्वयन मजबूत, पर्यावरण के अनुकूल और टिकाऊ उत्पादों को सुनिश्चित करेगा, जिससे वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता, उपभोक्ता विश्वास और उद्योग नवाचार को बढ़ावा मिलेगा। QCO सतत विकास को बढ़ावा देगा, कृषि-वनवृक्ष पद्धतियों का समर्थन करेगा, ग्रामीण रोजगार को बढ़ाएगा, और संतुलित क्षेत्रीय विकास को प्रेरित करेगा, जबकि भारत के संगठित फर्नीचर क्षेत्र को वैश्विक बाजारों में मजबूत स्थिति प्राप्त करने में मदद करेगा।

तत्काल कार्यान्वयन की अपील

RPMA उद्योग की तत्परता को उजागर करता है, BIS मानकों को आधुनिक बना रहा है और RPMA जयपुर के सहयोग से अनुपालन के लिए निर्माता तैयार करने के लिए जागरूकता कार्यक्रम आयोजित कर रहा है। संघ QCO के कार्यान्वयन की तात्कालिक आवश्यकता पर जोर देता है, ताकि उपभोक्ता हेतों की सुरक्षा हो सके, घरेलू प्लाईवुड क्षेत्र

को ऊंचा किया जा सके, और भारत की वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ाया जा सके। यह समय पर लिया गया कदम उद्योग के विकास को उत्प्रेरित करेगा, निष्पक्ष प्रथाओं को सुनिश्चित करेगा, और उद्योग को सतत प्रगति की दिशा में अग्रसर करेगा।

फर्नीचर मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन (FMA)

फर्नीचर उद्योग में प्रमुख चिंताएँ

फर्नीचर मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन (FMA) BIS नियमों में महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दों को उजागर करता है, जिसमें कच्चे माल के लिए ISI चिन्हों की आवश्यकता और तैयार फर्नीचर उत्पादों को इन मानकों से बाहर रखने में असंगतियाँ हैं। यह असमानता विशेष रूप से चीन से आने वाले फर्नीचर आयात को बढ़ा सकती है, जिससे भारतीय निर्माता उच्च कच्चे माल की लागत और सीमित आपूर्ति से प्रभावित होंगे। प्लायवुड, एमडीएफ, और पार्टिकल बोर्ड जैसे प्रमुख सामग्री, जो आवासीय और बुनियादी ढांचे के विकास के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं, निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयातों, घरेलू लकड़ी की कीमतों में वृद्धि, और थाईलैंड और वियतनाम जैसे देशों के मुकाबले अप्रयाप्त वृक्षारोपण पहलों से चुनौती का सामना कर रहे हैं। लकड़ी के संसाधनों पर दबाव और स्मार्ट सिटीज जैसे परियोजनाओं की बढ़ती मांग इस बात की आवश्यकता को और बढ़ाती है कि स्थायी प्रथाएँ और मानकीकरण अपनाया जाए।

न्यायसंगत नीतियों और गुणवत्ता मानकों के लिए अनुरोध

FMA घरेलू निर्माताओं की रक्षा करने और उचित प्रतिस्पर्धा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कच्चे माल और तैयार उत्पादों के लिए BIS मानकों को रेखांकित करने की मांग करता है। विदेशी आपूर्तिकर्ताओं के लिए त्वरित ISI लाइसेंसिंग ऑडिट और आयातित इंजीनियर लकड़ी के लिए अनिवार्य BIS प्रमाणन,

व्यापार में देरी को संबोधित करने और उद्योग की रक्षा करने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं। MSMEs के लिए संतुलित नीतियों, किफायती कच्चे माल तक पहुंच, और स्थायी कृषि-वनों की प्रथाओं का समर्थन आवश्यक है। इसके अतिरिक्त, E1/E0 उत्सर्जन मानकों और CARB नियमों जैसे वैश्विक गुणवत्ता मानकों को अपनाता उत्पाद की प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ाएगा, जबकि उच्च गुणवत्ता वाली, पारिस्थितिकीय रूप से अनुकूल इंजीनियर लकड़ी को बढ़ावा देगा ताकि बदलती हुई बाजार आवश्यकताओं को पूरा किया जा सके।

बैंगलोर प्लायवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन (BPMA)

