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JOURNAL

ON THE COVER:

Barry Berman introduces the magic of Saviola décors as the company prepares to show at kbb

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SCM unveils new edgebanding cells in Thiene

kbb 2020 preview



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On the Cover

Barry Berman introduces the magic of Saviola décors as the company prepares to show at kbb.

Story: pages 2-4

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Saviola débuta at kbb



Barry Berman

"Saviola's décors are different. The brand excites me. It has the wow factor. I know it's different because I've had that reaction many times."



P63 Chalet Oak EIR (embossed in register)



DV4 Aged oak LAGUNA

Barry Berman is well known in the furniture sector and his knowledge of décors, what sells and who will make most use of it is second to none. If Barry takes a product under his wing, you can be pretty sure it's one that brings a lot to the party. In his own words, it either has to be 20% cheaper than its nearest competitor so it sells itself, or so completely different that it fires his enthusiasm and that of the key players in the market. The décors of Gruppo Mauro Saviola have lit Barry's blue touchpaper. He's excited to present Saviola at kbb and firmly believes that the unique combination of stunning design ideas and the technology that brings those ideas to life represents an incredible opportunity for any manufacturer who genuinely wants something special, something different. Saviola, he says, holds the potential to become a great success in the UK. And here's why:

"Saviola is very dominant in the Italian market," he says. "Through the work of Daniele Merla, they have evolved a unique product. When people see it, touch it, they immediately know it's got the wow factor. I

know unique is an over-used word, but how else would you describe a combination of beautiful design, very different pressing technology and incredible finish resulting from clever use of gloss and matt varnishes that compels people to touch it? The colour, the emboss, the print, the whole design – regardless of whether it's a woodgrain or an abstract – are fused together in an exciting mix that is immediately and obviously different to anything else on the market, and it's very tactile." You only have to look at Vanguard Walnut, a design that was launched at Sicam four years ago, to see Saviola's potential to excite: "The colour, the look, the feel – everyone thought it was a dark-stained wood veneer. It set the tone for a direction in Saviola.

"There are still a good many board producers in Italy that aren't well known in the UK because most have concentrated on their own market," says Barry. "Saviola is expanding its export markets. They are already in America and China. Every company has its moment when people start to take notice of it and I think this is Saviola's time

now. They have been building up to this for the last five years and they are ready to be seriously considered in the UK market. They are backing that belief heavily with a presence at kbb and a UK stock range that we've put together and refined over the last few months. To complete the offer, Saviola manufactures matching laminates and from their sister company, Sitech, matching edgebanding material is available. They are ready for the market and the market is ready for something new and exciting. That's what we will be showing."

As well as approaching larger users, some of whom have already latched onto the tangible opportunity Saviola's designs offer them to create product differentiation (eagle-eyed visitors may even get to see examples at kbb, though Barry is staying understandably tight-lipped about which manufacturers might be showing it until the show), he is also beginning to get to grips with distribution for Saviola product in the UK. He hasn't quite arrived at the utopian position of being able to create the wow factor one day and deliver two or three



P61 Aurino CHALET



DU6 Tigerwood EIR (embossed in register)

boards the next, but that's his aim, and his ambition is to get everything in place by kbb. Ambitious? If you know Barry, you wouldn't really expect anything else.

"We have entry level melamine, but one of the things about Saviola's stock range is its an entry level melamine with something a bit special about it that adds value. Saviola doesn't do me-too products, they always want to produce something that looks nice, different – I'm going to say unique. The entry level will be more abstract than woodgrain, with a strong emphasis on marble designs including the exotically named Black Mustang, which has a texture like the natural product. There are fault lines in it. They add value to the design. That's what interests me. It's the right product at the right time and it will suit the right people perfectly."

One area of the market Barry firmly believes Saviola's décor ideas will help British manufacturers compete in is with the European look: "When we go up the scale, to companies that want to compete with Italian kitchens and German kitchens, Saviola has everything necessary to give that European look," he says. "When we eventually sort ourselves out, what will that mean for imported kitchens? British manufacturers

who have already embraced Saviola will find the company fantastic for them."

Saviola's UK stock range, which Barry and Daniele Merla have worked on together, comprises around two dozen carefully selected décors. New designs will be added as the trends evolve, but the initial selection will be available on the stand for kbb visitors to see – and feel – and, for those of you who may be planning to visit and are not familiar with Saviola, you'll also be able to see a little of the Saviola Lab. The Saviola Lab is all about what's coming: future trends; new ideas; the inspiration behind the next generation of furniture décors.

Barry's also hopeful that the rather swish sample box he showed me might also be available. Like everything Saviola does, it's very classy: "The swatches we are making for the stock range use 1mm slices of the actual melamine chipboard (eco-friendly chipboard – Gruppo Mauro Saviola has been producing it since 1963), backed and labelled so you're actually able to see a swatch of the finished product and not just the melamine. It's a very clever process that gives a real impression of the feel and the look of Saviola's product. The sample box will be backed up with larger samples via Saviola's

UK distributors. We will also have door size samples, but Saviola is still new to the UK and it takes time to put everything together. This still needs work but we're hoping everything will be in place for kbb."

Barry also sees Saviola being able to challenge other brands in the project market – new builds and so forth. "I think it's perfect at the higher end," he says. "I see it very much in fitted furniture, predominantly kitchens but also bathrooms, bedrooms, architectural applications, store and shopfitting. To represent a product that's so good brings a nice feeling. I know with Saviola – not think, I know – it's different because I've had that reaction many times." Does it sell itself? "To a degree it does. Daniele knows what he's doing. He understands the market very well. All I'd say is come and have a look at it, see what you think. It really is a very interesting development within the melamine board industry and it's quite different."

To find out more, visit Barry on the Saviola stand - W85 - at kbb, email bb@bbgm.me.uk or, if you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal App, touch [here](#) to email Barry. For more information on Gruppo Mauro Saviola, touch [here](#).



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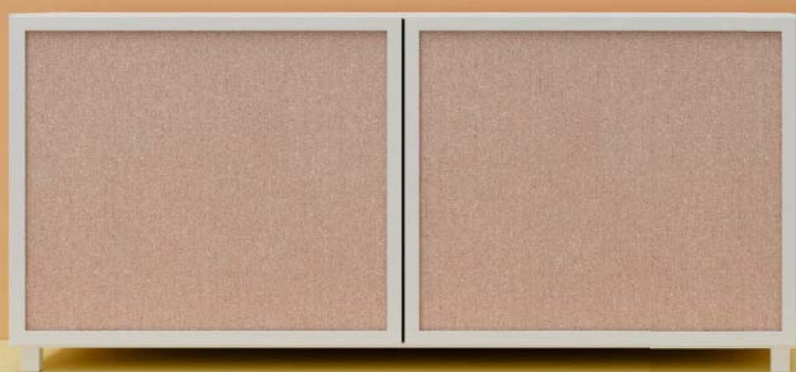
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In with the New



Meta



In the 50th year since its founding, Interprint has teamed up with Toppan and is rolling out changes and innovations.

In with the new is a phrase that encapsulates both the spirit of the New Year and the developments that have been taking place at one of the industry's leading décor printers remarkably well. Since the acquisition of 100% of Interprint's shares from Wrede Industrieholding by the Japanese printing company Toppan, Interprint – now branded *Interprint, a Toppan Company* – has embarked upon an era of change. The changes span many facets of its operation from the way in which Interprint will present its new décors in the future to far-reaching investments in the latest digital printing technology – and there are plenty of benefits for you in the mix.

When the acquisition was completed on 1st November 2019, Interprint joined Toppan to form a new platform with global reach and the joint goal of offering surfacing

solutions of outstanding value. The platform is an important step for both companies, progressing Toppan's commitment to expanding its global activities while opening new opportunities for Interprint.

"Combining our forces, we will be able to expand our product portfolio, which will be delivered globally to our customers through our new platform," said Hideo Yoshikawa, who was appointed on 1st November 2019 as Interprint's CEO and Member of the Management Board. "With our joint development capabilities, we will strive to provide even better surfacing solutions to our industry and beyond."

"We are convinced of the striking business logic of this transaction," added Michael Sindram, Managing Director of Wrede Industrieholding. "The combination of two outstanding industry players will



create a new, innovation-driven industry giant that will add value to customers worldwide. Together with Toppan, Interprint is in an excellent position to reach the next level and continue the success story of the past fifty years."

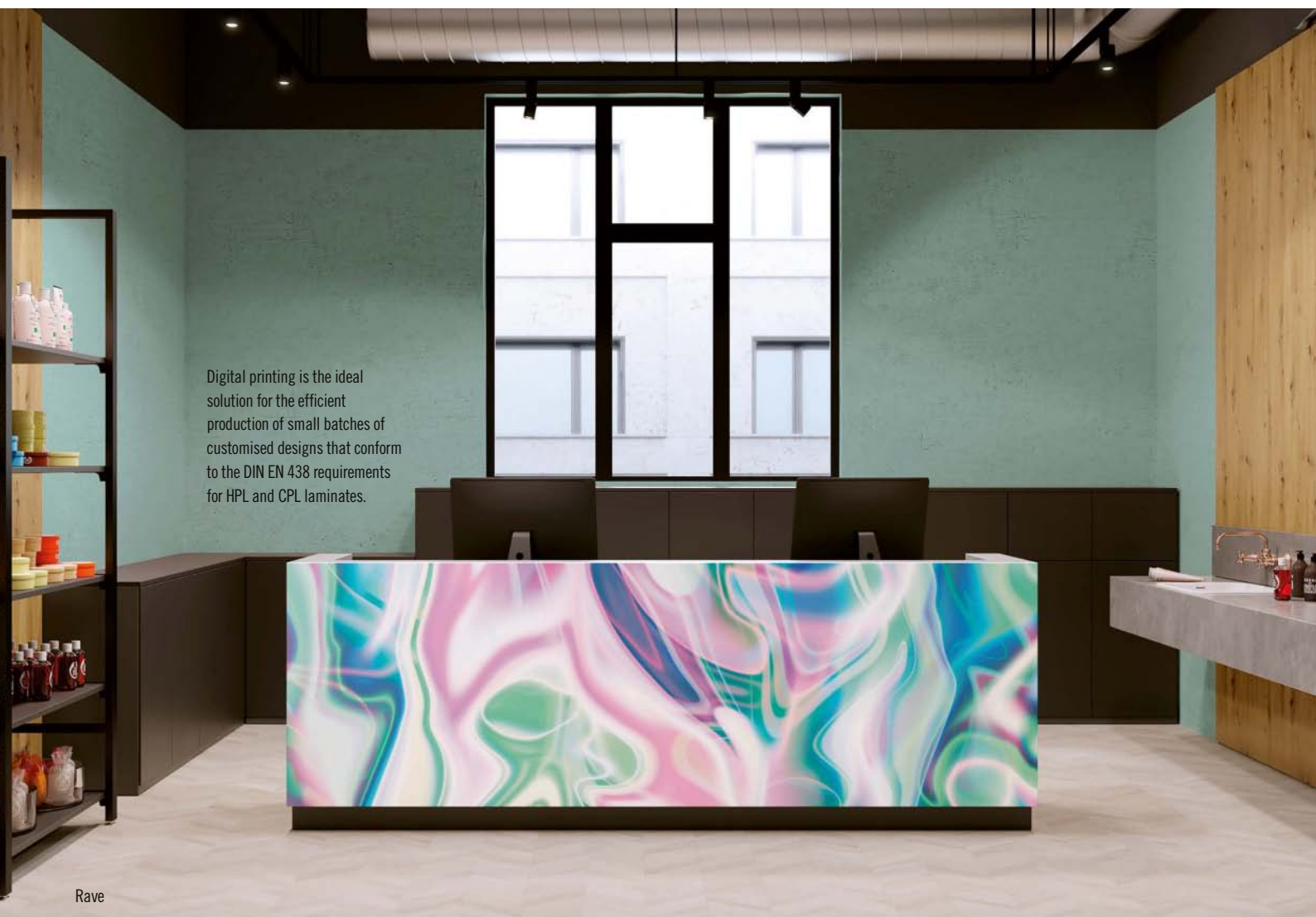
In a far-reaching change to the way in which the company will show new designs in the future, a second major change, Interprint's Press Play idea, is beginning to make its mark. It may sound a little odd to be dropping the presentation of a traditional collection, especially given the success of its now legendary Six Pack and the dramatic presentations of it by the Interprint design team that stay long in the memory, but daring to do something a bit off the wall is

hardly a new concept for the Interprint team. Press Play definitely fits the blue sky thinking for which the team has become recognised. It is a bold step into the future that will enable Interprint to provide you with an ever-expanding play list of décors on Spotify as new trends and fresh currents appear through the year.

The aim of Press Play is to inspire you, show you things in a new way and keep you up-to-date – and not just once a year. With Press Play, you'll be able to see décors that work perfectly with new trends and microtrends as they appear: mood-setting décors, harmony-generating surfaces and materials. If you want to tune in to the first all-time décor playlist, there's an Interprint

Group playlist called "Press Play | 09 2019" on Spotify. Try it and you'll see it's actually not at all unfamiliar territory: just press play and repeat. Simple. The first highlights of Press Play will be shown live at ZOW in February 2020.

The first three décors to appear in the Press Play list, Amberg, Primus and Meta, have already been released. Interprint is confident the oak-effect, Amberg, has massive potential. The used look is key to its special character, providing an authentic story behind the design – an aspect Interprint always highlights in its presentation of new décors. The natural vibe and smooth style add to the harmonious feel. Primus, on the other hand,



Digital printing is the ideal solution for the efficient production of small batches of customised designs that conform to the DIN EN 438 requirements for HPL and CPL laminates.

Rave

is a tribute to Europe's heritage. The sophisticated remix of pale woods like birch, maple and alder in a striped pattern goes really well with the even texture for a clean Scandi look. Blending the hip terrazzo look with a scored effect, the trendy Meta keeps fans happy with a clash of micro terrazzo and concrete. Inspired by luxury marble, Meta also brings the flecked stone pattern to furniture fronts – and if you think this isn't something that would work for you, you really need to see just how effective it is.

Interprint has long taken a pioneering role in digital printing, adding single-pass digital ink jet printing to its portfolio as early as spring 2015, and with the arrival of a new machine at the end of 2019, the company is once again stepping up the pace with a real leap in quality. All the experience gained to date has been encapsulated in the design of the new machine and the optimisation software that controls it, and the result is a machine with new print-head technology and a higher resolution. Interprint is confident, it's the ideal solution for the efficient production of small batches of

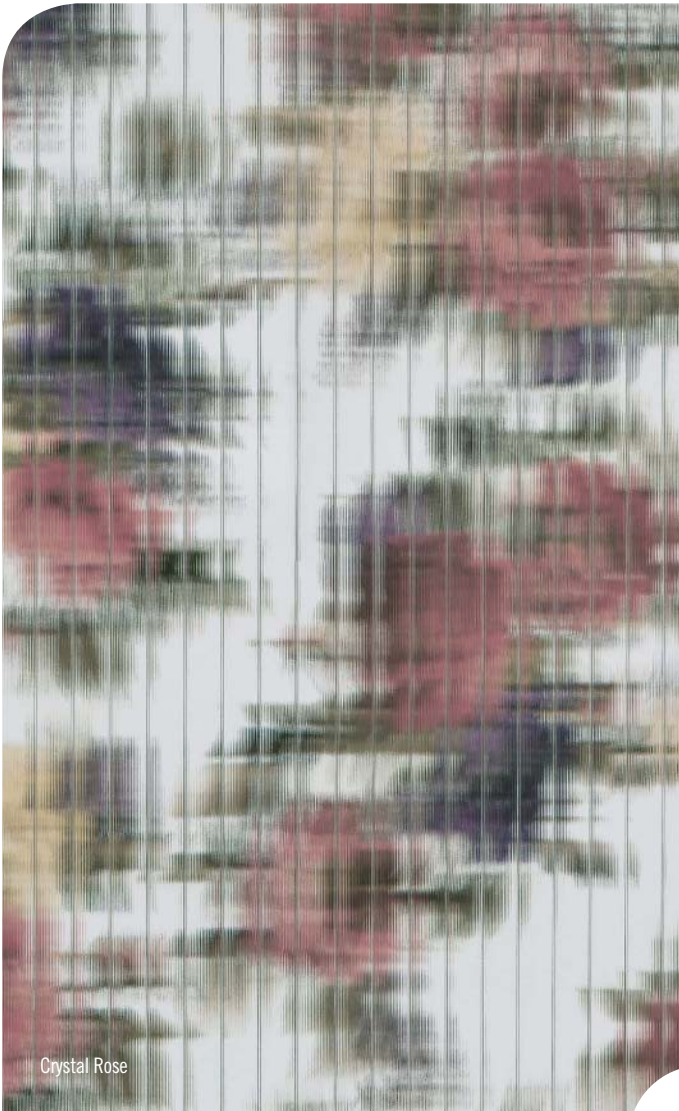
customised designs that conform to the DIN EN 438 requirements for HPL and CPL laminates. And conforming to DIN EN 438 requirements is in itself, we think, an industry first. The prints are guaranteed to be environmentally friendly and conform to the environmental and health standards of the 'Blue Angel' Ecolabel.

Recent developments, together with a continuously expanding portfolio have placed massive demands on space at Interprint's design and production facility in Arnsberg. Continuous growth in recent years, particularly growth in key service areas that are important for customer acquisition and quality assurance, have led to the inauguration of two new multifunctional halls adjacent to the company's headquarters in Arnsberg. One of the two halls is used as a refill station and storage and handling area and conforms to the highest safety standards for handling inks, chemicals and printing cylinder boxes. The second hall, with a floor space of more than 2,000 square metres on three storeys, accommodates the new sample production department and an incredible archive of

designs and ideas that has grown over the years. A new digital warehouse management system was installed concurrently with the construction of the new halls. "Interprint will elevate the services for the market to a new level by exploiting synergy effects within the Group, realising projects like the new Service Centre and expanding the digital production capacities and infrastructure," summarised Interprint's CSO Holger Dzeia. "We are thus well-positioned for the future."

