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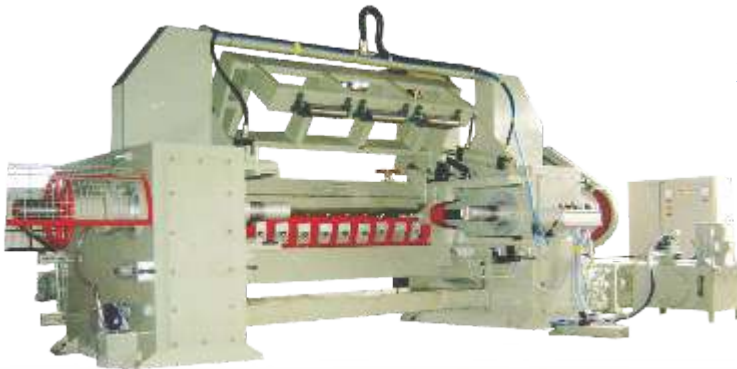
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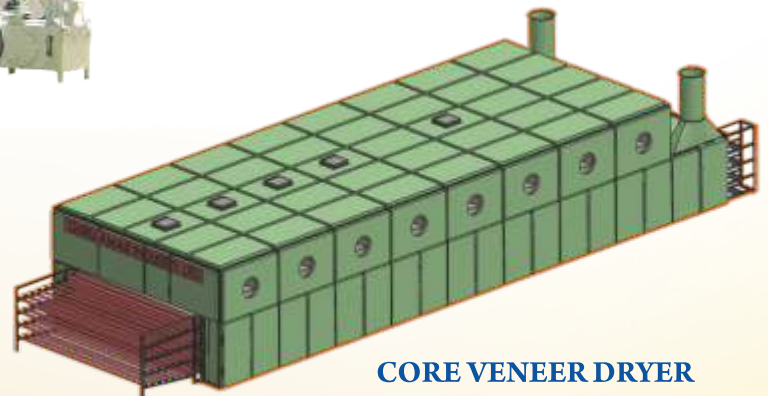
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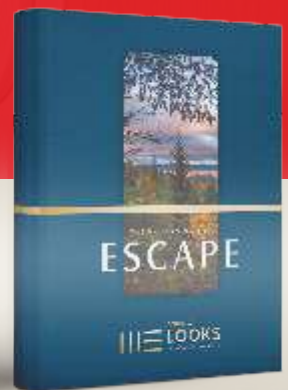
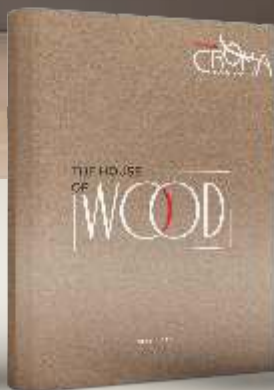
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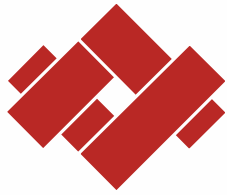
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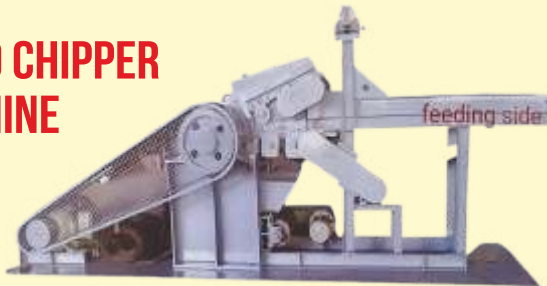


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# Laminate Industry and Trade

## Slowdown in Demand, Payments Delayed

The laminate industry and trade is witnessing a pronounced slowdown as demand weakened and cash flow tightened across several regions. Payments are delayed, creating financial strain for traders and manufacturers already grappling with reduced market activity.

The election season coupled with celebrations had drawn away a significant portion of the labour force. Labourers, who form the backbone of handling and installation work in the laminate sector, returned to their hometowns or became occupied with festival-related engagements. As a result, production and on-ground operations slowed down considerably.

Adding to the challenges was the ongoing wedding season across North India. Traditionally a busy period for carpenters and



contract workers, weddings diverted labour resources while also shifting household spending priorities away from renovation and construction materials like laminates. This dual pull had further clouded the business outlook.

Industry stakeholders describe the scenario as “foggy,” marked by uncertainty and hesitancy in placing orders. Retailers and

distributors remain cautious, preferring to clear old inventories before taking fresh stock.

Despite the current stagnation, optimism persists for an upsurge in the coming months. With festivities settling and labour returning, market participants expect demand to gradually stabilise, offering the sector a much-needed breather.



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# STYLAM

## Winning Export Excellence Honours

Stylam Industries Ltd marked an important milestone as the company was honoured with the Export Excellence Award for 2023–24 and 2024–25 at PLEXCONCIL's Export Excellence Awards held in Mumbai during the council's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. The recognition underscored Stylam's consistent global performance and its expanding footprint across international markets.

The company, which today exports to more than 80 countries, described the award as a recognition of its unwavering focus on quality, innovation, and competitiveness in the global surfacing materials industry. Stylam credited its extensive network of partners, distributors, architects, OEMs, and customers for placing their trust in the brand and contributing to its rising global presence.

A special acknowledgement was extended to Stylam's internal teams, whose sustained efforts have helped build and strengthen the company's international



market reach. The award, the company noted, reflected not only past achievements but also its commitment to accelerating growth and deepening engagement in global markets.

Stylam emphasised that being recognised among India's best exporters reinforced its long-term vision of scaling its international operations while upholding world-class standards. The company reaffirmed its dedication to delivering high-quality products and continuing its journey of global expansion with renewed confidence.







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Merino Industries Ltd. has been announced as a Gold Sponsor for the 20th World Toilet Summit 2025, reaffirming its commitment to advancing global sanitation standards. The summit, hosted by Sulabh International Social Service Organisation in association with the World Toilet Organisation, took place from 20th to 21st November at the Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.


At the event, Merino showcased its cutting-edge restroom brand, Merino Restroom, known for delivering “Thoughtful Solutions” grounded in economy, excellence, and ethics. Visitors to the Merino booth explored modern, future-ready restroom

solutions that blended design, durability, and high-performance materials tailored for public, institutional, and commercial spaces.

This partnership underscored a shared mission to promote innovation, inclusivity, and dignity in sanitation. As sanitation challenges are evolving worldwide, Merino’s participation highlighted the vital role of technology-driven solutions in building cleaner, safer, and more accessible restrooms.

With the World Toilet Summit serving as a global platform for dialogue and collaboration, Merino’s presence strengthened collective efforts toward sustainable sanitation and improved public hygiene for all.

***This partnership underscored a shared mission to promote innovation, inclusivity, and dignity in sanitation***



The advertisement for SIPL Plywood features a large sheet of plywood standing upright in a lush, green forest setting. The plywood sheet has the SIPL logo and various certification marks on it. To the right of the plywood, the text reads: "Paani ka no effect, SIPL Plywood Hai bilkul perfect" in a mix of bold and script fonts. Below this, it says "Fully waterproof" with a water drop icon. At the bottom, there is a contact information bar with the website [www.siplgroupindia.com](http://www.siplgroupindia.com), a phone number +91 95128 46454, and an email address [info@siplgroupindia.com](mailto:info@siplgroupindia.com).



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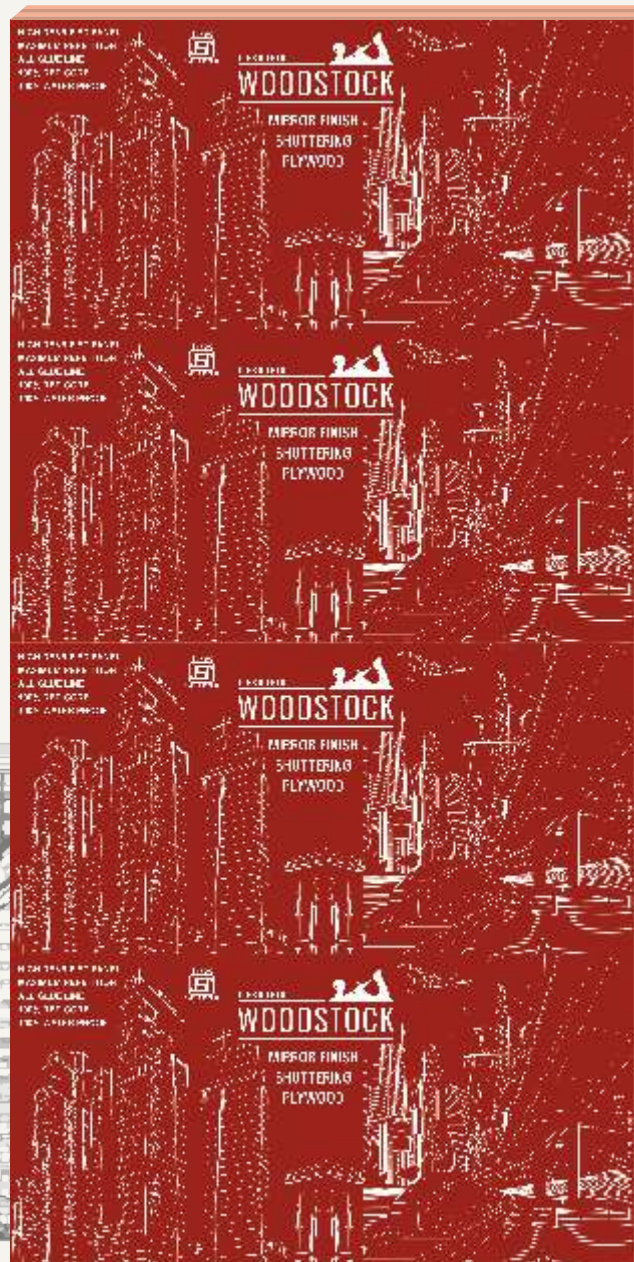
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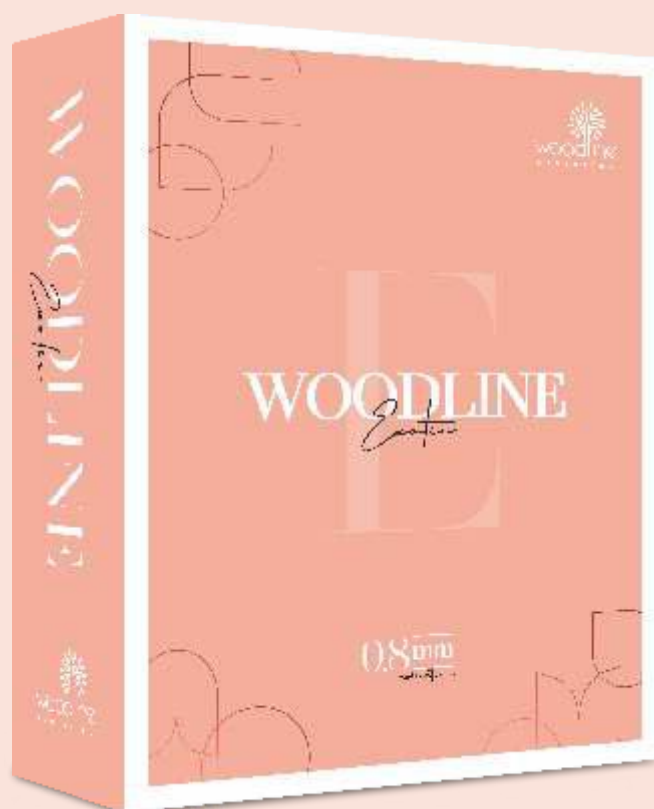




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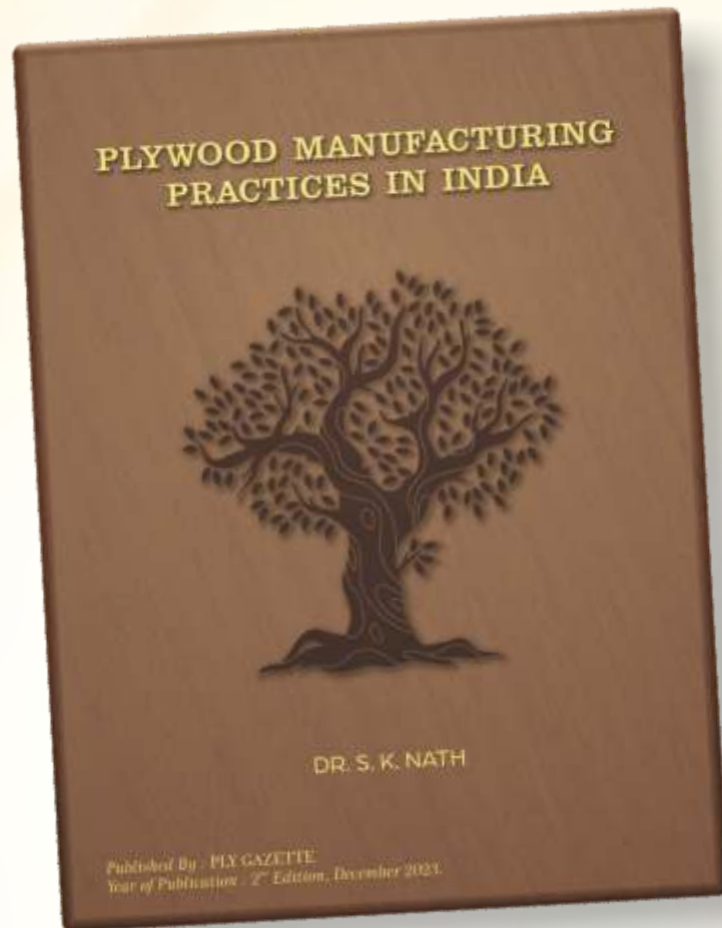
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Turakhia Natural Veneers is redefining the way natural wood is used in contemporary interiors with a new generation of pre-finished coloured veneers, fluted panels, and textured surfaces. The collection blends artisanal skill with advanced manufacturing, delivering ready-to-install products that are coloured, sealed, and finished under precisely controlled conditions. This not only enhances consistency and durability but also promotes sustainability by reducing on-site finishing processes and chemical usage.

The pre-finished coloured veneer range pairs the warmth and authenticity of real wood with the convenience of immediate application. Rather than masking the grain, each sheet highlights its inherent character, available in an expansive palette, from soft ash and taupe to graphite hues and subtle metallics. The offering caters to designers seeking a balance between organic beauty and contemporary refinement, helping create interiors that feel both modern and grounded in nature.

Turakhia's pre-finished coloured fluted panels bring sculptural definition to walls and furniture. Engineered with meticulous precision, they play with light and shadow to create depth and movement.

Designers can mix veneer species and tones, pairing walnut with oak or teak with Zebrano, to craft striking visual contrasts. These panels serve as standout elements in luxury homes, hospitality projects, and high-end commercial spaces.

The pre-finished coloured textured veneers elevate sensory engagement even further. Using techniques such as brushing, sandblasting, rough-cutting, and cross-graining, the surfaces achieve authentic tactile depth. Their appearance subtly shifts through the day as natural and artificial light interact with the contours and grains, making them ideal for feature walls, bespoke furniture, and statement ceilings. The results are interiors enriched with dimension and craftsmanship.

With this collection, Turakhia positions wood as a material of the future, versatile, expressive, sustainable, and easier to use. By merging aesthetic sophistication with reduced project timelines and environmentally responsible processes, the company empowers designers and architects to achieve high-impact interiors with lasting value and significantly lower on-site intervention.



