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MASKAYU

BRIEFING ON BUMIPUTERA ECONOMIC
EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME (PEB4U) YEAR 2017

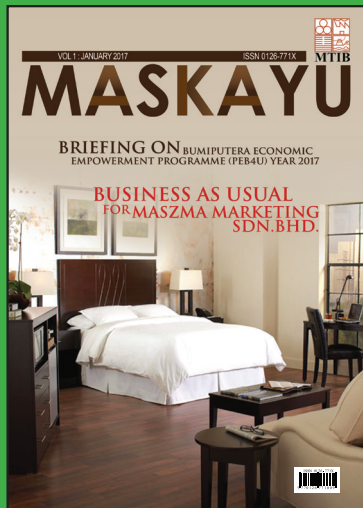
BUSINESS AS USUAL
FOR MASZMA MARKETING
SDN.BHD.



ISSN 0126-771X



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Cover : Bedroom sets produced by Maszma Marketing Sdn. Bhd. To know more about the company, please refer pages 15-17.

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BRIEFING ON BUMIPUTERA ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME (PEB4U) YEAR 2017



Dr. Mohd Nor Zamri Mat Amin, Director of WISDEC briefed participants on MTIB Training Programme at the Galeri Glulam Johor Bahru on 22 January 2017.

The Bumiputera Economic Empowerment Division of MTIB organised the Briefing on Bumiputera Economic Empowerment Programme (PEB4U) for Bumiputera entrepreneurs. This programme was held four times according to the zone, date and venue as stated below:

ZONE	DATE	VENUE
North	11 January 2017	Alor Setar, Kedah
East	19 January 2017	Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu
South	22 January 2017	Galeri Glulam Johor Bahru, Johor
Central	25 January 2017	MTIB, Kuala Lumpur

The objective of the briefing was to apprise the participants on updated MTIB information on aids provided by the government and the plans to empower Bumiputera timber industry entrepreneurs for the year 2017.

Other Divisions from MTIB then briefed the entrepreneurs on programmes offered by their respective departments. MTIB also invited other government agencies to present on financial aid offered by their agencies to the entrepreneurs. Amongst the agencies involved were:

- Furniture Industry Technology Centre (FITEC)
- Perbadanan Usahawan Nasional Berhad (PUNB)
- SME Corp Malaysia
- Unit Peneraju Agenda Bumiputera (TERAJU)



Q & A session at MTIB, Kuala Lumpur.



SINGAPORE **Sales of New Private Homes Fall**

According to the Urban Redevelopment Authority, sales of new private homes amounted to 367 units in December 2016, down 57.3% month-on-month and 4.4% year-on-year. The suburbs accounted for 231 units sold, while the core central region and city fringe made up 24 and 112 units respectively. Similarly, sales of new executive condominiums (ECs) decreased from 251 in November 2016 to 213 units. The decline was expected and is attributed to slow home-buying activity during the year-end holiday. Despite this, sales of new private homes for the whole of 2016 totalled 8,136 units, up 9.4% year-on-year. The growth was likely driven by low interest rates and improving sentiments.

Straits Times (The), 17 January

MYANMAR **Ministry to Limit Timber Export from 1 May 2017**

Beginning from 1 May 2017, timber denominated in kyat will not be eligible for export, according to Myanmar's Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. The purpose behind reducing the exports of timber was to ensure availability within the country and smooth distribution at a low price, according to Ministry spokesperson U Win Zaw. Only timber from Myanmar Timber Enterprise was eligible for export.

Myanmar Times (The), 6 January

CHINA **Hemlock-Bamboo CLT – New Trend in Building Materials**

It is expected that a bamboo/wood composite, Hemlock-Bamboo CLT plywood will see increased market opportunities in the Chinese construction sector where Canadian western hemlock is currently popular. In mid-2016 the first production line for Hemlock-Bamboo CLT plywood was built in Ningbo city of Zhejiang Province by the Institute of China-Canada Low Carbon New Technology Co., Ltd. A Hemlock-Bamboo CLT patent has been applied for and the company is promoting the cost-effective advantages of this product. In December last year two demonstration houses were built with the new CLT plywood. The company says that in the house building sector, this product can compete with most other materials in terms of strength and

that considerable savings in construction time are possible.

