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INDUSTRIAL WOODWORKING

MAY / JUNE 2024

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TOP TRIO LINE UP FOR LIVE DEMONSTRATION ZONE AT THE MATERIALS & FINISHES SHOW

THREE of the furniture manufacturing and joinery industries leading brands have announced that they will collaborate as part of the brand-new live demonstration zone at the Materials & Finishes Show in May.

Leitz Tooling UK, Advanced Machinery Services (AMS) and The Joinery Network will work together on the show floor to produce a full timber window manufacturing demonstration, with two live demonstrations taking place on each day of the UK's trade show for the furniture manufacturing and joinery industries.

Visitors will be able to see the end-to-end production of the timber window frame, which will be expertly crafted utilising an AMS-distributed Wadkin Bursgreen woodworking machine and Lignum tooling supplied by Leitz Tooling and The Joinery Network's Owen Dare.

This is the first time that visitors to Materials & Finishes Show (formerly W Exhibition) will have seen brands collaborate in this way as part of the brand-new demonstration feature within the exhibition.

'We cannot wait to exhibit at Materials & Finishes Show this May and we are excited to announce our collaboration with Leitz Tooling and The Joinery Network, who share our vision of providing hands-on advice and support for the industry. Our demonstration is not to be missed!' says AMS managing director, Steve McGloin.

'Materials & Finishes Show is set to re-establish itself as the main event in the UK calendar and we did not want to miss out on the opportunity to connect with the UK furniture manufacturing and joinery industries when the show returns this May,' says marketing manager for Leitz Tooling UK, Ben Mitchell.

'As a leading global manufacturer of high-quality precision tools and tooling systems, we pride ourselves on providing expert tips and advice for the industry, which is why it was a natural choice for us to participate in the new live demonstration zone. We're excited to showcase our collaboration at the event,' adds Mr Mitchell.

'When I set up The Joinery Network it was with the ambition to connect leading industry suppliers with joiners, bringing practical support,' says founder of The Joinery Network, Owen Dare.

'Our collaboration at Materials & Finishes Show and our involvement in the new live demonstration zone, embodies everything that we stand for as an organisation. I am looking forward to meeting with visitors at the event this May,' concludes Mr Dare.

Alongside the manufacturing of a timber window frame, visitors



will also be able to participate in a range of "hands-on" activities and demonstrations from other brands across the four days of the show.

The live demonstration zone will complement the new seminar theatre feature, which will include four packed days of CPD-certified learning content, from panel discussions and keynotes through to seminars delivered by industry experts.

'We've been excitedly waiting to announce the collaboration between Leitz Tooling UK, Advanced Machinery Services (AMS) and The Joinery Network, following a successful trial run at the AMS customer showroom earlier this month,' says Materials & Finishes Show event director, David Todd.

'We know that visitors will be equally excited to see running machinery at the show, which is why we've developed the new live demonstration feature.'

'Alongside the timber window construction from these three companies, visitors will also be able to see tooling, paint and finishing brands deliver hands-on, practical demonstrations, bringing new products, innovations and technology to life for joiners and carpenters on the show floor in a way that we've never done before at the event,' concludes Mr Todd.

For further information visit www.materialsandfinishesshow.com

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Materials & Finishes Show was formerly known as W Exhibition.



TURNING UP THE HEAT AT THE CALAIS WOODYARD

THE Calais Woodyard is a project of French organisation L'Auberge des Migrants distributing firewood to displaced people in Northern France, bringing them the necessary warmth to carry them through the cold winter months.

A project set up by L'Auberge des Migrants, the Woodyard is a volunteer project that provides people with firewood throughout the winter.

For those camping in freezing conditions, firewood is not only a source of heat, but allows these desperate people to be able to cook the food provided to them by the Calais Food Collective.

This creates informal social spaces and frees displaced people in Calais from dependence on the distribution of hot food, letting them camp and, cook where they like, as well as dry their clothes.

It's been more than six years since the so-called Calais "Jungle" camp was cleared for demolition - six years of an inhumane cycle of the eviction of people's only living places every 48 hours.

The French authorities deforest, clear and wall up systematically after each large scale eviction.

What is the result?

While the situation in Calais stagnates, the living conditions of refugees and displaced people grows worse every year.

In winter, when tents, sleeping bags and blankets are seized by the police every day and natural shelters are torn down, firewood distribution becomes a vital issue when temperatures can drop below -7 deg C.

It is a very sad situation for those people who have nothing much to live for other than the hope that, one day they will reach their goal of finding a better place to live.



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ELEVATING PACKING PRECISION WITH AXYZ CNC ROUTERS

ESTABLISHED in 1995, SAM Cases has evolved into a prominent player in the field of flight case manufacturing. Founded by a team of qualified professionals with a deep understanding of packaging and delicate equipment transportation, the company quickly gained recognition for its commitment to quality and innovation.

Specialising in packaging and transporting fragile equipment, the company boasts an impressive client roster, including renowned names, such as BBC, Dyson, Chelsea Football Club, LG Electronics, Aardman Animation, Procter and Gamble, BT, the MOD and various other organisations.

SAM Cases is committed to delivering cutting-edge solutions that meet the highest standards of protection and security. Throughout its journey, SAM Cases consistently incorporated the latest technology and materials into its products.

This dedication to innovation became evident in the range of offerings, from sample and demonstration cases to tough and rugged transit/flight cases. The company embraced water-proof options, integrating renowned case ranges, such as Peli, Explorer, Peli Air, Peli Storm, and Peli-Hardigg.

AXYZ Machine Adoption

Since 2009, SAM Cases has been utilising AXYZ machines, starting with the purchase of the company's first machine. Recognising the efficiency and reliability of AXYZ technology, SAM Cases expanded its capacity by adding a second machine within a few short years.

In 2023, the company took another leap forward, investing in two brand new AXYZ Infinite series machines equipped with multiple heads. This strategic move aimed to enhance production capacity, reduce machining time and leverage the latest advancements in CNC technology.

The INFINITE router is a highly configurable CNC machine that is

suitable for one-off, small batch production, as well as high volume and high productivity applications, including woodworking, plastic fabrication, engineered plastic machining and so much more.

For a wide range of routing operations, one can choose from high-speed spindles ranging from 5hp to 15hp. For knife cutting, choose from a tangential knife, which can be used for creasing and folding applications, or an oscillating knife, which can be used to process soft goods material.

AXYZ as the Preferred Supplier

AXYZ became SAM Cases' preferred machine supplier in 2009 and continues to hold that position.

'The decision to choose AXYZ as the preferred machine supplier was not only a strategic one, but the choice was also influenced by recommendations from other manufacturers in the industry,' says technical director, Mathew Addy.

SAM Cases serves diverse industries worldwide, producing high-quality packaging with no limitations. They are recognised for offering top-notch foam inserts, a testament to the quality of AXYZ machines.

AXYZ machines at SAM Cases handle the production of custom foam inserts and cutting various plastics used in packaging manufacture. They recently created their first 3D foam insert with a rounded bottom pocket for a Rolls Royce project.

Impact on Productivity and Efficiency

The implementation of AXYZ machines has significantly enhanced productivity and efficiency at SAM Cases.

'The inclusion of an oscillating knife on one of the machines has resulted in a cleaner and faster cut with minimal mess, improving lead times for certain projects, enhancing overall operational efficiency,' says Mathew Addy.



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Bringing CNC manufacturing in-house has empowered SAM Cases to control and enhance the quality of their products, establishing them as leaders in the industry. Prior to the adoption of AXYZ machines, the company relied on external manufacturers for foam inserts, limiting their ability to control product quality.

Since the integration of AXYZ technology, SAM Cases has achieved unparalleled control over the quality of their products, setting industry benchmarks.

Initial Challenges and Solutions

The initial challenges faced by SAM Cases during the integration of AXYZ machines revolved around finding adequate space and addressing power and air requirements.

AXYZ responded with comprehensive documentation detailing space requirements and power ratings. The successful resolution of these challenges for the first machine paved the way for the seamless integration of the second machine, highlighting the collaborative partnership between AXYZ and SAM Cases.

Cost Savings and Profitability

While cost savings primarily stem from avoiding mark-up on outsourced foam inserts, the overall streamlining of operations through AXYZ machines has contributed to enhanced profitability. The CNC technology allows SAM Cases to have greater control over their production processes, resulting in a more cost-effective and efficient operation.

Workforce and Skill Requirements

Employees at SAM Cases welcomed the introduction of automation in their workflow. The presence of AXYZ CNC machines has not only increased efficiency, but also allowed employees to focus on more intricate manual tasks, fostering job satisfaction and a positive work environment.

Whilst there is a learning curve for programming, SAM Cases has grown its workforce to meet the increased demand since the initial machine purchase. The user-friendly nature of the AXYZ control system makes it accessible to all staff members.

Whilst there is a learning curve for programming to optimise cut quality and processing time, the ease of use has allowed SAM Cases to grow its workforce significantly to meet escalating demand since the initial machine purchase.

Maintenance and Smooth Operation

Ensuring the maintenance and smooth operation of AXYZ machines is crucial for SAM Cases. Recognising the impact of downtime on their workshop schedule, the company emphasises the importance of AXYZ service contracts, ensuring that the machines are consistently maintained at peak performance levels.

Future Plans for Automation: Expanding Horizons with AXYZ

Looking ahead, SAM Cases envisions further integration of automation into their processes. Plans include the acquisition of another machine, housed in a separate facility, to process rigid plastics and wood.

This strategic move aims to enhance yet another aspect of SAM Cases' production capabilities, showcasing their commitment to continuous improvement and innovation.

In conclusion, SAM Cases' partnership with AXYZ has been pivotal in elevating their precision and efficiency, establishing them as leaders in the competitive world of flight case manufacturing.

The commitment to quality and continuous improvement is evident in their successful integration of AXYZ CNC routers into their operations. The symbiotic relationship between SAM Cases and AXYZ has not only withstood the test of time but has propelled the company to new heights in packaging precision.

The adoption of AXYZ CNC routers has been a cornerstone in SAM Cases' journey of excellence, setting them apart as industry leaders and paving the way for future advancements in automation and efficiency.

SAM Cases continues to be the leading force in the case manufacturing industry, renowned for its precision, durability and commitment to excellence.

The company's journey is a testament to its continuous pursuit of innovation and its ability to meet the evolving needs of clients across various industries.

For further information tel AXYX on 01952 291600.

Visit www.axyx.com.

For further information on SAM Cases tel 01275 866366.

Visit www.samcases.co.uk



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INDUSTRIAL VENTILATION & RECYCLING FROM WASTE

WITH the expansion of a range of production services carried out on-site, a scenic construction company based in London contacted Fercell to explore their options for implementing a LEV and recycling system.

The system needed to encompass a variety of LEV (local exhaust ventilation) processes, including the extraction of weld fume, a spray extraction facility and a dust booth for the capture of any dust particulate created during various woodworking applications.

With a large proportion of product created using wood, the client was also keen to consider the possibilities of recycling the company's wood waste and furthermore, utilising the output to provide a resource for biomass heating.

LEV Installation

A broad suite of local exhaust ventilation solutions, consisting of dust extraction, with a CAP4 dust booth, weld fume, with MEF-500 suction fan set and ASA-3 extraction arms, spray extraction with a purpose built finishing room equipped with services extraction and product drying room were specified. In addition, each LEV system benefits from noise mitigation facilities. The system allows the client to carry out, more productively, a variety of construction activities safely and effectively.

Dust Extraction

Installation of the dust booth allows for the immediate removal of any dust clouds for a mix of process operations, including sanding, grinding and welding operations.

As a stand-alone solution, it is equipped with aluminised polyester filter cartridges and a pulse-jet compressed air filter cleaning system, to deposit any dust collected in removable collection trays located at the base of the booth for easy emptying and disposal. The integral suction fan ensures complete face velocity across the full width of the booth.

Eminently flexible, the CAP-series of booths are available in a range of sizes, from varied construction materials, filter media and control functions.

Fercell was able to determine the ideal size and specification required to meet the customers' requirements.

Weld and Cutting Fumes

In order to optimise ventilation for the metal fabrication process, a series of ASA-3 extractors was installed.

Perfect for the removal of grinding dust, cutting and welding fumes for metal-working, each arm consists of five friction joints, with wall bracket able to rotate 180 deg. making them extremely easy to position to the desired location.