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## Century Plyboard's

# Growth Momentum Ahead Outlined by VP and ED Keshav Bhajanka

In a wide-ranging conversation following the release of quarterly results, Keshav Bhajanka, Vice President, ICC & Executive Director, Century Plyboards (India) Ltd., outlined the company's strong performance, strategic priorities, and its roadmap for expansion in a dynamic building materials market. Speaking on air, he offered clarity on the drivers behind Century Plyboards' record numbers, the rationale for capacity deferrals, and the company's shift toward value-added products, an emerging necessity in the evolving wood panel industry.

Founded in 1986, Century Plyboards has grown from a plywood manufacturer into a diversified player producing veneer, laminates, MDF, particleboard, and allied products. Over the past three decades, it has become one of India's most recognisable names in interior infrastructure. But as Bhajanka emphasised, the transformation seen in recent quarters is the result of calculated, long-term investments across categories and geographies.

In an interview telecast in a leading news channel, he noted that the company has consistently focused on strengthening its core capacities. "In the past few years, we have made a lot of investments in plywood, MDF,



particleboard, and laminates," he said. This strategic infusion of capital has helped the company overcome earlier supply constraints, particularly in MDF, where capacity has now tripled compared to three years ago. As a result, each of the company's major verticals - plywood, MDF, and laminates, posted their highest-ever quarterly performance, contributing to a record aggregate turnover.

Bhajanka attributed this momentum to both capacity readiness and strong market acceptance. He affirmed that Century Plyboards continues to gain market share in

its flagship plywood segment, a category where the company has maintained leadership for decades. The company's MDF and laminate divisions, strengthened by recent expansions, have likewise benefited from sustained demand in residential and commercial interiors.

However, with demand rising faster than anticipated, the company has had to recalibrate its capacity expansion timelines. A planned extension of the South India MDF line, initially targeted for commissioning in the second half of FY26, has been deferred to the first half of FY27. Bhajanka described this postponement as "a good problem," explaining that seasonal cycles play an important role in decision-making. Q3 and Q4 are typically strong periods for MDF, with monsoon months showing slight moderation. "Because of the traction we are seeing, we cannot take a shutdown now, doing so would affect our ability to service the market," he said. Accordingly, the expansion will now be executed in April next year, enabling smoother transition and continuity of supply.

The company's ambition to become debt-free by FY26 remains firmly on track. Bhajanka clarified that this target pertains to long-term borrowings, and the company's internal accruals, strengthened by robust cash flows, are being directed toward reducing these obligations. With the bulk of major capex already completed, the company expects long-term debt to be "very minimal" by the end of FY26 or early FY27.

This financial prudence aligns with Century Plyboards' medium-term focus on

value-added products, which Bhajanka identifies as a key lever for margin expansion. While the company has always positioned itself away from commodity categories, increasing the share of specialised and premium offerings within MDF and laminates is now a strategic priority. He anticipates at least a 10% rise in value-added contribution, even though specific numbers remain confidential. Value-added segments, he noted, are crucial not just for differentiation but for long-term profitability.

Capacity enhancement remains an ongoing focus. "We will be hitting capacity very soon in MDF, so expansion will be essential," Bhajanka said. Similar escalations are expected in plywood, where expansion has already been announced, and in laminates, where the company is nearing capacity in larger sizes. While details will be shared once the plans are finalized by the board, he reiterated that growth in all key product lines is a strategic inevitability given demand patterns.

On pricing dynamics, Century Plyboards has implemented price increases in both plywood and laminates during the first half of the financial year. With raw material costs and demand conditions still evolving, further revisions are possible but not yet finalised.

Throughout the interview, what stood out was the confidence with which Bhajanka articulated the company's direction. Century Plyboards appears to be entering a phase of sustained, calibrated expansion, balancing market opportunity with operational discipline, and volume growth with margin-

focused product innovation.

As India's interior infrastructure sector continues to evolve, driven by housing growth, premiumisation, and a higher preference for engineered wood substitute materials, the company's deepening capabilities place it in a position of strength. With record volumes, clear expansion plans, and a near-debt-free balance sheet on the horizon, Century Plyboards is steering into its

next chapter with both ambition and clarity.

The conversation ended with Bhajanka expressing optimism: demand remains strong, execution is on track, and value-enhancing initiatives are firmly underway. For the company that began its journey in 1986, the current phase marks not just growth but a strategic repositioning for the future.

## Reeded and Tambour Panels

# Ideal for Modern Interiors

North American hardwood specialists are expanding design possibilities with an extensive range of reeded rigid panels and flexible tambour solutions, tailored for contemporary residential and commercial interiors.

Flexible tambour panels continue to gain popularity for their ability to bend, curve and wrap around surfaces, enabling fluid forms in modern spaces. Available in custom species, sizes and profiles, with lengths up to 120 inches, the range also includes an in-stock selection of 19 profiles, five species and three panel sizes, offering designers both versatility and speed of procurement.

Rigid reeded panels complement the tambour range, providing a textured, structured surface ideal for inlay work on cabinetry, wall panels and furniture. These

are offered in a wide choice of custom specifications as well as an in-stock lineup featuring nine profiles and eight hardwood species, with certain profiles also available in HDF. Standard stocked sizes measure 24 by 46 inches.

For larger applications, full-size rigid panels are offered in 8-by-4-foot formats made with a 1/2-inch plywood core and a cross-grain veneer backer. With 1/4-inch hardwood beads, these panels deliver consistency, stability and visual refinement.

Together, these reeded and tambour solutions from Designs of Distinction expand opportunities for designers crafting modern kitchens, baths and home environments, blending natural texture with architectural flexibility.



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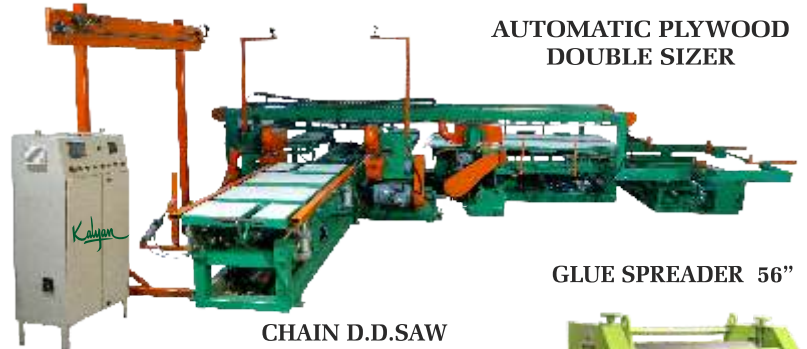
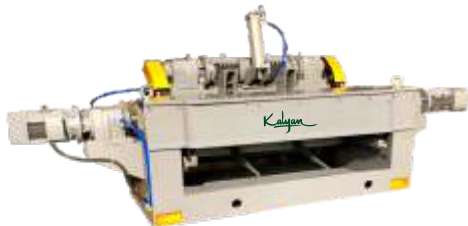
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# ILMA Hosts Productive Industry Meet in Morbi, Unveils New Committee and Key Growth Initiatives



ILMA hosted a highly productive industry meet in Morbi, drawing enthusiastic participation from laminate manufacturers across the region. The newly formed ILMA Committee was formally introduced, followed by an insightful presentation outlining the association's key achievements and ongoing initiatives.

The discussions focused on the collective advancement of the laminate

sector, with several proposals aimed at enhancing the global visibility of the Indian laminate industry and strengthening coordination between manufacturers and distributors. These initiatives are designed to promote deeper camaraderie, collaboration, and trust within the industry.

The meeting concluded with initial deliberations on the proposed dates for the upcoming ILMA Conference.

ACTION TESA

Accelerating MDF Expansion with New Visakhapatnam Plant

Action Tesa, one of India’s leading manufacturers of MDF and HDMR panels, has moved into high gear with its latest expansion plan in Andhra Pradesh. The company is setting up a new state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Visakhapatnam, marking a significant step in strengthening its presence in South India and enhancing supply-chain efficiencies for the wood panel industry. The expansion comes as part of the company’s long-term strategy to stay closer to key markets and meet rising demand for engineered wood products.

The project gained further momentum following a detailed meeting between Action Tesa’s founder, N. K. Agarwal, and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. The discussion focused on the plant’s

roadmap, its milestones, and the broader potential for vertical expansion within the state’s rapidly growing manufacturing ecosystem. Chief Minister Naidu reiterated the Andhra Pradesh government’s commitment to supporting industries that choose Visakhapatnam, Amaravati, and Tirupati as major industrial hubs. He later shared on social media that the state fully backs investments like the one proposed by Balaji Action Buildwell in Rambilli, viewing them as catalysts for economic development and job creation.

During a company conference, N. K. Agarwal emphasised the strategic advantages of setting up manufacturing units close to consumer markets. He noted that minimising logistics distance for heavy

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products like MDF and HDMR results in better cost efficiencies and ensures faster market responsiveness. Agarwal also praised the state's administrative efficiency, recalling instances of exceptional dedication shown by local officials, including the MLA and Deputy Commissioner who remained present during the foundation event despite adverse weather and personal discomfort. "The work culture in Andhra is incomparable, not just in India, but globally," Agarwal said, expressing confidence in the region as a long-term base for expansion.

The Andhra Pradesh government's proactive stance has further strengthened Action Tesa's confidence. Naidu acknowledged the company's role in strengthening industrial growth and highlighted the state's commitment to nurturing a supportive environment for manufacturers. He underscored that strong

leadership both at the national and state levels, is driving the next phase of industrial transformation.

Action Tesa's new Visakhapatnam plant represents a major milestone for the company, reinforcing its prominence in the wood panel sector and signalling renewed momentum in India's manufacturing landscape. As the project progresses, it is expected to boost regional employment, strengthen local supply chains, and support the fast-growing demand for MDF and HDMR products across South India.

With construction and planning in full swing, the expansion underscores Action Tesa's confidence in Andhra Pradesh as a preferred destination for industrial growth, while marking yet another chapter in the company's pursuit of innovation, operational excellence, and market leadership.

***Action Tesa's new Visakhapatnam plant represents a major milestone for the company, reinforcing its prominence in the wood panel sector and signalling renewed momentum in India's manufacturing landscape***

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Action Tesa

# Hallmark Group Ties up with the Company

Hallmark Group (Beccor & Yuanfong) has once again strengthened its association with Action Tesa, one of India's largest and most advanced panel manufacturers. As per Hallmark's sources, the company will supply six fully automatic short cycle press lines, while its group company has signed a separate agreement to deliver fully automatic grading and sorting lines for MDF. This partnership marks a strategic and decisive step for Hallmark in the Indian market.

With over 15 years of professional experience in the flooring industry, Hallmark Group has built a strong global presence backed by its own manufacturing plant and extensive technical expertise. Its products are exported to more than 50 countries, including Russia, Turkey, Egypt, Algeria, South Africa, Iran, India, Malaysia, and Vietnam. The company's core offerings include laminated flooring production lines, SPC flooring production lines, and a wide range of non-standard customised equipment for the construction, wall panel, and furniture sectors. Beyond machinery, Hallmark provides complete end-to-end solutions and technical consulting services, enabling clients to optimise production and enhance operational efficiency.

Action Tesa, part of the prestigious Action Group founded in the early 1970s by



visionary leader and industrialist N. K. Aggarwal, is a dominant force in India's engineered wood panel segment. Over the years, the company has earned a reputation for pioneering innovation. It established India's first thin MDF plant and continues to hold the leading position in the country's panel industry. Action Tesa also introduced cutting-edge DOME Technology, offering distinctive product features, and set up India's first true HDF-based laminate wooden flooring manufacturing facility. In addition, it launched UV High Gloss Panels for the first time in the Indian market.

Through continuous innovation, unwavering quality standards, and forward-looking initiatives, Action Tesa has firmly cemented its position as a corporate leader in its domain.

## BIS Compliance

# Reshaping India's Wood Panel Industry

Mandatory ISI marking transforms plywood, MDF, and particle board markets with rapid adoption, rising awareness, and new challenges.

As of 1st October, 2025, the Indian wood panel industry stands at a defining crossroads. The implementation of the Quality Control Order (QCO), mandating ISI marking on plywood, MDF, and particle boards, has unleashed a transformation unlike any seen before. What began as a compliance directive is fast evolving into a nationwide quality revolution, which is redefining how the industry manufactures, markets, and maintains credibility.

Before February 2025, the industry had roughly 800 active BIS licences. By August 2025, coinciding with the second cutoff date for small and medium enterprises, that number surged past 900. In 1st October, there are 1,068 active licence holders, and the figure is expected to cross 1,100 within days. If the current pace continues, projections suggest more than 1,400 units will be licensed by December and over 1,700 by March 2026.

Yet, when viewed against the estimated 3,500-plus wood panel manufacturing units operating nationwide, the road to complete compliance is still long.

The numbers highlight both the progress made and the distance yet to cover.

Since the Green Highways Policy, few industry regulations have triggered such a sweeping response as the BIS mandate for wood-based panels. Across industrial clusters, from Yamunanagar and Bareilly to Perumbavoor and Kolkata, manufacturers are racing to align with the new standards. Industry associations, BIS departments, and CED committees have been holding frequent consultations to smoothen the transition.

However, the implementation journey has not been without friction. In almost every cluster, a section of manufacturers have complaints of high-handedness, bureaucratic delays, and occasional corruption. Others argue that the changes were long overdue and are finally bringing transparency to a market once fragmented by varying quality levels.

Interestingly, traders, often the first to gauge market shifts, have responded with agility. Many have already adapted to the QCO norms, seeing opportunity in the vacuum left by a sharp decline in imported products. In fact, the domestic trade community has gained renewed momentum as foreign imports shrink dramatically, a trend confirmed by recent import data.

The rollout of ISI marking has not been entirely smooth. A number of manufacturers and associations have raised objections and sought clarifications on specific standards, particularly IS 710 (Marine Plywood) and IS 4990 (Shuttering Plywood). Letters of complaint have reached high offices, including the Principal Secretary at the PMO, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, the DG of BIS, and the Trade Marks Registry.

The most debated issue revolves around the 12-kg water retention requirement under IS 710, with some arguing that the clause is inconsistently applied. Similar concerns persist regarding shuttering plywood norms under IS 4990. Discussions are ongoing, and stakeholders are optimistic that uniform clarity will soon emerge, ensuring smoother industry-wide compliance.

One of the more impactful developments within the plywood segment has been the introduction of the Bending Class categorisation under IS 303. This framework allows manufacturers to sell products of different quality grades, such as Bending Class 10, 20, or 30, transparently in

the market.

The advantage is twofold: manufacturers can label and price their products honestly according to grade, and consumers can make informed choices without fear of being misled. Many small and medium factories are applying for ISI licences under the lower Bending Classes 10 and 20, enabling them to maintain production continuity while meeting the minimum standard thresholds.

The most dramatic consequence of mandatory BIS marking is visible in trade data. According to M.P. Singh, Director General of the Federation of Indian Plywood & Panel Industries (FIPPI), “The impact of mandatory BIS is evident across the sector. Imports of wood panels have dropped from ₹350 crore a month to merely ₹35 crore.”

This collapse in imports has been both a blessing and a challenge. On one hand, it has cleared the domestic market of cheaper, non-compliant foreign panels that undercut Indian producers. On the other, it has placed immense pressure on small-scale units to align with new norms rapidly. M.P. Singh urges patience: “The BIS must remain





supportive. Small industries need handholding to upgrade to ISI-compliant production.”

Technical expert Manoj Gawri observes that while early compliance was sluggish, momentum has clearly shifted. “Most clusters are now growing in ISI registration numbers. Once BIS enforcement tightens further, complete industry compliance will follow,” he asserts.