The Furniture Days may have been relegated to Interprint's pre-Toppan history, but the second edition of the HUB Interprint Interior Festival will be held from 2nd-3rd December 2020. Reserve the dates and prepare to be taken to the next level!

For more information, contact Interprint on +49 2932 9500 or, if you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal App and would like to try Press Play now, touch [here](#) (or the Press Play image). It will link you to the Press Play page on Interprint's website. Just click the "Playlist" button. You will be taken to the Spotify App if you don't already have this, then to the new décors.





New to the UK

**Brand new to the UK,
Modecor's range of HPLs is
just waiting to be snapped up.**

Are you looking for a new décor range to distribute in the UK? You may not be familiar with the name Modecor International GmbH but the company has been a premium manufacturer of high quality, post-formable and flexible decorative laminates that meet EN438 for almost 20 years – and the design palette available in Europe is constantly expanding.

Part of an international group with its headquarters in Hamburg and its manufacturing base in Saudi Arabia, Modecor's current range for Europe includes more than 250 décors (with a further 200 available) and 16 structures. The collection encompasses stylish accents, fresh colours and exclusive surface structures. Special textures, such as anti-fingerprint technology, can be incorporated into any décor and Modecor will make whatever thickness or

dimension you need from 2000mm length up to 5500mm. The anti-static and anti-bacterial surface properties of its laminates make Modecor products suitable for a wide range of applications and the soft-feel and silk-matte surfaces are particularly appealing.

The naturalness of wood, the hardness of granite, the elegance of marble – you'll find them all in the Modecor collection and Modecor says its product range complies with both the EN438 standard and FSC certification.

For more information on an exciting collection not seen in the UK before, call Jos Hormes on 0049 40 8080 93195 or visit www.modecor.info and click on the English flag. If you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal App, touch [here](#) to send an email from your smartphone or tablet.

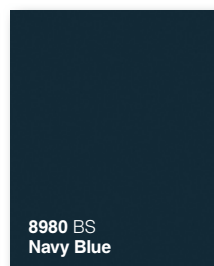
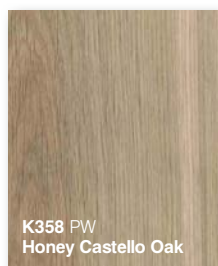
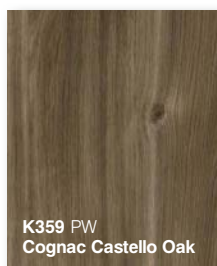
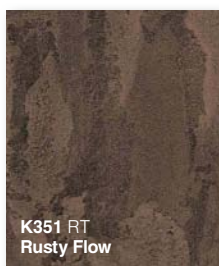


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H1336 ST37 Sand Grey
Glazed Halifax Oak



New for 2020-2022 from Egger

All the latest textures, colours and woodgrains can be found in Egger's new Decorative Collection 2020-22.

February 2020 sees the introduction of the new Egger Decorative Collection 2020-22. This is the biggest product launch for the company since 2017, offering Egger's very best décors and textures with a focus on the latest design trends. Building on the success of the current collection, the new Egger Decorative Collection 2020-22 includes new décors, featuring up-to-date textures, colours and woodgrains.

Created by Egger's team of experts, the collection brings together design trends from across the world to provide the best finishes and surfaces for all interiors. The selection of woodgrain finishes has never been so extensive, with new décors added to the popular Feelwood range. High-end material reproductions of marble, granite and ceramic

have been developed to meet demand, and new solid colours have been added to achieve bold contrasts in design. Egger's award-winning PerfectSense collection has been refreshed with the addition of material décors available in gloss, matt and topmatt – and an increased range of matching and accent edging means a high value look can be created with minimal effort.

Egger is a one-stop shop for decorative surfaces, providing a cost-effective option that does not compromise on style or performance. The total collection comprises more than 250 décors, with matching boards, laminate and edging available for every single one. New digital services will help to bring the new collection to life, making it easier to select, visualise and present Egger.

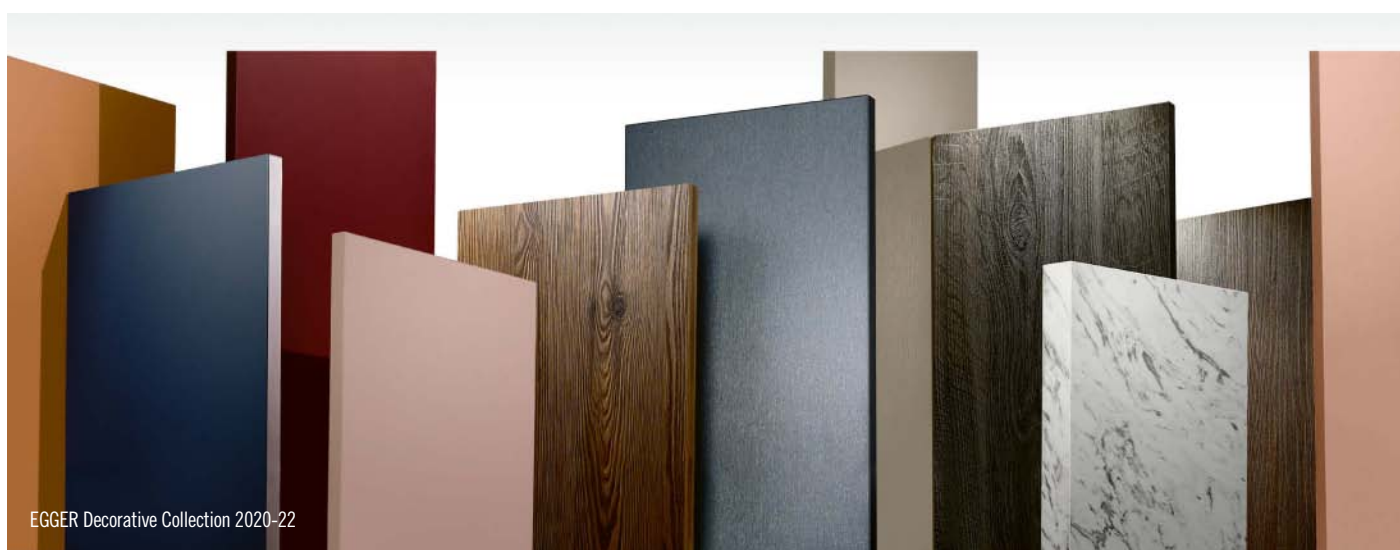
Alongside the Egger Decorative Collection 2020-22, the company will also be launching a new and improved collection of beautifully detailed, tactile and durable worktops in a range of sizes and thicknesses, including the elegant and versatile 16mm.

"Our new collection will provide customers with the freedom to develop amazing design concepts, knowing that Egger will provide high quality products that will bring their ideas to life," commented Andrew Laidler, Director of Decorative Sales. "The real strengths of our new collection are in the impressive, on-trend décors and top quality textures, but also in the fact we can provide all of these in matching products – MFC, laminate and edging – opening up endless possibilities for designers and manufacturers. If you combine our commitment to providing high quality products and services with our focus on sustainability and reducing waste, you get a very exciting offering for the market."

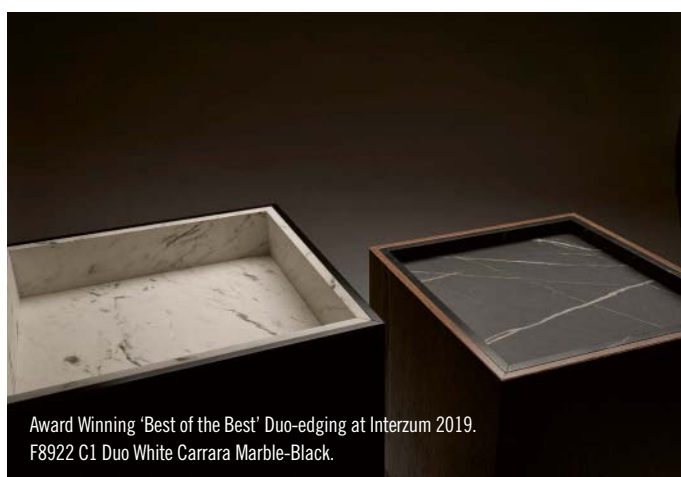
For more information on the Egger Decorative Collection 2020-22, call 01434 602191 or touch [here](#) for a direct link if you are reading this with the free Furniture Journal App, or touch the image marked with a link sign to watch a YouTube presentation of the collection.



F461 ST10 Anthracite Metal Fabric



EGGER Decorative Collection 2020-22



Award Winning 'Best of the Best' Duo-edging at Interzum 2019.
F8922 C1 Duo White Carrara Marble-Black.



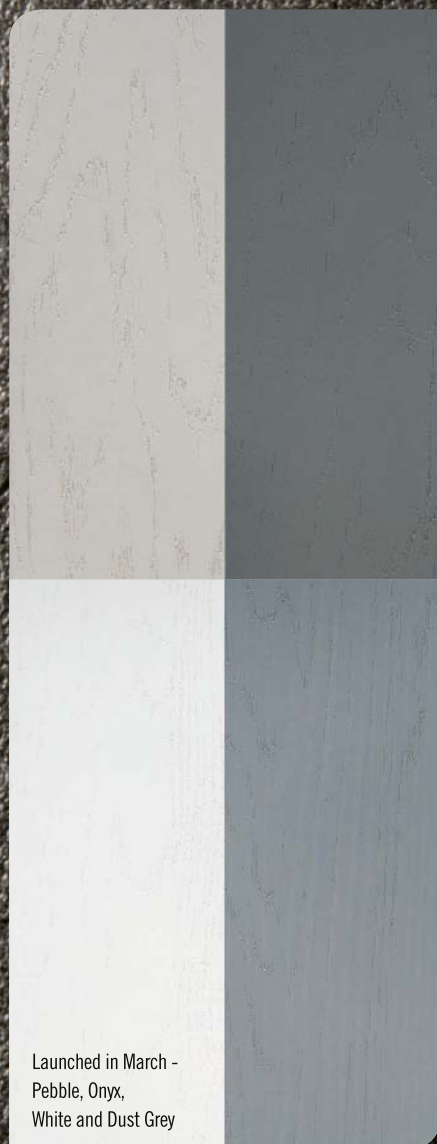
F812 ST9 White Levanto Marble



Hard Coat is anti-fingerprint
and resilient

Reflecting on 2019

On-trend greys, the painted look, deep embosses, high glosses and supermatts,
anti-fingerprint and eco-friendly décors from David Clouting Ltd.



Launched in March -
Pebble, Onyx,
White and Dust Grey

It's been quite a year for successful product launches at the décor specialist, David Clouting Ltd, and quite a year for companies putting its range of LG Hausys foils into production.

By the early spring, David Clouting's B9 painted look had taken the market by storm and new colour options were being introduced. According to Edward Quant, Sales Director at David Clouting Ltd, the B9 painted woodgrain vinyl range, which includes options from White Grey, Stone Grey and Pebble Grey to deeper shades like Denim and Indigo blue, has gone from strength to strength: "B9 and F3, which is the first variant we brought out in painted woods, now account for around 20% of the volume we sell and that's happened within a fairly short time," he reported. "We've only been selling these for three or four years. That's a fast uptake of the look. Where printed wood has declined, painted wood has replaced it, and by far the most popular colours are the greys."



Hard Coat in Supermatt and High Gloss



High gloss, anti-fingerprint PET Hard Coat

It's been a year dominated by greys. Interzum saw the arrival of subtle variations on a theme of grey, then, in time for autumn, David Clouting Ltd rolled out Travertine and Slate, two new décors that perfectly underscore the developing trend for using natural materials in kitchen, bedroom and bathroom product design. Inspired by limestone that has been deposited by hot mineral springs and gently eroded over time to create holes in its structure, the new 3d vinyl Travertine (5G) can be used for pressing, laminating or profiling and will undoubtedly find a ready market among manufacturers with a thirst for texture. Slate (4H), with its soft, grey colouration, takes its inspiration from shale-type sedimentary rock composed of clay or volcanic ash. Its texture is smooth to the touch but, like the natural material, has raised striations in a gently flowing linear pattern alternating with light texturing. It can also be pressed, laminated or used for profiles.

In November 2019, we brought you news of Jayline, a new range of J-Pull doors from

BA Components. Jayline makes use of one of the special properties of LG Hausys' eco-friendly, anti-fingerprint PET Hard Coat foil – the ability of its lacquered Hard Coat surface to flex sufficiently for a single piece to be pressed right across the face and deeply into a handleless J-Pull shape. BA Components chose White, Cashmere, Graphite, Light Grey and Dust Grey from David Clouting's collection, praising its durability, versatility and long-lasting beauty. "The surface finish on the product is excellent," BA's Gareth Boyle commented, "And is very close to the visuals and the feel of a painted door." BA is now in full production with Jayline and uses LG's Hard Coat PET in both a Gloss and a Supermatt finish.

For more information on the complete range of décor foils, interior films and edgebands available from David Clouting Ltd., call 01376 518037 or download the free Furniture Journal App and touch www.davidclouting.co.uk for an immediate link to the company website.



Senosan: on a Roll

Following the successful launch of anti-fingerprint and slate-look surfaces in 2019, Senosan has introduced new colours and a new Softfeel product for drawer inserts.

Senosan AM1800TopMatt AF

AM1800TopMatt AF Blue 4702

AM1800TopMatt AF Grey 85735

Grey Softfeel 85590-022HT (carbon fibre look)

A realistic slate: AM1500Stone007GR

Senosan's décor products may be available in sheet and roll form – but the company is definitely on a roll. It was April 2019 when Senosan's new lacquering line for supermatt surfaces was installed and Interzum when the first products made their débuts. Originally available in black, white and grey, the three new AM1800TopMatt AF décors have just been joined by a second grey (85735) and a dark blue (4702), launched for 2020. Visually identical to Senosan's existing matt surfaces but with superior anti-fingerprint properties, AM1800TopMatt AF replaces the current matt stock for 2020.

Designed for flat lamination, AM1800TopMatt AF is a co-extruded ABS/PMMA (Acrylic) furniture film that not only offers remarkable anti-fingerprint performance, it comes with outstanding stain resistance, excellent scratch, scour and chemical resistance and a supermatt surface of <5 gloss units. At 0.5mm, it is 0.1mm

thinner than the previous AM1800TopMatt product – a change that enables the new technology to be applied while keeping the product competitively priced. Like all Senosan furniture surfaces, the new AF film is supplied with a tried and tested UV protection system. Two sheet sizes are available, 2800mm x 1300mm and 2440mm x 1220mm, though special formats and rolls can be produced on request. Matching edgeband material is available from Hranipex, Döllken (Surteco Group), MKT and other edgeband producers.

New for 2020 is Senosan's A48 Softfeel 0001, a co-extruded ABS furniture film with a silk matt and non-slip TPU top layer. Designed primarily as an insert for kitchen and bathroom drawers, A48 Softfeel 001 has a pleasant rubbery feel and is scratch and chemical resistant as well as anti-slip. Available in Grey 85590 (special colours on request) in carbon fibre look (embossing 022HT), the thickness is 1.0mm and standard

sheet sizes are 2800mm x 1300mm with special formats and rolls on request.

Concrete, stone and other natural products have provided the inspiration for countless new textures and their tactile qualities have found favour with imaginative designers who have exploited the opportunity to mix, match and contrast the feel and the look in furniture. Senosan's AM1500Stone is a very realistic slate décor with a deep emboss that's barely distinguishable from the natural material. It's perfect for kitchen or living room furniture and is available in sheet or roll format in the colours black 8102 and black metallic 81048. The emboss is 007GR.

For more information on Senosan's latest products, call 01952 243999, visit www.senoplast.com or www.senosan.com or tap [here](#) if you are using the free Furniture Journal App on your smartphone or tablet and would like more information on the embosses available from Senosan. Tap the main picture to watch the Senosan video.



From left to right:
Appreciation Trend Board
Temptation Trend Board
Vitalization Trend Board

The Scent of Colours

Renolit's newly published Colour Road Trend Report 2020/21 explores colours and scents, capturing the imagination.

Every scent is coded in our subconscious. Around 50 million olfactory receptors connect with our cranial nerves, accessing a vast database of experiences and emotions. "The associated colour shades are also stored in this

database," says Verena Mundle, whose role as part of Renolit's Colour Road team has been to help collate the 2020/21 edition of the Colour Road Trend Report, entitled Scent of Colours. "Colours are scents made visible, translations and bearers of a scent message.



If a person associates a scent with a certain product or colour then they will remember it ten times longer, as the Bochum olfactory researcher Hanns Hatt discovered. It's no wonder that millions are invested in the research and development of scents that can influence decisions to purchase."

Lavender and rose scents entice in the "Temptation" trend world. In the trend subject "Appreciation", complex scents of velvety, elegant wines and aromatic, roasted coffee beans please the senses while "Vitalization" sweeps the reader away to places with memorable scent experiences. Monika Haag, Head of Corporate Design Management at the Renolit Group, believes that such emotional experiences will be increasingly important in the future: "The more anonymous everything becomes in our digitalised daily lives, the more people seek authenticity and a desire to explore personal sensations."

In Renolit's "Temptation", the visual impressions of Wild Rose, Lavender, Lemon and Orange are each directly tied to a distinct scent. Noble Wild Rose delicately balances sophisticated grandeur with a velvety warmth that envelops the skin. Lavender, on the other hand, is a gentle invitation to peaceful respite; both relaxing

and healing. In combination with a clear design, these colours – along with Lemon and Orange – add targeted statements to living spaces. Reserved designs and medium brown oak décor present a contrast with the vibrant colour shades and create a pleasant balance.