The various suction arms are connected to the backward bladed, self-cleaning impeller equipped, MEF-500 energy saving fan by a centralised galvanised suction ducting system.

The MEF fan is enclosed within a BH-series soundbox, which not only



offers additional protection from environmental factors, but reduces the sound output levels by approximately 10 - 15 db(A), while the electric motor is cooled with air pulled through a low-level grid in the base of the soundbox.

Spray Extraction

A designated area for specialised finishing and coatings required the installation of a spray extraction system.

The solution consisted of a combination, including dedicated finishing and drying rooms, separated and connected by a series of full height, sliding access doors.

The finishing room is serviced by multi-point dry filtration, mounted within a spray wall, ideal for increased paint spraying extraction capacity, providing a perfect space for product finishing processes to take place.

The dry filtration media used is eco-friendly manufactured from heavy-weight pleated card, which is flame-retardant and easily disposable, designed for the capture and containment of overspray from spray finishing applications.

The filters are formed of a concertina, two-part, construction works with inertia separation, with any spray particles passing through a tortuous route and sticking to the media in holding pockets of the air stream.

The drying room enclosure is fully sealed for isolation from the main production areas, ensuring a controlled, clean working space.

In order to prevent cross contamination of processes, the room is both internally and externally controlled by balanced or positive air pressure, regulated with make-up air drawn through efficient filtration from the main production area.

Shredding for Biomass

Recycling the client's wood waste not only reduced their disposal costs, but created a valuable resource, to be utilised to reduce their operating costs through the colder months. The properties of wood make it easy to break down and reduce in size through the process of crushing.

The solution, the PY1300 pre-breaker processes wood waste, into small parts (<A5), which can then be easily hand-fed into the CA-S Warm Burning Space Heater.

The PY1300 is a pre-crusher ideal for breaking down bulky material into manageable size pieces. Any wood waste is broken down using an oversized screw flight, which can reduce your waste by up to 80 per cent.

Material is loaded into the PY hopper, where it is automatically processed and discharged into an appropriate container, for storage until ready to use.

The PY1300 senses when there's no material and will automatically switch itself off, providing an energy efficient solution.

With waste wood product ideal for conversion into biofuel, crushed wood output can be placed directly into the CA-S 600, 180kW, wood burning, space heater.

The heater is designed to work with a mixture of fuels including: chipboard, MDF, hardwoods, softwoods, pallets, wood off-cuts and wood briquettes.

The hand-fed warm air heater offers a flexible, robust solution for wood waste disposal and commercial heating through combustion of solid fuel, in this case wood chips. By operating the heater, the client not only reduces their waste, but also reduces their carbon footprint.

Fercell provides complete industrial recycling and size reduction systems and industrial ventilation solutions.

For further information tel Fercell on 01622 791414.
Visit www.fercell.com

INCREDIBLY CARVED WOODEN DOORS AT SPAIN'S SPECTACULAR ALHAMBRA PALACE IN GRANADA

THE Alhambra is a palace and fortress complex located in Granada in the province of Andalusia in southern Spain and one of the country's top tourist attractions.

It is one of the most famous monuments of Islamic architecture and, probably the best-preserved of the palaces of the historic Islamic world. In addition, it contains notable examples of Spanish Renaissance architecture

Built on an outcrop of the Sierra Nevada, which had been the site of earlier fortresses, the complex was begun in 1238 by the founder of the Emirate of Granada, Muhammad I Ibn al-Ahmar - the last Muslim state of AL-Andalus.

Later Nasrid rulers continuously modified the site. The most significant construction campaigns, which gave the royal palaces much of their definitive character, took place during the 14th century.

In 1492, the site became the Royal Court of Ferdinand and Isabella (where Christopher Columbus received royal endorsement for his expedition) and the palaces were partially altered.

In 1526, Charles V commissioned a new Renaissance-style palace in direct juxtaposition with the Nasrid palaces, but it was left uncompleted by the early 17th century.

After being allowed to fall into disrepair for centuries, with its buildings occupied by squatters, the Alhambra was rediscovered following the defeat of Napoleon I, whose troops destroyed parts of the ancient site.

It was British intellectuals who were the first to re-discover this incredible edifice to the Muslim religion. In turn they were followed by American and Northern European Romantic travellers - the most influential of them being Washington Irving, whose "Tales of the Alhambra", written in 1832, brought international attention to the site.

The Alhambra was one of the first Islamic monuments to become the object of modern scientific study. It has been the subject of numerous restorations since the 19th century. It is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

During the Nasrid era, the Alhambra was a self-contained city separate



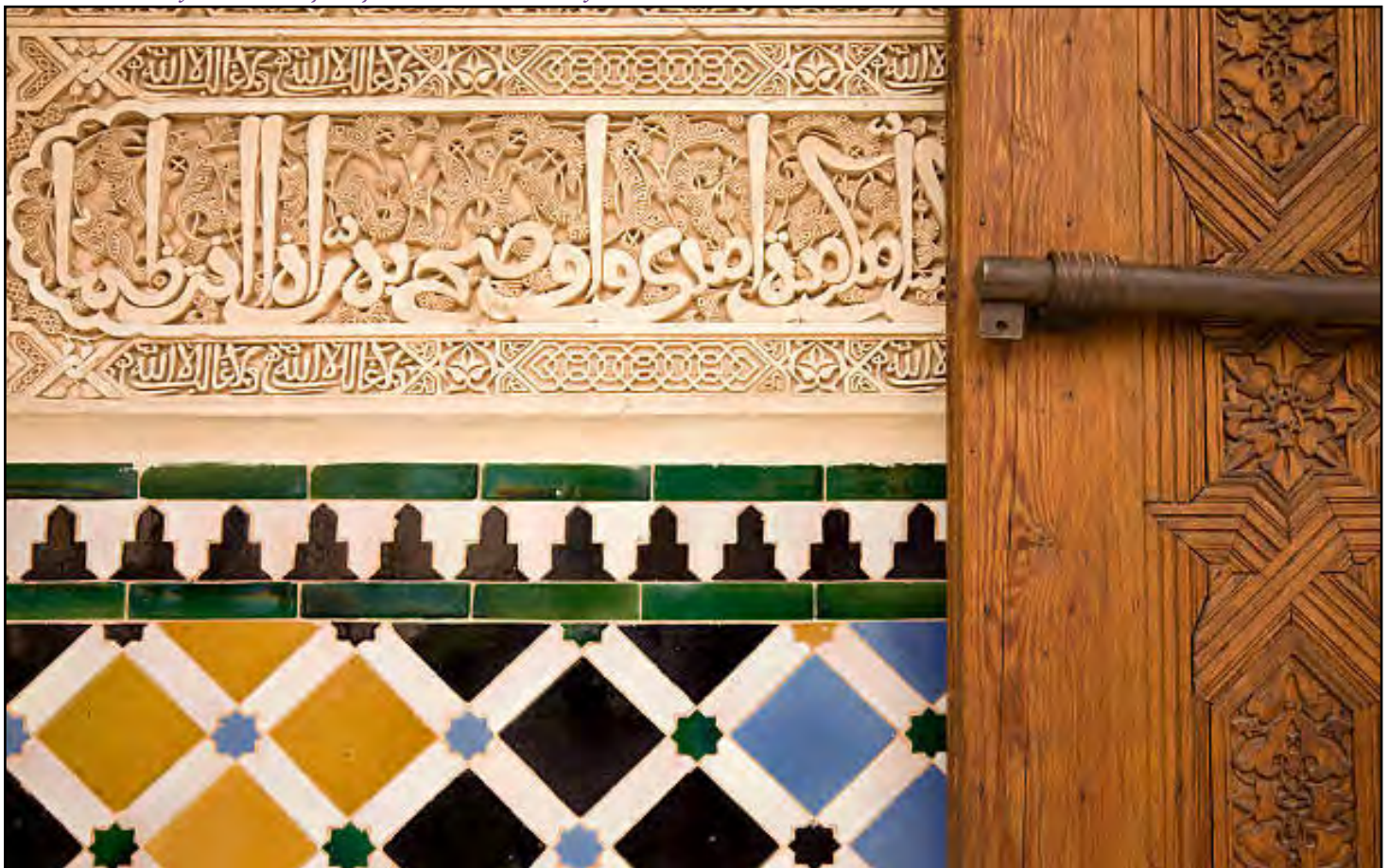
The Court of the Myrtles in the Nasrid Palace at the Alhambra de Granada.

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The 16th century tiled corner in the Nasrid Palaces of the Alhambra. The top border is a quotation in Arabic and the central star motif at the bottom contains the arms of the Nasrid Dynasty, which ruled Granada from 1232 until 1492.



The beautiful and colourful tiled patterns featuring stars and marble carvings in the walls of the Palacios Nazaries (Nashrid Palaces) at the Alhambra Palace in Spain.

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Viúva Lamego, with its factory in Sintra is the place to visit for anyone wishing to purchase azulejos on a grand scale.



In the 1960s the company, Viúva Lamego was responsible for most of the station tiles featured in the Lisbon Metro.

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from the rest of Granada situated below the ancient citadel.

It contained most of the amenities usually to be found in a Muslim city, such as a Friday mosque, hammams (public baths), artisan workshops, a tannery and a sophisticated water supply system.

Arabic calligraphy (mostly poems and verses from there Quran) is everywhere. Muslims avoid making images of living creatures considering that to be God's work.

However, decoration in the form of religious messages is thought to be fine. One phrase "Only God is victorious" is repeated no fewer than 9,000 times throughout the Alhambra.

As a royal city and citadel, at one time the Alhambra contained at least six major palaces. The most famous and best-preserved are the Mexuar, the Comares Palace, the Palace of the Lions and the Partal Palace, which form the main attraction to visitors today. The other palaces are known from historical sources and from modern excavation.

The architecture of the Nasrid palaces reflects the tradition of Moorish architecture developed over previous centuries. It is characterised by the use of the courtyard as a central space and a basic unit around which other halls and rooms are organised.

Outside the Alhambra walls and located to the east is the Generalife - a former Nasrid



The poet Washington Irving was the author of "The Tales of the Alhambra" written in 1832.



The Red Door at the Alhambra Palace derives its name from a simple mistake - a confusion - between the words "Bib al-hamra" (Red Door) and "Bib al-jamra" (Door of Wine), seen here with typical geometric tiling to the right.



The Patio of the Lions at the Alhambra de Granada.



These hand-painted tiles, known as azulejos are predominantly produced from a pallet of blue colours. The word “azulejo” is derived from the arabic world “azzelij” and basically means “small polished stones”.



Purchasing these replica hand-paint ajulejos means that, whilst supporting living artisans, you are not destroying the Portugal’s heritage.

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country estate and summer palace accompanied by historic orchards and modern, landscaped gardens

Multiple smaller towers and fortified gates are also located along the Alhambra's walls, with many of them providing access to the elaborately tiled courtyards which, typically, contained water features at their centre, such as a reflective pool, or a fountain.

Decoration was focused on the interior of the building and was executed primarily with the use of tile mosaics on the lower walls and carved stucco on the upper walls.

Such is the long-lasting appeal of some of the styles and motifs featured on much of this ancient tiling, that it is replicated in modern-day kitchens to this very day, appearing above the kitchen worktops in kitchens where the owner might desire to include a touch of authentic antiquity.

At eye level, the walls of the Alhambra Palace are lavishly decorated with tiles laid in intricate geometric patterns. The remaining surfaces are covered with elaborately carved stucco motifs organised in bands and panels of curvilinear patterns and calligraphy.

At the Alhambra the colourful tile-work is made up of designs, such as arabesque patterns and geometric shapes - all set off by wooden latticework known as "alijibe".

The azulejo tiles are formed of polished stone. The word "azulejo" is derived from the arabic world "azzelij" and basically means "small polished stones", such as those used by Muslims to design various mosaics.

The meaning remains fairly much the same, as we consider an azulejo to be a ceramic piece, generally square in shape, on which one of the sides is glazed - something which, today we we would instantly

recognise as a tile.

In next door Portugal azulejos are literally everywhere you look and can be seen across Lisbon, Porto and Portugal's smaller cities. It's hard not to fall in love with the unique patterns and colours that blanket whole buildings and make this small European country and its streets beloved for their beauty.

Between small tile ateliers and large tile factories, there are dozens of options for you to take home with you should you choose to do so. These include unique "Made in Portugal" tiles to sit above your kitchen worktop. Purchasing these reproduction tiles means that, whilst supporting living artisans, you are not destroying the country's heritage.