Ashok Agarwal, President of the Uttar Pradesh Plywood Manufacturers Welfare Association (UP-PMWA), shares a similar sentiment. “Those who indulged in illicit practices are the ones most anxious today. But for those aligning with standards, this change has been empowering. Despite ongoing challenges, from sample testing to counterfeit labeling, BIS’ presence is now unmistakable.”

In southern India, Dr. Prashant, President of the South Indian Plywood Manufacturers Association (SIPMA), notes varying progress. “Kerala enterprises are leading BIS adoption, while Karnataka is catching up slowly. Even some large-scale industries remain unclear about IS 710 requirements. Dealers, meanwhile, are cautious, fearful of raids or extortion but they, too, understand that BIS compliance is now indispensable.”

Despite the decline in imports, demand growth remains subdued. Dr. Prashant attributes this to market adjustment: “The market is still recalibrating. The benefits of reduced imports are yet to translate into significantly higher sales.”

J.K. Bihani, President of the Haryana Plywood Manufacturers Association

(HPMA), raises a crucial point about post-licence challenges. “BIS must also strengthen its systems for licensed units. The online portal is full of unresolved complaints, renewal delays, stock clarifications, undefined standards. These operational bottlenecks can discourage genuine compliance efforts.”

In Kerala, Ibrahim Kunnathan, Managing Director of K-Board, confirms steady progress. “Almost all particle board units here are now BIS-licensed, and plywood units are following. However, imports are still slipping through some ports. We urge the government to impose at least a 50% anti-dumping duty on imported plywood to protect domestic industry.”

The cultural impact of this transition is profound. For decades, India’s wood panel sector operated in a grey zone, fragmented by informal practices, uneven quality, and fluctuating consumer awareness. The QCO enforcement has triggered an industry-wide introspection, forcing manufacturers to confront quality head-on.

Designers, architects, and furniture makers are increasingly asking for ISI-marked products, a trend noticed recently. Awareness may still be low among end consumers, but in professional circles, the “ISI mark” is fast becoming synonymous with reliability.

Moreover, the BIS framework has reintroduced accountability into pricing. By defining quality grades and enforcing labeling discipline, it prevents undercutting and misrepresentation, two chronic issues that plagued the sector. As smaller units adopt lower bending classes, they can operate

legally and competitively without resorting to substandard production.

While the pace of compliance is encouraging, industry insiders caution that the next phase, enforcement consistency and market education will be equally critical. Several key priorities have emerged:

#### Strengthening BIS Resources:

With the surge in license applications, BIS needs to scale its manpower and digital infrastructure to handle renewals, inspections, and grievance redressal effectively.

#### Standard Clarity and Training:

Ambiguities around IS 710 and IS 4990 must be conclusively resolved, and widespread training programmes should be conducted to educate small manufacturers.

#### Curbing Illegal Imports:

Stakeholders are urging stronger anti-dumping measures to protect domestic industries that have invested heavily in compliance.

#### Consumer Awareness:

BIS, industry associations, and trade media must jointly promote awareness among builders, architects, and retail consumers about the benefits of certified products.

#### Market Rationalisation:

With QCO now in effect, price stabilisation will follow as compliant

manufacturers claim their rightful market share. This will gradually eliminate non-compliant units or push them to formalise operations.

The Indian wood panel industry today is not merely evolving, it is undergoing a structural reformation. The mandatory ISI marking has introduced a system of traceability, transparency, and trust, aligning the sector with global standards.

The next 12 months will be crucial. If projections hold, by March 2026, nearly half the industry will be BIS-certified. The ripple effect will be felt across the supply chain, from resin manufacturers to furniture retailers.

As India strengthens its manufacturing backbone through initiatives like Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat, the wood panel industry's shift towards quality compliance stands as a model for others to follow.

The message from industry veterans is clear: this is not a temporary adjustment, it is the new normal. And in embracing it, India's wood panel sector is not only ensuring compliance but also building credibility, both at home and in global markets.

The BIS mandate has turned a fragmented trade into a regulated industry, where every sheet of plywood now carries not just a stamp, but a statement of quality, integrity, and progress.

SAKET Laminates

# Unveils New 0.8mm Decorative Catalogue at Gandhidham Sales Meet



SAKET Laminates, a rising brand under the House of Amulya Mica, launched its all-new 0.8mm Decorative Laminate Catalogue at a high-energy Sales Meet held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025 in Gandhidham. The unveiling marked a strategic milestone for the company as it pushes to strengthen its presence across India's rapidly

expanding interiors market.

The refreshed catalogue, themed "BHARAT – Design for Every Dream," is the result of extensive research into India's evolving aesthetic preferences. Modernised from the ground up, it aims to cater to the unique needs of residential, commercial, and institutional projects across



diverse regions.

The new edition features 315 sample chips and 32 premium finishes, including specially developed textures debuting in this release. With 89 newly added design papers, the collection offers a balanced palette of wooden grains, solid colours, marbles, stones, and contemporary abstract patterns. Its simplified layout is designed to help architects, interior designers, and retailers steer options quickly, while the range's enhanced clarity and smoothness improve overall appeal. True to its "BHARAT" theme, the catalogue reflects regional tastes from across the country, making it a ready-to-sell portfolio created for strong dealer rotation and carpenter acceptance.

Addressing the gathering, Director Abhishek Agarwal highlighted the brand's robust backend infrastructure, including six strategically placed warehouses that ensure reliable stock and 24-hour delivery in most regions. Managing Director Rakesh Agarwal emphasised SAKET's design-driven approach, calling the launch "a story rewritten for New India," and reaffirmed the company's mission to make high-quality, durable laminates accessible nationwide.

The event concluded with a team visit to Smritivan – The Earthquake Museum in Bhuj, celebrating resilience, unity, and the collective ambition driving SAKET's next chapter.

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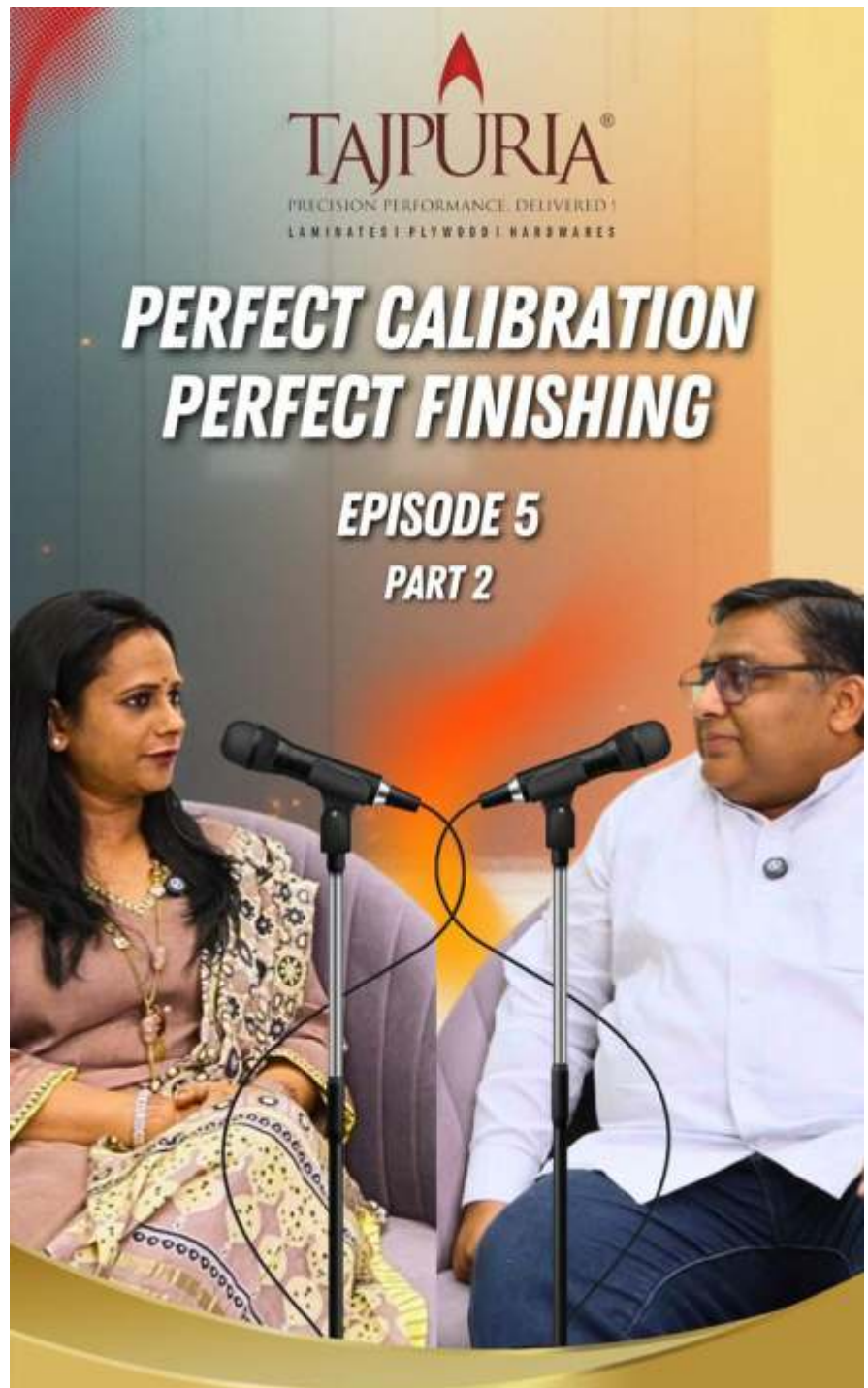
## Tajpuria Talks

# In conversation with Architect Kapil Agarwal

In the latest podcast hosted by Tajpuria, Architect Kapil Agarwal from Kanpur shares valuable insights on a topic that plays a transformative role in interior execution, yet often goes unnoticed by end users, the importance of calibration in plywood.

Kapil emphasises that calibration is one of the most critical features responsible for achieving an exceptional finish on the outer surface of furniture and interior elements. Today, customers demand perfection - seamless surfaces, premium aesthetics, and finishes that reflect craftsmanship. According to him, this perfection begins long before laminates, veneers, or acrylic sheets are applied; it begins with the base material.

He explains that calibrated plywood offers uniform thickness throughout the sheet, eliminating the thickness



variations commonly found in regular plywood. This uniformity ensures a flat and stable surface, which directly impacts the final output.

Kapil Agarwal highlights that calibration becomes a true blessing, especially when working with acrylic. Acrylic is a highly reflective and premium surface material. Even the slightest unevenness in the base can cause waves, ripples, or undulations, which immediately become visible and ruin the external appearance.

"Calibration is a boon for acrylic, without it, the surface loses its premium finish."

When acrylic is pasted on calibrated plywood, it maintains a flawless, smooth, and mirror-like finish, enhancing the overall aesthetic value of interiors. But if applied on non-calibrated plywood, even minor unevenness results in visible waves, making the surface look distorted and unprofessional.

This conversation sheds light on an important truth:

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E3 GROUP

# Named Co-Sponsor for Nepal Wood International Expo 2025

The 11th edition of the Nepal Wood International Expo 2025 has announced E3 Group as its official Co-Sponsor, marking a significant partnership for one of South Asia's fastest-growing platforms dedicated to the wood, woodworking, furniture, and interior design industries. Scheduled for 19th to 21st December 2025 at Bhrikuti Mandap, Kathmandu, the expo is set to once again bring together leading brands, innovators, technologists, and decision-makers from across Nepal and the global wood ecosystem.

Widely regarded as Nepal's largest and most influential event for the sector, the Nepal Wood International Expo serves as a gateway for businesses looking to expand into one of the region's most promising markets. Supported by major industry bodies,

including the Interior Designers Association of Nepal, Nepal Plywood Manufacturers Association, FECOFUN, FenFIT-Nepal, and the Wood Technologist Association, the event has consistently played a pivotal role in advancing technologies, strengthening trade networks, and spotlighting global trends that shape the industry's future.

With participation from over 250 exhibitors representing 10 countries, the 2025 edition promises an expansive showcase covering machinery, laminates, raw materials, plywood, furniture, fasteners, doors, saw-milling technologies, and power tools. The expo's strong reputation continues to attract more than 15,000 high-quality trade visitors, including manufacturers, dealers, architects, builders, contractors, and





procurement specialists.

Exhibitors benefit not only from market exposure but also from direct access to buyers who hold significant purchasing authority. Surveyed participants from past editions revealed that 92 percent used the expo as an entry point into Nepal's wood market, while 60 percent of visitors expected to increase their purchasing value after attending. The event also recorded an

impressive 4.5/5 satisfaction score among returning visitors, its highest ever.

For visitors, the expo offers rare opportunities to explore emerging technologies, interact with seasoned professionals, and assess a wide range of global products under one roof. With the increasing presence of international companies, the expo has become a critical destination for learning, networking, and discovering new business partnerships.

The partnership with E3 Group further elevates the stature of Nepal Wood International Expo 2025, reinforcing its role as a catalyst for innovation and industry growth in the Himalayan region.



## Welmica Laminates

# Shahid Kapoor is the New Brand Ambassador

It's official. Bollywood star Shahid Kapoor is the new brand ambassador for Welmica, bringing his signature blend of performance, precision, and style to the world of interiors. Known for cinematic finishes, richer textures, and effortless care, Welmica's laminates redefine modern living spaces with design, durability, and comfort. "You know me for my love for performance, precision,

and style and that's exactly what Welmica Laminates stand for," says Shahid in the brand's latest campaign video.

With curated textures, consistent shades, and elegant finishes, Welmica's collaboration with Shahid Kapoor celebrates the power of star appeal and surface innovation, making every room feel premium.





# Honoured with Innovation Award for 'Smart Spindle' Breakthrough at SMAU 2025

The Scm Group received the prestigious SMAU Innovation Award during the latest edition of SMAU, held in Milan from 5th to 6th November, recognising its pioneering "Smart Spindle" project, an advancement that redefined how machining centres are monitored, serviced, and optimised. The award underscored the company's commitment to reshaping industrial processes through data, software intelligence, and predictive technology.

The innovation centred on

transforming the traditional electrospindle, one of the core components of CNC machines, into an intelligent, connected system. Developed with Hiteco, a Scm Group subsidiary, the electrospindle integrated advanced sensors that tracked temperature, vibration, and tool-change cycles.

This data was processed in real time and transmitted to Scm Group's Control Room, where artificial intelligence models interpreted patterns, identified anomalies, and predicted faults before they occurred.



The system could even open service tickets automatically, positioning maintenance as a proactive rather than reactive service.

The approach represented a significant leap from component-level monitoring to the creation of an interconnected service ecosystem. Scm Group emphasised data transparency, ensuring that all information remained customer-owned, anonymised, and used solely to enhance performance and lifecycle management.

Beyond its technical advancements, “Smart Spindle” marked a strategic shift for Scm Group as it expanded from being a machinery manufacturer to a solutions provider driving Industry 4.0 transformation. The system offered up to 30 percent reduction in downtime, improved machining quality, and lower operating costs, delivering measurable value across industrial environments.

This forward-looking innovation aligned with the company’s broader digital transformation journey, reinforcing its commitment to collaboration, sustainability, and long-term customer benefit.

Commenting on the achievement, company representatives highlighted the importance of merging technological intelligence with service excellence to unlock new possibilities in manufacturing.