"Appreciation" is the trend world with predominantly neutral shades and complex scents. A good Bordeaux contains up to 400 aromatic compounds and a single coffee bean over 800 – two symbols of the various ways love and appreciation are expressed. Both products paired for extraordinary taste paired with craftsmanship and a love for detail, and the passion of an experienced producer. People make conscious decisions about what and how they consume. Sensuous taste experience is accompanied by a sense of responsibility, appreciation and a good conscience with regard to fair production – this is expressed in the shades Almond and Cubanit Grey in this colour world. Another element of this trend subject is high quality material such as dark marble or sophisticated surfaces that embody elegance, durability and value. Designs inspired by natural stone or ceramics create a warming atmosphere of well-being with their neutral shades.

The ocean stands for freshness, open space and "Vitalization". Taking a deep, fulfilling breath, you can relax and slow your pace; everything is blue. Blue is the colour, scent and state of being. The fresh green of the Swiss pine is a casual partner; its scent energises and clears the mind. This is accompanied by lemongrass, an evergreen native to Asia that is used as a spice and medicinal plant. It not only promotes health and uplifts the mood but is also used as an invigorating ingredient in facial lotions, bath and aromatherapy oils. On the blue side, the cool Acai Berry blue adds elegance. The blue and green shades of "Vitalization" pair perfectly with equally natural and stimulating décor partners: wood, either natural or in subtle grey shades, provides a fresh touch and creates a cosy feeling of home.

For more information on the new 2020/21 edition of the Colour Road Trend Report, Scent of Colours, visit www.renolit.com If you are reading this article using the free Furniture Journal App, touch any of the following for an immediate link: [Linkedin](#) [Instagram](#) [Pinterest](#)

Try RENOLIT's new product configuration tool and design your own kitchen scene: www.renolit.it/inspire



A modern version of the classic butcher block, Center Oak takes inspiration from the rectangles and squares of natural oak wood, alternating lengthwise and crosswise. It is young, fresh and unconventional, but always natural. It is the eye-catcher in any stylish interior.

Ecological awareness, woods, nature, sustainability and naturalness – the new collection by Impress embodies them all.

Growing ecological awareness and the desire to live in a sustainable way, the search for our roots and yearning for the beauty of nature are at the heart of the current *Spirit of the Times*. We are all conscious of the need to preserve our environment for future generations. We are beginning to appreciate how our actions impact on our surroundings and on the earth as an ecosystem. It is difficult to imagine our lives without concepts like sustainability and ecology, waste prevention and recycling.

Even though many of us are drawn to large urban centres, we still appreciate the opportunity to be close to nature. We yearn for green oases, a personal retreat of our own and a life lived in harmony with nature. The

new naturalness and the judicious use of resources are significant themes that find expression in the design and use of materials in our homes. With this in mind, the décor specialist, Impress, has chosen to put naturalness at the very centre of its latest design developments for 2020.

Whether making something new out of something old, or reinvigorating an item with new purpose, we search out objects for our homes that impart timelessness, originality and authenticity. Current trends favour durable materials with inherent natural beauty. We find our affinity with nature by opting for surfaces that have a natural look and feel and we are inspired by nature: natural-looking woods and stones, often in a recycled form.

Woods in natural colours characterise this trend. Nothing is perfect because the authenticity in everything is retained. Rustic qualities are deliberately contrasted with refined linear features, becoming modern and cool, while natural textures are given discreet elegance and an aura of tranquillity.

Alongside other developments like Xanthi – a Terrazo of embedded marble in trend leading greys – the new designs from Impress emphasise nature and sustainability in an inspiring way, and at the very heart of this new collection are classic woods and other surfaces that exhibit a natural appearance.

Ever popular, the Oak – classic yet modern, lively yet comforting – provides endless possibilities for interpretation. Long-living, natural and versatile, these are the characteristics that define the oak and for decades have put it centre stage with interior designers. Its elegance and down-to-earth radiance make it a popular choice for furniture, so it's hardly a surprise that Impress should choose oak for a new collection of décors that combine pure nature and feelings of nostalgia into a harmonious whole.

For more information on the complete Impress wood collection, download the free Furniture Journal App and touch [here](#) for a link with your smartphone or tablet, call 0049 6021 4060, or email info@impress.biz.

LIMERICK OAK

Limerick Oak captivates with beautiful fine drawing and a subtle play of colours that give the impression of soft, shimmering depth and stunning authenticity. Use it for any application from surfaces to kitchens and worktops.



GRAYSON OAK

Grayson Oak is a natural oak in its most beautiful form. With accentuated pores, interesting knots and unmistakable flowers, it lends furniture a soft rustic look. With its natural colour and natural feel, it can be used for almost any furnishing idea.



STORSUND OAK

Clear simplicity and natural elegance characterise Storsund Oak. With typical Scandinavian understatement, the fine and elegant lines create a cool and minimalistic natural look.



BOUDICA OAK

Boudica Oak is a beautifully elaborated décor with extremely fine wood grain and a whitewashed effect. Slightly planked, with unmistakable growth marks which show a lot of character, the limed effect imparts a contemporary look. In light colours, it goes well with minimalistic interiors, inspired by Scandinavian style. In genuine oak colours, it is a perfect companion in nature-inspired rooms.



TIVOLI

Because it has such a natural charisma, limestone with a calm structure and a soft play of colours is once again moving into focus. It goes just as well with plain colours as with natural woods. Modern and timeless at the same time, Tivoli stands for contemporary naturalness and almost unlimited styling options.



XANTHI

Although its roots are ancient, Terrazzo is more than ever contemporary and in the spotlight. Increased interest in sustainable and natural products, has enabled it to evolve into a trend material. The décor Xanthi is a Terrazzo featuring a cement-like background interspersed with small pieces of marble in white, grey and soft colours. The overall picture – harmonious and natural – is convincing with its refreshing retro look which complements practically any interior design trend.





Surfaces for individualists

Want your décors and edges from one source? Surteco UK has become a one-stop shop for manufacturers who expect innovation and style.

Today, individual solutions are more in demand than ever – but as well as unique, they also need to be provided quickly. The solution can be found in digital printing, and at Surteco GmbH, even the smallest print runs can be catered for.

When it comes to edgebandings, digital printing with both optical and tactile qualities reproduced to convincingly high standards is Surteco's speciality, as any creative furniture manufacturer or interior designer who has used Digital-Edge (digitally printed thermoplastic edging) will tell you. Digital-Edge provides a tangible competitive advantage: these premium edgings allow sophisticated designs with incredible detail to be produced for use as individually styled, promotional surfaces, and they are perfect for contract applications, or for creating a personal profile.

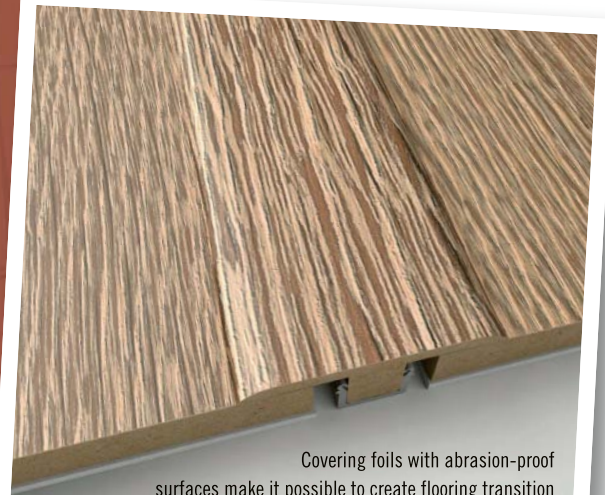
Edgebands (made of ABS or PP) are digitally printed offline in perfect colours and outstanding quality, each conforming to the strict standards of the kitchen industry. Digital-Edge is supplied in thicknesses between 0.6 mm and 3.0mm, and in widths of up to 105mm. A choice of various grades of gloss is available from matt right up to premium gloss. Through Surteco UK, leather, basketwork – even woven effects – can be printed with this high-precision printing technology. Any number of colour and design combinations can be produced faithfully, complete with tactile qualities if required. You'll find plenty of examples in the digital printing collection, "eDition". The quality is exceptional and the design options, virtually limitless.

Surteco has become something of a one-stop shop for many manufacturers by

The impression of a cut veneer on pigmented plain décor: this is "Planke Nord". The rustic-looking plank can be processed vertically or horizontally and the colouring tailored to the surroundings. "Planke Nord" provides the impression of a cut sheet of veneer on a pigmented unicolour décor. The plank gives a naturally rustic impression and the colour harmonises perfectly with unicolours available from Surteco.



That certain something extra is available with "Uni+". These are finished plain décors with haptic structures. Combined with "+Effekten", they become minimalist décor innovations.



Covering foils with abrasion-proof surfaces make it possible to create flooring transition strips in the same décor as the floor or skirting board.



Testing new ideas on the market in small quantities and with minimum effort and expenditure? "XS Design" is the answer. These pilot décors permit both analogue and digital implementation. Small quantities can be produced quickly and economically, but, if required, expanded in volume.



"Colour Sense" represents designs with special haptic effects and graphic motifs on pre-pigmented plain décors, which really come into their own in an understated, monochrome environment.

supplying holistic décor solutions for both surfaces and edges from a single source that are always perfectly matched. Many years of experience and technical know-how combine with design expertise to create a wide range of surfaces and effects in Surteco's portfolio, so whatever the trend, whatever the colour, whatever the finish, Surteco can supply what you need.

Monochrome interiors are fast gaining ground and the new, structured plain finished foil décors from Surteco fit perfectly with this developing trend. Surprisingly simple, yet timelessness, they are extremely versatile with their clear, geometric structures.

Please call 01282 686850 or visit www.surteco.co.uk for more information.



You want an individual finish for a customised motif? No problem. Exclusive special accents can be created with unlimited design freedom: "Side by Side" offers a choice of various structures, plain colours and analogue décor images.



Green Surfaces

Colours galore – even Alpine fragrances – are inherent in two of Ostermann's eco-friendly products.



Above: Almwiese on a roll and in use (top right)
Top Left: Furniture Linoleum.

Sustainability has become a widespread priority and the demand for natural materials is continuously on the rise. Apart from the traditional wood material, more and more organic products for furniture construction and interior design are being discovered... or rediscovered.

Furniture linoleum and the Almwiese surface on a roll from Ostermann offer a fine choice of materials and décors in this area.

Furniture linoleum is a traditional, natural material from plant-based sustainable raw materials. It is of high quality, slightly elastic and has a pleasant, unique feel and modern look. Furthermore, linoleum has anti-static, slightly fungicidal and anti-bacterial properties. Combine its green credentials with an outstanding variety of colours and you have a perfect solution for children's furniture, public buildings, office spaces and surgeries as well as in furniture for modern homes. Ostermann supplies many attractive colours and five different surfaces.

Almwiese was first shown in the UK at W18. The slightly scented surface of this flexible, self-adhesive product is made from alpine grasses and flowers that have been cut by hand from alpine meadows, 1700 metres above sea level. The glued hay flower mixes in Ostermann's Almwiese have been allergy-tested, the product is ecologically and hygienically safe, it's climate regulating - and produced CO₂-neutrally. Almwiese is easy to process and sold in rolls of 3050 x 1320 mm and 1000 x 1320mm. Available in thicknesses of 0.5 to 2.0 mm, it can be sectioned with a cutter and applied to furniture, counters or walls. There are four attractive décors, all with their own, unique fragrance.

To find out more, contact Ostermann on 01905 793550 or tap [here](#) to be linked to more information on Almwiese through your free Furniture Journal App, or touch the image of furniture linoleum to see colours and options.

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Popular Poplar

As the trend for a more natural, stripped back look continues, James Latham is seeing the popularity of Garnica Ultralight soar among its joinery and specification customers for all kinds of applications. Exclusively available through Lathams in the UK, this remarkable and innovative sandwich panel weighs just 250kg per m³. Based on like-for-like volume, that is eight times lighter than an iPhone7.

Garnica Ultralight consists of an XPS core (extruded polystyrene) and one hundred percent, premium quality Poplar plywood faces, extracted from fast growing European plantations. This combination produces a panel which not only boasts exceptional performance properties in terms of stability, lightness and strength but also outstanding surface quality.

Miles Kember, James Latham's Group Plywood Director told Furniture Journal, "The reaction to Garnica Ultralight from our customers has been nothing short of amazing, but to be honest, I'm not surprised; of course it's ridiculously light, but it's also strong, exceptionally stable, easy to machine and easy to transport, plus the quality of the surface is remarkable. It ticks all the boxes."

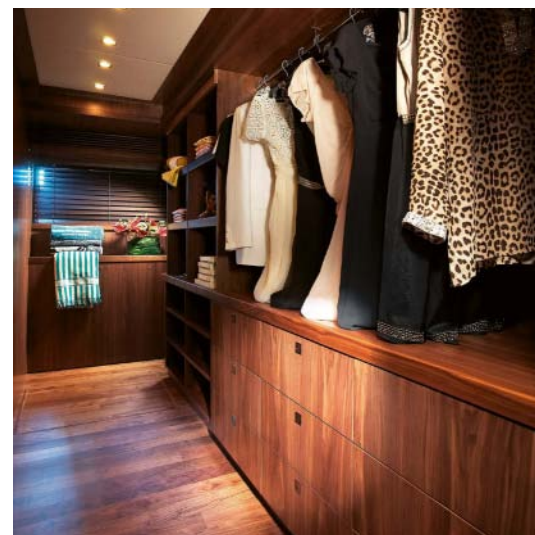
Garnica Ultralight is fast becoming the preferred choice for all kinds of demanding

applications where installers are looking to improve weight load such as the shopfitting, caravan, motor home and marine sectors. Even scenery builders and exhibition contractors have jumped on the bandwagon because they appreciate such a novel, lightweight solution.

As the exclusive distributor of Garnica Poplar Plywood in the UK, as well as Ultralight, James Latham offer three other innovative Poplar Plywood products under the Garnica banner: Fireshield, an FR B-certified panel which has been modified through an innovative ply-to-ply process, producing outstanding flame-retardant properties; Duraply, which boasts exceptional durability and anti-fungal properties and a 15-year external warranty, making it particularly popular for outdoor applications; and Elegance Birch, a Poplar panel with a beautiful Birch veneer to the face and back.

Readers with the free Furniture Journal App will be able to see Latham's innovative range of Garnica plywood panels presented in the new animated video, *You Think You Know About Plywood?* By touching the image marked with a link sign. Garnica is in stock and available from all 12 Lathams branches. For samples and to find out more information go to: www.lathamtimber.co.uk

Lathams shows off its lightweight product range, now in stock and available nationwide.



kbb

Individualisation at kbb

kbb 2020 is really broadening its appeal with new suppliers adding to a prestigious list of exhibitors.

Kbb Birmingham is all set to open its doors at the NEC from 1st to 4th March 2020 – and the show will feature over 400 exhibitors and showcase some of the latest products and innovations.

The theme for kbb 2020 is “Individuality”, and this year’s event is set to provide retailers, architects, designers and developers with the knowledge and tools to give their clients exactly what they want. Alongside great names in kitchen, bedroom and bathroom furniture, appliances and accessories, the exhibition will also provide visiting furniture manufacturers with the opportunity to see a variety of products ranging from décor products by Saviola, Bonlex, Pfleiderer, Rehau, Finsa, Panelco, Arnold Laver and the new-to-the-UK Turkish company, Gizer, to the very latest in hardware solutions from Grass, Blum, Titus, Salice, Hettich, Häfele, King Slide, Ninka, Vauth-Sagel and more.

Personalisation is as important to consumers as product differentiation is to manufacturers. For consumers, the look of the furniture they buy and the functionality built into it are high on the must-have list when buying furniture. In the kitchen or bathroom, where homeowners are looking

to make maximum use of the space available, Blum’s space-saving ideas and Vauth-Sagel’s practical corner solutions will be on show at kbb – and if making the most of storage space in cabinets with flap doors is your priority, visit the Grass stand and see for yourself the stylish Kinvaro T-Slim flap lift system that fits within the width of a panel. Also emphasising the growing importance of design inside cabinetry, Titus will show its new TeraBlack finish for the first time in the UK alongside panel fixing solutions, while manufacturers working at the top end of contract bedrooms should take a look at Salice’s stylish designer bedroom fittings.

With companies like the sanding specialist, Mirka, spray gun manufacturer Anesta Iwata and the power tool company, Festool, also exhibiting alongside the Swiss fixings specialist, Lamello, kbb 2020 is really broadening its appeal to fitters and specialist manufacturers as well as its traditional audience of retailers. It promises to be well worth a visit to Birmingham.

Visit www.kbb.co.uk for more information or, if you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal App on your smartphone or tablet, touch [here](#) to register.





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A Smooth

Fancy a nice little red? Along with other shades and some exceptional Superglosses and metallics, this classic by Bonlex is going down very well.