Visitors should avoid buying second-hand azulejos in markets, or from disreputable sellers. If you adore the beauty of these tiles that cover so many buildings in Portugal, by all means take photographs of them. On the other hand, if you wish to buy any to feature in your home, you should always make a point of seeking out replicas.

Unfortunately, there are problems with azulejos being stolen and sold on the black market. You should never be persuaded to purchase second-hand tiles in Portuguese flea markets. If you do so, you are simply increasing the demand for stolen tiles. Just picture the hole on a wall somewhere in Portugal and there is always a good chance that the tile (or tiles) you have innocently purchased are totally irreplaceable.

Portugal's Polícia Judiciária - the police branch that deals with major crimes - even has a whole department dedicated to the theft of tiles

You can buy antique-looking tiles, but you should always avoid acquiring real antiques. Use replicas above your kitchen worktops and you can enjoy their beauty, if not their centuries old authenticity.



The door at the Gate of Justice has one of the most symbolic values of the Alhambra Palace: the hand on the key of the great facade arch.

Fabric de Sant'Anna is a tile shop in Chiado and is linked to Lisbon's oldest tile factory. Since 1741 this tile manufacturer has been producing hand-painted tiles and ceramics.

The boutique itself is stacked full of incredible hand-painted ceramics that look like antique. You can even find Moorish style tiles. If you want to go behind-the-scenes, you can visit the factory in Ajuda for a guided tour.

If you're looking for tiles, or azulejos on a grand scale – for whole feature walls, swimming pools, or to fit out a restaurant – Viúva Lamego is the place to visit.

Launched in 1849, Viúva Lamego has its roots in the past, but is a very modern tile producer where you can purchase trend-driven tiles for your dream projects.

In the 1960s this company, with its factory in Sintra, was responsible for most of the Lisbon Metro station tiles. The company still collaborates on artist-driven large-scale panels across the city, in restaurants and other public places.

Originally most of the spectacular ancient tiling in Spain's Alhambra Palace featured behind huge carved wooden doors - some of which remain in place protecting the inner courtyards, with their beautiful fountains and other water features.

Perhaps best known is the Puerta de la Justicia (Gate of Justice) - also known as Puerta de la Esplanada, because of the wide space that stretched out before it.

Apart from its structural function, this door has one of the most outstanding symbolic values of the Alhambra: the hand on the key of the

great facade arch and the key on the entrance arch (Islamic symbols), contrast with the gothic image of the Virgin and Child, placed there by the order of the Catholic monarchs on the foundational Arabic inscription on the original wooden door.

Four attached columns in whose capitals the profession of Muslim faith appears, frame the entrance gate that has preserved its iron-plated wooden leaves and other original fittings, which have recently been restored.

In 1588, on the request of the residents of the Alhambra, an altarpiece, the work of Diego de Navas the Younger, was built in the place where the first mass was celebrated after the conquest. The inner face of the door preserves part of the precious original decoration of ceramic rhombuses in the spans a horseshoe arch.

The Wine Gate was used for access to the Medina or City of the Alhambra, located in what is currently called "Alhambra Alta". The western façade (facing the Plaza de los Aljibes) is the oldest one still standing and in it we can see the key that also appeared in the Puerta de la Justicia.

It is one of the oldest buildings within the Alhambra, attributed to the second Nasrid monarch, Mohamed II. Although this gate is now isolated, in medieval times it was surrounded by a series of buildings that closed off the Plaza de los Aljibes on this side.

It seems that the Puerta del Vino is one of the oldest constructions of the Alhambra, perhaps dated back to from the time of Mohamed II. Today we find it isolated within the Plaza de los Aljibes, although it was possibly part of a group of buildings that closed the aforementioned



The Gate of the Seven Floors was partially destroyed by Napoleonic troops and rebuilt in the 1960s.

square.

Since 1556, the residents of the Alhambra deposited at this door the wine they consumed and that was exempt from taxes, which explains where the name of the door comes from.

However, there is an alternative theory that says that its name comes from a simple mistake - a confusion between the words "Bib al-hamra" (Red Door, or Door of the Alhambra), which is supposed to be the original name of the door and "Bib al-jamra" (Door of Wine), which would also prove that this was the door that allowed access to the Alhambra Alta.

The outer façade of the door has a pointed horseshoe arch and lowered voussoirs (a voussoir is a wedge-shaped element, typically a stone, which is used in building an arch, or vault. Although each unit in an arch or vault is a voussoir, two units are of distinct functional importance: the keystones and the springer. The keystone is the centre stone or masonry unit at the apex of the arch) and here these are in relief. On its lintel there is a symbol, a key with a cord and a plasterboard that reads: "Glory to our Lord Sultan Abu 'Abd Allah al-Gani Billah" (Mohamed V).

This beautiful door has provided one of the favourite subjects of the British and French watercolorists, who visited Granada in the 19th century.

Claude Debussy was inspired by one of these images, when he composed a piece, with a suggestively Spanish flavour, whose title is the same name of the door.

From the Arms Gate (Barrio Castrense de la Alcazaba) you can access one of the most beautiful and spectacular viewpoints of the entire Alhambra looking over the lower city of Granada. It is one of the four great exterior and official doors of the Alhambra and of

all of them, the one that the people of Granada have traditionally used in centuries past.

In order to enter the fortress, until the late fourteenth century, it was the one that communicated directly with the interior of Granada, leaving the other three outside the city walls.

It constitutes one of the main buildings that stand in the Alhambra structurally and decoratively connecting with the Almohad tradition of a curved door.

On the walk along the outer face of the Alhambra wall there are several towers and a gate: the Gate of the Seven Floors, -one of the four exteriors of the enclosure. This door gave access to the upper area of the Medina of the Alhambra - an area of the palace city of essentially artisan character.

Built in the 14th century on a previous one, it was partially destroyed after it was blown up by Napoleonic troops in their withdrawal from the fortress in 1812. The door was rebuilt in the 1960s, its accurate construction made possible thanks to a collection of old engravings and photographs. The circular bastion before it is the protagonist of one of Washington Irving's "Tales of the Alhambra".

The Alhambra has long fascinated the author of this article. It has featured in many films including, to spectacular effect, in the author's favourite music video of all time - that of Sarah Brightman's signature performance simply entitled "Harem".

Indeed, no-one who visits this incredible monument to the ancient Muslim religion can fail to be impressed by its magnificently restored ancient wooden doors and its elaborately designed mosaics and tile-work.



A detail of the wooden door of the Emperor Charles V palace in the Alhambra.

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CAMCO'S IMPRESSIVE EDGE-BANDING MATERIALS

CAMCO is a leading manufacturer and supplier of edge-banding materials. With a customer-oriented, highly experienced team, Camco is continually expanding its range to meet customer demands.

The company offers over 4,000 decors that can be delivered nationwide on a next-day basis. Camco can colour match with all main board suppliers, as well as match to paints.

Its portfolio of edge-banding includes thick and thin veneer, ABS, PVC and melamine. All products are FSC-certified and sourced from Europe to ensure consistent quality.

Camco slits its own materials to any size required, providing its customers with the ultimate range of sizes and flexibility. With its digital printing service, Camco can match any decor, with short lead times.

CAMCO veneer edging

Camco's veneer edging is from the highest grade veneer and is manufactured in Europe. The edging is supplied in rolls, or strips, pre-glued, or unglued, fleece-backed, sanded and, upon request, also brushed and lacquered.

CAMCO ABS edge-banding tapes in solid colours

Camco's collection of solid colour designs encompasses 3,000 designs in stock. Upon request, Camco can make any solid colour ABS design identical to the RAL, or NCS colour code of a certain surface, with the desired thickness, width and gloss.

ABS edge-banding tapes in wood-grain designs

In the collection, there is a choice of 500 wood-grain designs of

ABS edge-banding tapes from all renowned producers of enhanced particleboards. Camco is expanding the range of ABS edge-banding tapes, depending on the range of new boards currently available on the market.

All designs are available in thicknesses of 2mm and 0.45mm; the majority of designs are also available with a thickness of 1mm. All standard widths of tapes are available.

CAMCO high gloss ABS edge-banding tapes

The collection of high gloss ABS edge-banding tapes encompasses 50 solid colour and wood-grain designs from known manufacturers of enhanced particle boards.

High gloss ABS tapes are available in stock in thicknesses of 1mm and all commercial widths. All are protected on the surface with a protective foil that prevents damage to the tapes during edge-banding process.

ABS edge-banding tapes with aluminium finish

ABS edge-banding tape with an aluminium surface finish gives furniture an extremely modern appearance. You can choose between three different types of finish: grinded aluminium, matte aluminium and gloss aluminium.

Tapes with a thickness of 1mm are available to order in all widths. ABS edge-banding tapes with an aluminium finish are protected with a protective foil that can be removed after edge-banding.

For further information visit www.camco.uk



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SETTING SAIL FOR SANTANDER IN SPAIN TO VISIT A RENOWNED BOAT-BUILDER

IT WAS time to set sail for the Spanish port of Santander to visit a renowned boat-builder - not on board one of plethora of small boats crafted by Francois Vivier's boat-building company situated on the Bay of Biscay, but on board the Salamanca - one of the large Brittany Ferries vessels, which make twice weekly visits to Bilbao on the northern coast of Spain departing from Rosslare in the south-eastern corner of the Republic of Ireland.

Enrique García of Shipshape Carpenters de Ribera is a Spanish boat builder, located just inland from the northern coast of Spain in the region of Santander.

Enrique was trained as a marine carpenter in England. He now specialises in building boats to plans mostly provided by Francois Vivier, as well as providing CNC cut plywood kits. He is able to build all types of small boats of traditional construction, in strip planking, or lapstrake plywood.

More than 50 plans produced by Francois Vivier allow the customer to either build a boat for himself and are specially designed for amateur construction, or to have it built by a professional boat-builder. Each plan includes a comprehensive instruction manual.

It is possible to buy all the boats listed in the boat plans catalogue from an appointed boat builder. In addition, some boats, mostly built in GRP, are marketed as "ready to sail".

'My job is to design boats. I have a network of partners, who can offer to build a boat for you, as well as offering marketing kits for those who choose to go it alone. Some of my partners also market plans and are able to provide translation and/or assistance in your language,' says Francois, adding that there are at least 10 good reasons to buy a Vivier Boats construction plan:

Vivier boats are inspired by the best traditional and classic boats designs in Europe and North America. Instead of offering hundreds of different designs, Francois Vivier prefers to concentrate on a smaller number of tried and tested options, which are constantly being subjected to



Francois Vivier heads up the eponymous company in south west France on the Bay of Biscay, which specialises in producing high specification boat plans for recreational sailing and boating enthusiasts.



Enrique García of Shipshape Carpenters de Ribera is a Spanish boat builder, who trained as a marine carpenter in England.

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improvement. Having said that, he is always open to new ideas and is always prepared to draw something new in response to specific individual requirements.

'Above all, I want both the boat-builder and/or boat-owner to be proud of his vessel. Having the ability to draw a beautiful, authentic and totally seaworthy vessel, which is fast and reliable boat is my prime concern,' says Francois.

'My boats are designed to cope with today's way of life. Most of my designs are under 7m (23ft) and can easily be transported on board a car trailer,' he adds.

Many are fitted out with a well for an outboard motor to occupy the optimum position. Others may be fitted with a diesel engine, or electric propulsion.

'I always endeavour to offer the best possible customer support, giving purchasers the opportunity to choose the right design, to assist them during construction and provide them with all the necessary advice to be able to get the best out of the finished project. I always try to provide a quick response to enquiries and do so free of charge.

A plan package allows for easy construction, even for the first time boat-builder. No specialist tools are required and there is no difficult woodworking tasks to be undertaken. The plan package includes clear, detailed drawings, comprehensive instructions and accurate material lists.

In addition to plan package, customers can purchase either full scale patterns on polyester film, or a kit of plywood parts cut out on a CNC machine.

This is the best way to avoid mistakes, cut down on the number of plywood panels being produced and finish up with a well-shaped hull - as well as saving a huge amount of time in terms of construction.

'There are cheaper plans available on the web but, in my opinion, most

of them are ugly and seldom are they adapted to available resources and supplies. Frequently, they do not comply with necessary regulations controlling their construction,' complains Francois.

'All my boat plans meet the necessary EU rules and ISO standards. All open boats are fitted with generous buoyancy located in order to assist in righting up and bailing out water,' he adds.