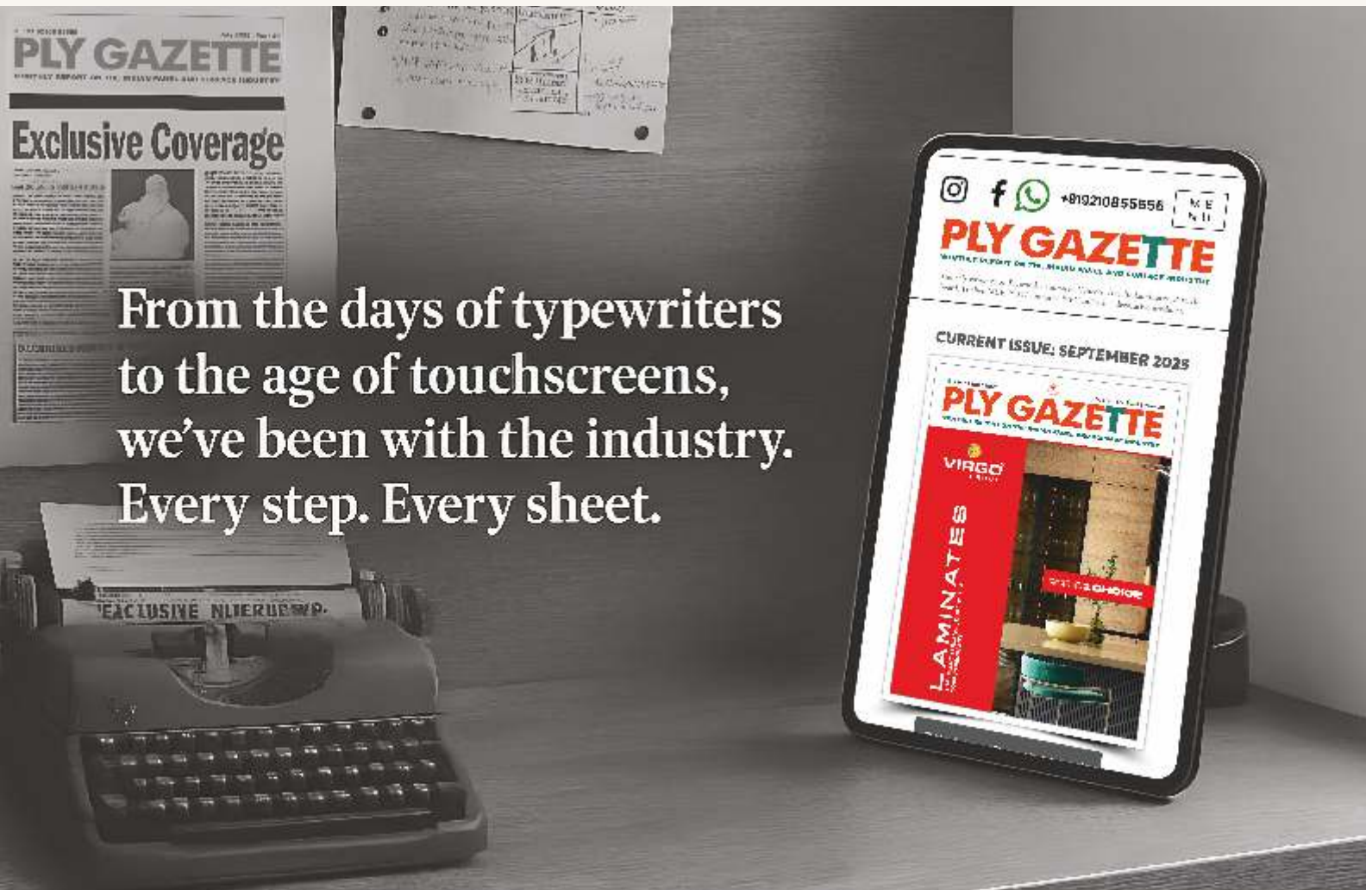
The award was accepted on 5th November by Antonio Latella, Product Owner Smart Sensors, and Luca Bergantini, Business Manager for CNC Machining and Drilling Centers at Scm Group.

A global leader in multi-material machining technologies—including wood, aluminium, plastic, glass, metal, stone, and advanced composites, Scm Group operates integrated manufacturing facilities across Italy, Germany, the United States, and Brazil. With revenues of €900 million and over 4,000 employees, it remains a trusted partner for industries ranging from furniture and construction to aerospace, automotive, and marine sectors.

The “Smart Spindle” project stood out at SMAU as a defining example of how predictive intelligence, data governance, and cross-industry collaboration can shape the future of smart manufacturing.



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## Big 5 Construct Kenya 2025

# Built Connections, Inspired Innovation, Shaped the Future of Construction

From 5th to 7th November 2025, the Sarit Expo Centre in Nairobi became the epicentre of Africa's most dynamic construction event - Big 5 Construct Kenya 2025. Organised by dmg events, this eighth edition was a powerful convergence of innovation, collaboration, and opportunity that united every link in Kenya's thriving

construction value chain.

Positioned as the country's leading B2B event for the building and infrastructure sector, Big 5 Construct Kenya 2025 featured over 150 exhibitors from more than 20 countries, presenting a comprehensive showcase of cutting-edge products, materials, and technologies. The event held



from 10 am to 5 pm daily, reflected the growth trajectory of Kenya's \$20-billion construction market, a sector that continues to define urban landscapes and infrastructure across East Africa.

Visitors experienced a vibrant marketplace where design met innovation, and sustainability met transformation. From decorative surfaces, digital construction tools, and modular building systems to HVAC solutions, heavy machinery, and smart building technologies, the expo covered every major segment of the modern built environment. Under its unifying theme, "Source Internationally, Build Locally," the event underscored Kenya's role as a gateway to Africa's construction future.

One of the core attractions of Big 5 Construct Kenya was the Big 5 Talks, an enriching platform offering over 25 free CPD-certified sessions led by global experts. Each session was carefully designed to equip professionals with actionable insights in project management, engineering, architecture, sustainability, and technology. From project delivery innovation to green building practices, these sessions bridged knowledge with practice, empowering attendees to stay ahead in a competitive and evolving industry.

The 2025 speaker lineup read like a who's who of construction excellence. Experts such as Engr. Shammah Kiteme, President of The Institution of Engineers of Kenya; Arch. Florence Nyole, Kenya Country Representative of the American Institute of Architects; and sustainability advocate

Wilma Odalo of the Kenya Green Building Society headlined the discussions. Their participation highlighted Kenya's commitment to sustainable, inclusive, and forward-looking development.

As a unique learning hub, the Talks provided not just certification but career advancement. Thousands of CPD certificates were issued, reinforcing the event's reputation as a cornerstone for continuous professional development in East Africa's built environment sector.

For exhibitors, Big 5 Construct Kenya 2025 offered unmatched visibility and access to high-value networks. Thousands of trade visitors from architects, engineers, and developers to distributors, contractors, and policy-makers, engaged directly with brands that defined the future of construction. The event's structure ensured maximum return on investment through one-on-one meetings, product launches, and targeted networking opportunities.

Among its dedicated sectors were Building Interiors & Finishes, Concrete & Cement, Digital Construction, HVAC-R, MEP Services, Solar Products & Technology, Heavy Machinery & Vehicles, and Modular Construction. This sectoral diversity allowed visitors to efficiently discover tailored solutions for their projects while ushering meaningful collaborations.

The expo also served as a bridge between international manufacturers and local enterprises, strengthening Kenya's capacity to adopt new technologies and practices that enhance productivity,

efficiency, and sustainability. The spirit of collaboration that defines Big 5 Construct Kenya has already translated into several partnerships between global suppliers and local contractors, contributing to skills development, knowledge transfer, and innovation adoption.

Adding an interactive edge to the exhibition floor was the DeWalt Screw It Challenge, a 60-second contest of speed, precision, and craftsmanship. Participants drilled, screwed, and raced against the clock to test their skills, with winners taking home a DeWalt toolkit and all participants receiving branded giveaways. The challenge captured the event's dynamic spirit, where professionalism met play, and skill met opportunity.

Beyond competition, the event buzzed with live demonstrations, networking lounges, and dedicated zones for digital tools and intelligent building technologies. This



year's exhibitors included global brands in construction materials, smart energy systems, and modular design, many unveiling products for the first time in Africa.

Big 5 Construct Kenya 2025 continued its strong focus on sustainability both as a value and as a practice. Printed brochures were replaced with QR-based digital guides, while modular and reusable stand materials became the norm. Exhibitors were encouraged to use LED lighting, eco-flooring, and recycled materials. Food waste was minimised by redistributing surplus, and all signage and flooring materials are to be reused across future shows.

A highlight of the sustainability effort was the Green Meeting Package, encouraging exhibitors and attendees to choose environmentally responsible catering and operational options. These initiatives aligned with global ESG goals, reinforcing Big 5 Construct Kenya's position as a responsible, future-oriented event.

Attending Big 5 Construct Kenya meant being part of a growing movement that



valued expertise, innovation, and community. The event attracted professionals from diverse fields, including architecture, civil and mechanical engineering, real estate development, interior design, quantity surveying, sustainability, and academia. For them, the expo was not just a business opportunity but a chance to learn, connect, and contribute to the future of African construction.

Architects explored new finishes; engineers discovered smarter systems; developers forged partnerships that redefined urban living. Government representatives and regulators engaged directly with industry players, initiating dialogues on infrastructure policy and sustainable urban growth.

The 2025 edition welcomed extensive media coverage, with partnerships across digital, print, television, and radio platforms, including Metropol TV, KTN News Kenya, K24 TV, and KBC Radio. The event's Media Centre invited journalists and content creators to engage directly with industry leaders, amplifying the voices shaping Africa's construction future.

Big 5 Construct Kenya was a conversation about progress. With sustainability sessions, digital engagement tools, and inclusive participation, the event redefined how the construction industry connects, learns, and grows. As the sector embraced smart cities, renewable energy, and green building design, the event became a crucial meeting point for those who are shaping Africa's urban future.

The event's tagline, "Building Sustainability Together", captured both its ethos and its vision: a collective effort toward greener, smarter, and more resilient infrastructure.

As Kenya continues to rise as a leader in modern infrastructure and sustainable urbanisation, Big 5 Construct Kenya 2025 stood as the definitive platform where ambition took shape, ideas took root, and partnerships paved the way forward.

From discovery to dialogue, from networking to knowledge, Big 5 Construct Kenya 2025 was where Africa's construction community came together to build not just structures, but the future itself.



# ACIMALL

## Broccoli Appointed Vice President

Federico Broccoli, Chief Commercial Officer at Biesse, has been appointed the new Vice President of Acimall, the Italian association representing manufacturers of woodworking machinery and accessories. His nomination, proposed by President Enrico Aureli, was unanimously approved by the board, following the resignation of Raphaël Prati, who was acknowledged for his significant contribution.

Broccoli expressed deep gratitude for the appointment, noting that his association with the woodworking machinery sector dated back to 1985. He remarked that Acimall had consistently demonstrated commitment to supporting Italian manufacturers, particularly in their global expansion. "I am proud to join an institution that has represented our industry with such clarity and vision," he said. "In a complex market and geopolitical environment, Acimall must remain a strong reference point for companies of every size. Only by working together can we meet and exceed the most ambitious challenges."

President Aureli welcomed Broccoli's entry into the association's leadership, emphasising his long managerial experience and understanding of international markets. He highlighted that these strengths would be vital as Acimall prepared for its 60th anniversary in 2026 and continued its efforts



to strengthen member companies. Aureli also confirmed that Broccoli would join the managing board of Cepra Srl, Acimall's service company responsible for operational activities.

Aureli extended thanks to both Broccoli and the Biesse leadership for their support and proximity to the association, expressing confidence in the positive impact of the new appointment. "His expertise will be instrumental in consolidating the association's role and guiding its future growth," Aureli added.

With this leadership transition, Acimall reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Italy's woodworking technology sector, promoting collaboration, innovation, and global competitiveness among its member companies.

# Emerging Wood Related Challenges for the Wood Based Industry in India

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Wood based industry (WBI) has aggressively expanded in the recent past. Accordingly, plantations for producing much needed wood for meeting its increased demand also expanded in and around such industries and their clusters. Year- 2024-25 witnessed all time high planting of two dominant commercial trees namely Eucalyptus and Poplars in the country. There was a planting of 55 Crore Eucalyptus which includes around 50 Crore clonal and 5 Crore seedling plants and around 4 Crore Poplar plants in the country. The upward trend in planting of these two trees and some other commercial trees has been happening for quite some time.

The process of growing trees in Agroforestry was initiated by WIMCO-safety match in North India around 5 decades back. It was later picked up by ITC in South India 1990s onward. Soon, other paper mills joined hands and IPPMA made other major paper industrial units engaged in promotion of pulpwood plantations. Of late, FIPPI also

started **RAW Material Sustainability Platform** with the collective participation of large panel product manufacturers in India. As a result, the industrial units are now increasingly participating collectively or individually in promoting plantations to ensure increased wood production for their units. However these small efforts by selected associations and industries are proving inadequate as the prices of the wood are harbouring around top-end for a few years. Additionally, there are other emerging issues which need immediate attention of the industry and these are briefly discussed below.

1. More wood based industrial units need to come forward for making sure that they at least promote tree plantations equivalent to their wood consumption. Tree plantations for industrial wood production are currently economically viable, with better options to even small industrial owners. Each industry could easily create a small buffer wood resource by making own plantations.



This will provide a double benefit of low wood prices from own plantations (based on only the cost of production) and ensure wood supplies during crises.

2. Paper industry has been advised under the new Carbon Credit Trading system (CCTS) to net-off their carbon foot-print by purchasing additional carbon credits from open market. This may gradually get expanded to other wood based industry in the near future. FIPPI in association with ICFRE conducted one day workshop on Methodologies for Agroforestry based Carbon- offsets Projects on 29th Oct., New Delhi. Also, WBI needs to take advantage of these developments and create their own or promote equivalent tree plantations to offset their carbon foot-print which may get regulated in the near future.

3. As per existing regulations, states need to ensure that the use of money collected from licences and their renewals required to be spent on raising plantations. Hefty charges/fees collected during fresh licensing process and their regular renewals are hardly used for developing plantations on farmland which is the main source of wood production and supply. State WBI associations and their units need to prevail upon the state political and administrative structures to ensure that such amounts are used in promotion of plantations of tree species used by the industry.

4. Licensing of WBI may now not be as cumbersome issue as it was in the past. The Hon'ble Supreme Court while deciding the case related to establishment of WBI in Uttar Pradesh vide its order dated 21.10.2022



settled the matter related to the estimation of wood availability surveys. This order had approved the methodology adopted by FSI in estimating potential wood availability with an advice to the lower courts to honour such estimates prepared by the professional bodies like FSI. With this development, states based on FSI reports may easily give licences to WBI. As a result, the Inter-state wood supplies will gradually get affected and therefore units currently depending on cross border wood supplies will be adversely affected. Yamuna Nagar in Haryana is likely to be one such wood based cluster which till now was surviving on wood supplies from Uttar Pradesh.

5. Haryana has recently abruptly taken a decision to stop government plantation schemes based on Eucalyptus and Poplar trees on forest land and farmland. The state used to supply around 50 to 60 Lakh clonal Eucalyptus and a few Lakh Poplar saplings to farmers. It is likely to have adverse impact on state WBI which now needs to aggressively promote tree plantations at their own levels to compensate the gap created by this decision.