कम लागत वाले आयातों से चुनौतियाँ

बैंगलोर प्लायवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन ने नेपाल, थाईलैंड, वियतनाम और चीन जैसे देशों से आने वाले कम लागत वाले आयातों से उत्पन्न होने वाले खतरे को उजागर किया है, जो अक्सर गुणवत्ता मानकों को पूरा नहीं करते। ये निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयात बाजार हिस्सेदारी, राजस्व और घरेलू निर्माताओं के लिए रोजगार के अवसरों को कम करते हैं, जिससे भारतीय प्लायवुड उद्योग की स्थिरता खतरे में पड़ जाती है। इस मुद्दे को हल करने के लिए घटिया उत्पादों को रोकने और भारतीय व्यापारियों को अनुचित प्रतिस्पर्धा से बचाने के लिए कठोर उपायों की आवश्यकता है।

QCO कार्यान्वयन के लिए आह्वान

एसोसिएशन उच्च गुणवत्ता मानकों को लागू करने, घरेलू प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ाने और आयातों पर निर्भरता को कम करने के लिए गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) के त्वरित कार्यान्वयन की वकालत करता है। आत्मनिर्भर भारत के दृष्टिकोण के साथ मिलकर, QCO स्वदेशी उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देगा,

रोजगार की रक्षा करेगा और प्लायवुड क्षेत्र की आर्थिक स्थिति को बेहतर बनाएगा। इसके अतिरिक्त, एसोसिएशन सरकार के अधिकारियों से मिलकर QCO कार्यान्वयन की तत्कालता पर चर्चा करने और उद्योग के विकास और जीवित रहने के लिए सामूहिक समाधान तलाशने की मांग करता है।

प्लायवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स वेलफेयर एसोसिएशन, बरेली

QCO कार्यान्वयन का समर्थन

प्लायवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स वेलफेयर एसोसिएशन, बरेली, पूरी तरह से गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) का समर्थन करता है, जो फरवरी 2025 में लकड़ी आधारित बोर्ड, प्लायवुड और लकड़ी के फ्लश दरवाजों को कवर करेगा। भारत में 3,500 से अधिक प्लायवुड निर्माता हैं, जिनमें से अधिकांश बड़े और मध्य आकार के उद्योग पहले ही BIS-रजिस्टर्ड हैं, और छोटे पैमाने की इकाइयों को अनुपालन के लिए 3-6 महीने की छूट अवधि दी जाएगी। एसोसिएशन और देरी का विरोध करता है, क्योंकि पिछले विस्तारों के कारण नेपाल, वियतनाम, थाईलैंड और चीन जैसे देशों से सस्ते और निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयातों में वृद्धि हुई है, जो MSMEs को नुकसान पहुंचा रहे हैं और बंद होने और बेरोजगारी का कारण बन रहे हैं।

समय पर कार्यान्वयन का आह्वान

एसोसिएशन उद्योग को घटिया आयातों से बचाने और आर्थिक तथा रोजगार स्थिरता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए फरवरी 2025 की समय सीमा का पालन करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता पर जोर देता है। स्थायी कच्चे माल की आपूर्ति, जो कृषि-वनोत्तियों द्वारा समर्थित है, और कई फैक्ट्रियाँ जो पहले ही अंतरराष्ट्रीय मानकों को पूरा कर रही हैं, यह उद्योग निर्यात के लिए तैयार है और वैश्विक स्तर पर

प्रतिस्पर्धा करने के लिए अच्छी स्थिति में है। QCO का समय पर कार्यान्वयन MSMEs की सुरक्षा करेगा, नौकरी की हानि को रोकेगा और क्षेत्र के दीर्घकालिक विकास और लचीलापन में योगदान करेगा।

ऑल इंडिया प्लायवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन (AIPMA)

QCO कार्यान्वयन का समर्थन

ऑल इंडिया प्लायवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन, DPIIT के प्रयासों की सराहना करता है, जिन्होंने प्लायवुड, फ्लश डोर्स और ब्लॉक बोर्डों के लिए गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCOs) पेश किए हैं। ये उपाय घरेलू गुणवत्ता मानकों में सुधार करने और सतत विकास को बढ़ावा देने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं। उद्योग तुरंत कार्यान्वयन के लिए तैयार है जैसा कि सूचित किया गया है और किसी भी समय सीमा विस्तार का विरोध करता है। हालांकि, घटिया आयातों का डंपिंग, जो अक्सर नकली BIS चिन्हों के साथ होते हैं, स्वदेशी निर्माताओं के लिए खतरे का कारण बनता है, उपभोक्ताओं को भ्रमित करता है और उन किसानों और श्रमिकों के जीवनयापन को खतरे में डालता है जो यूकेलिप्टस और पॉपलर जैसी वृक्षारोपण लकड़ी पर निर्भर हैं।