'Buying a good plan package, as well as patterns or kits, avoids wasting material and, above all, ensures a satisfying building project. Purchasing the plan is your first expense in any boat-building project but, at the end of the day, it only represents a small percentage of the overall budget and you will be fully rewarded if you choose the right plan. When you are at the helm of your boat, you will never regret the money spent for a quality plan!' proclaims Francois.

Wood and plywood are mostly selected as the building material of choice. The use of modern products, such as epoxy system, or polyurethane paint, represents by far the best choice for the home boat-builder and they do not require more care and maintenance than a mass produced GRP boat. Wood is also light and far stiffer than GRP and, therefore, is ideal for any boats being transported by means of a trailer.

'My boats are intended for both amateur and professional boat-builders. My boat-building partners are located throughout Western Europe. However, it is always possible to find a good professional elsewhere.

All of these plan packages include a set of wooden boat-building sheets giving general instructions on subjects, such as the use of epoxy systems, making laminated frames, hull planking, traditional rigs, painting and varnishing.

The length of each boat is the hull length, as defined by ISO 8666 standard, including all structural parts, but excluding removable items, such as the rudder, bowsprit, etc...

The breadth is measured in terms of "outside planking". This means



Cruising the picturesque Bay of Biscay around the port of Santander in this fine looking sail-boat.



Many boats are fitted out with a well for an outboard motor to occupy the optimal position.



Sailing events like this are frequent sight in the bay of Biscay especially close to the coast-line around Santander with its peppering of tiny off-shore islands. d By Muscle

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that the rub-rail is not included. The aim is to give a relevant dimension regarding boat stability. Generally, add 20-40 mm to achieve the maximum breadth or beam.

A narrow waterline results in a good boat under oars, or one which is being propelled by light winds. On the other hand, a wide waterline results in a more stable hull.

The light weight is close to the ISO 8666 standard. It is the weight of the boat ready to sail including rig and basic sail set, the recommended power (not the maximum), anchor and line and basic mooring equipment.

The water ballast, if any, is empty. For sail and oar boats, there is no motor, but oars are included. If there is several rig options, the simpler option is considered to be the best.

Note that the boat weight depends on the choice used in its construction and may differ from one model to another. It is common that the weight indicated by boat manufacturers and published in yachting magazines is the weight of the hull only and sometimes it is heavily underestimated.

For small boats, the empty weight is supplied - this being the weight to be handled when all loose items are removed: mast, spars and sails, outboard motor, oars, daggerboard (the removable vertical keel that is inserted through a "trunk" in the centre of a vessel's hull), anchor and mooring equipment.

It is difficult to give an estimate as to the time taken for construction, as this varies greatly from one boat-builder to another, according to the experience gained during previous construction work on similar models.

Some boats are true works of art, whilst others are of a rather more simple and rustic style. Deciding to build yourself a boat presupposes that you are looking mainly for the satisfaction of completing a beautiful

vessel and one that the owner can be proud of, without being too greatly concerned by time constraints.

These boat designs have all been drawn up in compliance with the requirements of the European directive on recreational boats. The recommended maximum crew for each category is given. The definition of these categories is detailed below:

- Category B (Offshore): Designed for offshore voyages where conditions up to, and including, Gale Force 8 and significant wave heights up to, and including, 4m may be experienced.
- Category C (Inshore): designed for trips in coastal waters, large bays, estuaries, lakes and rivers where conditions up to, and including, Gale Force 6 and significant wave heights up to, and including, 2m may be experienced.
- Category D (Sheltered waters): designed for voyages in close coastal waters, small bays, lakes, rivers and canals where conditions up to and including Gale Force 4 and maximum wave heights up to and including 0.3m may be experienced.

It should be noted that the significant wave height is the mean height of the highest one third of the waves, which approximately corresponds to the wave height estimated by an experienced observer. Some waves will be double this height.

For further information on Francois Vivier Architecte Naval tel 0033 674 54 18 60. Visit www.vivierboats.com
For further information on Shipshape Carpenters de Ribera tel 0034 94 258 3016. Visit www.shipshape.com.es



Deep burgundy coloured sails tinted with the same shade of a fine glass of Spanish rioja define this Heritance boat.

THE BIGGEST WOODEN BUILDING IN THE CITY OF BORDEAUX

HYPERION is France's first residential tower block to be made of wood. It is located in the city centre of Bordeaux, close to the new TGV (high speed train) station.

The Saint-Jean Belcier area is part of a wide urban renovation program. The project for this site (which is visible from the train station) is to unite the necessity for the area to regenerate itself whilst, at the same time, being an ambitious showcase for the French metropolis.

This project follows in the footsteps of the main phases of a wider city planning and development project for the old town.

Located where rue Carle Vernet meets Rue d'Armagnac, the Hyperion project features several buildings with a total of 176 housing units, an underground parking ramp, an office building and shops.

The highlight of this project is the Hyperion tower, the structure of which is entirely made of wood.

With a total height of 57m, the 17-floor tower is composed of 98 housing units circling a central core (elevators and stairways).

Whilst the core is made of concrete, this rigid spine is completed by a wooden structure of beams and poles. The hardwood floors and partitions are made of CLT (Cross Laminated Timber), bringing modularity and security to the building.

Surrounding the tower is a lower building composed of 55 units of social housing and 23 properties. A second lower building nearby is dedicated to offices, while the ground floors of both house a variety of shops.

The notions of freshness, seasonality, shade and quality of public space are key to the landscape project and inspire every level of it with green spaces and car-free lanes.

The global area renewal project led by EPA Bordeaux Euratlantique features three towers giving a vertical vibration to the landscape, as well as a strong identity to the site.

Hyperion has been awarded the "Prix d'État Démonstrateurs industriels" for a totally sustainable city.



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HOW TO TRANSFORM ANY STANDARD ELECTRIC DRILL INTO A MIGHTY ELECTRIC CHAINSAW

Crafted with German engineering, this adaptor can change any standard drill into an exceptionally powerful chainsaw.

IN OUR daily tasks, specific tools are vital. However, we are well aware that many of these aren't exactly budget-friendly. Hence, it's essential to prioritise the most crucial ones for our personal use and, when we can, seize a chance to enhance our tool-kit.

Have you ever considered owning a tool that combines drill and chainsaw capabilities? It might sound a bit crazy, but it is the genuine article.

Aiming to simplify people's lives, a leading German company has developed EasySaw - a universal adaptor that turns any drill into a mighty electric chain saw.

Designed for versatility, safety and reliability, EasySaw transforms any drill into a high-powered chainsaw. How? Simply attach it to the end of your drill and off you go.

This is truly a versatile addition to your tool-box. The adaptor is completely universal; it can be fitted to any drill, regardless of brand or size.

It is crafted for efficiency and user agility! No need to manage a large chain saw any more, here the focus is on portability.

The portability and ergonomics of a product help you utilise your time more effectively and complete tasks more rapidly.

Bearing this in mind, EasySaw directly addresses a long-standing consumer desire:



to feel that their time is being well utilised. With its practicality and versatility, you will be able to perform a variety of tasks quickly and efficiently. Whatismore, EasySaw is crafted using high-quality components, such as ABS and premium steel.

Star points include:

- It's universal, so you can fit it on to any drill.
- It performs cuts in a practical, swift and accurate manner.
- It transforms one tool into two.
- Users save money.
- EasySaw is completely user-friendly.
- It comes with a 30-day guarantee and delivery is free of charge.
- It is only available to purchase online.

For further information
visit www.sotrends.com/contact/

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THE ART OF GOOD JOINERY CONSTRUCTION IN A PICTURESQUE TOWN IN EAST SUSSEX

ART Joinery & Glazing Service is based in East Sussex, in the picturesque historic town of Rye - reckoned by many to be the prettiest town in England.

The company provides a number of services ranging from bespoke joinery products and projects to glazing and re-glazing damaged doors and windows.

It is comprised of a small two-man team, specialising in all aspects of joinery and cabinet making, including doors, frames, windows, box sashes, kitchens, timber worktops and wardrobes.

The company also supplies and fits most types of glass, including DGUs, float glass, mirrors, laminated, fire and safety glass. Water based/solvent spray finishing, or brush finish are available and the company maintains a comprehensive portfolio of previous works, which can be viewed on request.

The two-man team has a combined experience of over 30 years in all things joinery and cabinet making. Both the partners pride themselves on attention to detail and working to the customers' individual needs.



Recent projects include The Savoy Hotel, The London Business School, Gatwick Airport, Brighton and Hove Albion FC training facilities and, more recently, Miller and Carter steakhouse's, various pubs and restaurants in the London and Surrey areas, local authority work and projects undertaken for the general public.

The company operates out of a small workshop in Rye that is available for visits to meet the joiners, inspect current projects underway and previous works.

All joinery and cabinet work can be to a hand painted finish, or a spray painting service is available. All work to be supply only or supply and fit service available.

For further information tel the company on 01797 224013.



Art Joinery & Glazing Services is a two-man operation based in the picturesque town of Rye in East Sussex.



A mix of MDF and hardwoods for this bookcase ready for painting and fitting.



Multi-pane glazed internal doors make up a good proportion of the work undertaken in the company's workshops.

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NEW SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY LAUNCHED BY HESSE SIGNAL

HESSE Lignal has reached a milestone in its sustainability strategy. The surface coating specialist has removed all nitrocellulose lacquers and solvent-based acid-curing lacquers from its range as of January 1 2024. Customers will instead be able to use sustainable alternative products from Hesse Lignal.

‘Our transformation process is moving forward as planned,’ says Jens Hesse, managing director of Hesse Lignal, Jens Hesse.

‘By getting out of the nitro lacquer market, we have now achieved an important interim target in our sustainability strategy,’ he adds

Over the past few months, the Hamm family business has switched relevant customers over to more sustainable products, enabling it to stop production and distribution of non-sustainable nitrocellulose lacquers and solvent-based acid-curing lacquers as of January 1 2024.

It will similarly stop offering some solvent-based additives, colourants, pigment concentrates and their associated thinners.



‘In Spring 2022 we decided to develop a sustainability strategy to fulfil our responsibility as a future-orientated family business with a history across the generations,’ explains Jens.

‘For our children and grandchildren, we want to contribute to creating a world worth living in by minimising environmental harm and impact on the climate,’ he adds.

This is why the Hesse Board has decided to replace all solvent-based products with sustainable alternatives by 2030. In order to achieve this, the company is pursuing two objectives:

On the one hand, the use of volatile organic compounds (VOC) is to be reduced, as these can contribute to the formation of ozone in the lower atmosphere and the development of CO2 which is harmful to the climate.

On the other, products that contain fossil raw materials are to be replaced by alternatives made from sustainable raw materials.

‘Our colleagues in the departments for research and development, product management and sales/distribution have invested a great deal of energy and know-how into developing and testing sustainable alternative products,’ says Jens.

‘The more sustainable alternatives available today are water-based products, lacquers made from sustainable raw materials, UV lacquers and natural oils.

The Hesse team is actively supporting the transformation process and, amongst other things, is assisting customers in choosing suitable alternative products.

‘Restructuring the first part of our range was a big step for us, but we are still far from reaching our ultimate aim,’ adds Jens.

‘We will continue to work consistently and actively on the development of sustainable products, so that all products with a high VOC content and lacquers made from fossil-based raw materials can be replaced with more climate-friendly alternatives by 2030,’ concludes Jens.

For further information tel Trotec on 0191 580 1182.
Visit www.hesse-lignal.com/products/range_changes.



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NEW FLOATING ISLAND RESTAURANT IS BUILT BY ANTHONY RYDER JOINERY

ANTHONY Ryder Joinery has recently been involved in the construction of a floating island restaurant and cocktail bar at the Carreglwyd Country Estate near Holyhead in North Wales.

Nestled amidst acres of enchanting woodland, visitors can immerse themselves in the beauty of this stunning 18th century mansion, which has more than its fair share of a turbulent past.

Situated on a wild and windswept stretch of coastline, which forms the north-west tip of the Anglesey, Carreglwyd is not a stately home as such, but it is still quite unique both in terms of its character and style. Both the hall and estate became Grade II listed in 1952.

Needless to say, these large houses are incredibly costly to maintain and families such as that of owner, Tom Carpenter need to work hard to avoid them falling into rack and ruin, or being forced to sell up.