6. WBI industry needs to align its plantation activities with the emerging needs of certification of forests for sustainable wood production (FSC/PEFC/PARMAAN) and for carbon credits both of which now appear practical realities. One of the main requirements of these certification schemes is to ensure traceability of wood production systems. The recent two events namely FAO National Workshop on Quality planting stock production and nurseries on 31 st Oct 2025 in New Delhi; and 2nd on the advisory framework on Model Rules for Felling Trees in Agriculture Land by the MOEF&CC in June 2025 are significant in this regard. The first event focused on creating a digital system for quality planting material production and 2nd on protocol to follow the plantations from

planting stage to wood harvest which will ease the certification process in the near future.

7. Industrialists and farmers growing their own plantations may get their planted tree registered on their revenue records (Khasra-Khataunies) for better accounting their value and traceability. Industrials are already in close scrutiny for their financial transactions in Income tax returns (ITRs). Sale proceeds on tree harvest are accounted in ITRs as tax free agricultural income subject to proving that such trees were recorded in the revenue records of their farmland. Registering such trees on farmland records will also help in the traceability of wood from fields to the factory gate under CoC certification programmes.



# Conversion Losses and Product Yield



**Dr. S.K. Nath**

*The article reproduced below is Chapter 41 – "Conversion Losses and Product Yield" from the book entitled **Plywood Manufacturing Practices in India - 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**. The book has been compiled and edited by Dr. S.K. Nath,*

*Joint Director (now Retd.), Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI), Bengaluru (Karnataka). The book covers the entire production line of plywood manufacture suitable for small and medium scale industry under the Indian conditions.*

All attempts in plywood mill are concentrated to have maximum yield of good quality veneer at the peeling and minimum losses in various stages of plywood manufacture. To achieve maximum yield with defect free product, it is necessary to assess timber losses at different stages of production and to find the reason for losses. If the loss is due to machine, method or man, there are means to rectify and improve the yield.

Higher conversion of raw material into product depend upon log form, incidence of internal defects in logs, handling of veneer, working method, workers efficiency and good machines.

Conversion losses occur in several stages of production. Losses occurs during cross –cutting of logs into billets if logs are received in random lengths or if it is customary to cut back severe heart shakes at

the log ends. At the lathe, waste is produced in rounding the billet to cylindrical form although some usable veneer can be recovered from the round up veneers. Also scribbling knives at each end of the billet, trim straight edges on the veneer ribbon. An allowance of about 6mm in the billet length is provided for these purposes. Another loss at the peeling lathe is the peeler core. The peeler core cannot be smaller in diameter than the lathe chunks. In spindleless peeling lathe, the rest roller is much smaller; but percent loss due to rest roller remains more or less the same as the input logs to spindleless lathe is also of very low girth. The next step at which veneer losses occurs is clipping of green veneer from the veneer ribbon. The clipped width includes allowances for shrinkage that will take place in drying and for trimming the panel. Unacceptable defect encountered in the veneer ribbon have to be clipped out, thus



generating defect off-cuts and random width narrow pieces.

Loss due to shrinkage during drying may be measured actually and counted or it may be counted along with trimming loss. The margin given in veneer during peeling and clipping for shrinkage or trimming loss give a measure of these two types of losses. Veneer degradation that occurs due to splits during drying is either mended or clipped off. Narrows which have to be spliced into full sheet are cut at the jointer incurring a further loss.

Manufacturing loss such as gluing loss or compression loss at the hot press has to be measured from actual measurements or from difference in input and output. As regards to trimming loss, mention has already been made. The loss due to sanding which is, of course, negligible and is normally not counted.

Calculation of conversion losses and product yield at various stages of plywood manufacture is done in step by step taking account of the input and output of timber at every operation where losses may occur.

Data is collected for timber loss and

recovery in each step of plywood processing and put in the standard form for finding out the percent of loss or recovery in the whole process. The average of the total losses or recovery for a month or a year can then be compared with the difference of actual input of timber and plywood produced out of that. The difference must tally with the average loss calculated within permissible error.

The data for losses, collected for different stages are: 1) Cross-cutting, 2) Rounding-off, 3) Clipping of rounding of veneer, 4) Volume of rest roller, 5) Scribbling loss, 6) Green chipping, 7) Drying, 8) Dry veneer clipping and jointing, 9) Loss of glued veneer, 10) Compression in hot press, 11) Trimming, 12) Resizing loss, 13) Rejected plywood.

**Step 1- Cross-cutting:** Log under experiment is debarked before cross cutting and their total volume measured. The method of calculation of volume of a log has been described under “Receipt of logs” at the beginning of this book. This is the input volume. After debarking, the logs are measured again. The summed up volumes of the individual bolt gives the total volume after



cross-cutting. The loss at this stage is due to end cracks or other timber defects.

**Step 2 - Rounding-off loss:** The volume of the cylindrical bolt after rounding-off is measured and the total volume of rounding-off veneer calculated. The rounding off veneer is sent for clipping green and the volume of usable veneer is sorted out and their volume measured. When this value is subtracted from the total rounding-off volume, actual rounding-off loss is found out.

**Step 3 - Volume of rest roller:** After rounding-off of the bolt, full sheet veneer is peeled and this is continued till the rest roller is obtained when no more peeling is possible with a particular lathe in operation. Of course peeling may have to be stopped due to internal defects in the bolt. In any case, the volume of the rest roller is measured and noted for each bolt.

**Step 4 - Scribing Loss:** Scribing loss at either end of the bolt during peeling is calculated as follows:

Let, length of bolt - length of peeled veneer = b

Diameter of the bolt before peeling = D

Diameter of rest roller = d

Volume due to scribing loss =

$$\frac{\pi (D^2 b - d^2 b)}{4} = \frac{\pi b (D^2 - d^2)}{4}$$

**Step 5 - Green Clipping:** Veneer ribbon is subjected to green clipping to convert the ribbon into sheets of width appropriate to the width of the finished panel product including allowance for shrinkage in drying and trimming of the panel. In addition to full sheets, some narrows may also be obtained while eliminating defects in veneer. Total volume of the usable veneer is then measured.

The volume of full sheet veneer may be found out by measuring the length, width and thickness of one sheet and calculating, its volume is multiplied by the total number of sheets giving the total volume of the full sheets. For small width veneer, veneers of equal thickness are piled together and their volume determined similarly as done in case of full sheets.

Calculation of green clipping loss is done as follows:

Volume of veneer peeled from rounded-off bolt =

Volume of the bolt - Volume of rest



roller-Scribingloss

Clipping loss (green) = Volume of veneer peeled – Volume of clipped veneer.

**Step 6 - Drying Loss:** Clipped veneers are then subjected to drying. On drying, the veneer shrinks in width and thickness, but for industrial purposes, shrinkage loss in width has only importance and hence taken after drying and the average percentage of shrinkage in width is calculated. From the shrinkage loss in width, the volume loss in several veneers can be calculated and the average percentage loss in volume is found out.

Shrinkage loss = volume input X percent of shrinkage.

Volume of dried veneer = volume input – shrinkage loss.

**Step 7 - Dry veneer clipping and jointing:** All dried veneer are not suitable for gluing. There is veneer damage due to split or inherent veneer defect during drying. Due to shrinkage, veneer edges become irregular and need further clipping. Damaged part of the veneer sheet has to be repaired or clipped off. Narrow veneer which are to be spliced, are

jointed first to get straight edges and there is veneer loss due to jointing. Calculation for loss and recovery are done as follows:

- i) Dry clipping loss from input and output.
- ii) Jointing loss from input and output.
- iii) Loss due to rejected veneers totally unsuitable for plywood manufacture.
- iv) Recovery, if any, from damaged sheet by taping, patch work etc.

It is apparent that calculation for loss and recovery at each step, as described as above, is not an easy task. If any factory wanted to avoid such elaborated calculations, it may be simplified as follows:

Veneer loss due to drying = Volume input in dryer - Volume ready for gluing.

The process is easier and total veneer loss between drying and gluing can be found. In case, there is abnormal drying loss which cannot be counted simply by shrinkage and visible drying degrade, it is necessary to undertake an elaborate study for veneer loss at each step (i) to (iv) as above to ascertain



The advertisement features a photograph of a construction site at dusk or dawn, with a large, light-colored SIPL Block Board standing upright. The board has several logos and text on it, including 'SIPL', 'TERMITES', 'BORERS', and 'MOLD'. To the right of the board, the text reads: 'Termites nowhere near, SIPL Block Boards Rahe bilkul clear'. Below this, there is a circular logo with a crossed-out insect and the text 'Termite and Borer Proof'. At the bottom, there is a website address 'www.siplgroupindia.com', a phone number '+91 95126 44464', and an email address 'info@siplgroupindia.com'.



actual step, where excessive loss of veneer being occurred.

**Step 8. Gluing, compression in hot press and trimming loss:** It is not possible to calculate all these losses separately in each step on a running floor. However, knowing the total volume of veneer input into hot press and the quantity of finished plywood formed, the summed up losses at the glue spreaders, compression in hot pressing (Fig. 41.1, 41.2 & 41.3) and trim loss can be found out by difference. If necessity arises, a case study for loss calculation at each individual stage can be undertaken.

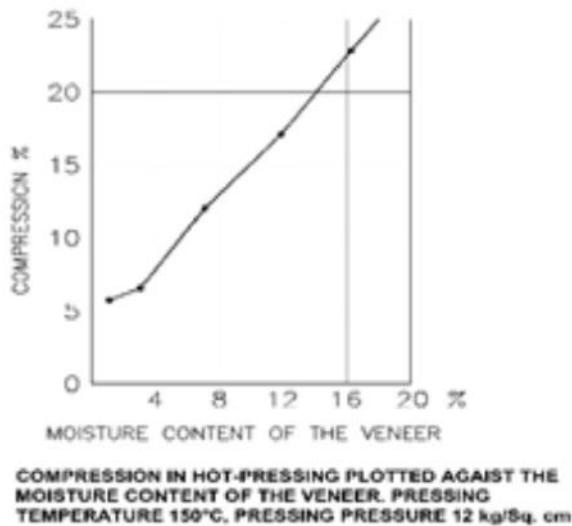


Fig. 41.1

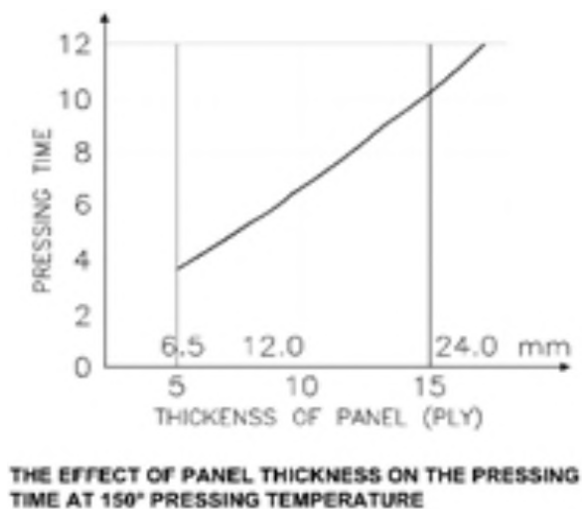


Fig. 41.2

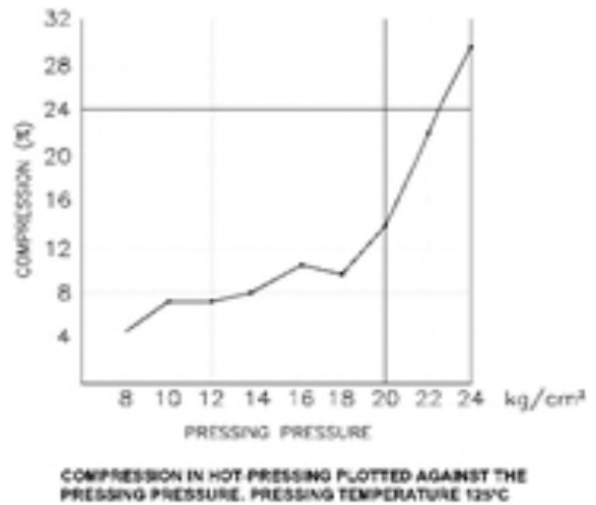


Fig. 41.3

Theoretically, gluing loss should be zero. But in practice some veneers ready for gluing or assembly are rejected. Total volume of such rejected veneers accounts gluing loss. This loss is very negligible.

Compression loss at the hot press can be calculated as follows:

Compression loss = Volume input into hot press – Volume output.

For simplicity, pressed thickness of plywood may be taken as the desired or standard thickness of the board.

Trim loss = Input volume in hot press - Volume of panel after trimming - Gluing loss - Compression loss.

**Step 9 - Resizing loss:** Resizing of some boards are necessary to eliminate manufacturing defect which is not repairable, but on removing the defective part, a good quantity is recovered without rejecting the whole board.

**Step 10 - Rejected boards:** Due to process failure, sometimes a few boards or even a total lot from one press cycle has to be rejected.

The volume of rejected boards due to

resizing or rejection is measured and added to the total conversion loss. Data collected in this way is then put into a standard form to find out conversion loss at each step and after the finished products are obtained.

### A model calculation for Timber to Plywood yield

The values of given below calculation is just an example to go through actual calculation of timber losses at different stages of plywood manufacture and should not be used as a standard. Every production unit will differ as regards to raw material input, work force, machine efficiency, etc. and can calculate timber losses at different stages of production using this model.

Operation	% of loss of timber
Debarking	5.50
Rounding off in peeling (After recovery from RO)	0.92
Scribing + green handing	3.49
Left over roller	4.77
Green veneer clipping	4.22
Shrinkage due to drying and handling	8.07
Dry clipping + jointing	3.67
Hot press compression +	4.22

sanding

Trimming + resizing	4.42
Total less	41.30

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## EGGER's Decor Match System

# Setting a New Benchmark in Unified Surface Design

In an industry where precision, aesthetics, and material harmony can define the success of an interior project, EGGER's Decor Match System has emerged as a powerful, fully integrated solution for architects, designers, and fabricators. The system brings together thermally fused laminate (TFL), laminate, and edge banding, each manufactured in-house, to ensure perfect consistency in colour, texture, and finish across every application.

Unlike suppliers who rely on third-party production, EGGER controls the entire manufacturing chain. Every decor is produced using identical surface textures and the same decor papers, guaranteeing an exact match whether the material appears on cabinetry, shelving, countertops, or furniture components. For design professionals, this eliminates the long-standing challenge of coordinating materials from multiple vendors and ensures that creative intent is preserved from concept to execution.

Central to the solution is the Decor Match System's capacity to unify diverse surfaces without compromise. EGGER offers stock availability and short lead times, allowing projects to move swiftly from selection to installation. This reliability has made the system a preferred choice for fast-paced commercial fit-outs, hospitality



interiors, and contemporary residential projects where visual cohesion is essential.

One of the standout elements of the system is its contribution to wood realism through EGGER's Feelwood range. These embossed-in-register (EIR) surfaces align texture precisely with the decor pattern, producing wood reproductions with remarkable authenticity. The addition of end grain edge banding strengthens this effect further. By replicating the annular rings of a tree trunk, EGGER creates the impression of solid wood, even on engineered panel surfaces, an achievement that brings both aesthetic impact and cost efficiency.

Beyond surface materials, EGGER also supports designers with a complementary ecosystem. 3D foils and mouldings, available

through selected partners, align seamlessly with the system, offering solutions for five-piece cabinet doors and other custom elements. Together, these components form a cohesive universe of options that streamline design decisions and reduce the risk of mismatched finishes.

EGGER's long-standing commitment to quality underpins this innovation. Founded in 1961 in St. Johann, Tyrol, Austria, the family-owned EGGER Group has grown into a global leader in wood-based materials, with more than 10,400 employees and 20 production plants worldwide. Its North American manufacturing presence, established in 2020 with a state-of-the-art particleboard and TFL facility in Lexington, North Carolina, has further strengthened its regional supply capabilities.