राष्ट्रीय लक्ष्यों के साथ सरेखण और तत्काल कार्रवाई

QCO का कार्यान्वयन कृषि-वनोवृत्ति आधारित उद्योगों को बढ़ावा देगा, जो किसानों को लाभ पहुंचाएगा, पर्यावरणीय प्रदूषण को कम करेगा और उत्तर प्रदेश और हरियाणा जैसे राज्यों में क्षेत्रीय आर्थिक विकास का समर्थन करेगा। यह आदेश निरंतरता सुनिश्चित करके और वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ाकर भारत के पारिस्थितिकी और औद्योगिक लक्ष्यों के साथ सरेखित होते हैं। FIPPI और BIS द्वारा जागरूकता कार्यक्रमों के माध्यम से हितधारकों को अनुपालन के लिए तैयार

किया जा रहा है। एसोसिएशन DPIIT से अपील करता है कि वह QCO के कार्यान्वयन को त्वरित करें ताकि उपभोक्ताओं के हितों की रक्षा हो, घरेलू उद्योग को सुरक्षा मिले और भारत की सतत औद्योगिक प्रथाओं में नेतृत्व को सुदृढ़ किया जा सके।

शाहजहाँपुर यूपी के प्लायवुड निर्माता कल्याण संघ

QCO और उद्योग की तत्परता के लिए समर्थन

प्लायवुड निर्माता कल्याण संघ, शाहजहाँपुर यूपी, DPIIT और BIS द्वारा लागू की गई गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) का स्वागत करता है, जो प्लायवुड, लकड़ी के बोर्ड और फ्लश दरवाजों को मानकीकरण में महत्वपूर्ण है। बड़े और मध्यम उद्योग पहले ही BIS-रजिस्टर्ड हैं, और छोटे इकाइयों के लिए (3-6 महीने) पर्याप्त अनुपालन समय प्रदान किया जाये। हालांकि, पिछले विस्तारों ने नेपाल, वियतनाम, थाईलैंड और चीन जैसे देशों से निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयातों को बढ़ावा दिया है, जिससे घरेलू निर्माताओं को नुकसान हुआ है, उत्पादन क्षमता में कमी आई है और MSME इकाइयां बंद हो रही हैं, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप बेरोजगारी और आर्थिक दबाव पैदा हो रहा है।

समय पर कार्यान्वयन की आवश्यकता

संघ ने फरवरी 2025 में QCO लागू करने की तिथियों के सख्ती पालन की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया है ताकि निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयातों को रोका जा सके और घरेलू उद्योग की रक्षा की जा सके। कृषि वानिकी का विकास, जो लकड़ी के बागानों से मिल रहे लाभकारी रिटर्न से प्रेरित है, कच्चे माल की आपूर्ति को सुनिश्चित करता है, जबकि कई घरेलू फैक्ट्रियां पहले ही निर्यात मानकों को पूरा करती हैं। समय पर कार्रवाई से रोजगार में वृद्धि होगी, उचित प्रतिस्पर्धा को समर्थन मिलेगा और उद्योग को वैश्विक

मानकों के साथ मेलजोल मिलेगा। संघ विभाग के प्रयासों की सराहना करता है और क्षेत्र के भविष्य की सुरक्षा के लिए निर्णायक कदम उठाने का अनुरोध करता है।

जम्मू और कश्मीर प्लायवुड निर्माता संघ QCO और उद्योग के लाभ के लिए समर्थन

जम्मू और कश्मीर प्लायवुड निर्माता संघ गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) का सख्त समर्थन करता है, ताकि विदेशी प्रतिस्पर्धा से उत्पन्न चुनौतियों का सामना किया जा सके और भारतीय प्लायवुड उद्योग की रक्षा की जा सके। न्यूनतम गुणवत्ता मानकों को लागू करके, QCO घरेलू निर्माताओं को अनुचित प्रतिस्पर्धा से बचाएगा, उपभोक्ता सुरक्षा को बढ़ाएगा, क्योंकि यह निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले उत्पादों को संशोधित करेगा, और नवाचार और गुणवत्ता सुधारों को बढ़ावा देगा, जिससे भारतीय निर्माताओं की वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता में सुधार होगा।