It is for this reason that the likes of Tom Carpenter have to come up with ever more innovative ideas to keep the money coming in as a means of fuelling the massive upkeep costs. Simply opening these houses up to the visiting public may not provide a means of generating sufficient cash to replenish the coffers.

“Carreglwyd” is Welsh for “grey rock”, with “lwyd” being the soft mutation (usually translated as “grey” in English).

From 2010 onwards the estate has served as a wedding venue, bringing in much needed extra cash to help support the upkeep of both the house

and the estate.

Likewise, since 2010, a yearly electronic music festival named “Gottwood” has been held in the grounds of Carreglwyd. It regularly hosts some 5,000 attendees - a number first achieved in 2013. It attracts musicians from around the world.

Most of the concert goesers camp on the grounds, essentially in the garden of the house. The festival director is the estate owner, Tom Carpenter.

History

Carreglwyd was originally built by William Griffith - the Master of the Rolls to King Charles 1. However, it was not until after leaving his royal post that William finally returned to his home village of Llanfaethlu in Anglesey to finish building the property, completing the project in the 1630s.

The Griffiths of Carreglwyd were direct descendants and a younger branch of the Penryn family from nearby Caernarfonshire in North Wales.

Due to the Glyndwr rebellion, many Welsh noblemen forfeited their estates to the English crown. However in 1407 Gwilym ap Griffith made peace with the King of England and was restored to his estates. He was also given over 27 estates on Anglesey formerly belonging to Welsh soldiers who probably died in the rebellion.



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By 1410, his wife's uncles, Rhys ap Tudur and Gwilym ap Tudur lost their estates due to their roles in the ongoing rebellion and the lands were added to Gwilym's estate.

Between 1431 and 1530 the estate was further added to and the family established themselves a surname as the Griffiths family.

William Griffiths built the current hall in 1634. It was remodelled and expanded during the 18th and 19th centuries when the estate was joined with neighbouring estates.

A Georgian two storey laundry was built in the 18th century to house workers. The buildings have since been converted to offices as of the 1990s.

In the 18th century, the estate was vastly expanded and remodelled, with additions subsequently added, including stables, a laundry, a walled garden and a main gatepost.

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, further remodelling of the estate was conducted, during which time the dining room, sitting room and library were subject to major renovation.

There is a walled kitchen garden which was constructed in 1891.

By the 19th century, the growing estate was owned by Richard Trygarn Griffiths, whose daughter became the last direct owner of Carreglwyd.

On her childless death in 1917, the house passed to a cousin and then a nephew. Since then, it has been owned by the Carpenter family and is still in the possession of the same family today.

In 1938 Tom Carpenter's grandparents moved to Wales from Canada to take on the responsibility of the Georgian country house. Ten years later the rest of the Carpenter family followed.

The estate opened its grounds to the public for the first time in 1996, with a car park being added in 1998. The renovation of the stable block took place in 2010 - which was also the year of the first wedding held at the estate.

Outside the main house the lawns are lined with lime, oak and sycamore trees surrounded by woodlands and featuring an incredibly beautiful garden lake.

It was upon this lake that Tom Carpenter decided to call upon the services of Anthony Ryder Joinery in nearby Holyhead to construct a floating island restaurant and cocktail bar.

It has lovingly constructed on a floating pontoon. Nowadays, it is much favoured by as part of the estate's growing choice of wedding venues.

In the following pages we let the pictures tell the story of how this intricate structure was put together by this enterprising young carpenter.





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DRAWER SYSTEMS PERFECTLY DESIGNED FOR EVERY HOME

TITUS furniture hardware solutions have been improving homes around the world for decades. They increase the quality and facilitate assembly of furniture, giving a significant competitive advantage to manufacturers and improving the consumer experience. One of Titus' most popular components is the Tekform family of drawers.

The Tekform family of double wall drawers are simple to mount and come with integrated soft closing with a life-long reliable performance.

Tekform Slimline drawers, the second generation of the double wall drawers, have sleek sides and increase the interior drawer space.

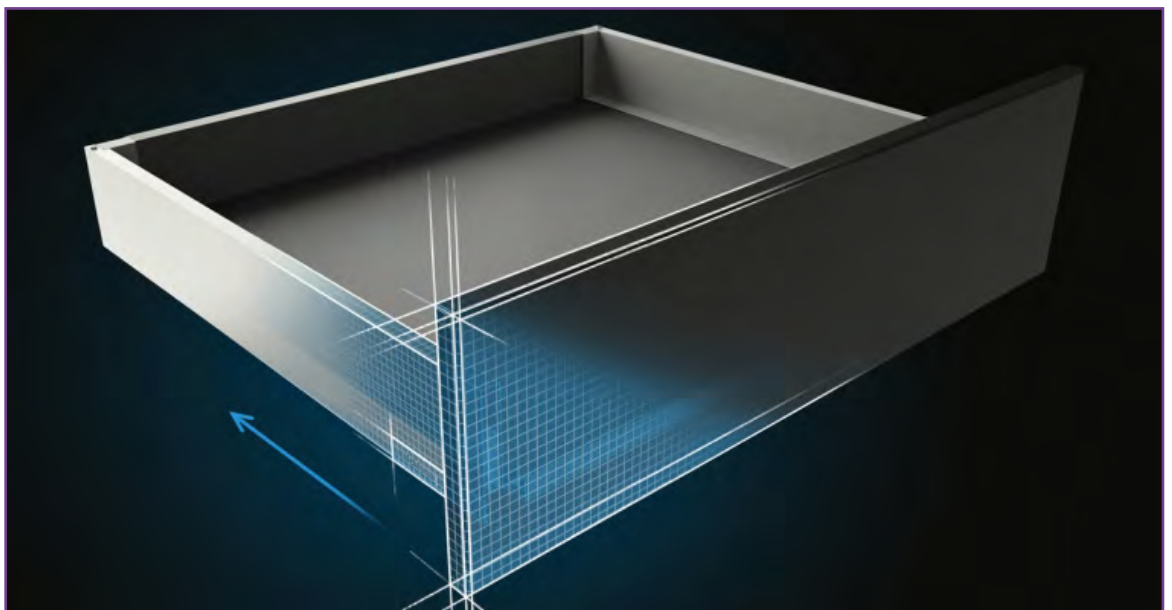
The Slimline double-wall drawer has now been upgraded with a new Tacto touch opening system for handleless drawer fronts – an ideal choice for kitchens, bathrooms, wardrobes and living rooms.

Tekform Slimline Tacto drawers incorporate runners with an integrated Tacto activator that ensures effortless touch opening.

All components remain

the same as the standard version, as do drilling and fixing positions. This makes it easy to update and enhance existing designs to offer convenient and reliable opening of drawers with handleless fronts.

For further information visit www.titusplus.com/int/en



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THE MYSTERY OF SEVEN DEAD GIANT TORTOISES FOUND IN A DEVON FOREST?

NESTLED in the heart of the Devonshire countryside near Exeter, Ashclyst Forest is an English idyll. Spanning 270 hectares of oak, hazel and ash, it forms part of the National Trust's 18th-century Killerton Estate. It is popular with nature lovers and dog walkers alike.

Yet it has now become the site of a grim and totally mysterious discovery. In the New Year seven dead tortoises were spotted partially hidden among the leaves in two sites located in close proximity to one another.

It turned out that they were rare and endangered Aldabra giant tortoises, which hail from an atoll that is part of the Seychelles and lies off the coast of Madagascar.

Along with the RSPCA, Devon and Cornwall Police have launched an investigation and appealed for any tortoise owners to come forward. Meanwhile, the UK's community of reptile experts are offering a range of conflicting theories over what on earth might have happened.

The leading conjecture, it seems, is that these tortoises were the victims of the illegal wildlife trade.

'My first thought was that it was smugglers,' says Imogen Hill, who runs The Tortoise Hut - a specialist shop in Devon.

'These tortoises are rare - and would have each been worth around £10,000, so that's potentially £70,000 in total.

'It's not easy getting a tortoise here from this part of Africa, but it could be done,' she adds.

'The smugglers could have brought them in, planning to sell them to pet shops, or to individuals via websites. Maybe something went wrong and they died, so they had to be dumped,' concludes Imogen.

It is a strong possibility.

The 2020 World Wildlife Crime report showed wildlife crime to be a global and lucrative trade, with high demand driving prices.

Between 1999 and 2018, some 6,000 different species of flora and fauna were seized - with nearly every country in the world involved.

The report identifies tortoises as among the most trafficked reptiles globally, with this particular species having a distinct appeal.

Known for their size and gentle nature, they are one of the largest species of tortoise in the world, reaching up to 4ft (120cm) in length and weighing up to 250kg. Aldabras can live up to 150 years; in fact, they are the oldest living land animal. Jonathan, aged 191 - is an Aldabra tortoise, who lives on the remote island of St Helena.

They are the only remaining species of tortoise from the Indian Ocean - with all the others having been hunted to extinction.

Their island home is now a wildlife reserve, where around 100,000 of them graze on grass, leaves and, occasionally, carrion, or small invertebrates.

Several hundred are believed to exist in UK zoos and private collections - including five at Paignton Zoo, 30 miles from Ashclyst Forest, which took them in the Eighties after they were imported illegally.

It is illegal to import a live wild-caught tortoise into the UK. Breeders can sell only captive animals bred from parental stock in their care. As such, only a handful of pet shops in the UK sell them - with babies born in the UK costing between £2,000 and £2,500.

Martyn Lewis, from the International Tortoise Association in Cardiff, also believes they may have been destined for the illegal wildlife trade, which continues to grow at an alarming rate.

'We think they were being trafficked in and died in transit,' says Martyn.



An Aldabra tortoise, of the type found dead in a Devon forest.

'You are not allowed to bring them into the UK, even legally. The police have contacted us to see if there's anyone on our database who owns Aldabras, but there is hardly anyone,' adds Martyn.

At his sanctuary, Lewis regularly works with the RSPCA and Border Force dealing with illegal trafficking and he is fully aware of smuggling cases of reptiles.

In the UK, in 2015, British authorities confiscated 400 Russian Horsfield tortoises – worth around £50,000 – along with other illegal wildlife items.

In 2021, customs officials in Ecuador discovered 185 baby tortoises packed inside a suitcase sent from the Galapagos Islands to the mainland, to be sold onwards in global trade. The animals had been wrapped in plastic, with each hatchling-sized juvenile worth around £3,600.

However, the theory that the reptiles in Devon were being smuggled as part of the international wildlife trade does have its detractors – not least because of the size of the animals involved.

These deceased tortoises – experts guess – were around 10 years old, and would have weighed roughly 30kg each. Their needs would have been very specific – with the animals requiring heat lamps and UV bulbs – making them difficult to transport.

This species does not hibernate in the winter, so would have needed to be kept at around 25-28 deg C.

This problem leads some to believe these ill-fated tortoises were in the UK already, as part of a private collection.

'I believe that these were long-term captive animals in the UK and had unfortunately been kept badly prior to this outrageous incident,' says Andy Highfield, of the conservation charity, Tortoise Trust.

'They all display signs of deformities, due to dietary deficiencies and being kept in an incorrect environment.

'From their physical characteristics, I would say that they were most likely imported as juveniles before being kept for several years in poor conditions.



Local resident, Susie Gould photographed close to where the seven tortoises were found dead in Ashclyst Forest in Devon.



At 191 "Jonathan" an Aldabra tortoise is the oldest living land animal. He lives on the South Atlantic island of St Helena.

'Sadly, some people try to keep exotic species illegally, regarding them as "trophies".

He suggests that an illegal owner may have "got in over their heads".

'They sell for a great deal of money, but the overheads of keeping such a species in a cold climate, such as the UK are astronomical.

'Again, even if they were illegal and unwanted, the owner could very likely have found someone to buy them, so just dumping them like that is truly bizarre.'

There is, however, a more charitable theory floating around.

'The more I've thought about it, it could be that perhaps the person liked the tortoises and had a large collection and then they had a power cut and the creatures died, although it would have taken a week or so,' says Imogen Hill.

'It's not easy to dispose of a large tortoise body – you can't put them in a bin – so someone may have left them in the forest.

'Maybe the person couldn't afford the electricity bills anymore, as they would need a great deal of heating and UV requirement, as well as the cost of their food, as these tortoises would have eaten a lot.

'You don't need a licence to keep them – just in order to sell them – so they could have lived under the radar.

'What happened to them is still terrible. Tortoises can always be rehomed. It's tragic that these vulnerable creatures have died,' she adds.