For customers, the strength of the Decor Match System lies not only in its

technical precision but in its ability to simplify the design process. Consolidating multiple surface solutions under one supplier ensures reliability, speeds up material selection, and ultimately elevates the finished interior.

With its integrated approach and manufacturing depth, EGGER's Decor Match System stands as a compelling one-stop solution, delivering harmony, efficiency, and design certainty in every project.



## DAIC 2025

# To Showcase Kerala's Design and Construction Ambition

Kerala is set to take a decisive step onto the global design and construction stage with the launch of the DAIC International Exhibition 2025, to be held from 13th to 16th December at the Adlux International Convention Center in Angamaly, Kochi. Positioned as the state's first and largest exhibition dedicated to design, architecture, interiors and construction, the event aims to place Kerala firmly within the international conversation on built-environment innovation.

Spread across more than 10,000 sq m, DAIC 2025 will bring together over 150 national and international exhibitors and an estimated 20,000 trade visitors. It promises to be a comprehensive platform that bridges global design trends with South India's rapidly expanding construction and interiors ecosystem. Its scale, ambition and diversity echo global exhibitions in Dubai, Guangzhou and Milan, events that inspired the creation of DAIC itself.

The idea behind DAIC was born out of a long-felt industry need. Kerala has a sophisticated design culture and a robust construction market, yet it lacked an international forum that connected local expertise with global innovation. The

founders of DAIC sought to fill this gap by creating an exhibition that not only showcases products but also initiates dialogue, collaboration and professional growth. DAIC 2025 is the first materialisation of that vision: a curated four-day experience designed to inspire, educate and connect.

This year's edition will feature segments spanning architecture, turnkey contracting, interior design, flooring and cladding, modular furniture, sanitary ware, doors and windows, home automation, lighting solutions, building materials, hardware, smart construction technologies, paints and finishes, solar solutions, and landscape design. The inclusion of hospital, school and hospitality furniture reflects the region's expanding need for specialised infrastructure, while the technology zone will highlight software and digital tools transforming construction workflows.

DAIC's visitor profile underscores its industry relevance. Architects, interior designers and engineers account for the largest segment, followed by developers, contractors, retailers and distributors. Institutional buyers from government, healthcare, hospitality and education sectors add further depth, making the exhibition a





well-rounded marketplace for both B2B and B2C interactions.

As Kerala continues to invest in infrastructure, smart cities, hospitality and residential development, platforms like DAIC offer crucial visibility and networking opportunities. For brands, the exhibition serves as a launchpad to reach architects and designers across South India. For visitors, it is a one-stop destination to explore innovations across materials, finishes, sustainability solutions, lighting systems, automation products and construction technologies.

DAIC's organisers, Truvent Exhibition Pvt. Ltd., have integrated several value-driven programmes into the 2025 edition. These include international buyer delegations, B2B networking lounges, live demonstrations, knowledge forums, product launches, and an award night that will recognise excellence across categories. A

special startup zone will give emerging brands and young innovators the opportunity to showcase ideas that may shape future built environments.

Among the most anticipated features is the DAIC Knowledge Forum, a platform that will host panel discussions, talks and presentations by leading architects and designers from across India, alongside an international session by a prominent Sri Lankan architect. These discussions will cover a wide spectrum of topics, from sustainability and circular design to material innovation, urban futures, AI-enabled planning tools and evolving consumer preferences. The objective is not merely to showcase products but to facilitate the exchange of ideas that influence long-term industry growth.

In the run-up to the exhibition, DAIC is conducting a series of preparatory roadshows

in Calicut, Trivandrum and Kannur. These events have brought together regional design communities for conversations, workshops and live demonstrations. The roadshows have also created platforms for exhibitors to engage directly with local architects and builders, making the event's reach wider and more meaningful. By the time DAIC 2025 opens, it will already have seeded industry awareness and anticipation across the state.

DAIC has positioned itself with a clear mission and vision. Its mission is to offer a world-class exhibition platform that connects global and local players, enabling businesses to showcase products, collaborate, and expand. Its vision is to become a recognised international destination for exhibitions that celebrate innovation, creativity and sustainable growth.

The exhibition's tagline, "Connecting the World Through Exhibits," reflects its broader intent: to create a space that transcends geography and brings diverse industries closer together. Kerala's emergence as a cultural-creative hub, combined with its expanding infrastructure ambitions, makes it an ideal host for an event of this scale.

Moving beyond product displays, DAIC 2025 aims to tell the larger story of Kerala's design evolution. The state has long been associated with distinctive craftsmanship, traditional architecture and sustainable building practices. Over the last decade, it has also seen a surge in contemporary residential and commercial

developments, luxury hospitality projects, and infrastructure expansions. DAIC seeks to highlight this journey by bringing global attention to local talent, materials and craftsmanship.

For exhibitors, the event offers access to a highly targeted professional audience that is actively engaged in sourcing, decision-making and project planning. For visitors, it provides exposure to global brands, emerging trends, cutting-edge materials and practical design solutions. Live demos and installations will allow professionals to see products in action, while the B2B lounges and buyer-seller meet-ups will facilitate focused business discussions.

The exhibition also underscores the growing importance of sustainability in the built environment. Many participating brands are expected to showcase eco-friendly materials, energy-efficient technologies, renewable energy solutions, green building systems and low-emission finishes. Discussions at the forums will address how Kerala can adopt future-ready and environmentally responsible construction practices.

DAIC 2025 is more than an exhibition; it is a reflection of Kerala's aspirations. It celebrates the state's design culture, highlights the innovation shaping the industry and creates opportunities for collaboration across borders. With its mix of business, design and global engagement, DAIC is poised to become a key milestone in South India's evolution as a design and construction destination.

## Iran Woodex 2026

# Showcasing the Future of Wood, Machinery & Furniture Technologies

The 23rd edition of Iran WOODEX, scheduled from 12th to 15th January 2026 at the Tehran International Permanent Fairground, is set to reaffirm its position as the country's most influential exhibition for the wood, raw materials, furniture machinery, and related industries. As one of the region's most specialised trade platforms, WOODEX brings together manufacturers, technology providers, distributors, and innovators from across Iran and the global woodworking economy, offering a comprehensive look at advancements shaping the sector's future.

Organised with the support of Irantradefair, known as the country's first and only all-in-one exhibition facilitation platform, the event promises



seamless participation for domestic and international exhibitors.

The organisation's services span pre-registration, booth construction, logistics, manpower, accommodation, transport, visa processing, and full-scale business consultation, enabling foreign companies to enter and navigate Iran's market with clarity and confidence. With decades of experience and

collaborations with global enterprises, Irantradefair ensures that exhibitors can focus on building meaningful business relationships while every operational detail is taken care of.

Iran WOODEX 2026 aims to highlight the latest technologies, equipment, materials, and solutions shaping woodworking, furniture production, and industrial processing. The exhibition provides Iranian



companies a vital platform to demonstrate their achievements, while also helping international participants assess the growing opportunities in Iran's evolving wood and furniture industry. The event encourages collaboration, introduces new business strategies, and invites exhibitors and visitors alike to explore market gaps and emerging consumer trends.

Visitors can expect a diverse range of exhibits, including advanced machinery for producing and processing veneered boards, industrial wood, MDF, and particleboard. Cutting-edge CNC technologies, band saws, grinders, welding systems, finishing solutions, impregnation devices, and fastener production machinery will be on display, showcasing the breadth of modern woodworking capabilities. Participants will also have access to tools, accessories, furniture components, fittings, raw materials, adhesives, veneers, coatings, composite surfaces, and sustainable wood-based products. This integrated landscape makes

the expo indispensable for manufacturers, carpenters, furniture makers, suppliers, architects, and interior designers seeking efficiency, innovation, and competitive advantage.

A major strength of WOODEX is its focus on enabling business development. Companies can engage directly in B2B and B2C meetings, connect with distributors, forge partnerships, and explore new sales channels. Irantrade fair's dedicated trade facilitation team ensures the right stakeholders - buyers, investors, and decision-makers, visit exhibitor booths. From supporting MOU discussions to securing contracts and coordinating shipments, the organisation takes an end-to-end approach that ensures exhibitor success and measurable outcomes.

The broader objective of the event extends beyond commercial transactions. WOODEX encourages knowledge-sharing, catalyses market-driven research, promotes domestic manufacturing, and

supports Iran's furniture fittings and machinery ecosystem. By giving prominence to sustainable development, job creation, export promotion, and cross-border collaboration, it reinforces the industry's commitment to long-term economic growth.

The choice of venue, the Tehran Permanent Fairground, strengthens the experience for exhibitors and visitors alike. Spread across 850,000 square metres, with 120,000 square metres of indoor exhibition area, the complex is one of the largest and most accessible trade facilities in the region. Located along the Chamran Highway and well connected with the city's transportation network, the fairground includes restaurants, cafés, parking areas, banking services, customs offices, insurance counters, logistics support, fire stations, and medical centres. Its 22 hectares of landscaped green spaces add a pleasant environment for business engagements and informal networking.

Over the years, the Iran WOODEX expo has

attracted significant international participation, drawing exhibitors from Europe, Asia, and neighbouring markets. Companies specialising in woodworking machinery, furniture technology, industrial adhesives, automation systems, raw material supply, and furniture components regard Iran WOODDEX as a strategic gateway to Iran's expanding market and its emerging consumer sectors.

The 2026 edition is expected to be particularly significant due to accelerated reforms in Iran's industrial landscape, increased investment in local manufacturing, and rising demand for modern furniture and interior solutions. The growth of construction, real estate, and interior renovation projects is expanding opportunities for suppliers of wood panels, laminates, furniture fittings, modular kitchen components, and surface materials. With the country actively encouraging industrial upgrading and import diversification, WOODDEX offers foreign

companies a timely chance to understand regulatory environments and engage with Iranian industry associations, decision-makers, and distributors.

The exhibition's vision reflects Iran's long-term push towards modernising its woodworking and furniture sector. The objectives include enhancing domestic capability, supporting research-driven innovation, expanding exports, and building sustained international cooperation. By showcasing state-of-the-art technology, such as automated production lines, material-efficient cutting systems, environmentally responsible adhesives, and next-generation surfaces, the expo underscores the importance of sustainability and competitiveness in shaping the future of the industry.

With its multi-dimensional approach, spanning trade, knowledge-sharing, technology exchange, and capacity building, Iran WOODDEX 2026 positions itself not just as an exhibition, but as a

strategic marketplace for long-term collaborations. It is an opportunity for global industry players to gain insights into Iran's wood sector, explore investment potential, and establish partnerships in a country where woodworking and furniture production remain essential components of its industrial base.

As the countdown to January 2026 begins, the anticipation for Iran WOODDEX continues to grow. Exhibitors eager to enter this dynamic market will find the event well-curated, professionally managed, and strategically relevant. For visitors, it is a gateway to innovation, ideas, and inspiration, a snapshot of how wood, machinery, and material technologies are reshaping design, manufacturing, and craftsmanship.

The 23rd International Iran WOODDEX Expo stands ready to welcome global industry professionals to Tehran, offering a four-day window into one of the region's most exciting and fast-evolving sectors.

## Eurobois 2026

# France's Premier Wood Industry Showcase Returns to Lyon

Eurobois, France's leading trade fair for timber, woodworking machinery, and interior fit-out solutions, will return to Eurexpo Lyon from 3rd to 6th February, 2026. Held in one of the country's strongest regions for wood transformation, the event has built a reputation over more than three decades as the nation's most influential platform for the wood and woodworking ecosystem. It brings together manufacturers, suppliers, designers, engineers, contractors, and decision-makers for four intensive days of technology, innovation, and industry dialogue.

Eurobois is uniquely positioned as a

full-spectrum showcase, covering the entire wood value chain, from raw timber inputs and primary processing to advanced machinery, interior manufacturing, and finishing solutions. Each edition reflects both the technological momentum of the sector and the evolving environmental and regulatory landscape. With France's national carbon strategy (SNBC), RE2020 building regulations, and broader ecological planning placing wood at the centre of sustainable construction efforts, the 2026 edition arrives at a pivotal moment. Wood continues to gain prominence as a low-carbon, renewable





material offering answers to climate challenges and enabling reindustrialisation across regions. Within this context, Eurobois serves as a strategic platform where the industry aligns, innovates, and collectively evolves.

The 2026 fair introduces several new highlights designed to reinforce its role as a forward-looking industry hub. Among these is the preparatory competition for French national teams heading to WorldSkills, giving visitors a rare view into craftsmanship at its highest level. The “Just Wood It” showcase will spotlight an exemplary timber project, illustrating cutting-edge design possibilities and engineering excellence. Meanwhile, the Materials Library returns as a curated space capturing emerging trends, innovative composites, and next-generation finishes that will shape tomorrow’s interiors and construction solutions. These additions sit alongside live demonstrations, workshops, and expert-led discussions that form the core of Eurobois’s appeal.

Eurobois 2024 marked a record-breaking edition, with a 20% surge in visitor numbers compared to 2022, an indicator of the event’s growing influence and the sector’s

robust momentum. Organisers aim to expand further in 2026, anticipating a broader mix of professionals spanning manufacturing, architecture, interior design, construction, and procurement. The show’s atmosphere remains a defining feature: a convivial, collaborative environment that encourages networking, partnerships, and hands-on learning. For exhibitors, Eurobois provides unmatched visibility and a high-quality audience of trade professionals; for visitors, it offers access to the latest technologies, trends, and business opportunities.

The exhibition floor will be organised into eight major sectors, ensuring a comprehensive industry representation. These include first-stage machinery and equipment, second-stage conversion systems, construction and outdoor furnishing, fixtures and fittings, robotics and automation, tooling, materials, and treatment and finishing technologies. This structure underscores Eurobois’s commitment to catalysing synergies across the value chain, from sawmills and processors to furniture manufacturers, interior contractors, and architectural firms.

Visitor profiles reflect the diversity of

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the wood ecosystem. Specialists in layout and construction, public agencies, traders, procurement officers, and professionals from the primary and secondary timber conversion sectors will converge in Lyon to exchange ideas and explore the market's latest offerings. The fair's strong appeal to training institutes and technical schools also makes it an important meeting point for future professionals. Testimonials from past editions highlight Eurobois's relevance as a hands-on learning environment where students and young professionals engage directly with global industry leaders.

Networking remains central to the Eurobois experience. With its strategic focus on new exhibitions, conferences, and sector expansions, the event aims to help professionals address emerging challenges, whether related to supply chain resilience, digitalisation, automation, or sustainable sourcing. From discussing market gaps and identifying business opportunities to discovering new partners and sponsors, the fair enables companies to refine strategies and accelerate growth.

Interior design will take an even more prominent role in 2026. Building on expanded integration in 2024, Eurobois is set to deepen its focus on layout solutions, reflecting the industry's increasing convergence of carpentry, furniture manufacturing, and architectural design. This evolution reinforces the fair's status as a comprehensive event where creativity meets precision engineering.

With its blend of innovation, expertise, and collaborative energy, Eurobois 2026 promises to be a defining moment for the European wood sector. As the industry moves towards more sustainable, technologically advanced practices, the fair remains the meeting point where ideas evolve, partnerships form, and the future of wood takes shape. Marking its place as a vital forum for both inspiration and business, Eurobois continues to champion a visible, competitive, and forward-thinking wood industry, ready to meet the environmental and industrial demands of tomorrow.