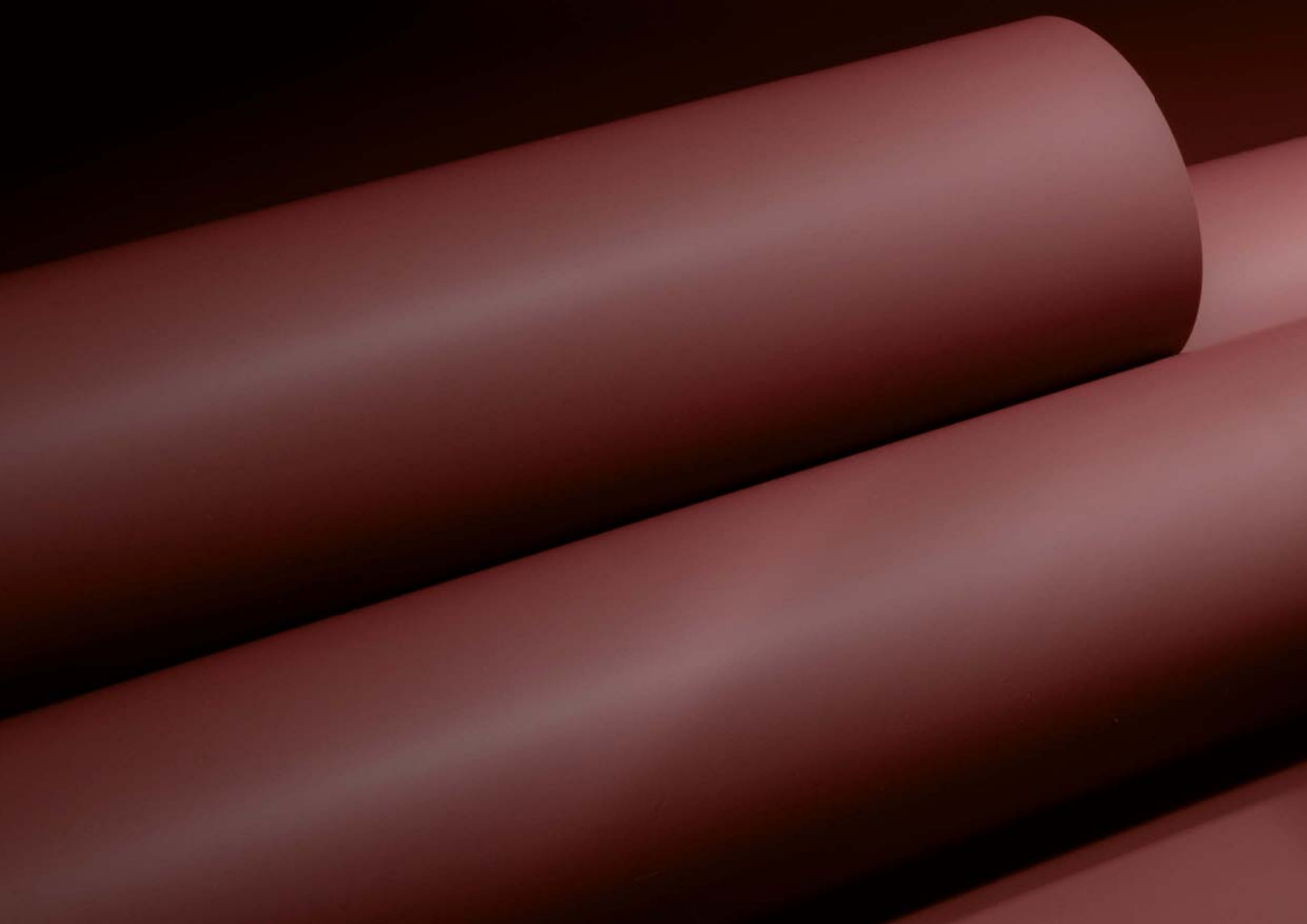


Everybody likes a smooth, classy red, and this super soft Red Borghese Exmatt from Bonlex has gone down so well that the demand among major manufacturers has even taken Bonlex Europe by surprise.

One of 20 colours in a collection of Exmatt products that's growing to meet demand from customers, Red Borghese will be shown for the first time at kbb. Available as R-PET (recycled PET) or virgin PET, Exmatt décors have been specially treated to provide a very hard, fine surface with a microscopic pyramid structure that makes it not just a supermatt but an ultra matt. Along with gloss levels down to zero, all the

colours in the Bonlex Exmatt décor foil collection offer very high scratch and chemical resistance and will not leave fingerprints when touched. Up until now, this exceptional surface, which has to be touched to be believed, has only been available in lamination, wrapping and post forming grades, but at kbb, a brand-new development – a press grade – will be unveiled.

Emulating the surface qualities, the scratch and chemical resistance and the anti-fingerprint properties of the lamination, wrapping and post forming grades, the new press grade material promises all the qualities without any





Red

degradation in their effectiveness and represents a major technological leap for Bonlex. Initial trials have been undertaken in 0.3mm PVC and the surface characteristics are reported as excellent.

Alongside Exmatt, Bonlex has also launched Supergloss foils with gloss levels of up to 97 in a press grade material and these are also proving popular. Development work is under way on a lamination grade that promises far superior scratch and chemical resistance to standard gloss vinyls, and this is also expected to make its debut at kbb – along with several new developments in metallics.

For more information, visit stand O80 at kbb, call Plasfilms on 01530 561962, or, if you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal App, touch www.plasfilms.co.uk for an immediate link to more information.





kbb

New from Häfele

Kbb provides the launchpad for Häfele's latest additions.

Global manufacturer and distributor, Häfele will be unveiling the newest additions to its furniture fittings range at kbb – and each has been developed in response to growing market trends.

Two extensions to its Matrix Box Drawer System will be on display, alongside an extended range of its renowned IXConnect spreading connectors and additional colourways across its plinths, handles and hinges.

An all-new range of drawer systems called Matrix Box will also début at the exhibition, creating three distinct product lines, with good, better and best options to choose from. Häfele Matrix Box S is a double walled system, with integrated soft close, while Häfele Matrix Box A provides a sleek, streamlined thin-wall soft close drawer version. All Matrix Box Drawer Systems are covered under the Häfele 25-year guarantee.

As part of the update to the range, Häfele MX will be re-named as **Matrix Box P** and enhanced to have greater load capacity at 35kg as well as 50kg. This top-of-the range option will also have an additional push to open option for soft close runners, will be available in a variety of colours and sizes, and can be supplied pre-assembled to save makers time and labour costs.

Also on display will be the **Häfele IXConnect CC 8/5/30**, a claw connector for wooden drawers that can be used without dowels. When combined with the rear panel connector IXConnect RPC D 5/24, which clamps the rear panel with the side walls, the connectors reduce the number of drill holes manufacturers need to make, dramatically cutting down assembly time and allowing for complete precision in the construction of drawers.

Alongside these new time-saving technologies, Häfele will be showcasing its new range of colourways that have been introduced across its product lines. Shades such as anthracite, rose gold and copper

have been added to products spanning decorative handles, plinths and hinges to help you create stunning designs in the latest on-trend colours.

As part of kbb 2020, Häfele will also be marking 40 years of heritage in the UK during which it has introduced thousands of new products and created services including Häfele to Order, a bespoke cutting, packaging and delivery service that lets you specify products to the exact size, quantity and finish you need, with no minimum order quantity.

For more information on Häfele, visit, www.hafele.co.uk or call 0800 171 2909. App users: touch the blue text or interactive image to watch a YouTube presentation.



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Moved by Design

Overhead wall cabinets are one of the most popular storage solutions in the kitchen and wide, rather than tall, storage solutions with lift-up flaps are currently undergoing a renaissance. With its Kinvaro T-Slim, launched at Interzum and now ready to roll out to style-conscious designers who want more space and a less visible fitting, the Austrian movement specialist, Grass, has conquered the invisible flap stay market with a product that is its thinnest, most efficient fitting ever.

With Kinvaro T-Slim, Grass has reduced the complex mechanism required for a robust lift-up mechanism down to just 12mm – and that means it will fit within a chipboard, MDF or solid wood side wall of just 16mm. It can even be used on glass front flaps with aluminium frames.

The Kinvaro T-Slim flap lift-up mechanism joints are mechanical masterpieces made of nickel-plated steel. Moving Kinvaro T-Slim's five-part jointed hinge arms reveals a fascinating display of well-coordinated technical sensuality with nothing left to chance. The precise interaction of the shiny matte leverage elements follows a cleverly choreographed sequence of forces – apparently designed to defy the laws of physics. The result is a cabinet front that is

incredibly easy to move with proven soft close technology that provides a gently dampened closing movement.

With an opening angle of 107 degrees, the flap opens well beyond the user's area of movement and an integrated opening angle limiting stay prevents the front from being lifted up too high on wall cabinets that are mounted directly below the ceiling. Kinvaro T-Slim can even be equipped with Tipmatic for handleless cabinet versions.

The Kinvaro T-Slim unit can either be inset or overlaid and screwed on. No tools are needed to fit and remove the two-part covering pelmet and any adjustment of the flap lift system can be carried out from the front after fitting. Kinvaro T-Slim is available in Ice, Stone and Silver. A covering pelmet is also available that can be painted to match the body finish.

For more information visit Grass at kbb – stand T85 – or, if you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal App, touch the main image.

Grass will show its thinnest, most efficient flap stay fitting ever at kbb 2020.





Ketterer crank lifting system

Components Galore!

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SD Products will show
solutions at kbb.



SD Products Ltd is a third generation family owned business, established in 1979 as a stockist and distributor of specialist fasteners – and at kbb you'll find them on stand X105.

Based in Sutton-In-Ashfield, the company prides itself on supplying quality products at competitive prices with service and supply tailored to customers' needs. Accredited with ISO 9001:2000, the company's range of industrial nuts bolts and fasteners are only two out of a large selection of items that will be on show at kbb. SD's product catalogue includes cable, pipe, edge, hose, panel and trim clips, hole plugs and caps, plastic rivets and buttons, nuts and push-on parts, nylon fasteners, furniture fittings and hardware, as well as cage nuts, U and J nuts.

If it's actuation systems for screen lifting or the lifting of desks, SD Products offers several solutions from the small or large **Ket flat Screen Lift** with its silent adjustment and slim design to bed and desk actuation systems.

With over 12,000 fasteners and components on its website that are constantly being updated and a furniture catalogue that includes still more fasteners and components in mild and stainless steel, zinc alloy and nylon, you are sure to find whatever you are looking for. All products are guaranteed to serve their purpose, offering excellent durability and longevity.

SD Products can manage, monitor and replenish your stock levels to suit specific logistic requirements and offers a competitive kitting service, from just a few kits to thousands, with the option of labelling and packaging. A flexible packaging service is also available with the option to provide parts supplied in your own boxes and with your own labels.

For more information call 01623 655265 or visit stand X105 at kbb. If you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal App, touch any picture marked with a link sign to watch a video of the product in operation. For a link to SD's website, touch [here](#).



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SILVER AWARD 2019

SIMLEAD Drawer System

Undermount Slide | Push Open + Soft-Close
+ Vibration Safety Design (VSD)

The World's First Drawer Safety Design



Three Innovations

New Function of Push Open

Ever-Active Push Open Design

Drawer can be push-opened from closed or partially-opened positions. Smooth and consistent soft-close action with no 'bounce-backs'.

More Safety & Durability

Vibration Safety Design (VSD)

King Slide's new patented Vibration Safety Design (VSD) prevents drawers from opening during sudden abnormal vibrations.

Push Open On/Off

Switchable Push Open Design

Push open function can be enabled or disabled by a simple flip of a switch. Designers are able to adjust functionalities based on their project requirements.



Synchronized
Movements



Max. Load
Metal 70 kg (154 lbs)
Wood 60kg (132 lbs)

8

8-Way
Adjustments

SIMLEAD Box / 13mm Ultra Slim Drawer Sides · 4 Drawer Heights ·
4 Colours · Diverse Motifs



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1-4 March 2020 NEC Birmingham
come and see us at KBB on stand O130



The SimLead
Drawer System

kbb

King of Slides

Founded in 1986 as a manufacturer of furniture hardware, Taiwan-based King Slide is well known for the advanced surface treatment technology in its products – many of which will be on display at this year's kbb show. With years of continuous innovation and development, King Slide has become a successful, internationally renowned Original Brand Manufacturer of green products ranging from server rail kits and industrial rails to furniture hardware. Best known for the high quality and durability of its engineering and its easy-to-incorporate designs, King Slide products can be found in high-end furniture, as well as kitchen and household appliances.

Among the many products King Slide will show on its kbb stand, O130 at the NEC from 1st-4th March, two in particular deserve special mention: the SimLead Drawer System and the ULead silent, soft-close undermount slide.

The SimLead Drawer System is based on an undermount slide that features push-open and soft-close. The "Ever-Active" push-open functionality can be enabled or disabled at the flip of a switch and works from either a closed, or a partially open

position, closing smoothly without bouncing back. The smoothness of the slide is King Slide engineering at its best. SimLead also includes VSD – Vibration Safety Design – that automatically locks the drawer to prevent the drawer from opening or the cabinet from overbalancing in the event of vibration. We may not get many earthquakes in the UK, but if you are exporting cabinets – especially tall cabinets – to areas that do suffer tremors, this advantage is one you won't find in many slides available on the British market.

ULead, also a silent soft-close undermount slide, offers one of the simplest and most intuitive six-way, 3d adjustment systems on the market as well as easy installation that saves both time and labour costs. The King Slide ULead "IJ Series" holds no fewer than 16 worldwide patents and is a kbb must-see for cabinet-makers and furniture manufacturers.

To watch a video of the three revolutionary safety designs from King Slide, download the free Furniture Journal App and touch the image marked with a link sign, touch [here](#) for an installation guide, or for more information visit stand O130 at kbb or call 07879 729383.

Revolutionary safety features and excellent engineering and design are the hallmarks of King Slide.



ULead Drawers and mechanism (above)



Best of Brass

New hardware goes on show at kbb as Armac Martin celebrates more than 90 years of British manufacturing.



Armac Martin is well known for manufacturing high quality, British-made cabinet hardware from brass and in 2019 celebrated its 90th year. To mark the occasion, the company launched its Founders Collection, comprising six pieces of elegant and refined solid brass cabinet hardware, the design of which is based on century-old designs and patent books from the Armac Martin archives. It's one of several collections you'll be able to see on stand S104 at kbb in March.

You'll also be able to see Mix, a bold, contemporary range of hardware launched in Spring 2019. In an innovative twist, the product is mixed by the consumer. You can choose between plain, diamond knurled or straight machined versions of the knob and finials, with a selection of finishes mixed between the knob, finials and the backplate.

Every product by Armac Martin is designed in-house, with meticulous

attention given to every detail to ensure that the company's commitment to design and quality is met consistently. The extensive product range is available in 21 plated and patinated finishes, but Armac Martin also offers a custom manufacturing service. The in-house design team will work with you to elevate your ideas into a bespoke finished product.

Armac Martin has experienced accelerated growth in the past five years, helped in part by its investment in an expanded manufacturing facility that has seen it double in size. For more information on the collections and services available from Armac Martin, visit stand S104 at kbb, or call 0121 359 4821. Alternatively, if you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal App, touch [here](#) for a link to the company website, or touch the image marked with a link sign to watch an Armac Martin presentation on YouTube.

Titus+



Push latch



Quickfit TL5 cam
and dowel



Shelf supports

TeraBlack

TITUS ENHANCED RESISTANCE APPLICATION



T-type soft-close hinge

Uniform, non-reflective black
matt finish with special
anti-corrosion protection

TeraBlack is more than just a colour option

The black matt surface of our TeraBlack range complements furniture design in kitchens, bedrooms, living rooms, bathrooms and corporate settings. Engineered with purpose, TeraBlack from Titus is supported by a highly-reliable and efficient manufacturing process, delivering consistency at high volume first time and every time.

Take the design and performance of your furniture to the next level. Call us on +44 (0)1977 682 582 for more information or see our full product range at uk.titusplus.com



See us at
KBB 2020
@ Birmingham
NEC: 1-4 March

**Stand W101 in
Hall 17**

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Booth: P90

available at

HÄFELE
hafele.co.uk

www.vauth-sagel.com





Cornering the Market

Awkward spaces are the speciality of the German cabinet solutions specialist, Vauth-Sagel. The corner cabinet, once an inaccessible space for seldom-used and often forgotten items, has been given a new lease of life with clever, well-engineered solutions like Cornerstone Maxx. Cornerstone Maxx conveniently transports products from the farthest recesses of the cabinet and presents them in well-organised trays to delight the user, transforming space utilisation into an art form.

Vauth-Sagel is preparing to wow kbb visitors with its clever corner solutions and beautifully engineered pull-out storage systems. Power Assisted Movement that supports the movement sequence, near invisible fastening systems and load capacities of up to 25kg per shelf add to capacious trays that provide optimum storage space – and the Cornerstone Maxx system is available for different carcass and door widths.

Installation of the Cornerstone Maxx is simplicity itself. The system consists of just three parts and a second mounting point is

not required. A single standpipe provides maximum stability, in addition to allowing simple height adjustment, even after installation. In addition, Vauth-Sagel achieves all of this with fewer screws and fewer drill holes, saving time and enhancing available storage space. Touch the picture above to watch an installation demonstration and you'll see why it's no wonder Cornerstone Maxx took two awards and came in as the clear winner of the German Design Award in 2018.

"With the two universal design competition awards, an important aspect of our work is distinguished," commented Claus Sagel. "We also always view design and functionality from the vantage point of universal use. Vauth-Sagel's developments are designed to ensure the greatest bandwidth of people worldwide can experience the product benefits – without this requiring any adaptations."

To see the Cornerstone Maxx in action, visit stand P90 at kbb. Vauth-Sagel is represented in the UK by Häfele UK: 0800 171 2909.

The award-winning Cornerstone Maxx is one of a range of storage solutions Vauth-Sagel will show at kbb.



Claus Sagel



Qanto

Ninka on Show

Clever storage systems with a sophisticated twist will be on the Ninka stand at this year's kbb.



Anyone who didn't get the chance to go to Interzum last May and missed out on Sicam in the autumn will get another opportunity to meet up with Ninka at kbb – and Ninka is planning quite a show.

Ninka's flagship storage unit, the Qanto, is a complete cabinet for use in corners, runs or islands and is perfect for raising items to work surface level at the touch of a button. Since its introduction, Qanto has developed into a sophisticated plug and play unit that can be used not only in the kitchen to raise heavy items like food mixers to work surface level, but also in other furniture applications where the inbuilt lighting makes it quite a showstopper as a drinks cabinet. Definitely not one to miss at kbb!