Either way, it is a disturbing event. However, it is not the only time an Aldabra tortoise has been found on National Trust-owned woodland in Devon. In December 2021, a creature was handed to Vale Vets Devon in Cullompton – just seven or so miles from the latest discovery – but it soon died.

Meanwhile, in May 2021, five South American Red-foot tortoises were found dead in an allotment in Barry in South Wales.

For Adrian Graham, 48, of Lincolnshire, keeping Aldabras is his passion. His collection of giants enjoy six acres of landscaped play areas, temperature-controlled barns and mud wallows. He also shows them off at country fairs, to raise extra income to help with the cost of keeping them.

'They are quite lazy animals,' says Adrian. 'They stand up as tall as they can and stretch their necks out to have their heads scratched.

'They've been around for 200 million years. For me, they're a passion, and always will be, but they do not make good pets, as their requirements in terms of temperature, humidity and diet are hard to replicate successfully.

He too is baffled by the recent case.

'Personally, from the photos, I thought that the tortoises looked healthy

– with good pattern growth on their shells and muscle to show they have had enjoyed plenty of exercise,' he says.

'They are worth thousands of pounds and there is surely an international black international market trade for them as exotic pets.

'The bigger they get the more valuable they become, because they've already had a lot of the hard work put into rearing them and size is their attraction.

'They only breed when they are 30 years old – and it's very hard to breed them in captivity. They represent a huge commitment,' he adds

He does however hope that their demise was down to a terrible accident rather than malicious intent.

'Maybe it was a power cut, he says. 'It needn't be malicious. It could have been an unfortunate accident,' he concludes.

'We are appealing to members of the public for information to try to establish the circumstances around this discovery and to identify those responsible,' says Inspector Mark Arthurs of the Devonshire police

'We would also like to hear from anyone who has recently purchased a giant tortoise in the area or knows of anyone who normally has a large number of tortoises, but who has fewer now,' he adds.

The trafficking of wildlife is increasingly recognised as both a specialised area of organised crime and a significant threat to many plant and animal species. Trafficking endangered species without a permit can result in a maximum seven-year prison sentence and unlimited fine.

The National Trust said it was "horrified" that the animals were found in one of its woodlands.

Locals, meanwhile, have been left scratching their heads.

'This story is so distressing. The animals are a protected species. The loss of these seven beautiful animals is a tragedy, not just individually, but also for the vulnerable conservation status of the species,' says Livia Benato of Exeter's City Vets.

'Whatever has happened to them, be it an accident, or something criminal, it's horrific,' says local resident, Susie Gould, adding that "Someone needs to be held accountable".



Ashclyst Forest, where the remains of the dead tortoises were found.



A view of Ashclyst Forest, where the remains of the tortoises were found.

STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS ARE DRIVING SUCCESS STORY AT SIMPSON & LIDDARD

THE landscape of bespoke interior fit-outs is continually evolving and among established names, Simpson & Liddard emerges as a notable contender.

Founded in 2021 by Aaron Simpson and Danny Liddard, this Essex-based company has quickly established itself, blending luxury and meticulous craftsmanship into notable projects across the UK. Simpson & Liddard's attention to detail shines through in every project. Each showcases the exceptional talent of their dedicated 10-person team.

Last year the company invested in a state-of-the-art Felder Format-4 Profit H08 CNC router. This powerful machine offered the precision and flexibility needed to tackle even the most intricate joinery pieces.

However, Simpson & Liddard understood that machinery alone couldn't ensure success. In order to truly streamline the design-to-manufacturing process, they needed an advanced CAD/CAM software solution.

Following an in-depth search, the team decided on Microvellum. The software's seamless AutoCAD integration and advanced solid modelling tools proved to be a game-changer.

Microvellum's comprehensive functionality, encompassing 2D and 3D drawings, production reports, estimating tools, labelling capabilities and CNC machine code generation, provided a one-stop shop for the entire design and manufacturing workflow.

Microvellum has been instrumental in completing several intricate bespoke projects in recent months. It allows us to tackle complicated joinery with efficiency and offers the flexibility to quickly customise cabinetry designs. This software has undoubtedly maximised our capacity,' says Danny Liddard.

The impact of these strategic investments has been undeniable. Within just eight months of implementing their new software and CNC machine, Simpson & Liddard has witnessed significant growth.

The company's order book for 2024 is already robust and the future holds immense promise. The company plans to expand its team by adding two more drafters and to acquire another CNC machine with flexibility for staircase production, further enhancing their ability to handle the growing workload.

Simpson & Liddard's dedication to quality and excellence recently received prestigious validation. The company was awarded the coveted Manufacturing Guild Mark by The Furniture Makers' Company.

With a clear vision for the future and a relentless focus on innovation, Simpson & Liddard is poised to continue its impressive trajectory.

For further information visit www.Microvellum.com



To find all the latest news online go to www.industrialwoodworking.co.uk

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LEITZ TOOLING UK DEVELOPS DUST FLOW CONTROL TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE WORK PLACE DUST AND NOISE

WITHIN the woodworking and furniture manufacturing industries dust and noise effecting the health and well-being of operatives have long been of major concern. As a result and recognising that dust and noise are two of the leading causes of work-related illnesses The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is currently challenging businesses to look at ways to improve working practices.

With the threat of the imposition of fines and, in the worst case scenario, closure of the business, those in the manufacturing sector must look at alternative solutions to these challenges.

All employers have a duty of care to protect employees. This means that steps have to be undertaken to address these issues.

An altogether alarming total of 6 million people in the UK are working in conditions that may damage their hearing unless precautions are taken, according to the National Society for Clean Air (NSCA) and Environment Protection,

Dust levels are notoriously difficult to assess simply by visual means, with the resultant harmful effects possibly taking years to develop. Excessive exposure to large amounts of wood dust can lead to respiratory problems and even lung cancer. In short, dust is a silent killer.

General principles of protection from the HSE declare that:

- A combination of engineering and process controls may be appropriate, where it is not reasonably practicable to prevent exposure to dust.
- Local exhaust ventilation (LEV) systems should be built into and specially designed for each individual machine, or any process which is responsible for creating dust. Cross draughts and air movement in general can detract from their efficiency.
- For on-tool extraction, it is essential to choose parts that are compatible and work well together.

With these principles in place, it is not surprising that factories are struggling to integrate the right solutions in order to avoid any violation of Health and Safety regulations

It is this approach that LEITZ has focused on in terms of tackling dust and noise on the factory floor, typically addressing these issues in isolation rather than looking for a combined (and more costly) solution.

By implementing a holistic approach to reducing both dust and noise, it is perfectly feasible to solve both issues simultaneously by focussing on improving process production. It also provides an opportunity to increase productivity as part of the solution – leading to ongoing cost saving benefits.

LEITZ Tooling UK has recently developed its Dust Flow Control (DFC) technology – a tooling-to-extraction system aimed at reducing dust and noise. It also delivers cost savings for manufacturers as the result of significant productivity gains.

DFC extraction hoods are

optimised to collect up to 98 per cent of debris and can reduce noise by 5 dB (A). Dust hoods provide an extremely effective solution and it is essential that experts gain early access to the factory in order to be able to specify the right DFC extraction hood for each machine.

Using more sophisticated machine clamping systems provides another solution to reducing vibration, thus helping to reduce noise levels. Whilst shanks will certainly help to reduce vibration, using tighter clamping, such as LEITZ's heat shrink system, produces greater balance on the tools, thus reducing the amount of vibration.

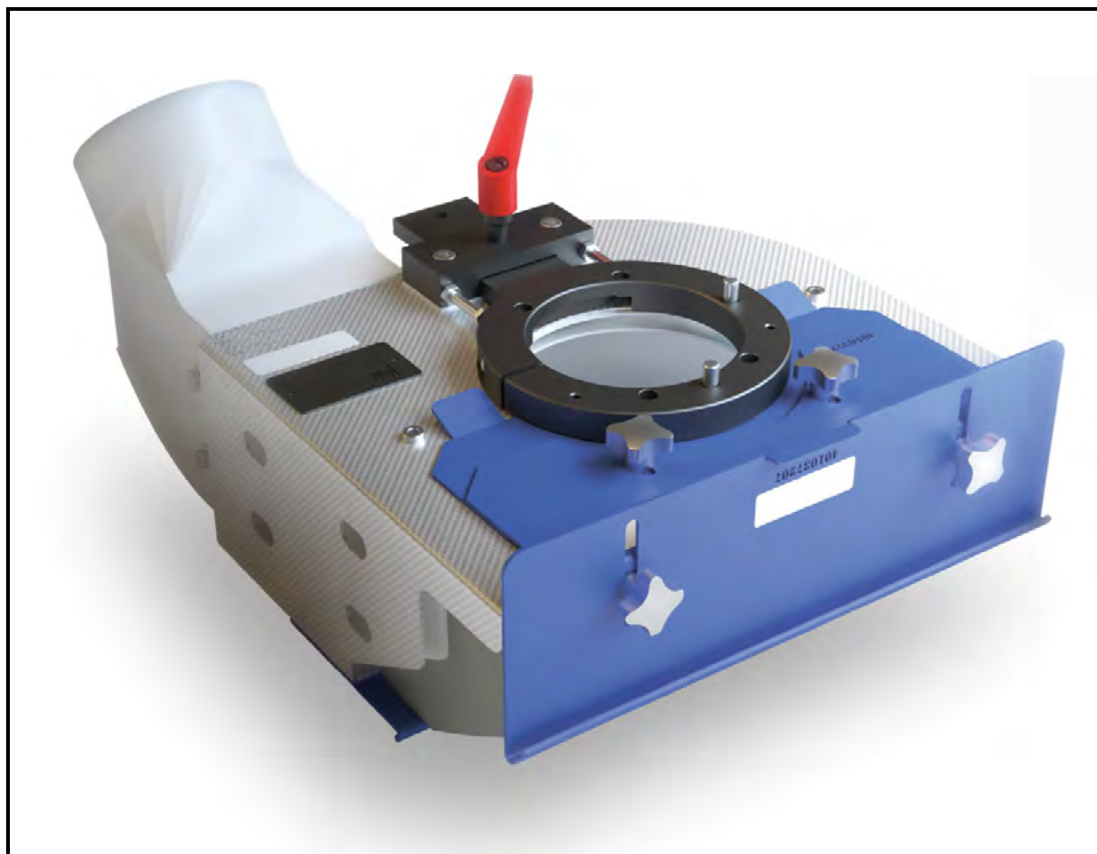
It has to be said that tool management is a critical, but under utilised aspect of factory operations. Good tool management also offers significant benefits for reducing noise. LEITZ uses transparent reporting, so that customers can visualise the entire servicing and replacement process.

LEITZ sends alerts when a tool needs replacing, or needs to be sent for sharpening. This ensures that replacement tooling is ordered in plenty of time, leading to minimal machinery downtime, or impact on quality. This can lead to the avoidance of up to a 25 per cent drop off in terms of productivity.

Optimised tools result in a reduction in levels of dust being created, greater efficiency, less waste and fewer passes. As up-to-date tooling systems are designed to reduce noise, it makes good sense that a fully optimised tool will also reduce the amount of noise pollution.

With the HSE clamping down on dust and noise levels in the workplace, the woodworking industry is being forced to tackle these issues and, in doing so, they will ultimately save money and increase productivity.

For further information tel Leitz on 01279 454530.
Visit www.leitz.org



TOP FIVE REASONS FOR PLANNING A TRIP TO VISIT MATERIALS & FINISHES SHOW

THE Materials & Finishes Show (formerly W Exhibition) is the primary platform for carpenters, joiners, machinists and installers to see running machinery, the latest materials, components, software, tools and innovations for the woodworking sector.

Alongside networking with the entire industry under one roof, visitors will be able to see thousands of the latest products on the UK market and speak directly to leading manufacturers and suppliers for the woodworking sector.

Here are our top five reasons to take time off the tools and visit Material & Finishes Show this May.

Reason One – 100s of brands, 1,000s of products

Whether you're looking for the latest timber solutions, tools, fixtures, finishing products, or machinery – Materials & Finishes Show really is a one-stop-shop. All of the very latest products will be available to compare, side by side, under one roof.

As well as seeing the latest products, software and tools, visitors will be able to speak first hand to the manufacturers and suppliers behind the brands who will be lined up and ready to take their questions.