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FOAID 2025

# Stage for Design, Dialogue, and Innovation. Reserve your Dates.



The Festival of Architecture and Interior Designing (FOAID), one of India's most influential platforms for design dialogue, innovation, and creative exchange, returns with its Mumbai edition on 19th &

20th December 2025 at the Jio World Convention Centre. Visitors can experience new ideas, breakthrough innovations, and future-ready design thinking.

Since its inception in 2014, FOAID has



evolved into a vibrant movement that brings together the country's design community through a rich canvas of discussions, exhibitions, competitions, and curated experiences. Over the past decade, FOAID has hosted more than 70+ design shows, facilitated 1000+ thought-provoking talks, and engaged over 50,000 visitors across India, becoming a benchmark platform that bridges design practice, education, industry, and creative exploration.

FOAID's DNA lies in its ability to encourage conversations that embrace diverse voices - architects, designers, students, brands, and innovators. Its two flagship annual events, New Delhi and Mumbai, serve as open grounds for ideas that celebrate India's evolving design culture. New Delhi has already hosted its edition on 21st and 22nd November at NSIC Grounds, Okhla, followed by Mumbai's to-be showcased edition at the Jio World Convention Centre.

FOAID is one of India's foremost design festivals, uniting professionals, brands, institutions, and students on a single national platform. More than an exhibition, it is a design ecosystem composed of multiple curated zones, interactive events, and competitive platforms.

### **Design Arena**

A highlight of FOAID, the Design Arena is an immersive showcase of cutting-edge design, featuring over 200 innovative projects from leading architects, designers, and brands. Visitors can explore interactive installations, material innovations, and

trend-forward product displays, offering a deeper look into the future of design thinking and creative problem-solving.

### **CMC Design Manthan**

The festival's flagship conference brings together 150+ speakers from India and abroad. Spanning debates, panel discussions, keynote sessions, and dialogue-driven formats, Design Manthan helps contextualise design within the broader framework of technology, sustainability, culture, and global trends. The conversations inspire the community to think critically, innovate freely, and question constructively.

### **VOX Architecture Ideas**

One of FOAID's most respected competitions, VOX invites young designers and established practitioners to present their built and conceptual projects. Participants undergo a rigorous selection process, culminating in live presentations before a jury comprising design thinkers, researchers, theorists, and practitioners. VOX has become a gateway for emerging talent to showcase ambition, originality, and futuristic thinking.

### **Light First**

Light First is FOAID's global lighting pavilion, a curated environment where brands demonstrate the interplay of technology, design, and atmosphere through lighting advancements. From smart lighting systems to sculptural illumination concepts, the pavilion offers insights into lighting as both a technical tool and a creative medium.

### **Expressions – Art Installation Competition**

A popular segment among

architecture and design students, Expressions encourages them to create large-scale installations that blur the lines between art and architecture. Participants experiment with materiality, form, and narrative, showcasing their work before an eminent jury and gaining early exposure to professional networks.

### **ICA Creative Minds Next**

This competition focuses on ongoing and conceptual projects from young designers. With categories for both architecture and interior design, Creative Minds Next recognises bold thinking and rewards excellence. Winners are felicitated during FOAID's award ceremony, which celebrate talent across disciplines.

### **Art Arena**

As art increasingly becomes an integral part of spatial design, Art Arena presents carefully curated works that bring together artists, architects, and collectors. The showcase includes contemporary art as well as traditional expressions, celebrating India's artistic diversity and its relationship with built environments.

### **Design Karyashala - Uncensored**

Created exclusively for students, Design Karyashala – Uncensored encourages open dialogue between students and established designers. It incites transparent conversations, questions, and mentorship, an effort to bridge the generational and experiential gap between practitioners and future professionals.

FOAID's competitive platforms offer

students and professionals the opportunity to showcase talent on a national stage. Three of its signature competitions include:

ICA Creative Minds Next – Highlights conceptual and ongoing design projects, offering exposure and critical evaluation.

VOX Architecture Ideas – Encourages architects and designers to submit recently completed works driven by innovation and contextual relevance.

Expressions Art Installation Competition – Dedicated to students who wish to merge artistic expression with architectural imagination.

Participation provides valuable visibility, professional networking, jury feedback, and the opportunity to build a credible portfolio that stands out in the design industry.

FOAID continues to be a transformative platform for the architecture and design fraternity. Whether through conferences, exhibitions, competitions, or collaborative opportunities, it nurtures a creative environment where new ideas are celebrated, critical debates are welcomed, and future-oriented thinking is encouraged. It is a meeting point for inspiration, exploration, and meaningful dialogue.

FOAID 2025 promises yet another immersive celebration of design excellence. Architects, designers, students, brands, and enthusiasts are invited to register and be part of this vibrant design movement.

An event where ideas, innovation, and imagination come alive.

एक्शन टेसा

## नये विशाखापटनम संयंत्र के साथ MDF निर्माण में अग्रणी

एक्शन टेसा, जो भारत में MDF और HDMR पैनलों के प्रमुख निर्माताओं में से एक है, आंध्र प्रदेश में अपने नवीनतम विस्तार योजना के साथ तेजी से आगे बढ़ रहा है। कंपनी विशाखापटनम में एक अत्याधुनिक नई मैनुफैक्चरिंग सुविधा स्थापित कर रही है, जो दक्षिण भारत में अपनी उपस्थिति मजबूत करने और वुड पैनल उद्योग की आपूर्ति श्रृंखला को अधिक कुशल बनाने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है। यह विस्तार कंपनी की दीर्घकालिक रणनीति का हिस्सा है, जिसका उद्देश्य प्रमुख बाजारों के करीब रहना और इंजीनियर्ड वुड उत्पादों की बढ़ती मांग को पूरा करना है।

परियोजना को और गति मिली जब एक्शन टेसा के संस्थापक एन. के. अग्रवाल और आंध्र प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री चंद्रबाबू नायडू के बीच विस्तृत बैठक हुई। चर्चा का केंद्र संयंत्र की रूपरेखा, इसके प्रमुख चरणों और राज्य के तेजी से बढ़ते विनिर्माण पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में उच्च विस्तार की संभावनाओं पर रहा। मुख्यमंत्री नायडू ने दोहराया कि आंध्र प्रदेश सरकार उन उद्योगों को पूरा समर्थन देती है जो विशाखापटनम, अमरावती और तिरुपति को प्रमुख औद्योगिक केंद्रों के रूप में चुनते हैं। उन्होंने बाद में सोशल मीडिया पर साझा किया कि राज्य, रांबिली में बालाजी एक्शन बिल्डवेल द्वारा प्रस्तावित ऐसे निवेशों का पूरी तरह समर्थन करता है क्योंकि वे आर्थिक विकास और रोजगार सृजन के उत्प्रेरक हैं।

एक कंपनी सम्मेलन के दौरान, एन. के. अग्रवाल ने उपभोक्ता बाजारों के करीब मैनुफैक्चरिंग

इकाइयाँ स्थापित करने के सामरिक लाभों पर जोर दिया। उन्होंने बताया कि MDF और HDMR जैसे भारी उत्पादों के लिए लॉजिस्टिक दूरी कम करने से लागत दक्षता बढ़ती है और बाजार की मांगों का तेजी से जवाब देना संभव हो पाता है। अग्रवाल ने राज्य की प्रशासनिक दक्षता की भी सराहना की, और स्थानीय अधिकारियों—विशेषकर विधायक और डिप्टी कमिश्नर—की उस असाधारण प्रतिबद्धता का उल्लेख किया, जो प्रतिकूल मौसम और व्यक्तिगत असुविधा के बावजूद भूमि पूजन कार्यक्रम में उपस्थित रहे। उन्होंने कहा, “आंध्र का कार्य-संस्कृति बेमिसाल है—सिर्फ भारत में ही नहीं, बल्कि वैश्विक स्तर पर भी।” उन्होंने क्षेत्र को दीर्घकालिक विस्तार के लिए आदर्श बताया।

आंध्र प्रदेश सरकार की सक्रिय नीतियों ने एक्शन टेसा के विश्वास को और मजबूत किया है। नायडू ने राज्य में औद्योगिक विकास को बढ़ावा देने में कंपनी की भूमिका को स्वीकार किया और निर्माताओं के लिए सहयोगी माहौल प्रदान करने की सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता पर जोर दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि राष्ट्रीय और राज्य स्तर पर मजबूत नेतृत्व देश में औद्योगिक परिवर्तन के अगले चरण को आगे बढ़ा रहा है।

एक्शन टेसा का नया विशाखापटनम संयंत्र कंपनी के लिए एक बड़ा मील का पत्थर है, जो वुड पैनल सेक्टर में इसकी अग्रणी स्थिति को और मजबूत करता है और भारत के विनिर्माण परिदृश्य में नए उत्साह का संकेत देता है।



## परफेक्ट कैलिब्रेशन, परफेक्ट फिनिश

हाल ही में ताजपुरिया द्वारा आयोजित पॉडकास्ट में कानपुर के आर्किटेक्ट कपिल अग्रवाल ने एक ऐसे विषय पर महत्वपूर्ण दृष्टिकोण साझा किए, जो इंटिरियर एक्जीक्यूशन में एक परिवर्तनकारी भूमिका निभाता है, लेकिन अक्सर एंड यूज़र्स द्वारा नज़रअंदाज़ कर दिया जाता है - प्लाईवुड में कैलिब्रेशन का महत्व।

कपिल ने बताया कि कैलिब्रेशन उन सबसे महत्वपूर्ण पहलुओं में से एक है जो फर्नीचर और इंटिरियर सतहों पर बेहतरीन बाहरी फिनिश प्राप्त करने में मदद करता है। आज ग्राहक परफेक्शन चाहते हैं - बिना जोड़ वाली सतहें, प्रीमियम लुक और ऐसी फिनिश जो कारीगरी का अनुभव कराए। उनके अनुसार, यह परफेक्शन लैमिनेट, विनीयर या एक्जेलिक शीट लगाने के बाद नहीं, बल्कि उससे पहले - बेस मैटेरियल से ही शुरू होता है।

उन्होंने समझाया कि कैलिब्रेटेड प्लाईवुड में पूरी शीट पर एक समान मोटाई होती है, जो सामान्य प्लाईवुड में अक्सर देखने को मिलने वाले वैरिएशन को समाप्त कर देती है। यही समानता सतह को फ्लैट और स्थिर बनाती

है, जिसका सीधा प्रभाव अंतिम परिणाम पर पड़ता है।

कपिल ने विशेष रूप से बताया कि कैलिब्रेशन एक्जेलिक के साथ काम करते समय किसी वरदान से कम नहीं है। एक्जेलिक एक अत्यधिक रिफ्लेक्टिव और प्रीमियम सतह सामग्री है। बेस में हल्की - सी भी असमानता वेक्स, रिपल्स या अनइवननेस पैदा कर देती है, जो तुरंत दिखाई देती है और पूरी फिनिश को खराब कर सकती है।

“कैलिब्रेशन एक्जेलिक के लिए वरदान है - इसके बिना सतह प्रीमियम फिनिश खो देती है।”

जब एक्जेलिक को कैलिब्रेटेड प्लाईवुड पर चिपकाया जाता है, तो सतह बेदाग, स्मूथ और लगभग मिरर जैसी चमक के साथ दिखाई देती है - जो इंटिरियर की सुंदरता को कई गुना बढ़ा देती है। लेकिन यदि इसे नॉन-कैलिब्रेटेड प्लाईवुड पर लगाया जाए, तो मामूली असमानता भी वेक्स बनाकर सतह को डिस्टॉर्टेड और अप्रोफेशनल दिखा देती है।

यह बातचीत एक महत्वपूर्ण सच्चाई पर रोशनी डालती है:

उत्तम इंटिरियर केवल उस सतह से नहीं बनता जिसे हम बाहर



से देखते हैं - वह उस आधार से बनता है जो भीतर होता है।

एक मजबूत, समान और सटीक रूप से कैलिब्रेटेड नींव बेहतरीन डिज़ाइन और लंबे समय तक टिकाऊ प्रदर्शन सुनिश्चित करती है।

और ताजपुरिया में, यही सिद्धांत हमारी गुणवत्ता प्रतिबद्धता का आधार है। कैलिब्रेटेड प्लाईवुड को प्राथमिकता देकर, हम सुनिश्चित करते हैं कि हर उत्पाद वह प्रीमियम फिनिश दे सके जिसकी मांग आज के मॉडर्न होम्स और कमर्शियल स्पेस करते हैं।

वेलमाइका लैमिनेट्स

## शाहिद कपूर नए ब्रांड एम्बेसडर बने

बॉलीवुड स्टार शाहिद कपूर अब वेलमाइका के नए ब्रांड एम्बेसडर हैं, जो अपने प्रदर्शन, प्रीसिशन और स्टाइल के अनोखे मेल के साथ इंटीरियर की दुनिया में एक नया प्रभाव ला रहे हैं। सिनेमैटिक फिनिश, गहरे टेक्सचर और कम मेंटेनेंस के उपयुक्त वेलमाइका के लैमिनेट्स नये डिज़ाइन, टिकारूपन और आकर्षक फिनिश को पदर्शित करते हैं। “आप मुझे मेरे प्रदर्शन, प्रीसिशन और स्टाइल के लिए जानते

हैं, और यही वे गुण हैं जिनके लिए वेलमाइका लैमिनेट्स खड़े हैं,” शाहिद ने ब्रांड के नवीनतम कैंपेन वीडियो में कहा।

क्यूरेटेड टेक्सचर, एक समान शेड्स और एलिगेंट फिनिश के साथ, वेलमाइका और शाहिद कपूर का यह सहयोग व्यापार और नये विचारों की ताकत के साथ जश्न मनाता है, जो हर कमरे को प्रीमियम अहसास देता है।



## भारत के वुड पैनल उद्योग को नया आकार देता है

अनिवार्य ISI मार्किंग ने प्लाईवुड, MDF और पार्टिकल बोर्ड के बाजार में तेजी के साथ बदलाव, बढ़ती जागरूकता और नई चुनौतियों के साथ बड़ा बदलाव ला दिया है।

1 अक्टूबर 2025 से, भारतीय वुड पैनल उद्योग एक महत्वपूर्ण मोड़ पर खड़ा है। प्लाईवुड, MDF और पार्टिकल बोर्ड पर ISI मार्किंग अनिवार्य करने वाले Quality Control Order (QCO) के लागू होने से ऐसा बदलाव शुरू हुआ है जैसा पहले कभी नहीं देखा गया। जो कदम एक साधारण अनुपालन निर्देश के रूप में शुरू हुआ था, वह अब तेजी से एक देशव्यापी गुणवत्ता क्रांति में बदल रहा है – जो यह तय कर रहा है कि उद्योग कैसे उत्पादन करता है, कैसे बाजार में बेचता है और अपनी विश्वसनीयता कैसे बनाए रखता है।

फरवरी 2025 से पहले, उद्योग में लगभग 800 सक्रिय BIS लाइसेंस थे। अगस्त 2025 तक – जो छोटे और मध्यम उद्यमों के लिए दूसरी अंतिम तिथि थी – यह संख्या बढ़कर – 900 के पार हो गई। 1 अक्टूबर को सक्रिय लाइसेंसधारकों की संख्या 1,068 पहुँच गई, और कुछ ही दिनों में इसके 1,100 से ऊपर जाने की उम्मीद है। यदि मौजूदा रफ्तार बनी रही, तो अनुमान है कि दिसंबर तक 1,400 से अधिक यूनिट लाइसेंस प्राप्त कर लेंगी और मार्च 2026 तक यह संख्या 1,700 से भी अधिक हो जाएगी।