Also at kbb will be the one2four, one2five and one2seven bin systems. Designed to match the drawer system in the rest of the kitchen, one2five is a bin hanging frame that fits into standard drawer systems by Blum, Grass, Häfele and others. The bins are dropped into the hanging frame and use either individual lids, a fixed shelf lid, or a combination. There are even odour filter lids. Sets and modular options facilitate different widths, heights and bin combinations, including under-sink

applications. The one2seven bin system is designed for premium kitchen applications and works specifically with Blum's Legrabox. One2seven is colour-matched to Blum's Legrabox systems and is available as sets and in modular components. One2four is Ninka's standing bin option – for wide pan drawers or under sinks, when a higher quality product is required. Options include individual and fixed shelf lids.

For organisation of cutlery, Cuisio is Ninka's mid-priced insert. Sets are constructed from injection moulded trays that are fixed with metal rails, making them adaptable to all standard widths and drawer depths produced by Blum, Grass, Häfele and others. White, black, graphite and translucent options, along with side panels for custom width cabinets, are available. Ninka will also show its flexible Connect drawer organisation system, a cost-effective entry into the world of fully flexible, modular drawer organisers.

For more information, visit stand V92 at kbb, or call Häfele in the UK on 0800 171 2909. If you are a Furniture Journal App user, touch the image marked with a link sign to watch a video about Ninka's Qanto.



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Contact in the UK

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www.ninka.com



Lamello

NEW

Cabineo 8 M6

Wear-resistant cabinet connector for various materials and increased strength



Cabineo 8 M6
metric thread M6



Cabineo 8 M6 black
metric thread M6

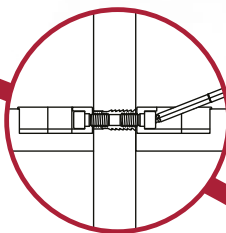


Cabineo insert nut M6x15.3
for materials 17 – 25 mm

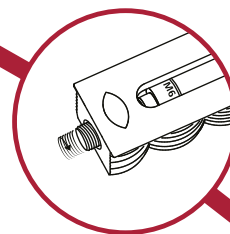


Cabineo insert nut M6x12.3
for materials 14 – 16 mm

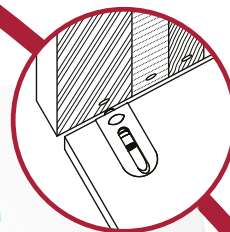
High
clamping force



Wear-free
connection



Various
materials



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01-04 March 2020



Launching at Lamello

Furniture fixings specialist, Lamello, will be returning to kbb Birmingham this March to demonstrate its newly extended range of furniture connectors and hand tools on stand T112.

This year, the Swiss manufacturer will be showcasing its new Cabineo 8 M6 for the first time in the UK, alongside its complete P-System range. The Cabineo 8 M6 is the first connector in the Lamello portfolio created to join hard materials like aluminium, steel and HPL and it has been designed with fuss-free installation in mind.

The clever one-piece connector can be inserted straight into a range of hard materials without the need for dowel holes and, where the thread hole cannot be cut directly into the substrate, the new fixing can be partnered with a steel nut for an even stronger joint. It's an ideal solution for those creating detachable corner and dividing panel joints with a heavy load.

The hardy design of the Cabineo 8 M6 also makes the insert a go-to option for those looking to assemble and reassemble furniture multiple times without compromising on product strength, and with two insert nuts available to work with 14-16mm and 17-25mm thick materials, the new fitting brings a wealth of design opportunities to the table.

Visitors to Lamello's stand will also be the first to see a brand-new P-System connector that will making its début at the show. Designed exclusively for use on CNC machines, it will offer users a revolutionary approach to furniture design. Live demonstrations of the Tenso P self-clamp fixings, Clamex P detachable furniture connectors and invisible magnetic joining element, Invis, will also be taking place throughout the four-day event.

Shaye Chatfield, Lamello Area Sales Manager comments, "kbb Birmingham is a great platform for us to present our award-winning products to the UK. Our P-System connectors are a modern-day alternative to cams, dowels and glues and offer effective and versatile design solutions that don't compromise on strength, quality or aesthetics. Our team will be on hand throughout the exhibition to demonstrate just how versatile our P-System is. If you're designing, manufacturing or fitting furniture, let us show you the benefits of using Lamello."

Visit Lamello on kbb stand T112. For more information or to book a demonstration, visit www.lamello.co.uk, email s.chatfield@lamello.com or call 07891 025 646.

Lamello will unveil its latest fixings at this year's kbb – and some you won't have seen before.



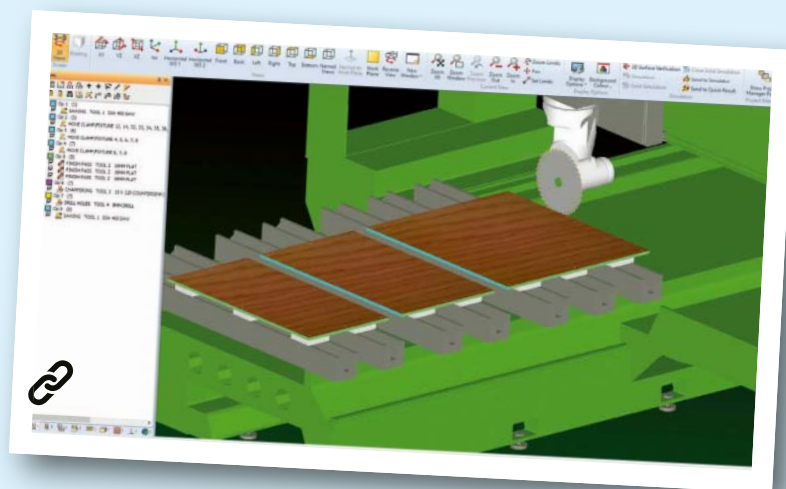
showcase

kbb



Above: Visitors to kbb will be treated to live demonstrations of exciting Cabinet Vision version 12 and Alphacam 2020.1 enhancements on stand 085. Key highlights will be new, productivity enhancing automation capabilities, improved nesting and simultaneous multi-machine output. www.cabinetvision.com www.alphacam.com

Left: Interested in coating technology? Visit Anest Iwata Group on stand W123 to see the latest spray guns, pumps and accessories. Call 01480 405419 for more information or visit www.anest-iwata.co.uk



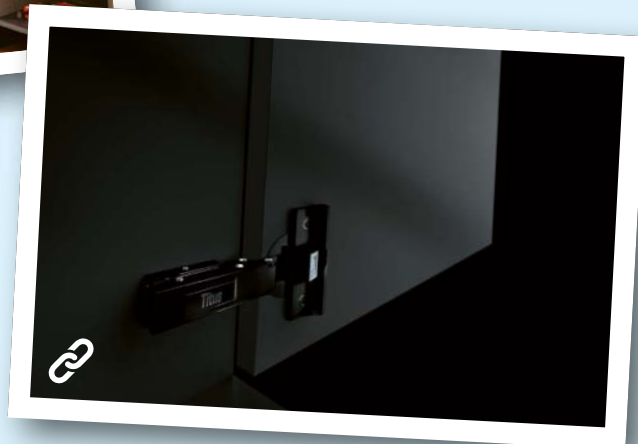
Right: Alongside its new Blossom and Avenue kitchen brands, BA Components will show CompletePlus and InRail, an innovative pre-assembled rigid kitchen solution on stand 090. Call 028 8676 4600 or visit www.byba.co.uk



Left: When used in conjunction with Blum's new Minipress top drilling and insertion machine, Easystick automatically calculates all fixing positions and the stops automatically move to the correct position for fuss-free production. See all Blum's Moving Ideas on stand T120. Touch the picture to watch the video demonstration. Call 01908 285700 or visit www.blum.com/kbb



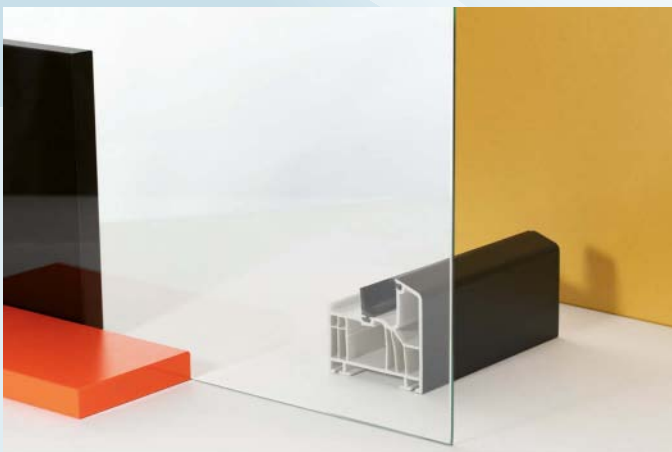
Right: Titus will be launching its TeraBlack product range in the UK at kbb on stand W101. The TeraBlack product range includes new versions of its T-type hinges, TL5 'full metal jacket' dowels, shelf supports and its push latches. All have a dark-grey non-reflective finish. Touch the picture to watch the video demonstration. Call 01977 682582 or visit www.titusplus.com



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Everything's in Hand

With 350 patents, 80 awards and almost a century in the business, Festool's name for professional quality pneumatic tools and its all-inclusive, three-year warranty have made it a force to be reckoned with in the furniture and joinery industries. The choice of thousands of craftsmen around the globe, you'll find Festool at most of the major woodworking exhibitions – and Festool UK Ltd will again be demonstrating this great German brand at the kbb exhibition in Birmingham's NEC in March, stand M131.

One of the key products to watch out for at kbb is the incredibly versatile, hand-held contour edgeworker, the Festool Conturo KA 65. The Conturo allows the simple attachment of edging to anything from rectangular components to complex, free shapes such as curves or concaves.

Versatile and easy to operate, the Conturo, represents a genuine solution for manufacturing individually shaped parts, as well as affixing edging to workpieces or furniture components produced in small batches. It is also suitable for mobile use as well as manufacturing edging in situ – and with a Festool, you're assured of a perfect quality finish.

If you can't wait until kbb for a demonstration, there's a very informative video posted on YouTube. Readers with the free Furniture Journal App will be able to watch it on a smartphone or tablet by touching [here](#) or by touching the image marked with a link sign, above. Alternatively, call Festool UK Ltd in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, on 01284 760791. A full list of dealers across the UK can be found at www.festool.co.uk

See how easy hand-held contour edgeworking can be on the Festool stand at kbb.

Go green with Kleiberit

2019 been quite a year for the PUR specialist, Kleiberit, with new adhesive formulations and the launch of innovative packaging offers – and more are on the way.

Back in July, Furniture Journal brought you news of a brand new technological breakthrough in PUR adhesives from the German PUR specialist, Kleiberit – one of several in 2019. It marked the advent of a new generation in safety, and when it was first unveiled at Ligna, Kleiberit's Micro Emissions PUR was hailed as a breakthrough.

Typically, PUR has a monomeric content of 2-2.5% and with the formulations of some adhesive manufacturers, it can even be as high as 5%. When heat is applied during the bonding process, the monomers in these PUR formulations start to evaporate, giving off fumes. This risk is well known, products are carefully labelled, training is mandatory and manufacturers who use PUR have systems to catch the fumes at source so operators are not exposed. It's perfectly safe if you have the correct exhaust systems in place. But for those of you who haven't yet switched from EVA to PUR and want a simpler life without the investment in protection and extraction, or even if you are using current PUR formulations and want to

provide your operators with a zero-risk operating environment, Kleiberit's Micro Emissions (ME) PUR is every bit as powerful as standard PUR but no longer needs the H351 warning on the packaging.

Using some very clever technology, Kleiberit has reduced the monomer content in its Micro Emissions (ME) formulation to just 0.1%. What's remarkable is they've managed to do this without any loss of performance, making the latest product range one of the safest, most operator-friendly PUR adhesive formulations currently on the market – and it's ideal for laminators with flat lamination systems, edgebander users and profile wrappers. "If you are already using PUR, you can use the same machine as you are using now but just change the adhesive," Bradley Larkan, Kleiberit's General Manager for the UK, Ireland and South Africa, confirms. "This is a big plus. If you are not currently running PUR on your existing line, drop in a new glue unit that is moisture protected and run."

The ME product range is available in all Kleiberit's packaging formats – 2kg fibre





drums, 2kg tins, 20kg pails and 200kg drums – but with the launch of its new-to-the-market blister packs in the autumn of 2019, manufacturers with limited use for PUR were offered the opportunity to access all the benefits of PUR in much smaller quantities.

“The idea behind the blister packs is to provide a solution for small companies that are not investing in machinery equipped to handle PUR and only have entry level edgebanders that are designed to run EVA hotmelt,” says Bradley. “The blister packs enable them to run PUR hotmelt in standard edgebanders without the need for additional capital investment, or any modification to their machines. The products that go in the blisters are designed so they can be left in an open pot environment in extreme conditions for up to 24 hours. Even in hot and humid conditions you can leave this formulation for 24 hours.”

For economy and convenience, Kleiberit has packaged the blister packs in 1.9kg boxes with three mini 32-gram adhesive slugs in each pack that can be opened one

at a time. Small they may be but all the advantages of a watertight, heat and steam-proof edgebanding are retained in a formulation you can run in an afternoon and run again the following morning without fear of any deterioration in performance of the adhesive, or cross-linking. High performance, maximum convenience, no waste, improved product quality, no outlay – with blister packs, even the smallest of cabinet and joinery producers has every reason to embrace the benefits of PUR.

With an eye to the future, Kleiberit has just announced yet another new product for 2020. Continuing its strategy of creating new formulations that promote sustainability and environmental friendliness, the company will soon be bringing to market a new range of PUR hotmelts that offers you the chance to opt for a bio-based PUR with a renewable raw material content of more than 50%. That's a positive move if you're seeking to boost the green credentials of your company – but there's even more good news: Kleiberit has achieved this without any loss of performance.

According to Kleiberit's technicians, these bio-based PUR hotmelt adhesives show outstanding strength in terms of cold and heat stability (from -40°C to $+150^{\circ}\text{C}$) and in the technical application tests for peel strength, strength build up after bonding, and application properties, the differences between the new bio-based products and comparable PUR hotmelts are so small as to be negligible. “I am excited to see these new formulations developed by our R&D department working their way into commercial markets,” enthused Bradley Larkan. “Soon, further information and samples for local testing and assessment will be available to interested parties.” We can't tell you more at this stage, but watch this space and we will bring you news in a forthcoming edition.

For more information on Kleiberit's ME products, its long open time PUR hotmelt blister packs, or, if you are interested in testing the new bio-based PUR, call 01530 836699. If you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal App, touch [here](#) for a link to all Kleiberit's adhesive groups.

The background of the advertisement shows several large rolls of adhesive tape. One roll in the foreground is a light beige color, while others in the background are various shades of brown and tan. The rolls are stacked and partially unrolled, showing the texture of the adhesive.

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Spray with an iBotic

Anyone who's spray finishing complex three-dimensional workpieces and wants to move up to an automated system will find the latest release of Cefla's iBotic worthy of close inspection. A high capacity cartesian spraying robot, the five-axis iBotic is capable of finishing both faces and edges and now has new interpolated axis control devices. It can work simultaneously on pieces of different shapes and thicknesses, with the conveyor either at standstill or on the move, in tracking mode. And for those with limited space, there's a compact "iBotic K" version, with a working length of 3,000 mm (compared with 5,200 mm in extra-long version).

The reading barrier, available in 2D version with 512 photodiodes and the latest-generation 3D C-Vision version, ensures high-definition workpiece shape, size and position acquisition, enabling the control software to plot the best spraying trajectories. The 5 arm travel axes are what make this robot different from a normal sprayer: all axes are electronically controlled. The edge spray gun angle can also be controlled (optional) and specific glue application arms are also available.

iBotic can be equipped with a carbon fibre conveyor belt (CFB) or a paper conveyor. The CFB configuration is ideal for

guaranteeing paint recovery, minimal solvent consumption and shorter maintenance times. The paper configuration is recommended for non-recoverable paint or glue finishes. The roll of paper, on high-capacity reels, has an electronically controlled pay-off, take-up and tensioning system.

iBotic can be equipped with an easily maintained and replaced two-stage paper filter, or a water curtain filtration system. It also features a multiple output Plenum and fans to control the ventilation flows in the spraying zone. To guarantee the highest finish quality, the air can be treated by independent fans installed on the body of the machine or, in more complex lines, by external pressurisation and/or humidification units.

Cefla Finishing has developed exclusive, state-of-the-art software for the iBotic that's able to decide and control all robot movements, from the simplest sequence of operations to the most sophisticated processing. This special control software allows user-friendly setting of all parameters.

To see the Cefla iBotic in action, download the free Furniture Journal App and touch the picture, above, marked with a link sign. For more information, call Cefla in Italy on 0039 0542 653 441, or Liam Whelan at Membrane Pressing Services on 0116 240 1795.

Cefla's latest iBotic will make light work of complex three-dimensional workpieces.





Exciting Excimer

Coatings specialist, Remmers, unveils the secret behind extreme matt and anti-fingerprint coatings cured by UV.

No one who visited the Remmers stand at Ligna 2019 can have failed to notice an exciting technological breakthrough in coatings that the company was showing to mesmerised visitors. How was it possible to get such a soft feel on a painted surface? And how was it possible to achieve such low gloss levels? The answer is to use one of Remmers' newest coatings technologies, the innovative excimer coating process.

The Excimer process has been around a while – it's been used for a number of years to correct myopia, hyperopia and astigmatism by modifying the surface of the eye. Such medical applications employ a laser, so the process is commonly labelled 'laser' eye surgery. Remmers has applied the same excimer principal to a coating process that enables gloss unit values in completely new dimensions to be obtained on resistant surfaces, but the process doesn't depend on lasers, it depends on Ultra Violet radiation.