QCO के कार्यान्वयन के लिए तात्कालिक अपील

संघ वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय से अपील करता है कि उद्योग के भविष्य को सुरक्षित करने और जीवनयापन की रक्षा के लिए QCO को बिना देरी के लागू किया जाए। उद्योग का व्यापक समर्थन, QCO को स्थिर विकास, कृषि वानिकी को बढ़ावा देने और आर्थिक आधुनिकीकरण की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम के रूप में प्रस्तुत करता है। इसका त्वरित कार्यान्वयन समान प्रतिस्पर्धा का वातावरण सुनिश्चित करेगा, दीर्घकालिक विकास को बढ़ावा देगा और प्लायवुड और पैनल क्षेत्रों में भारत की वैश्विक स्थिति को मजबूत करेगा।

दिल्ली-एनसीआर प्लाइवुड निर्माता संघ (DPMA)

BIS प्रमाणन: आयात में गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण को सशक्त

बनाना

भारत सरकार ने BIS प्रमाणन को एक प्रमुख नियामक उपकरण के रूप में अपनाया है, जो उप-मानक उत्पादों के आयात को रोकने और राष्ट्रीय गुणवत्ता मानकों के पालन को सुनिश्चित करने में मदद करता है। यह नीति यह सुनिश्चित करती है कि आयातित वस्तुएं, जैसे कि प्लाइवुड, विशिष्ट भारतीय मानकों (IS कोड) को पूरा करती हों और बाजार में प्रवेश करने से पहले ISI मार्क या BIS पंजीकरण के साथ हों। इस नीति के प्रभावी क्रियान्वयन के लिए, BIS कस्टम अधिकारियों के साथ सहयोग करता है ताकि गैर-अनुरूप आयातों को बंदरगाहों पर ही रोका जा सके, और यह पहल "मेक इन इंडिया" अभियान के साथ मेल खाती है, जिसका उद्देश्य घरेलू उद्योगों को मजबूत करना है। इन उपायों का लक्ष्य सस्ते, निम्न-गुणवत्ता वाले आयातों की आमद को रोकना, उपभोक्ताओं की सुरक्षा करना और स्थानीय उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देना है।

तेज प्रवर्तन के माध्यम से अनुपालन सुनिश्चित करना

सरकार की "नो डिलेज" नीति BIS प्रमाणन को तुरंत लागू करने का आदेश देती है। कस्टम और BIS अधिकारियों के बीच वास्तविक समय में सहयोग यह सुनिश्चित करता है कि गैर-अनुरूप आयातों को तुरंत पहचान कर सीमा शुल्क से बाहर किया जाए। उद्योगों, जैसे कि प्लाइवुड को बाजार में प्रवेश करने के लिए IS 303 और IS 710 जैसे कड़े मानकों को पूरा करना आवश्यक है। अनुपालन न करने पर गंभीर दंड लग सकते हैं, जिनमें जुर्माना, माल की जब्ती और आयात अनुमतियों का रद्द होना शामिल है। कड़ी गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण के प्रवर्तन और आयातों को घरेलू मानकों के साथ सरेखित करके, BIS प्रमाणन उपभोक्ता हितों की सुरक्षा करता है और भारत की आर्थिक वृद्धि का समर्थन करता है।

दक्षिण भारतीय प्लाइवुड निर्माता संघ (SIPMA)