फिर भी, जब देशभर में चल रही अनुमानित 3,500 से अधिक वुड पैनल निर्माण इकाइयों की

तुलना की जाती है, तो यह साफ है कि पूरी तरह अनुपालन हासिल करने का रास्ता अब भी लंबा है। आंकड़े बताते हैं कि प्रगति तो हुई है, लेकिन अभी बहुत दूरी तय करनी बाकी है।

ग्रीन हाईवे पॉलिसी के बाद, शायद ही किसी उद्योग नियम ने इतना व्यापक असर डाला हो जितना वुड-आधारित पैनलों के लिए BIS के इस आदेश ने। यमुनानगर और बरेली से लेकर पेरुंबवूर और कोलकाता तक, हर औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में निर्माता नए मानकों के अनुरूप होने की दौड़ में लगे हुए हैं। उद्योग संघ, BIS विभाग और CED समितियाँ लगातार बैठकें कर रही हैं ताकि इस बदलाव को आसान बनाया जा सके।

हालांकि, लागू करने की यह यात्रा बिना मुश्किलों के नहीं रही। लगभग हर क्षेत्र में कुछ निर्माता अत्यधिक सख्ती, फाइलों में देरी और कभी-कभी भ्रष्टाचार जैसी समस्याओं की शिकायत कर रहे हैं। वहीं कुछ लोगों का कहना है कि ये बदलाव बहुत पहले आ जाने चाहिए थे और अब यह कदम बाजार में पारदर्शिता ला रहा है, जो पहले अलग-अलग गुणवत्ता स्तरों के कारण बिखरा हुआ था।

दिलचस्प बात यह है कि ट्रेडर्स, जो अक्सर बाजार में बदलाव सबसे पहले पहचान लेते हैं, उन्होंने बहुत तेजी से प्रतिक्रिया दी है। कई ट्रेडर्स पहले ही QCO के नियमों के अनुसार काम करने लगे हैं, क्योंकि आयातित उत्पादों में आई तेज़ गिरावट ने बाजार में एक खाली जगह बना दी है, जिसे वे एक



अवसर के रूप में देख रहे हैं। वास्तव में, हाल के आयात आंकड़ों से यह साफ है कि विदेशी आयात में भारी कमी आने के बाद घरेलू व्यापार फिर से सक्रिय और मजबूत हुआ है।

ISI मार्किंग लागू करने की प्रक्रिया पूरी तरह सुचारू नहीं रही। कई निर्माताओं और उद्योग संघों ने कुछ विशेष मानकों-खासतौर पर IS 710 (Marine Plywood) और IS 4990 (Shuttering Plywood)-पर आपत्तियाँ उठाई हैं और स्पष्टीकरण मांगा है। शिकायतों की चिट्ठियाँ PMO के प्रिंसिपल सेक्रेटरी, उपभोक्ता मामलों के मंत्रालय, BIS के महानिदेशक और ट्रेड मार्क्स रजिस्ट्री जैसे उच्च कार्यालयों तक भेजी गई हैं।

सबसे ज्यादा विवाद IS 710 के तहत 12 किलो वाटर रिटेंशन टेस्ट के नियम पर है, जिसके बारे में कई लोगों का कहना है कि यह असमान रूप से लागू किया जा रहा है। IS 4990 के तहत शटरिंग प्लाईवुड के मानकों को लेकर भी इसी तरह की चिंताएँ बनी हुई हैं। चर्चा जारी है, और उद्योग से जुड़े लोगों को उम्मीद है कि जल्द ही स्पष्ट और समान दिशा-निर्देश सामने आएंगे, जिससे पूरे उद्योग में अनुपालन की प्रक्रिया और आसान हो जाएगी।

प्लाईवुड सेगमेंट में सबसे प्रभावशाली बदलावों में से एक IS 303 के तहत बेंडिंग क्लास वर्गीकरण की शुरुआत है। यह ढांचा निर्माताओं को विभिन्न गुणवत्ता ग्रेड-जैसे बेंडिंग क्लास 10, 20 या 30-के उत्पादों को बाजार में पारदर्शी रूप से बेचने की अनुमति देता है।

निर्माता अपने उत्पादों को उनके ग्रेड के अनुसार ईमानदारी से लेबल और मूल्य निर्धारित कर सकते हैं, और उपभोक्ता बिना किसी भ्रम या गलत जानकारी के सूझ-बूझ से विकल्प चुन सकते हैं। कई छोटे और मध्यम कारखाने बेंडिंग क्लास 10 और 20 के तहत ISI लाइसेंस के लिए आवेदन कर रहे हैं,

जिससे वे उत्पादन को जारी रखते हुए न्यूनतम मानक आवश्यकताओं को पूरा कर पा रहे हैं।

अनिवार्य BIS मार्किंग का सबसे नाटकीय प्रभाव व्यापारिक आंकड़ों में देखा जा सकता है। भारतीय प्लाईवुड एवं पैनल उद्योग महासंघ (FIPPI) के महानिदेशक एम.पी. सिंह के अनुसार, “अनिवार्य BIS का प्रभाव पूरे सेक्टर में स्पष्ट है। वुड पैनल्स का आयात ₹350 करोड़ प्रति माह से घटकर मात्र ₹35 करोड़ रह गया है।”

आयात में आई यह भारी गिरावट एक तरह से वरदान भी रही है और चुनौती भी। एक ओर, इससे घरेलू बाजार सस्ते और गैर-अनुपालन विदेशी पैनलों से मुक्त हुआ है, जो भारतीय निर्माताओं को नुकसान पहुँचाते थे। दूसरी ओर, इसने छोटे पैमाने की इकाइयों पर नए मानकों के अनुरूप तेजी से ढलने का भारी दबाव डाल दिया है। एम.पी. सिंह धैर्य रखने की अपील करते हैं: “BIS को सहयोगी बने रहना चाहिए। छोटे उद्योगों को ISI-अनुपालन उत्पादन में उन्नयन के लिए मार्गदर्शन और समर्थन की आवश्यकता है।”

तकनीकी विशेषज्ञ मनोज गावरी का कहना है कि शुरुआती अनुपालन भले ही धीमा रहा हो, लेकिन अब रफ्तार स्पष्ट रूप से बढ़ चुकी है। “अधिकांश उद्योग क्लस्टरों में ISI पंजीकरण की संख्या लगातार बढ़ रही है। जैसे ही BIS प्रवर्तन और मजबूत होगा, पूरा उद्योग अनुपालन की ओर बढ़ जाएगा,” वे कहते हैं।

उत्तर प्रदेश प्लाईवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स वेलफेयर एसोसिएशन (UP-PMWA) के अध्यक्ष अशोक अग्रवाल भी इसी भावना को साझा करते हैं। “जो लोग गैर-कानूनी कार्यों में शामिल थे, वही आज सबसे ज्यादा परेशान हैं। लेकिन जो मानकों के अनुरूप काम कर रहे हैं, उनके लिए यह परिवर्तन सशक्तिकरण का अवसर बन गया है। चुनौतियाँ अभी

भी हैं-सैंपल टेस्टिंग से लेकर नकली लेबलिंग तक-लेकिन BIS की मौजूदगी अब साफ दिखाई देती है।”

दक्षिण भारत में, साउथ इंडियन प्लाईवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन (SIPMA) के अध्यक्ष डॉ. प्रशांत ने बताया कि प्रगति में असमानता की ओर संकेत करते हैं। “केरल की इकाइयाँ BIS अपनाने में सबसे आगे हैं, जबकि कर्नाटक धीरे-धीरे गति पकड़ रहा है। यहाँ तक कि कुछ बड़े उद्योग भी अभी तक IS 710 की आवश्यकताओं को लेकर पूरी तरह स्पष्ट नहीं हैं। दूसरी ओर, डीलर छापों या वसूली के डर से सतर्क हैं, लेकिन वे भी समझते हैं कि अब BIS अनुपालन अनिवार्य हो चुका है।”

आयात में कमी आने के बावजूद माँग में वृद्धि अभी भी सीमित है। डॉ. प्रशांत इसे बाज़ार के समायोजन से जोड़ते हैं: “बाज़ार अभी पुनर्संतुलन की प्रक्रिया में है। आयात घटने का लाभ अभी तक बिक्री में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि के रूप में सामने नहीं आया है।”

हरियाणा प्लाईवुड मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन (HPMA) के अध्यक्ष जे.के. बिहानी लाइसेंस के बाद आने वाली चुनौतियों पर एक महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा उठाते हैं। “BIS को लाइसेंस प्राप्त इकाइयों के लिए अपनी प्रणालियों को भी मजबूत करना चाहिए। ऑनलाइन पोर्टल लंबित शिकायतों, नवीनीकरण में देरी, स्टॉक संबंधी स्पष्टीकरण, और अस्पष्ट मानकों से भरा हुआ है। ये परिचालन अड़चनें वास्तविक अनुपालन प्रयासों को हतोत्साहित कर सकती हैं।”

केरल में, इब्राहिम कुन्नाथन, मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर, K-Board, स्थायी प्रगति की पुष्टि करते हैं। “यहाँ लगभग सभी पार्टिकल बोर्ड इकाइयाँ BIS-लाइसेंस प्राप्त कर चुकी हैं, और प्लाईवुड इकाइयाँ भी उसी दिशा में आगे बढ़ रही हैं। हालांकि, कुछ बंदरगाहों से अभी भी आयात फिसलकर बाज़ार में

पहुँच रहे हैं। हम सरकार से आग्रह करते हैं कि घरेलू उद्योग की सुरक्षा के लिए आयातित प्लाईवुड पर कम से कम 50% एंटी-डंपिंग ड्यूटी लगाई जाए।”

इस परिवर्तन का सांस्कृतिक प्रभाव गहरा है। दशकों तक भारत का वुड पैनल सेक्टर एक ग्रे ज़ोन में संचालित होता रहा—अनौपचारिक प्रथाओं, असमान गुणवत्ता और उपभोक्ता जागरूकता में उतार-चढ़ाव के कारण बिखरा हुआ। QCO लागू होने से उद्योग में व्यापक आत्मचिंतन शुरू हुआ है, जिसने निर्माताओं को गुणवत्ता का सीधे सामना करने के लिए मजबूर कर दिया है।

डिज़ाइनर, आर्किटेक्ट और फ़र्नीचर निर्माता अब तेजी से ISI-मार्क वाले उत्पादों की माँग कर रहे हैं—यह रुझान हाल ही में स्पष्ट रूप से देखा गया है। अंतिम उपभोक्ताओं में जागरूकता अभी भी सीमित है, लेकिन पेशेवर समूहों में “ISI मार्क” तेजी से विश्वसनीयता का पर्याय बनता जा रहा है।

इसके अलावा, BIS ढाँचे ने कीमतों में जवाबदेही को फिर से स्थापित किया है। गुणवत्ता ग्रेड तय करके और लेबलिंग अनुशासन को लागू करके, यह अंडरकटिंग और गलत प्रस्तुति जैसे दो पुराने समस्याओं को रोकता है, जो लंबे समय से इस क्षेत्र को प्रभावित करती रही हैं। जैसे-जैसे छोटे यूनिट्स निम्नतर बेंडिंग क्लासेस अपनाते हैं, वे बिना घटिया उत्पादन का सहारा लिए कानूनी और प्रतिस्पर्धी तरीके से काम कर सकते हैं।

हालाँकि अनुपालन की गति उत्साहजनक है, उद्योग विशेषज्ञ चेतावनी देते हैं कि अगला चरण – सख्त प्रवर्तन और बाज़ार जागरूकता – उतना ही महत्वपूर्ण होगा। कई प्रमुख प्राथमिकताएँ उभरकर सामने आई हैं:

BIS संसाधनों को सुदृढ़ करना:

लाइसेंस आवेदनों में तेजी के साथ, BIS को नवीनीकरण, निरीक्षण और शिकायत निवारण को

प्रभावी ढंग से संभालने के लिए अपनी जनशक्ति और डिजिटल बुनियादी ढाँचे का विस्तार करने की आवश्यकता है।

मानक स्पष्टता और प्रशिक्षण:

IS 710 और IS 4990 से जुड़ी अस्पष्टताओं को पूरी तरह दूर किया जाना चाहिए, और छोटे निर्माताओं को शिक्षित करने के लिए व्यापक प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम आयोजित किए जाने चाहिए।

गैर-कानूनी आयात पर लगाम:

हितधारक घरेलू उद्योगों की रक्षा के लिए मजबूत एंटी-डॉपिंग उपायों की मांग कर रहे हैं, जिन्होंने अनुपालन पर भारी निवेश किया है।

उपभोक्ता जागरूकता:

BIS, उद्योग संघों और ट्रेड मीडिया को मिलकर बिल्डर्स, आर्किटेक्ट्स और रिटेल उपभोक्ताओं के बीच प्रमाणित उत्पादों के लाभों के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ानी चाहिए।

बाजार का संतुलन:

QCO लागू होने के बाद, मूल्य स्थिरता स्वाभाविक रूप से आएगी क्योंकि मानक अनुपालन करने वाले निर्माता अपने सही बाजार हिस्से पर दावा करेंगे। इससे गैर-अनुपालन इकाइयाँ धीरे-धीरे समाप्त होंगी या उन्हें अपने संचालन को औपचारिक बनाने के लिए मजबूर होना पड़ेगा।

आज भारत का वुड पैनेल उद्योग सिर्फ विकसित नहीं हो रहा, बल्कि ढाँचागत परिवर्तन से

गुजर रहा है। अनिवार्य ISI मार्किंग ने ट्रेसबिलिटी, पारदर्शिता और विश्वसनीयता की एक मजबूत प्रणाली लागू की है, जो इस सेक्टर को वैश्विक मानकों के अनुरूप बना रही है।

अगले 12 महीने बेहद महत्वपूर्ण होंगे। यदि अनुमान सही साबित होते हैं, तो मार्च 2026 तक लगभग आधा उद्योग BIS-प्रमाणित हो जाएगा। इसका असर पूरे सप्लाय चैन में महसूस होगा — रेज़िन निर्माताओं से लेकर फ़र्नीचर रिटेलर्स तक।

जैसे-जैसे भारत मेक इन इंडिया और आत्मनिर्भर भारत जैसी पहलों के माध्यम से अपनी निर्माण क्षमता को मजबूत कर रहा है, वुड पैनेल उद्योग का गुणवत्ता अनुपालन की ओर बढ़ना अन्य सेक्टरों के लिए एक मिसाल बनकर उभर रहा है।

उद्योग विशेषज्ञों का संदेश स्पष्ट है: यह कोई अस्थायी बदलाव नहीं, बल्कि नई वास्तविकता है। और इसे अपनाकर भारत का वुड पैनेल सेक्टर न सिर्फ अनुपालन सुनिश्चित कर रहा है, बल्कि घरेलू और वैश्विक दोनों बाजारों में अपनी विश्वसनीयता भी बढ़ा रहा है।

BIS के इस आदेश ने एक बिखरे हुए व्यापार को एक विनियमित उद्योग में बदल दिया है, जहाँ हर प्लॉइवुड शीट अब केवल एक स्टैम्प नहीं, बल्कि गुणवत्ता, ईमानदारी और प्रगति का संदेश लेकर आती है।

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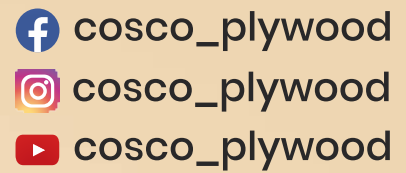
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