By exposing Remmers' UV-curing excimer coating material to UV radiation in oxygen-free conditions, the coating is first encouraged to contract and warp, creating a surface that is, to the naked eye, extremely matt. Sending treated panels through a UV

dryer then cures the coating, fixing the changes in its surface and increasing its durability. Contracted to an angle of 60°, the microfolds in the surface have a corresponding gloss value below 2 GU, which is much lower than that of normal coatings. At an angle of 85° the value is around 8-10 GU. The chemically resistant excimer surfaces are not only soft to the touch, they are also anti-fingerprint, making them both desirable and practical.

This innovative use for excimer technology opens up new possibilities for surface coating. At the Technical Centre of Remmers Industrielacke GmbH, visitors are given access to a large number of different plants and machines, enabling production processes to be simulated and tested under real factory conditions. The 1350 square metre production area reduces risks for customers and allows for the efficient planning of production processes.

If you are interested in finding out more, or to arrange a visit to the Technical Centre in Hiddenhausen, call 0049 5432 830. If you have downloaded the free Furniture Journal App, touch www.remmers.co.uk/en_GB to link with Remmers' UK website from your smartphone or tablet.



The Technical Centre

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The awareness to build a better future together.

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EXCELLENCE IN ADHESIVES



Warm and Dry in Winter

There aren't too many adhesive horror stories Kenyon Group hasn't come across in the last 40 years – but even today, PUR users are often getting it wrong.



Over the last couple of years, there's been much publicity about the most appropriate hotmelt adhesives to use for edgebanding and the bonding of various materials to wood-based panel products. It's universally accepted that EVA is easiest of all to use but comes with disadvantages where the end product is likely to be subjected to steam, heat, or moisture. Polyolefin adhesives fare better and also provide better stability when melting. But, when a watertight, heat resistant bond is required, there is nothing presently on the market to beat the performance of a Polyurethane-based product.

Advocates of EVA and PO formulations will always point to the intensive cleaning regimes associated with PUR, the comparatively short pot life of a PUR, and potential health issues, citing these as reasons not to change. Alongside new developments in machinery for larger roller application machines that enable a complete clean down and changeover from EVA or PO to PUR in under eight minutes, there are now PUR adhesives available through the Oldham-based adhesive specialist, Kenyon Group, that will suit smaller users – and they won't render your edgebander inoperable by the following morning if you haven't used all the product in your gluepot. And if you opt for a Micro Emission PUR product, the risk to users from improper handling, breakdown of the extraction system, or carelessness when cleaning areas that may still contain isocyanate vapours when production has ceased is all but eliminated, since the latest Micro Emission PURs contain less than 0.1% of the potentially harmful product.

Despite the above, there remain a number of misconceptions about PUR

adhesive and how it should be run, which, says Ian Kenyon, Managing Director of Kenyon Group, is why he and his team like to spend time discussing the adhesive with customers and training operators. "The main point with PUR is good housekeeping," says Ian, "And educating the operators how to use these grades to gain the best results is key. When an operator has confidence in the process and understands the basics of PUR, productivity is going to be high and application issues will be reduced."

In the colder months, storage of the core board and the edging material becomes especially important. "Materials stored outside in containers or next to open roller shutter doors where they are exposed to the cold, then introduced immediately into production, cause the PUR adhesive to go off straight away (into shock) on contact with the material. The result is poor adhesion, cold bond and a risk of the edging failing. It is important that the bonded materials are stored above 15 degrees Centigrade for a full cure to take place. Under 15 degrees Centigrade and the curing process is stalled," advises Ian.

For those who, conversely, may be tempted to run the adhesive pot at a lower temperature in the warmer months, believing the reduced pot temperature will offset the higher air temperatures, Ian cautions against: "It's always best run the adhesive pot at 140 degrees Centigrade," he says.

It may seem like an obvious thing not to do with an adhesive that cures in the presence of moisture, but Ian and his team have often come across operators who "save time" by taking PUR adhesive slugs out of their foil packing the day before and stack them ready for use. "By doing this, the

operator has started the curing process. Once cured, PUR cannot be resoftened with heat and adhesive left exposed in this way may cause running issues and blockages. Keep the PUR adhesive in the original manufacturer's packaging until ready to use," he says. "This also applies to granules, as packaging left unsealed will cause the curing process to start. If you have PUR adhesive in granular form that may have been exposed to moisture, a quick test for its suitability for use would be to place a granule next to the glue pot. If it melts, all is good; if not, don't use it."

Arguably one of the biggest issues with users who are new to PUR – particularly those who don't have a rapid cleaning system on their machines – is lack of good housekeeping when it comes to end-of-week cleaning. "PUR adhesives should always be purged with a wax cleaner on a Friday ready for Monday morning," says Ian. "This will vary from system to system and you should always use the recommended wax cleaner and follow the machine manufacturer's guidance for cleaning. Make sure the wax cleaner is fully purged through before starting production, otherwise adhesion might be compromised. Purging of the adhesive melt tank and applicator (nozzle/roller) after use with a suitable cleaning agent is very important – and remember PUR adhesives once cured (unlike EVA adhesive), will not re-melt. Good house-keeping is required at all times."

For more information on the PUR adhesives available through Kenyon Group, or impartial advice on any adhesive problem, visit www.kenyon-group.co.uk or call 0161 633 6328.



Stefanis



The Stefani XD sits at the heart of Cell E.

for the Big Boys



Antonio Rodighiero

SCM's engineers are renowned for their inventiveness – and with the launch of three new customisable edgebanding cells, SCM is set to become an even bigger hit with industrial producers.

At a recent event in Thiene, SCM demonstrated its engineering prowess with a display of Stefani edgebanding solutions aimed squarely at industrial producers – a market segment in which it excels. While the main focus of the event was the introduction of three new, fully integrated Batch Size One Industry 4.0 edgebanding cells that provide larger users with different levels of productivity (the Stefani Cell E, Cell S and Cell H – and an H+ version), SCM's invitation to its newly expanded 30,000 square metre factory also provided the opportunity to see examples of some incredible bespoke engineering solutions, many designed and built to give Stefani edgebander users tangible commercial advantages not available elsewhere. But before we get into bespoke solutions, let's take a look at the newly launched Batch Size One flexible edgebanding cells that were making their

débuts in Thiene, because these purpose-designed solutions are also bespoke in their own way and very neatly sidestep many of the problems that often come with pairing handling and edgebanding equipment.

The starting point for high production Batch Size One manufacturing operations where panels arrive at the edgebander absolutely square is the Stefani Cell E – the E standing for Entry level – and at its heart is the proven Stefani XD edgebander. It's compact, it's quick, it's flexible and the choice of loading and unloading options encompasses manual operation at one end of the spectrum through to robot loading and unloading at the other. Options include a reloop module at the infeed, an ergoloop module for automatic return of the panel and a robot loop supplying an automatic roller infeed system, and there's a choice of motorised roller outfeed with robot and EasyGrip offloading, or manual offloading



The Stefani XD used in Cell E was equipped with the Smart Glue Pot.



There's no need for on-site certification to confirm the handling and edgebanding equipment all works in harmony – it's already been dealt with before your Stefani Cell is delivered.



The Stefani Cell E was shown with the Kit robot loop for loading/re-looping/unloading. Easy Grip (inset) copes easily with different panel sizes.



Datalogic cameras scan each component as it passes beneath, sending data for automatic setting of the edgebander.

directly from the exit belt. If you don't have perfectly squared panels – and sized panels from a beam saw are seldom absolutely perfect – or you want a double-sided operation, there is the option to exchange the Stefani XD for the faster, semi automatic Stefani S, and that opens up more possibilities if you need different groups within your edgebander.

Whatever your choice of edgebander, and however you choose to load and unload it, the Stefani Cell E – just like the Cell S, the Cell H and the Cell H+ – comes with a major advantage: there's absolutely no need for on-site certification to confirm the handling and edgebanding equipment all works in harmony. This sometimes knotty issue has already been dealt with before your Stefani Cell even makes it to your factory gate. The machine – chosen and equipped according to your specific manufacturing criteria – together with whichever loading and unloading system you choose, are matched perfectly, tested and guaranteed compatible before they leave the SCM factory. You won't find the edgebander outpaces the handling systems, or one

machine doesn't communicate properly with the other. Everything is perfectly matched, balanced and supplied as a compatible unit, ready for you to put to work.

Although the Stefani Cell S wasn't being demonstrated at the edgebanding event, because it's semi automatic it's technically the next step up in automation from the Cell E, and it's designed for use with non-squared panels. Equipped with a Reel kit and a Pickback gantry return system for looping and automatic panel unloading, operator involvement is limited to reinsertion of the panels – a single operator task. Further up the industrial scale, Stefani offers fully automatic options if that suits your production better.

Where Stefani technology really comes into its own is in high end industrial production environments. The heavy build quality of Stefani edgebanders rivals anything in their class, providing stability, accuracy and long-term reliability that for multi-shift Batch Size One production are non-negotiables – and at the heart of the Stefani Cell H and fully automatic H+ is either the Stefani One or the Stefani SB One edgebander. These

machines are capable of 18 cycles per minute, offer a much broader choice of groups with fast automatic changeover, take 24-coil magazines for diverse non-stop batch production, and offer full optimisation and tracking of machining operations through mobile devices. They represent productivity and quality without compromise and can be linked through SCM's Maestro Active Watch.

"All the cells we supply – edgebanding or machining – can be linked through Maestro Active Watch, the supervisor that optimises production batches to each station – sizing, edgebanding, drilling or whatever," SCM UK's Key Account Manager, Diego Piersanti, told Furniture Journal. "From a single point, Maestro Active Watch allows the programming of each machine independently so production is balanced for each machine. SCM is open to working with other machines. We can integrate the solutions of competing manufacturers with Maestro Watch inside our lines. Many customers have their ERP or MES sitting above Maestro Active Watch to optimise the whole factory, regardless of the cells they need to include. We open the door to the customer to select



At the heart of the Stefani Cell H and fully automatic H+ is either the Stefani One or the Stefani SB One edgebander (pictured with bespoke panel return system).

the best solutions for their requirements and encourage customer loyalty with solutions that are unique, like our Stefani softforming and J-shape equipment.”

SCM machines are built to stay the distance. That’s a bold claim to make, I hear you say, but where’s the proof? Well, some of the biggest door manufacturers in Britain have opted for Stefani to solid lip 65mm x 25mm and apply 80mm edges. Working day in, day out on such heavyweight tasks speaks volumes about the strength in the frame and the groups. There are plenty of instances where major companies like these have had 20+ years out of their Stefanis and when the time has come to update or add to their production, they have bought Stefani again.

If you take a close look – a really close look – at the build quality in a Stefani edgebander, one thing strikes you: a good many of the components are over-sized compared with many competitor machines. For example, look at the size of the bar that keeps the rotation of the two shoulders in a double-sided Stefani in synch. It’s 100mm thick. Why? To eliminate any offset between

the two chains, because if one is so much as a fraction of a millimetre out, the groups will not provide a perfect result, they will suffer stress and maintenance will be the end result. Maintenance equals downtime and no one wants too much of that.

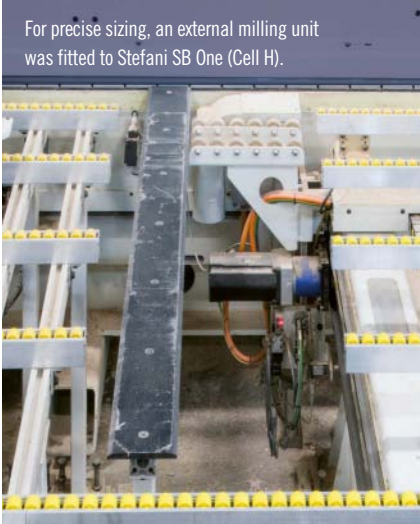
The way in which Stefani’s industrial chains are made and the tolerances to which they are built are legendary and need little introduction here. Made from sinterised steel, they’re guaranteed free from deformation, need no tensioning and are among the most robust in the industry. What’s perhaps less well known is how SCM has all but eliminated vibration in the chain to provide a better, more consistent quality of finish and cut damage to the motors and groups. Where some manufacturers use a spring tensioning device to arrest vibration, SCM has opted for a maintenance-free solution that cuts vibration to an almost unmeasurable 0.5 cents of a millimetre – and the way SCM’s engineers have achieved this is so simple the idea borders genius. By using an odd number of teeth on the sprockets that drive the chain, one tooth does the

pulling while the opposing link sits in a gap. Ergo, no stress, no vibration and no need for damping mechanisms.

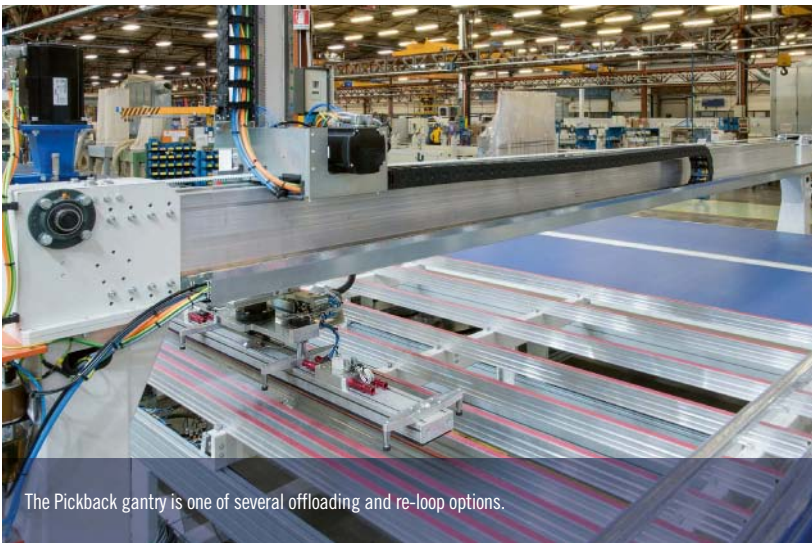
SCM’s capacity for imaginative solutions to the problems demanded by a rapidly changing market (and the resulting issues facing large-scale manufacturers that want to stay ahead of the game) seems almost limitless. A particular favourite of mine, shown on a Stefani One, was a solution for finishing curved lightweight panels. “It was designed to enable a large-scale producer to set curved pieces up more easily,” Antonio Rodighiero, SCM’s Product Area Manager (edgebanding) told Furniture Journal. “It enables differently radiused panels to be properly supported during sizing and processing operations without the use of a belt. And everything is done completely automatically at industrial production speeds.” Very clever.

Stefani’s SGP gluepot – the subject of a separate presentation in conjunction with the main glue suppliers as Kleiberit, Jowat and Henkel Adhesives at the Thiene event – also deserves mention, as this also shows

For precise sizing, an external milling unit was fitted to Stefani SB One (Cell H).



This solution for finishing curved lightweight panels at production speeds shows Stefani at its inventive best.



The Pickback gantry is one of several offloading and re-loop options.



SCM was first out with a solution for J-Pull doors at Xylexpo 2016.

SCM at its inventive best. "It is finished with an anti-adherent plasma treatment," explained Antonio. "The SGP gluepot facilitates rapid changeover between EVA and PUR, or between colours, with full evacuation possible on a high-speed roller-equipped edgebander." It was attracting the close scrutiny of several visitors during demonstrations in Thiene – as, indeed, were the MultiEdge (a clever device for creating three different radii with fast automatic changeover between them) and Stefani's now well-known J-pull handle solution.

No matter how robust, or how ingeniously constructed an edgebander is, it's still a complex machine and at some point, like all machines, it will need maintenance. Behind Stefani innovative solutions there is a multi-level support: "We have in SCM UK a dedicated team with edgebanding specialists, some of who are outstanding stars," assures Diego Piersanti. "They are regularly trained in the UK and Italy. We have remote support that's linked with Team Viewer so we can connect remotely and assess the machine. Our support system is a pyramid. On entry

level machines, we train our distributors' engineers to do maintenance. On the medium to high range we have specialists. For specialised solutions, we rely on Italian technicians. We provide a 'same day next day' service for breakdowns in the UK, sometimes even sending an engineer out the same day. We also have a 30-step preventative maintenance analysis of edgebanders so we can plan with the customer the best time to visit and assess whatever may be subject to wear and tear, and clean and reset the machine. At the top level – Industry 4.0 – our machines have exportable remote analysis data. We can get information from them that allows us to predict problems on the new machines before they happen."

For more information on the Stefani Cell E, Cell S, or the Cell H and H+, or to discuss your specific edgebanding needs, call SCM on 0115 977 0044, or to watch a Stefani Cell equipped with the Stefani XD in action, touch [here](#) if you are using the Furniture Journal App edition, or touch [here](#) for a tour of the production site.



Diego Piersanti



Axminster Trade AT635DS Drum Sander

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The DR500

Portable Edgebanding

Kitchen fitters and small workshops that need a portable edgebander will find two compact units available from Axminster Tools and Machinery have a lot to offer.

When the Co-Matic DR500 Wireless Portable Edgebander was launched in 2015, it was the world's first wireless portable edgebander. The machine reaches temperature in around four minutes and can be unplugged from the mains, allowing you to apply banding on straight and curved edges without the nuisance of a trailing power cable. There is about five minutes of cordless use before recharge is required, but it can also be used corded.

The Co-Matic DR500 combines the features of a static edgebanding station – hot melt glue application, feed speed and temperature control – with the convenience of handheld tool. Digital controls for setting temperatures and a thumb wheel feed-speed control make operation simple. Light in weight, the DR500 comes with a banding guillotine and 1kg bag of glue. All components are stored in a strong carry case, mounted on a wheeled trolley.