ITTO, 1-15 January

INDIA **Importers Need Alternative to Methyl Bromide Treatment**

Demand for imported plantation Teak logs and sawnwood continues to be good and suppliers have been able to ship larger girth logs in recent months which has given a boost to demand. Timber importers are still hostage to the domestic requirement that shipments be treated with methyl bromide. Indian plant quarantine rules require that imported timbers are fumigated with methyl bromide at the port of loading and a certificate to that effect accompanies the imported consignment. However, many countries have banned the use of methyl bromide so cannot comply with Indian phytosanitary requirements. Indian authorities are well aware of the problem but as yet have not suggested an alternative internationally acceptable treatment. When this issue is addressed Indian importers would have access to a wider range of suppliers.

ITTO, 1-15 January

INDIA **INR6.25 Trillion Affordable Housing Market By 2022**

India's affordable housing market is forecast to reach a value of INR6.25 trillion (EUR83.18 billion/USD93.43 billion) by 2022. Domestic rating agency ICRA (Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency of India Limited) further stated the growth will be driven by high home prices, as well as end-user driven market, growing population, wide household income disparity and rapid urbanisation. ICRA further added the housing shortage in the country is projected to grow from 19 million at present to 25 million units by 2021.

SteelGuru, 18 January

JAPAN **Supply and Demand Projection**

The Timber Supply and Demand Conference of Japan, which is formed by five groups of imported wood products, came up with the projection of demand for 2017. Import of logs and lumber from major sources in 2016 increased but they are projected to decrease in 2017. Housing starts in 2017 are forecasted to drop down to 940,000 units as compared to 970,000 units in 2016.

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Therefore, the demand for wood would decline in 2017. Also recent sudden depreciation of the Yen would discourage imports. Log import from North American would increase but others like New Zealand, South Sea and Russia continue to decline. North American log sawmills like Chugoku Lumber continue stable operations. Russian log import decrease due to fewer Russian log cutting sawmills and logs for plywood are replaced by North American logs and veneer from various sources. South Sea log import in 2017 is estimated about 100 million m³ by limited demand for plywood of South Sea logs.

Radiata Pine lumber demand for crating would decrease as the demand is replaced by domestic species. For lumber, European lumber and North American lumber would have stable demand. European lumber demand would increase by about 18%. European lumber business has been firm because of tight supply. Lumber from North America has general purpose use so it increased in 2016 with increased housing starts. It will stay almost the same as 2016.

ITTO, 16-31 January

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES **Federal Draft Law on International Trade Approved**

Harmful international trade practices will be tackled under a federal draft law on international trade approved by the Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates. Standards will be established under the law to ensure fair competition between foreign and domestic products. State news agency WAM reported that the law will deal with international trade from non-Gulf Cooperation Council nations.

Arabian Business, 11 January

GERMANY **Construction Industry Forecasts Sales Increase**

The Presidents of the German construction industry trade associations HDB and ZDB, Peter Hübner and Hans-Hartwig Loewenstein, have said they expect sales to increase by 5% in 2017 driven by strong demand for housing, increasing urbanisation and low interest rates. They forecast housing development will see the strongest growth at around 7%. A study by management consultancy Roland Berger and German bank Hypovereinsbank estimates the domestic housing market in Germany will continue to grow until 2020. Hübner and Loewenstein predict the public construction and

commercial construction sectors will also see growth of 5% and 3% respectively in 2017.

Handelsblatt, 10 January

SWEDEN **Continued Swedish Timber Exports After Brexit**

The UK is the single biggest export market for Swedish timber and the second biggest single market for the paper industry and bigger than the Swedish market. Exports to the UK will thus continue even if the country leaves the EU. But a new trade agreement will be needed, and because Sweden is part of the EU the agreement signed between the EU and the UK will also apply for Swedish companies.

ATL, 18 January

SWEDEN **HSB Commences with Wooden Tower Blocks Construction**

In Sweden, co-operative association HSB Sydost and Swedish construction company Dynacon have commenced construction of three new wooden tower blocks in Växjö Municipality. The three buildings will include 89 condominiums and make up the district Pelarsalen, a project which was started by Växjö Municipality ten years ago. The tower blocks will be constructed exclusively using Swedish wood from Spruce and Pine trees.