लकड़ी आधारित पैनल उद्योग में मानकों को ऊंचा करना

भारतीय लकड़ी आधारित पैनल उद्योग, जिसका बाजार आकार ₹500 अरब रुपये से अधिक है, देश की अर्थव्यवस्था में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। हालांकि, मानकीकरण की कमी, पर्यावरणीय चिंताएँ, और अनियमित बाजार जैसी समस्याएँ इसके विकास में रुकावट डाल रही हैं। इन समस्याओं का समाधान करने के लिए, सरकार ने प्लाइवुड, ब्लॉकबोर्ड, फ्लश डोर्स, पार्टिकल बोर्ड और MDF के लिए एक गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) प्रस्तावित किया है। यह पहल, जो भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो (BIS) द्वारा नेतृत्व की जा रही है, का उद्देश्य समान गुणवत्ता मानकों की स्थापना, सतत वानिकी को बढ़ावा देना और उद्योग की प्रतिष्ठा को बेहतर बनाना है। इस उपाय से निर्यात में वृद्धि, सरकारी राजस्व में वृद्धि और विशेष रूप से ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में सतत लकड़ी आपूर्ति के माध्यम से रोजगार के अवसर पैदा होने की उम्मीद है।

उपभोक्ताओं और देश के लिए लाभ

QCO यह सुनिश्चित करता है कि लकड़ी आधारित पैनल गुणवत्ता मानकों को पूरा करें, जिससे उपभोक्ताओं को टिकाऊ, सुरक्षित और उच्च-गुणवत्ता वाले उत्पाद मिलते हैं। यह नकली माल से सुरक्षा करता है, पारदर्शिता को बढ़ावा देता है, और बेहतर मूल्य प्रदान करता है। इसके अतिरिक्त, QCO “मेक इन इंडिया” पहल के साथ मेल खाता है, जो बागवानी को प्रोत्साहित करके और वनों की कटाई को कम करके पर्यावरणीय स्थिरता को बढ़ावा देता है। देश के लिए, इसका अर्थ है निर्यात में वृद्धि, उद्योग की वृद्धि में सुधार और प्रमाणन और करों के माध्यम से महत्वपूर्ण सरकारी राजस्व। गुणवत्ता, सुरक्षा और

पर्यावरणीय प्रबंधन पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हुए, QCO लकड़ी आधारित पैनल उद्योग के दीर्घकालिक विकास को समर्थन देने और उपभोक्ता विश्वास को मजबूत करने में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है।

हरियाणा प्लाइवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन (HPMA)

क्वॉलिटी कंट्रोल ऑर्डर्स (QCO) लागू होने के लिए उद्योग तैयार - गुणवत्ता आश्वासन की दिशा में एक कदम

हरियाणा के प्लाइवुड और पैनल उद्योग क्लस्टर में 350 से अधिक यूनिट्स हैं, जिन्होंने प्लाइवुड और लकड़ी के फ्लश डोर्स के लिए गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेश (QCO) लागू करने के लिए अपनी तैयारियों को व्यक्त किया है। जो पहले 2024 के लिए निर्धारित थे, उनके कार्यान्वयन की समयसीमा को व्यापारी अनुरोधों को ध्यान में रखते हुए फरवरी 2025 तक बढ़ा दिया गया था। हालांकि, उद्योग का कहना है कि इस देरी को और बढ़ाना प्रतिकूल परिणामों का कारक होगा। यह QCO, BIS कार्यशालाओं और संशोधनों के साथ, उत्पाद की गुणवत्ता को बढ़ाने और निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयात को नियंत्रित करने के लिए है, ताकि घरेलू निर्माताओं को प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक बढ़त मिल सके। BIS द्वारा साझा परीक्षण सुविधाओं की उपलब्धता छोटे और सूक्ष्म उद्यमों को सहयोग प्रदान करती है, जिससे वे नए मानकों के साथ आसानी से अनुपालन कर सकें। किसानों और रोजगार की सुरक्षा के लिए समय पर कार्यान्वयन

QCO का समय पर लागू होना भारतीय किसानों की सुरक्षा के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है, जो पोपलर, यूकैलिप्टस, कदाम और मेलिया ड्यूबिया पेड़ों की खेती करते हैं। देरी होने पर निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयात घरेलू उत्पादन को कमजोर कर सकते हैं, जिससे