Also available from Axminster is the Co-Matic BR500 Edgebander – a machine that can be used for applying veneers to straight or curved panel edges in PVC, ABS, laminated and solid woods. This edgebander is one of the lightest and simplest of all portable edgebanders, with patented features not found on other models.

The BR500 takes around seven minutes to start up from cold start. The feeder on/off switch is located on top of the primary handle for convenience while a measured guide in increments of 1mm determines the width of the edgeband or edging tape and secures it in place for a regulated feed. The glue pot handle has two positions in case of workpiece interference and an easy-to-reach knob regulates the flow of glue resulting in a mess-free, consistent result. A digital temperature monitor provides accurate control over glue application with the temperature ranging from 120°C to 200°C. Feed speed is 2-6m/min and the speed control is conveniently located in the top of the control handle.

For more information and prices, visit www.axminster.co.uk or call 0800 371822.

Fulfilling the edging needs of fitters and small workshops are two compact, portable edgebanders from Axminster.

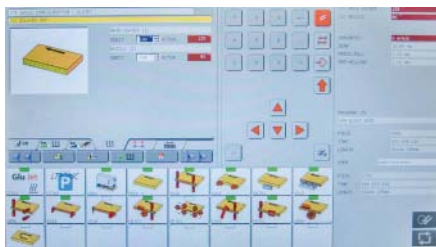


The BR500



Making the Change

Haagensen Wardrobes and Kitchens switches to Holz-Her for increased flexibility and fast glue change.



Switching away from a brand of machinery you know well can be a daunting prospect, but when your new machining centre is outpacing your edgebander and your machining centre supplier can't provide an edgebander that fulfils your needs, the options become a bit limited. It's a problem that faced Luke Haagensen, General Manager of Haagensen Wardrobes and Kitchens Ltd., not so very long ago.

"The introduction of new machinery, particularly the CNC machine, led to a significant bottleneck in our production line,"

reports Luke. "Our CNC machine was able to cut and drill panels so we could build carcasses significantly quicker than we were able to edge panels. The limited feed speed of the old edgebander meant it needed two operators, and because the edgebander only allowed us to use EVA, the edging on each panel was never as tight as we wanted, especially with high gloss finishes. To compensate for this, we would have to leave a tolerance on each edge and hand finish every panel. When you consider one kitchen is often made up of 200 panels and each panel has four sides, the number of man hours



spent on hand finishing was unsustainable. We needed to find an alternative.

"At the beginning of our search, we were keen to stay with the same edgebanding manufacturer because we knew what we were getting with them but, like many other manufacturers, they couldn't accommodate the use of EVA, PUR and laser edging in one machine. The market seemed to be filled with machines designed for mass manufacturing and they simply didn't meet our requirements. The machines that could offer multiple gluing options were clumsily designed. Many gluing stations were placed side by side, increasing the size of the machine, which, when working in a relatively compact workshop, wasn't an option for us. They also had lengthy cleaning times and the adhesive changeover process would have created another bottleneck in

our production line. The Lumina 1380 was very different to anything else we'd seen on the market. It didn't offer any of the barriers associated with the other edgebanders and its flexibility was a huge selling point for us."

Luke first saw the Holz-Her Lumina 1380 at W18 and, at the show, challenged the Holz-Her engineer to put it through its paces. "We asked him to feed several panel thicknesses through the machine, use different edging types and change the two detachable gluing systems over several times," Luke recalls. "It was extremely versatile, offered one operator handling and could clearly cope with one-off designs that might require fine adjustments and pinpoint precision, as well as volume orders. It was also easy to operate thanks to pre-set programs and a fuss-free screen."

As well as offering compact size, the detachable glue heads really stood out for Luke. The hybrid design features two slide-in application systems that offer unrivalled flexibility. The energy-efficient Ltronic laser edging unit has been designed to create an invisible glue joint, while the GluJet application system can be used with PUR and EVA adhesives for high gloss and solid wood edging – and the unique purge facility means the switch from EVA to PUR, or one colour to the next, can be accomplished in under three minutes. Switching between the Ltronic laser unit and the GluJet is a simple matter of sliding one unit out and sliding the other in.

"We underestimated just how much time this process would save us," says Luke. "Now we have more than one gluing option, we can group orders together to improve efficiency



Top and left: Changeover from the GluJet system to the Ltronic laser is fast and efficient – slide one out, slide the other in.

Above: The hopper in the GluJet system takes both slugs and granules.

and productivity but, when urgent orders do crop-up, we can change the glue to complete the order. With the Holz-Her, this doesn't put a strain on production. It's so fast. We can now switch colours or adhesive types at the push of a button and not have to worry about filthy gluing stations, blocked nozzles or slow heat up times."

The CNC and the edgebander now work seamlessly and because the Lumina offers left-to-right handling, it fits perfectly with Luke's clockwise production loop. Holes for hinge cups no longer present a problem for the edgebander – the CNC drills them and the edgebander detects and works around them, avoiding time-consuming hand drilling. The adaptive features on the Lumina calculate the

trimming needs of each panel, regardless of its thickness or height, as well as the pressure needed to apply the glue and the exact dose.

"Since installing the machine, we've racked up more than 65,500 metres of edging, increased production and opened new markets," says Luke. "We're now completing five bedrooms and three kitchens every week and we're still only running the Lumina at 70%. In the past, our old machine would be running at least eight hours a day and we'd often need to rely on overtime to fulfil orders at peak times. We've now eliminated the need to hand finish panels, we're completing projects quicker and can fulfil time-sensitive orders with confidence. The time-saving benefits have

also allowed us to offer our customers more competitive prices without impacting on our margins. This machine gives medium-sized businesses the opportunity to compete with bigger suppliers and offer the same, if not higher, levels of quality and service and unrivalled levels of design flexibility. We're now in a position to grow and expand into new sectors. The Lumina has been a game changer for us and we're excited to see where the future will take us."

For more information on the Lumina call Weinig UK on 01235 557600 or, if you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal App, tap the Lumina picture to watch Holz-Her's video presentation of the Lumina's key features or touch [here](#) for a link to the Holz-Her website.

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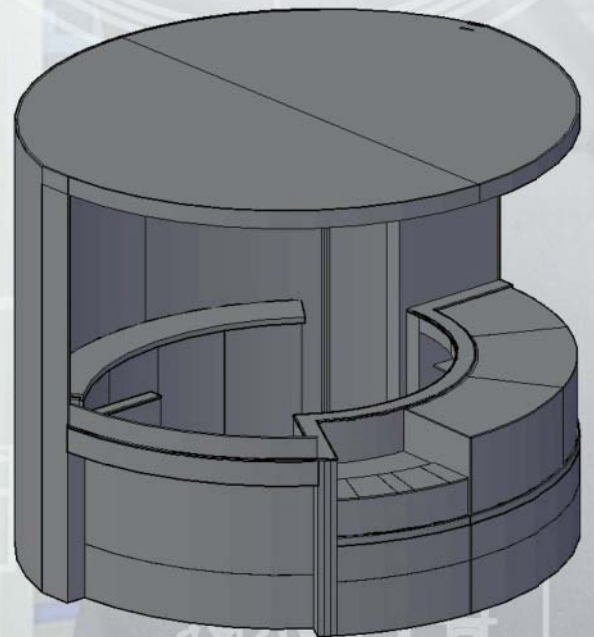
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Talking Tech



Nigel Elmes

Nigel Elmes, UK Tech Centre Manager at Biesse, talks about the changing role of the Tech Centre in Daventry and how it's facilitating far reaching developments for Biesse customers.

Walk into any car dealership and you'll find pristine examples of the latest models lined up and dusted down, all waiting for eager customers to view. You may see the odd bonnet lifted to attract the gaze of a passing prospect, or an interior being checked out for comfort, and for sure you'll see numerous sales personnel waiting to pounce at the first buying signal. That's probably what most people would expect of a showroom. The reason Biesse UK doesn't refer to its Tech Centre as a showroom is because, far from just being a sterile environment where wood and panel processing specialists like you can view an ever-changing collection of technologies, the Tech Centre in Daventry is a fully functioning production environment where

you can not only view, but also try out machines, solve production issues and even experiment with new ways of manufacturing. And everyone working in it is a seasoned professional with a production background and a mission to show you how to get the best out of Biesse technology.

Nigel Elmes is Biesse UK's Tech Centre Manager. He's a very approachable chap, very knowledgeable, straight talking and no stranger to blue sky thinking. It's his job to run the facility, make sure all the machines are fully serviced, demonstrate machines – and come up with solutions to production problems. He has a long track record of helping customers find ways of working more efficiently. "The Tech Centre in Daventry has been around for over 25



Above right: Edgebanders included the Akron 1100 and Jade 240 to industrial models equipped with AirForce.

Right: The Akron 1100 J



years,” Nigel told Furniture Journal. “I joined in 2013 from a production background. The team I work with includes three other people – Andrew Walters, Simon Draycott and Sammy Carr. Andrew is our edgebander and sander specialist. Simon has a production background. He’s our software specialist but he’s very hands on with the machines. Sammy is responsible for our software training and supports me on CNC demonstrations.

“Managing the Tech Centre and helping to run the in-house shows takes up a lot of my time, but I still get to do about half the demonstrations. For in-house events, we work closely with the commercial team to help get the message across. It might be a sanding show, a cutting show, or a general Open House event. We make sure the

machines are all programmed and we have the materials available for what we are making – and keep the place tidy,” he says, adding, “It’s a challenging job.” With around 14 fully functioning machines that have to be available for use at a moment’s notice, I can quite believe that, especially given that Nigel and his team are tasked with keeping them operational for upwards of 80% of the year, whilst also managing machine rotations and Tech Centre maintenance which can take up the remaining 20%.

The availability of different machines in the Tech Centre changes regularly. When I visited, there was a full complement of two sanders – a Viet Opera 5 and an entry level Viet S1 – five edgebanders from the Akron 1100 and Jade 240 to industrial models equipped with AirForce, a Selco WN2 beam

saw, a five-axis Rover A machining centre, a Rover K, a Materia CL five-axis CNC for machining advanced materials, a Biesse Skipper V31, a Brema EKO 2.1 and various other solutions ranging from a drilling and inserting machine to Biesse’s neat vertical panel storage system. The machines Biesse keeps in the Tech Centre tend to be geared more towards off-the-shelf solutions, but many of the machines I saw were equipped with the latest technological developments from Ligna.

“The machine range that we have is constantly evolving and improving,” says Nigel. “Whenever we get a new function or a new feature, we quite often put it in the Tech Centre. For example, our AirForce system was first shown here in the UK. Anything that’s new to the market will be



shown first at Biesse in Italy, or at Ligna, but because we manage and rotate the machines in here, we normally get the latest technology with each rotation. The idea is that, if you want to pop in and see us, we can perform a standard demonstration on any of those machines, but if you want to see something particular, we may need a few days to get materials or work out exactly what you want to see.”

One of the key roles of the Tech Centre is proving solutions to customers. “There is no text book to production any more,” says

Nigel. “Everybody does it in a different way. What we have here is a how-to place that helps to show customers what they want to do using the technology we have available. A customer might be looking for a machine and they want to make something in a particular way. It’s not just about the machine, or about showcasing the latest technologies, it’s about how they are going to make that on our machine. It’s a great meeting ground to have conversations with customers, but we’re using it as a research and development centre as well.

“Sometimes, we help to solve production problems by testing ways of cutting things out or ways of edging. A particular example we have been working on recently is how to tap material on a standard CNC machine. It’s fairly unusual. We’ve been doing this in acrylic and compact laminate. Although it’s been known that you can do this with a woodworking machine, we’ve been able to prove it. The function is now native on our bSolid 3D cad cam software program and available on our machines. That’s just one example.



A Selco WN2 beam saw sits next to a Biesse Materia CL.



The Brema EKO 2.1.



Tapping material on a standard CNC machine is now a native function on bSolid that's available on Biesse machines.

"Another example is where we helped Luke Thompson with the IF fixing that he designed. We helped develop the initial macro. He came in with an idea for a furniture fixing. He'd made it and he wanted to understand how to get his machine to work with it. We came up with a method of making it work on his machine, then we suggested some improvements to make it more machine friendly. He then modified the design in line with our suggestions. We spent a lot of time with him developing the macros so it worked effortlessly on a CNC." Since

its launch at a Biesse Open House event hosted at the Tech Centre in 2018, the IF fixing – known as the Peanut – has become a worldwide success story.

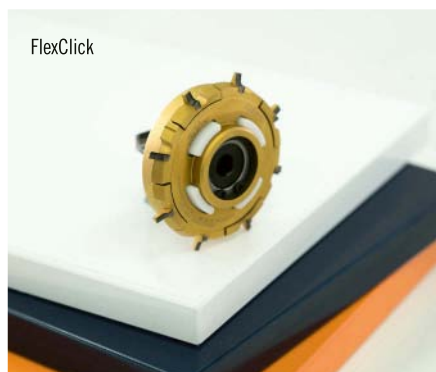
As part of the Tech Centre, Biesse UK also has a dedicated software training facility that includes a training suite and presentation area. "Each new CNC machine sold includes 2 seats on a software training course and customers can also book additional seats for new employees. We also use the facility for training our own technicians," says Nigel. It's a simple matter to transfer what's been

demonstrated during a software presentation to the production floor and see it working on the machines in the Tech Centre. The two are only separated by a glass door.

If you are interested in visiting the UK Tech Centre for a demo, please call Nigel on 01327 300366. Nigel and his team of production-minded technicians would love to see you to discuss your requirements or if you are reading the App edition of Furniture Journal with your smartphone or tablet, tap [here](#) to see a video of an in-house event at the Tech Centre.

Cutting with Passion

Leuco's passion for innovation has resulted in the introduction of many new cutting technologies.



Back in 1954, when Willi Ledermann and Josef Störzer founded Ledermann & Co in Horb am Neckar, they could hardly have imagined that 65 years later, with the name shortened to Leuco, their fledgling enterprise would have grown into one of the world's largest suppliers of carbide and diamond-tipped machine tools – but it has.

Now with sales affiliates and daughter companies in Australia, Belgium, England, Japan, Poland, Singapore, Thailand, Ukraine and Belarus, and sales and production subsidiaries in China, France, Malaysia, Russia, South Africa, Switzerland and the US, Leuco has built an enviable customer base from sawmills and the building sector to the panel processing and interior industries. The product range includes circular saw blades, hogs, bore-type and shank-type cutters, drills, clamping systems and inserts, and the company's two UK servicing centres provide PCD and TCT sharpening together with UK application consulting and service packages under the umbrella of Tool Management.

Leuco's offer includes advanced technology like the Leuco Topcoat, a treatment added as an option to the tooth sides of diamond-tipped panel sizing saw blades to achieve edge lives that are capable of exceeding those achieved with DP, while the Leuco Topline blade program now utilises

low noise technology that reduces noise by around 4dB(A). In the Leuco catalogue, you'll also find Aerotech router tooling with optimised chip processing that aids extraction by removing chips from the tool more efficiently, and Leuco's P-System, which makes light work of milling across the grain without tearing, machining groovings across the grain, or creating fingerjoints. The P-System provides 70° of shear angle and makes light work of such tasks.

Most recently, Leuco has applied for patent to cover new technology that provides more flexibility when creating profiles with a chamfering aggregate. Even when using simple edgebanders, the new "flexClick" provides two different profiles in one tool. Standard and customised profiles are available and switching between the two is no more complex than the click operation of a ballpen.

Innovation and technical know-how have been the at heart of Leuco since the days of Willi Ledermann and Josef Störzer and the passion has grown with the company's success. To discuss how Leuco's products could make a difference to your business call 01279 657821, or, if you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal App, touch [here](#) to view Leuco's tooling catalogue.