Reason Two – Brand new Live Demo Zone

A visit to Materials & Finishes Show will give you access to the brand new Live Demonstration Zone. There you will be able to see running machinery and demonstrations from brands, including AMS Leitz Tooling, The Joinery Network, Lamello and Rubio Monocoat, who will be showcasing their products across the four days of the show.

Alongside the construction of a timber window, visitors will also be able to see tooling, paint and finishing brands deliver hands-on, practical demonstrations, bringing new products, innovations and technology to life for joiners and carpenters on the show floor in a way that has never been done before at the event. All of the sessions are live on the website for you to start planning your visit today.

Reason Three – CPD Learning Programme

The brand-new CPD learning programme will deliver four packed days of CPD-certified learning content, from panel discussions and keynotes through to seminars, all delivered by industry experts.

The programme has been carefully crafted to arm visitors with the latest information, knowledge and inspiration to help them do better business once they leave the show.

Get ready for four days of sessions, from Navigating Compliance and Health and Safety Regulations, Social Media for Small Businesses, The

Future of Factories through to Maximising efficiency and Minimising Cost: The Joinery Edition and Woodland to Workshop: Trees, Timber & Time. You can pre-book sessions via the Materials & Finishes Show website.

Reason Four – Networking & Connect

If you're not able to take a full day out of the office, the show's Sunday opening and late night on Tuesday 21st May offer additional opportunities for you to maximise your working week, as well as visit Materials & Finishes Show.

The brand new Materials & Finishes Show Bar will provide an informal setting to meet clients and colleagues.

There will also be a big social meet-up on Monday May 20 where you will be able to meet online content creators, including Robin Clevvett, Tibby Singh, Alastair Johnson and Derek Barrett who are part of the show's new campaign.

Reason Five - Miss it and miss out

If you miss Materials & Finishes Show 2024, you'll have to wait until the event returns in 2026. This is the main UK industry event platform to see every link in the supply chain under one roof, at the same time.

Save time visiting multiple suppliers and distributors, cut out the need for more than one day to wrap everything up for the year ahead. Shop around, source, enquire, research, purchase, compare, network, learn – do all of this, under one roof, at the Materials & Finishes Show.

For further information visit www.materialsandfinishesshow.co.uk



Materials & Finishes Show event director, David Todd.



To find all the latest news online go to www.industrialwoodworking.co.uk

Email us at: bill.willowe@gmail.com

XYZ TO SHOWCASE INNOVATIVE WOODWORKING SOLUTIONS

XYZ, a leading provider of CNC router solutions, will be participating in the upcoming Materials and Finishes Show.

On Stand K25 XYZ will be showcasing one of its flagship products, the XYZ WOODWORKER. This cutting-edge CNC router is renowned for its precision, reliability and versatility, making it an indispensable tool for woodworking professionals across various industries.

The XYZ WOODWORKER offers state-of-the-art features designed to streamline woodworking processes, enhance productivity and deliver exceptional results. With its advanced technology and user-friendly interface, it empowers users to bring their creative visions to life with ease.

Key features

Versatile Process Areas: The WOODWORKER boasts a wide variety of process areas that can accommodate all standard sheet sizes, with a remarkable 254mm (10in) high gantry clearance. This flexibility makes it easy to use with accessories, such as vacuum pods, or a rotary axis device, enhancing productivity and precision.

Exceptional Performance

Equipped with powerful direct servo drives and helical racks, the WOODWORKER delivers outstanding performance, high-speed cutting, and impeccable finishes across a wide range of wood types. It excels even with phenolic-based products like High Pressure Laminate (HPL).

Multiple Spindle Configurations

The WOODWORKER offers a choice of a single 5, 10 or 15hp HSD spindle, allowing users to tailor their set-up to match specific production requirements. Additionally, a nine-position drill bank can be added to the multi-head configuration for faster and more productive operations.

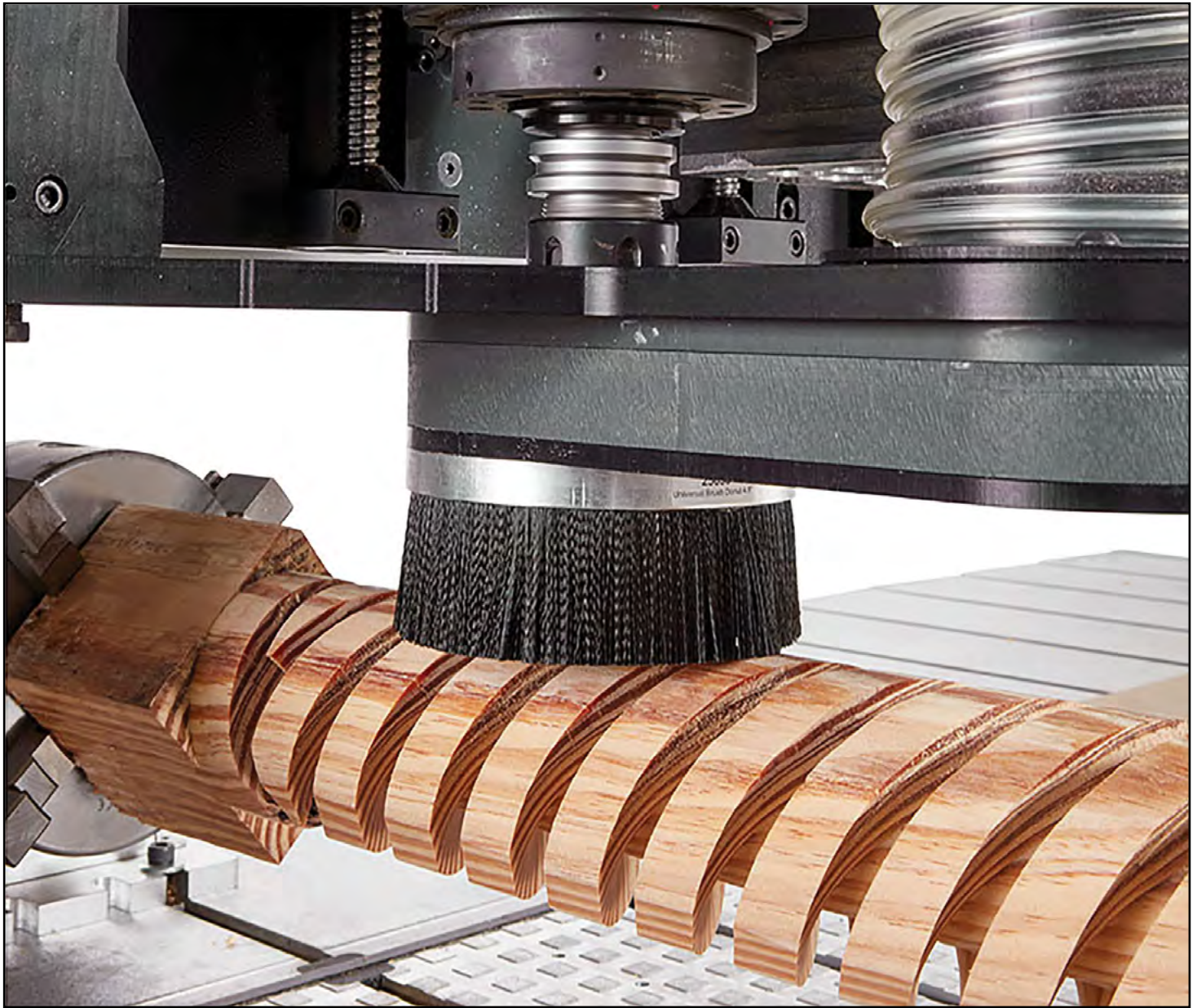
Efficient Tool Changing

With a selection of 7, 10, 14 or 21 position automatic tool changers, the WOODWORKER ensures fast and efficient tool changes, thus minimising downtime and maximising productivity.

Advanced Dust Collection

The router features a high-volume 4in dust collection system, complemented by an oversized dust boot, high-flow manifold and hose





management system. This comprehensive set-up effectively collects both large chips and fine dust, maintaining a clean and safe working environment.

Automated Label Printing

The WOODWORKER offers an optional XYZ Automated Label Printer (ALP), simplifying the identification of parts during the final assembly process. This integrated solution streamlines operations and enhanced overall efficiency.

Rotary Axis Equipment

For machining complex parts requiring 360° rotation, the WOODWORKER offers optional rotary axis equipment. This feature expands the router's capabilities and enables the production of intricate and precise parts.

When it comes to furniture and cabinet making, the XYZ WOODWORKER is the ultimate CNC solution. XYZ has put extensive effort into developing a machine that seamlessly combines power, versatility and precision to meet the unique needs of woodworking professionals.

In addition to the exhibition of the XYZ WOODWORKER, XYZ will have dedicated staff from CNCSHOP on-site to provide expert guidance, answer questions and offer insights into maximising the potential of CNC woodworking solutions.

The XYZ WOODWORKER represents the pinnacle of CNC router

technology and the XYZ team look forward to demonstrating its capabilities to interested parties.

The Materials and Finishes Show 2024 is a premier event for professionals in the materials and finishes industry, providing a platform for networking, knowledge-sharing and discovering the latest innovations.

XYZ's participation underscores its commitment to delivering innovative solutions that meet the evolving needs of its customers.

Visit XYZ at Stand K25 to experience first-hand the power and precision of the XYZ WOODWORKER and learn more about how XYZ and CNCSHOP can support your woodworking endeavours.

*For further information tel XYZ on 01952 291600.
Visit <https://www.xyz.com>*

**NEXT MONTH..
A SPECIAL FEATURE
ON WIND TURBINES
MADE OF WOODEN
COMPONENTS**

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LEITZ TO SHOWCASE TOOLING RANGE

LEITZ Tooling is excited to announce the tooling specialist company's participation in the upcoming Materials & Finishes Show 2024 - the UK's premier trade event for the furniture manufacturing and joinery industries.

Leitz be showcasing its extensive range of high-precision cutting tools, machining knowledge and related services, such as tool sharpening - all designed to enhance efficiency, productivity and quality in the woodworking sector.

The Materials and Finishes Show is the re-imagined concept for W Exhibition - the UK's largest woodworking and machinery related trade show.

You can find Leitz Tooling on stand P68, opposite the seminar theatre and next to woodworking machinery suppliers, such as AES & Vertongen.

Leitz will have a team of experienced technical representatives on hand to answer questions, provide demonstrations and discuss customised solutions tailored to specific needs and challenges.

At the Materials & Finishes Show, Leitz will also be featured in the seminar theatre and the demonstration area.



Leitz Tooling will be demonstrated on Vertongen machines throughout the four-day.

Leitz will also be hosting a session in the seminar theatre discussing the Lignum tooling system for timber windows and doors and the implications it has for the joinery industry - allowing joiners to expand their markets and achieve accreditations previously unattainable for small companies.

Leitz invites you to visit our stand (P68) at the Materials & Finishes Show and experience the difference Leitz Tooling can make in your woodworking operations.

The team at Leitz is eager to connect with you, discuss your challenges and opportunities and demonstrate how its cutting-edge technologies can help you achieve your business goals.

Leitz Tooling is proud to be a trusted partner to the furniture manufacturing and joinery industries worldwide. The tooling specialist company's commitment to innovation, quality and customer service has earned it a reputation for excellence. Leitz is committed to helping its customers achieve their goals.

Leitz has the tools and expertise you need to elevate your woodworking operations. Let us help you achieve the precision, efficiency and quality you desire.

In addition, Leitz Tooling UK, Advanced Machinery Services (AMS) and The Joinery Network will work together on the show floor to produce a full timber window manufacturing demonstration, with two live demonstrations taking place on each day of the UK's trade show for the furniture manufacturing and joinery industries.

Visitors will be able to see the end-to-end production of the timber window frame, which will be expertly crafted utilising an AMS-distributed Wadkin Bursgreen woodworking machine and Lignum tooling supplied by Leitz Tooling and The Joinery Network's Owen Dare.

This is the first time that visitors to Materials & Finishes Show (formerly W Exhibition) will have seen brands collaborate in this way as part of the brand-new demonstration feature within the exhibition.

For further information tel Leitz on 01279 454530. Visit www.leitz.org



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A STELLAR LINE-UP FOR THE MATERIALS & FINISHES SHOW - EVEN IF THE "BIG BOYS" HAVE CHOSEN TO REMAIN ABSENT

WITH no fewer than 124 exhibitors from the world of woodworking and from literally all over the world, the Materials & Finishes Show to be held at Birmingham's NEC from May 19-22 offers plenty of opportunities for everyone involved in the trade to inspect all the latest technical advanced and innovations.