लकड़ी की कीमतों में गिरावट आएगी और वृक्षारोपण के प्रयासों को हतोत्साहित किया जाएगा। यह एक श्रमिक-प्रधान क्षेत्र है, जो विशेष रूप से अकुशल श्रमिकों को महत्वपूर्ण रोजगार अवसर प्रदान करता है। QCO के पालन को सुनिश्चित करना न केवल घरेलू उत्पादन को स्थिर करेगा, बल्कि ग्रामीण आजीविका को बनाए रखने और सतत वनरोपण प्रथाओं को बढ़ावा देगा। उद्योग सरकार से यह आग्रह करता है कि QCO की समयसीमा को प्राथमिकता दी जाए, ताकि लकड़ी आधारित निर्माण क्षेत्र में गुणवत्ता, आर्थिक स्थिरता और पर्यावरणीय स्थिरता को बढ़ावा मिल सके।

पंजाब प्लाईवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन (PPMA)

लकड़ी आधारित उद्योग के लिए समय पर बढ़ावा

भारतीय प्लाईवुड और पैनल उद्योग ने DPIIT द्वारा जारी किए गए गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण आदेशों (QCO) का स्वागत किया है, जिसका उद्देश्य निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयातों को समाप्त करना और उच्च गुणवत्ता वाले घरेलू उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देना है। उद्योग के हितधारकों ने तत्काल कार्यान्वयन के लिए अपनी तत्परता व्यक्त की है और यह जोर दिया है कि कोई अतिरिक्त विस्तार की आवश्यकता नहीं है। QCO का उद्देश्य उपभोक्ताओं को धोखाधड़ी प्रथाओं, जैसे कि निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयातों पर नकली BIS निशान, से बचाना है, साथ ही यह सरकार की "मेक इन इंडिया" पहल के साथ भी मेल खाता है। सख्त गुणवत्ता मानकों को लागू करके, QCO स्वदेशी निर्माताओं की प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ावा देंगे, उपभोक्ताओं के लिए बेहतर उत्पाद सुनिश्चित करेंगे और भारतीय प्लाईवुड बाजार की ईमानदारी को बनाए रखेंगे।

किसानों का समर्थन और निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले आयातों पर रोक

उद्योग ने यह महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाने वाले QCO का महत्व बताया है, जो स्थानीय निर्माताओं और किसानों को खतरे में डालने वाले निम्न गुणवत्ता वाले प्लाईवुड के आयात को रोकते हैं। यूकैलिप्टस और पोपलर जैसे वृक्षारोपण पर निर्भर, यह क्षेत्र किसानों को पारंपरिक फसलों के अलावा वैकल्पिक आय के साधन प्रदान कर रहा है, जिससे उनकी आजीविका में सुधार हुआ है। हालांकि, बिना नियंत्रण आयात इस प्रगति को कमजोर कर सकते हैं, बाजार को अस्थिर कर सकते हैं और लाखों श्रमिकों के रोजगार को खतरे में डाल सकते हैं। QCO के तहत अनिवार्य BIS मानक गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण सुनिश्चित करेंगे, जाली प्रथाओं पर रोक लगाएंगे और लकड़ी आधारित उद्योग की आर्थिक स्थिरता को बनाए रखते हुए ग्रामीण आय और रोजगार सृजन के लिए आवश्यक सतत वनरोपण प्रथाओं को सुदृढ़ करेंगे।

भारतीय प्लाईवुड और पैनल उद्योग फरवरी 2025 के लिए निर्धारित QCO के अपनाने के लिए तैयार है, BIS मानकीकरण में महत्वपूर्ण प्रगति और ISI मार्क मानदंडों के औपचारिकीकरण के साथ। चुनौतियों के बावजूद, उद्योग के प्रयास विशेष रूप से SME और MSME के बीच तत्परता बढ़ा रहे हैं। QCO का कार्यान्वयन सस्ते आयातों के प्रवाह को रोकने, घरेलू उत्पादों की गुणवत्ता में सुधार करने और भारतीय प्लाईवुड की मांग को बढ़ाने की उम्मीद है। उम्मीद है कि मजबूत मैक्रोइकोनॉमिक समर्थन के साथ उज्ज्वल भविष्य का सामना होगा, जो निरंतर विकास के लिए सहायक होगा।

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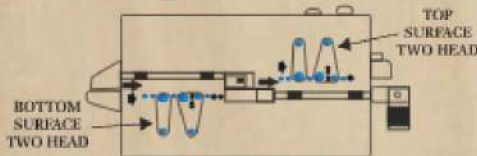


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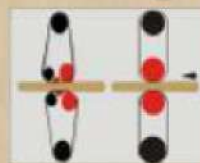
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