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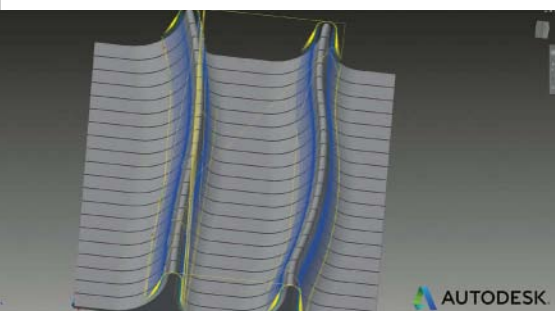
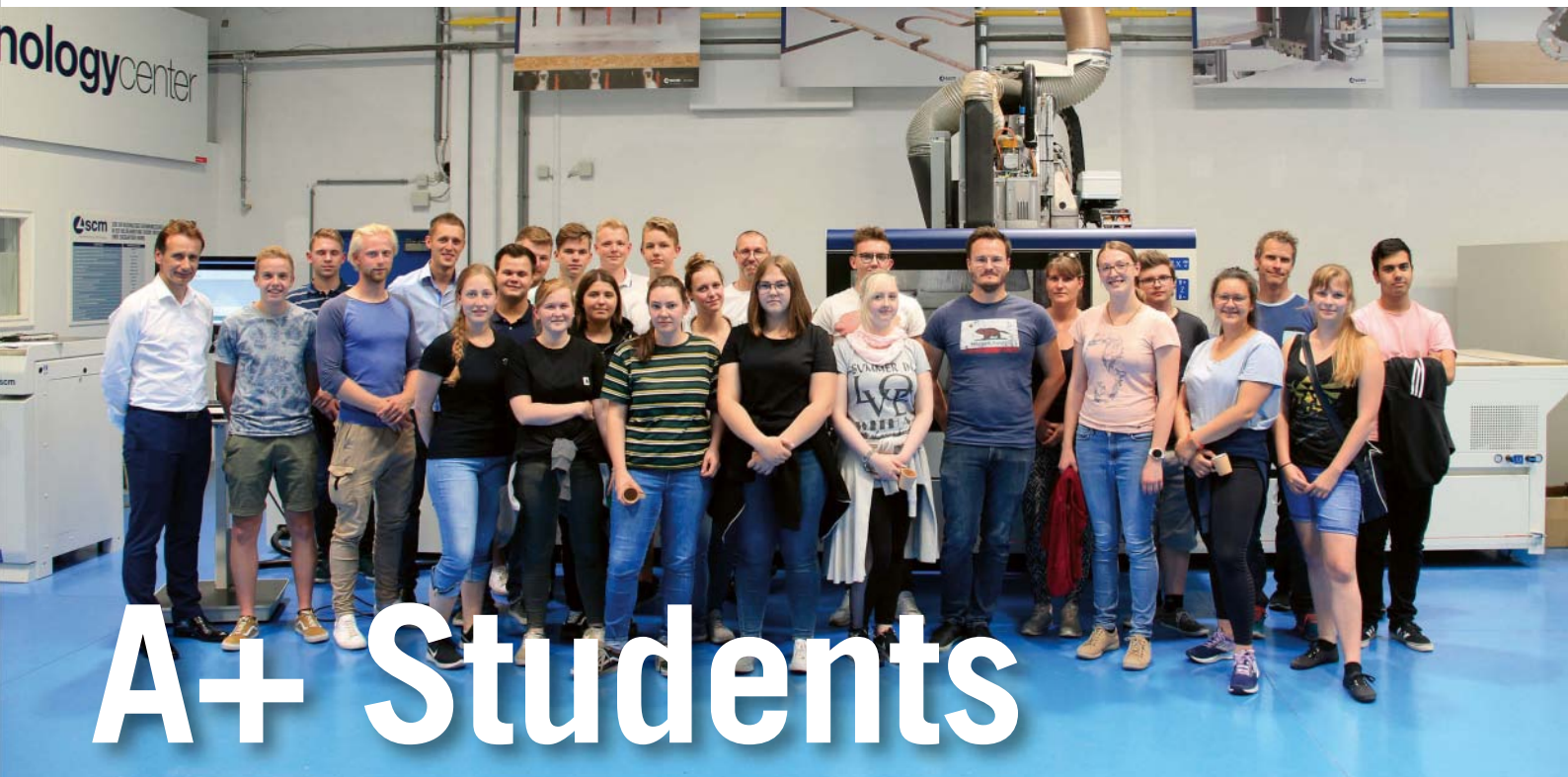
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CAD+T's European Talent Camp is back for 2020. Now in its fourth year, the annual competition, which will be held from the 6th-10th July 2020 at CAD+T's Austrian HQ, has been designed to encourage talented school leavers and apprentices aged 16-28 to follow a career in the furniture design and manufacturing industry. Candidates, who are required to have basic AutoCAD knowledge on registration, will have their design and construction skills put to the test in a bid to win a wide range of prizes worth over £2,000 and a year-long apprenticeship in Australia or Dubai - two of the software specialists most established global offices.

Martina Schwarz, International Sales & Marketing Manager says, "Our CAD+T Talent Camps – which takes place in both Europe and Indonesia – have proven to be a massive success in recent years and we're looking to emulate this in 2020. The competition is open to young adults from around Europe and, as well as an opportunity to work with experienced

software developers and learn how to use our latest software solutions to create their own design project, the whole team will also have an opportunity to take part in some really fun activities and visit some exciting places during their stay.

"For us, running our international CAD+T Talent Camps is about nurturing talent and closing the skills gap in our industry. It has the possibility to open a lot of doors for someone who is interested in a career in this field. Our 2017 winner has continued to work with us after completing his apprenticeship and the scheme has helped many more talented individuals progress in the furniture design and manufacturing industry."

Martina adds, "If you are looking to gain experience in this sector, you are focused, driven and are looking for your next opportunity, we really want to hear from you."

What are you waiting for? Register your interest today. For full terms and conditions and information on how to enter please visit www.cadt-solutions.com.

CAD+T continues its quest to bridge the skills gap with its 2020 Talent Camp.

Above: Students will learn the skills needed to create their own design using CAD+T's software.

Below: CAD+T's Headquarters.



Curves That Don't
Cost The EARTH



A photograph of a modern kitchen sink area. The countertop is a smooth, white, curved material. A stainless steel sink is embedded in the countertop. A sleek, modern faucet with a curved spout is mounted on the sink. The background consists of a wooden cabinet with a natural wood grain finish. A window is visible in the upper right corner, showing greenery outside.

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VS

SCHELLING – The Elite New Offerings

The new VS Area Storage System and LS1 range from Schelling are just showing how well they are adapting to the climate in the market.

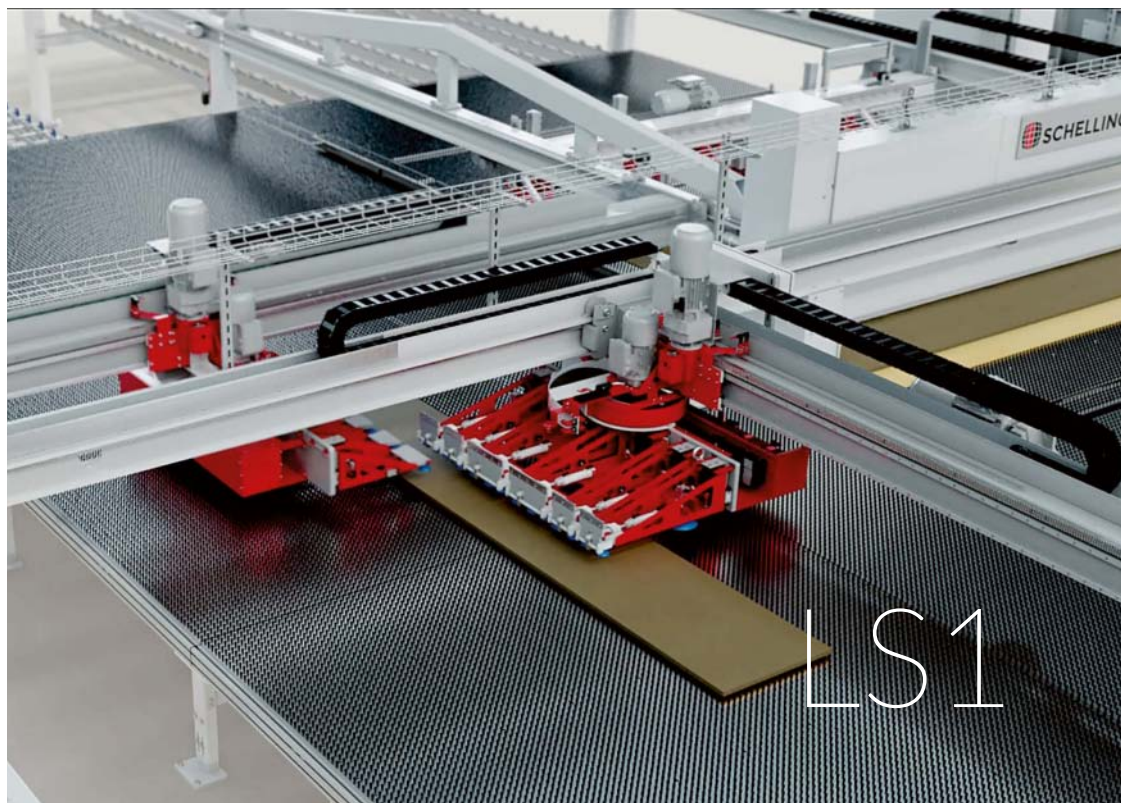
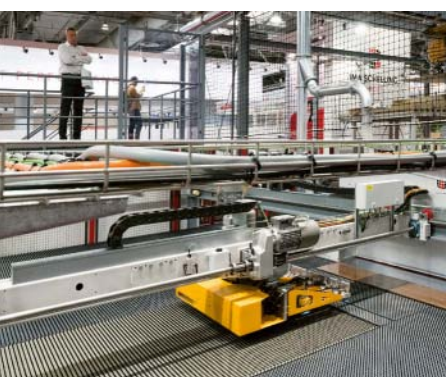
The LS1 is making batch size one production even more efficient and the VS can be adapted to suit any requirements. It can even be over multiple levels for those short of space!

Get in touch for more information on the VS or LS1.



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LS1



Universal Collaboration

Sanding applications for collaborative robots normally require many inter-communicating hardware and software components. Integration is complex and time consuming but thanks to Bedfordshire-based RARUK Automation, there is now a quick and easy solution.

New to RARUK's Robotiq range is an all-in-one sanding solution designed specifically to work with universal robots. Not only is the new sanding kit easy to integrate, it also reduces programming time from hours to minutes. Quality of finish and productivity are increased and the risk of sanding injuries is minimised. The new addition can be used to finish wood, plastics, metals, fibreglass, carbon fibre and also solid surfaces.

The Robotiq sanding kit can be fitted to any of the universal robots from RARUK Automation, and the company supplies three sizes that are easily integrated into existing production environments. With six

articulation points and a wide scope of flexibility, these collaborative robot arms are designed to mimic the range of motion of a human arm. All e-series models are compliant with CAT3 PLd, the standard that ensures products are safe for human/machine collaborative tasks.

To find out more, call RARUK Automation on 01462 670044 or visit www.rarukautomation.com If you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal App, you can watch the new sanding kit in action on your smartphone or tablet by touching the image marked with a link sign, above.

Robot technology from RARUK Automation makes sanding a cinch.





Flawless Fixing



With Välinge and SCM, even if you are a smaller manufacturer, click-together cabinets without fixings are within your reach.

Click-together flooring has conquered the world with its easy-to-assemble joints making life simple for the consumer and the manufacturer, so why hasn't click-together furniture taken off in such volume? In part, it's probably down to the complexity of the hinged joints between panels that require heavy investment in machinery when compared with the negligible investment required to insert panel fixings. But what if I told you there was a click-together system for furniture that, for a relatively modest investment, enabled you to produce your own fixing-free kitchens, bedrooms, bathrooms – and it can be assembled and disassembled hundreds of times without any fear of joint breakage?

Some 25 years ago, the Swedish company, Välinge, invented a mechanical locking system for flooring that's behind the sale of more than 1.5 billion square metres of flooring and still leads the market in terms of its simplicity and efficiency. At SCM's On the Leading Edge event in Thiene last November, Välinge showed a new variant of that same, easy-to-assemble technology that had been adapted to facilitate cabinet assembly: Threespine.

"Click floor has conquered the world," Välinge's Hans Brännström told Furniture Journal. "All floors are click today. We are about to do the same in the furniture world because this system is also very good for joining furniture." So, what makes Välinge so confident? "This is a two-piece solution



where we have a flexible plastic insert in the joint. That opens up a lot of possibilities regarding material thickness. We can click anything together that you can machine from 6mm in hard materials like CDF, acrylic, solid wood, or compact laminate and there are no unsightly holes left in the cabinet when it's fixed together. We can also take back panels from 2mm to fit them to the carcass.

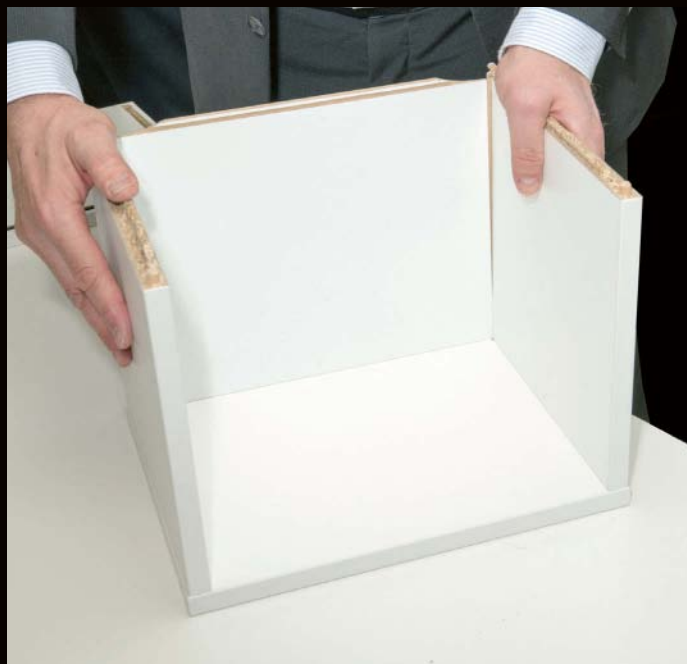
"The key difference with our solution is the function of the plastic locking strip. The strip, which has glass fibre reinforced springs, goes inside the joint and it flexes backwards and pops up to grip when the panels join. If there is any change in temperature when the cabinet is moved, or any vibration applied to the cabinet after fixing, the springs become

tighter, unlike nailing a panel which is at its tightest when you've just nailed it. The more you disassemble our Threespine system, the stronger it grips when it's reassembled – just the opposite of most systems. Strength is greater and production is easier. You can use a much wider variety of materials and you can even mix materials, joining acrylic to solid wood, or whatever you wish. You can even do mitre joints at 45 degrees. This is the future."

Disassembly is incredibly easy. Vålinge supplies a little plastic wand that slips into the closed joint, pushing back the locking strip and making it very easy to open. Anyone who has ever tried taking big wardrobes apart and listened in horror to the sound of



Hans Brännström



disintegrating chipboard will find Vålinge's solution a breath of fresh air – and when it comes to reassembly, there's none of the wobble you get with many flatpack units. The finished cabinet is fixed together even more tightly than it was the first time round.

Great, I hear you say, but how much investment in machinery does it take to get started and what level of production is needed to make it worthwhile? According to Gian Luca Giovanardi, SCM's Business Unit Manager for Double End Tenoners, if you have a production level of around 260 cabinets per shift – say, around 20 kitchens – and you are starting from scratch without a CNC or an edgebander, you'd need an investment just shy of £0.5 million. If you already have a Stefani sb and a five-axis Morbidelli M100, you only need to talk to SCM to make sure you have the right configuration and, of course, Vålinge, and you're up and running. Add in a Celaschi P40 and you can double that production to around 520 cabinets per shift. More than that and you really need to be looking at a squaring edgebanding line that will machine the sides, top and bottom, and take care of the edgebanding, a Celaschi P40 for the backs and a CNC for everything else.

"To produce the pieces, we need to machine a male joint on two sides and a female on the other sides plus the groove for the back, and make the profile for the back," explained Gian Luca, who presented figures to illustrate various production scenarios at the event in Thiene. "To make the male profile we either need a CNC machine like the Morbidelli M100 and a sequence of tools used one after the other, or we need a throughfeed machine with three motors. Because there is some material left on the profile, the first motor needs to be a jumping motor that avoids the interference when you match the pieces. The second step would then be to make the profile. Then, with the third motor, we create the groove for the plastic insert.

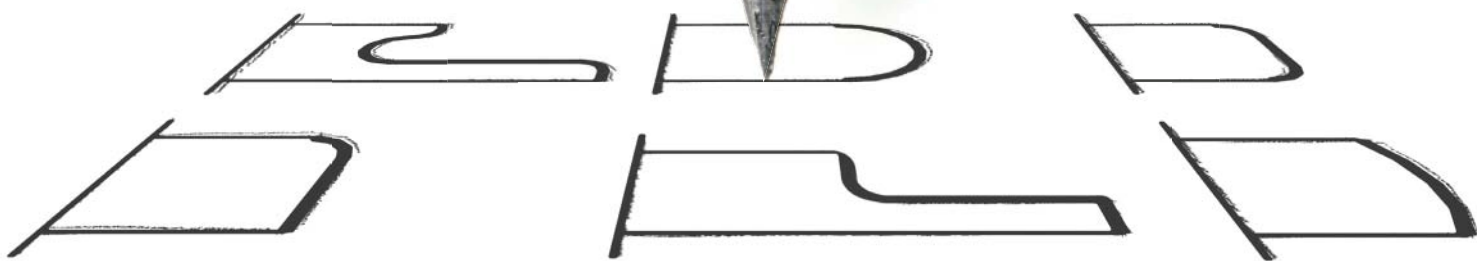
"For the female part of the joint, we need to make two kinds of grooves, a big one for the sides and a small one for the backs, and both require different tools even though the shape and the process are the same. We can share the same motor and use tool-changing or we can use dedicated motors. The first step is to make the vertical groove, the second is to make the tilted groove. That's why, with the CNC, you need five axes. The third step is not tooling but insertion that can

be done automatically with a device supplied by Vålinge that we can install in our machines. It's an automatic gun that can shoot 400 locking and inserting pieces per minute into the gaps. Several pieces need to be inserted in each panel but those in the back can be at a greater distance apart because they are only there to give squareness to the cabinet, whereas the others provide the strength. There's also a manual gun for those who don't want the automatic version."

With numerous perfectly-matched options available from SCM, and the facility to add fully-synchronised, automated loading and unloading, Vålinge and SCM have jointly made it easy for any manufacturer who might want to dispense with fixings and move into click-together cabinetry. If you haven't considered this before and would like further information, contact SCM on 0115 977 0044. Vålinge can be contacted on 0046 42237815 or visit www.valinge.se. Readers with the free Furniture Journal App can watch a video showing how easy the Vålinge Threespine system is to assemble in comparison with conventional assembly fixings by touching [here](#), or to watch Vålinge's strength comparison test (it's very impressive!), touch the main image marked with a link sign.

J-SHAPE

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J-SIDE: EDGEBANDING WITH A NEW VISION FOR DESIGN

SCM presents the new **“J-side”** kit. It's a **technological evolution** that allows industrial users to process components with a softformed **edgebanding** automatically - **and finish it on the same machine**. Not only can the edgebander process the softforming side and apply the straight edges, it can also perform the side finish, **even inside the “J”**, which usually requires operations on a separate machine. Multiple tasks. A single investment. Massive potential.

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