Nordisk Industri, 18 January

UNITED KINGDOM **Housing Up But Infrastructure Work Slows**

Construction output in Great Britain fell by 0.2% in November 2016 compared with October 2016, largely due to a contraction in non-housing repair and maintenance, but it was up 1.5% year-on-year. In the latest Office for National Statistics construction output report, the three months September to November 2017 show a rise of 1.6%, year-on-year, with all new work up 4.3% but repair and maintenance down 3.2%. Over the quarter, private housing was up 12.6% but infrastructure was down 6.1%. Despite the overall fall in all work during November 2016, new housing continued to grow at an increasing overall rate of 1.2% in comparison with October 2016, representing the biggest increment since February 2016. This has resulted in housing output reaching an all-time high of £2,639 million.

Theconstructionindex, 12 January

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NORTH AMERICA

Commercial Flooring Market to Rise at 4.5% CAGR Until 2021

According to the North American Commercial Flooring Markets Report 2017-2021, the North American commercial flooring industry is expected to grow at a 4.5% CAGR between 2016 and 2021 to reach USD26.80 billion (EUR23.86 billion) by 2021 from USD21.50 billion (EUR19.14 billion) in 2016 in terms of revenue. The report includes company profiles of key players including Adleta Corporation, Armstrong and Bentley Flooring among others. It includes information on latest product developments, enhancements in material and technology, detailed look of distribution channels, market demand, analysis of global trends and growth projections.

Ein Presswire, 3 January

CANADA

Housing Start Rises

The number of housing starts in Canada increased year-on-year from 195,535 to 197,915 units in 2016, according to Canada Mortgage and Housing. The December 2016 figure also grew monthly from 187,273 to 207,041 units on the back of a rebound in Ontario. Urban starts improved by 11.8% while rural starts stood at 19,420 on a seasonally adjusted basis. Multiple urban starts showed a 13.9% hike while single-detached urban starts went up by 8.1%. The six-month moving average was also higher at 198,053 units. Meanwhile, the value of building permits awarded dropped slightly by 0.1% to CAD7.80 billion (EUR5.32 billion/USD5.98 billion) in November 2016, according to Statistics Canada. The non-residential portion rose by 3% to CAD2.6 billion but the residential segment declined by 1.6% to CAD5.1 billion.

Canadian Business, 10 January

UNITED STATES

Housing Starts Up 5%

Residential home construction increased 5% in 2016 from the previous year. An estimated 1,166,400 housing units were being built in 2016. Single-family starts were up 9% in 2016, while multi-family declined slightly from the previous year. In December housing starts grew 11% at a seasonally adjusted annual rate, according to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Commerce Department. Builders' confidence

in the market for new single-family homes was almost unchanged in January. According to the National Home Builder Association's Chairman, builders expect that a new federal government will help create a better business climate for small businesses.

The National Home Builder Association expects a 10% growth in single-family construction in 2017. The number of building permits issues, which indicates future building activity, were unchanged in December from the previous month. Single-family permits increased, while permits for multi-family construction declined in December.

Sales of existing homes declined in December, but 2016 as a whole was the best year in a decade, according to the National Association of Realtors. December sales were down because of low supply levels and affordability issues for first-time home buyers. The average rate on a 30-year mortgage was 4.30% in late December, the highest rate since April 2014 according to Freddie Mac, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation.

www.hud.gov/press release, January

UNITED STATES

Anti-Dumping Duty on Wooden Bedroom Furniture From China Remains

In a required five-year review process the US International Trade Commission (USITC) decided that revoking the existing anti-dumping duty order on wooden bedroom furniture from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury of the US industry. As a result, the existing antidumping duty order on imports from China will remain in place. The commission's public report Wooden Bedroom Furniture from China will be available by 15 February 2017.

ITTO 1-15 January

UNITED STATES

Final Ruling on Formaldehyde Emissions for Wood Composite Products

The US Environmental Protection Agency has issued a final rule to implement the Formaldehyde Standards for Composite Wood Products Act. The final rule includes formaldehyde emission standards applicable to hardwood plywood, medium-density fibreboard, and particleboard, and finished goods containing these products, that are sold, supplied, offered for sale, or manufactured (including imported) in the United States. The rule is effective 10 February 2017.