True, just about all the big European names in the woodworking machinery sector have chosen to absent themselves from the UK's biggest trade event to be held post Brexit.

However, the absence of the Austrian, German and Italian giants, such as Biesse, Felder Homag, SCM and Weing presents a golden opportunity for smaller up-and-coming specialist woodworking machinery manufacturers to showcase all that they have to offer.

Needless to say, British companies dominate the field in this - the first major woodworking exhibition to be held since the covid pandemic.

With as many as 77 British and Irish companies taking part, they represent almost two thirds of the total number of exhibitors.

Companies from EU member countries together number just 19 exhibitors - their number being almost exceeded by Turkish entrepreneurs (16) and, to a slightly lesser extent, Chinese traders (12).



BRITISH & IRISH EXHIBITORS

Adkwik	H & S Lifting Solutions Ltd	Nordcell	Tensor
Advanced Machinery Services	Hanex Solid Surfaces	Nordfab Ltd	The Gale Group
Air Plants	Hardwick	OAV	The Insert Company (UK) Ltd
AMS/Wadkin Bursgreen	Hexagon	Ostermann UK Ltd	Trade Survey
AXYX Routers	Hoffman Machine Company Ltd	Ovvo Ltd	Transwave Converters
Becker UK Ltd	HPC Laser	POR Bracketing	Trend Tool Technology
BS & B Safety	Hranipex	Ranheat Engineering Ltd	Turbo Vacuumation Ltd
Coastal Group	Itransition	Rapid Spec	TXM Lean Solutions UK Ltd
Close Brothers Asset Finance	J Wagner	Rehau Ltd	Unsound
Combilift Ltd	Jet Press	RJ Woodworking Machinery	Ureka
Crofts & Ascender	Jowat UK	Rubio Monocoat	UV Group
Cyncly	Kensington Traders	Schmalz	Vernites
Elcometer Sagola	Konig UK	Secant Software	Vertongen
Extractly	Kortec	SD Products Ltd	Wadkin Bursgreen
FEN UK	Leitz Tooling UK	Sensio Lighting	Wood Mizer UK
Festool UK Ltd	LIDR Contract Furniture Ltd	Solid Solutions	Woodland Heritage
Furniture & Joinery Production	Machinery Services UK Ltd	Surteco	Wooddex Ltd
FXS	Merenda	Talbotts Biomass Energy Systems	
GreCon Ltd	Mirka UK Ltd	Tawi UK Ltd	
Guy-Raymond Engineering Co Ltd	Mundy Veneer	Teknos UK Ltd	

**All information correct at time of going to press.*

MWM ANNOUNCES NEW VERTONGEN AGENCY

MWM has been awarded the agency for the Vertongen range of woodworking machinery.

A selection from this renowned manufacturer will be demonstrated at the forthcoming Materials & Finishes Show to be held at Birmingham's NEC in May.

MWM's Gavin Cooper is delighted that his company has been awarded the principle agency for the Belgian woodworking machinery's extensive range in the UK and to have the perfect opportunity to showcase these machines at this exhibition - the first event of its kind to be held in the United Kingdom post-Covid.

Vertongen is recognised as a leading manufacturer of CNC machinery designed for the production of kitchen cabinetry, as well as door and window production.

The Belgian based woodworking machinery specialist was founded as long ago as 1900 and next year will celebrate 125 years in the business of supplying high quality machinery to the woodworking trade sector.

These days Vertongen specialises in CNC automated woodworking machinery, having clocked up more than a century of experience in the manufacture of single-end tenoners and profiles moulders designed especially for the production of wooden windows and doors.

Vertongen is also recognised as an expert in the production of five-piece kitchen door machinery - all of which is designed with the aim of increasing and improving the capacity and quality of the goods being manufactured by the individual machinery purchaser.

The team at Vertongen is constantly seeking ways to optimise the production process of small-sized woodworking trade outlets right through to industrial-sized woodworking businesses.

Vertongen machinery is fully adapted to the requirements of individual companies.

Today, Vertongen offers machines capable of performing specialist tenoning work, as well as specialist machinery for the production of complete window line and kitchen doors of an industrial scale.

Among the current range of machines available from Vertongen is the Pentho Compact 3 universal tenoner, which features a noise-reducing cut-off saw, two tenon heads and a vertical Prolock spindle adjusted to an accuracy of 0.1mm.

All movements on this machine are manual adjustable. There is a 7in touch panel for starting motors in your own language.

Total table swivelling is +60 deg/ -60deg. The digital length fence is 2.4m with a single swivelling backstop.

Vertongen's profile machines are especially designed for throughfeed profiling components. The profiling of different parts is facilitated without the need for tool changing.

The technologically advanced Profil Compact 2 moulder is produced with two spindles without top bearing.

This model features a 7in touch panel in your own language. The first spindle can be made to jump in and out in order to

avoid breakout during storm profiling. Both spindles can turn to the left of right.

Other features include automatic storm-proof cycles and all tools for a single product type can be installed. There is an easy tool changeover device for different products.

Vertongen offers a complete solution for the production of complete windows and doors, which can be manufactured on an industrial scale with the utmost precision and efficiency.

The PenPro Control is a fully CNC- controlled combination of the Pentro Control and the Profit Control. It only requires a single operator.

The production capacity is in excess of 400 parts/shift. There is a 15in touch panel in your own language.

Vertongen is also famed for the production of CNC machinery designed for kitchen cabinet door production.

These machines enable you to save space on the factory floor, as well as saving on time.

Each individual machine covers a different step of the production process and each is operated by a different person.

Both the PenPro Compact kitchen machine and the accompanying Shaper Sizer only require a single operator.

Each of these renowned Belgian manufactured machines can now be purchased through Leicester-based MWM.

Gavin Cooper and his team will be pleased to demonstrate them either at the company's extensive showroom facility, or at the upcoming Materials & Finishes Show in Birmingham.

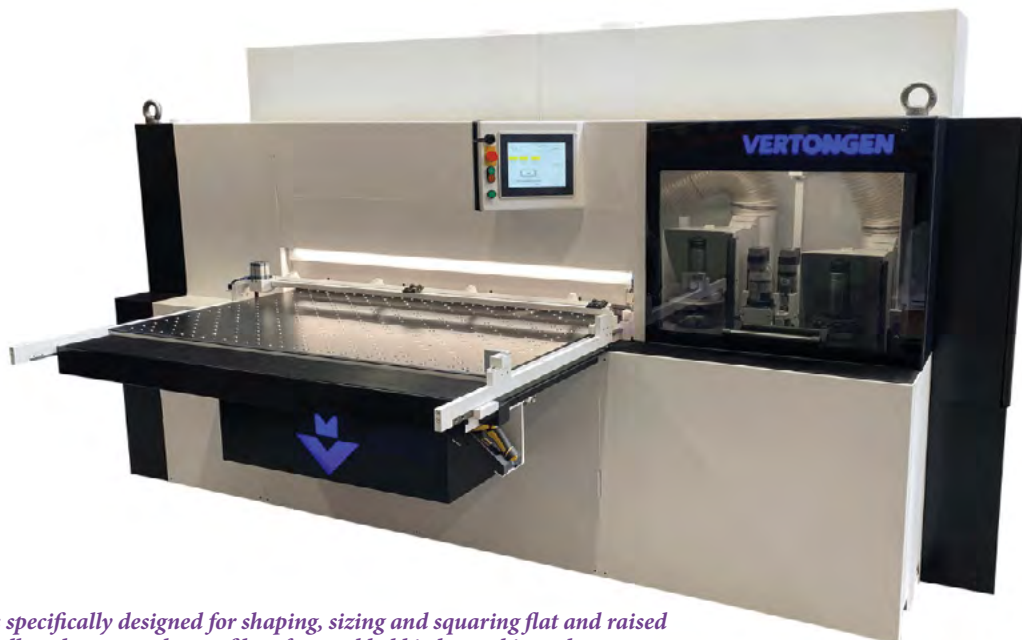
For further information tel MWM on 0116 289 3469.
Visit www.mwmachinery.co.uk



The Pentho Compact Kitchen is a smart tenoner with a spindle designed for stacking tools.



Designed for accuracy and efficiency, the Belgian-manufactured machines are an ideal addition to any joinery workshop.



The Shaper Sizer is specifically designed for shaping, sizing and squaring flat and raised centre panels, as well as the outer edge profiles of assembled kitchen cabinet doors.



Manufactured by the Belgian woodworking machinery specialist manufacturing company, these machines offer high quality technological features.

REHAU EXTENDS ITS EDGE-BANDS & SURFACE RANGES IN BIRMINGHAM

APPEARING on Stand C48, Rehaü Interior Solutions will be participating in the upcoming Materials & Finishes Show.

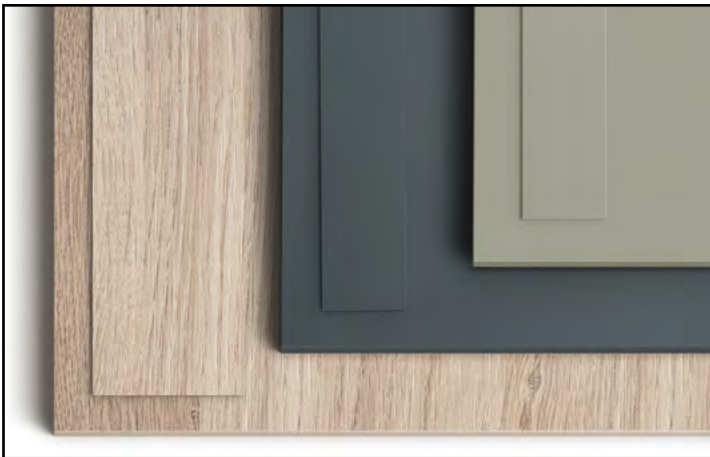
Here the company will be showcasing its edge-banding expertise and will be taking the opportunity to demonstrate exciting new ranges.

Products from the company's full range of edge-bands and surfaces will be on display. One of the biggest players in the market, Rehaü is especially excited to showcase – as part of its edge-banding expertise – new ranges that co-ordinate with those of leaders in the surfaces market.

One range of particular interest this year – designed by Egger – is the Egger Decorative 24+ collection, which addresses the current focus on natural materials and sustainability.

As edge-banding specialists, Rehaü offers solutions for perfect co-ordination with all market-leading surface providers.

For example, Raukantex Noble matt complements panels from Egger's



Perfect Sense Matt range and the TM12 Perfect Sense Omnipore Matt.

There is also matching edge-bands for the new ST40 surface, which is supplied with Rehaü's Scratch Protect lacquer. As the name suggests, it is resistant to scratches in addition to fingerprints and can be processed without a protective film. The lacquer has an anti-sheen effect, which ensures that the edge does not shine, even at a shallow angle.

Further new ranges provide matching edge-bands for the new 2024 FALCO surfaces collection. Rehaü edge-bands can now be paired up with FALCO's new and attractive selection of Swiss Krono design panels.

The new BE.SAFE board collection offers active triple protection against viruses, bacteria and fungi.

Various designs have been included in the Raukantex Express Collection 9 to match the Fundermax Essential collection; these comprise a total of 213 decorative designs – 74 of which are brand-new – along with 15 textures that focus on maximum decor choice and efficiency.

Rehaü has the perfect edge-band to match, with hundreds of options available from stock in Manchester, with no minimum order quantity and available in standard dimensions with next day delivery. Find the perfect edge-band and order samples online.

'Visitors to our stand will see how we're "Enabling Exceptional Design" for our customers,' says Rehaü sales manager, Scott Williams.

'We're proud to partner with leading market players and, in doing so, allow our customers to develop their own exceptional designs for individual projects,' adds Mr Williams.

Rehaü will also be promoting its impressive customer services at the show, including the new Surface Select tool – launched this year – which is designed to help customers find the perfect decor for their project. Surface Select can be found at interior.rehau.uk/surface-select.

For further information visit www.interior.rehau.com



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The Woodwork Dust Control Co Ltd

Leaders in Dust Control Technology

A Complete Wood Waste Extraction Service to all Timber Industries

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- ✦ Large hopper filters, fans, cyclones
- ✦ Small bag filters, rigid ductwork, flexible hose
- ✦ LEV COSHH testing, assessment, service
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