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The American Wood Council supports this new rule and asks the new federal government to enforce it. The association expects the rule to strengthen US wood products manufacturing by creating a consistent system for wood products manufactured in and imported into the US. The American Wood Council represents about 75% of the wood product industry in the US.

www.epa.gov/newsreleases, January

SOUTH AFRICA Warning on Structural Timber Usage

A recent press release from the Institute for Timber Construction South Africa (ITC-SA) has warned South African importers and end users that timbers

used in structural applications must comply with South African regulations. Builders in South Africa are currently facing a shortage of structural timber which has led to an increase in imports. The ITC-SA says "National building regulations require that all structural timber comply with SANS 1783, which covers sawn softwood timber and both national and international manufacturers of structural timber supplied to the South Africa market are expected to be certified by a South African-based ISO 17065-accredited certification body." Only the South African Technical Auditing Services (SATAS) and the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) are accredited to certify manufacturers of products in compliance with SANS 1783.

ITTO, 1-15 January 

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Timber News



Attendees during PEB4U Programme at Alor Setar, Kedah held on 11 January 2017.

A total of 166 participants from all four zones attended the briefing. Participants comprised company managers, furniture manufacturers, furniture designers, sales executives and supervisors.



MTIB Officer gave a briefing in Kuala Terengganu on 19 January 2017.

The majority of participants who attended the briefing programme gave positive feedback on having achieved its objective. It gave them additional knowledge, it was relevant to their business and it helped expand their business networking. 



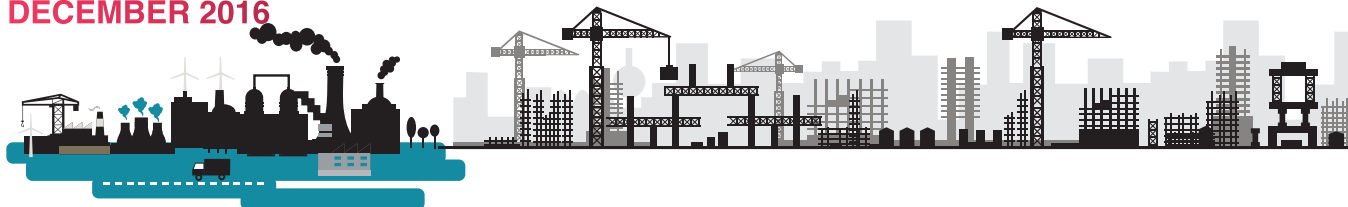


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DECEMBER 2016



Malaysia: Tanjung Pelepas Buys 93 Kalmar Terminal Tractors Worth USD5.2 Million

Subsidiary of Cargotec, Kalmar, is to start delivering the first batch of 93 terminal tractors for handling containers, worth EUR5 million (USD5.2 million) to its established customer, the Port of Tanjung Pelepas (PTP) in Malaysia. The order, the largest of its kind to date in Malaysia for terminal tractors, was booked in Cargotec's 2016 third quarter order intake, with first deliveries taking place in December 2016.

PTP is Malaysia's largest container terminal and the facility has continued to grow and expand its business in the region in spite of the gloomy global economic landscape by handling a total of 9.2 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) last year, an increase of 7% compared to 2014. Kalmar, 4x2 medium terminal tractors that would be delivered to PTP are manufactured in Shanghai, China with the design and offering specially optimised for the Asian market. The PTP units have a gross combination weight of 70 tonnes and they will be used to handle containers.

According to Kalmar Sales Support Manager, Colin Cen, their aim is to help PTP to improve the efficiency of PTP every move and lower PTP operating costs with their high-quality terminal tractors. Their factory in Shanghai is fully committed and working

at full speed to deliver the ordered machines on time as promised. This is Kalmar largest terminal tractor order to date in Malaysia.

Source: www.asianshipper.com, 31 December

Australia: International Container Terminal Services (ICTSI) Finishes AUD550 Million Terminal

The Australia-based Victoria International Container Terminal (VICT) worth AUD550 million (EUR369.19 million, USD414.68 million) has been completed by the Philippine-based port management firm ICTSI and will begin operations in January 2017. The terminal, which is located in Melbourne's Webb Dock, will be capable of dealing with 1.4 million TEUs or standard containers annually when completely developed. The terminal will be run by VICT, which is a wholly owned unit of ICTSI, until 30 June 2040. A contract for the container terminal's construction, design, operation, commissioning and financing was sealed by VICT with the Port of Melbourne in May 2014.

Source: *BusinessWorld*, 14 December

Germany: Port in Hamburg Sees Highest Volume of Handled Cargo

According to the German online data portal, the German port in Hamburg saw the highest volume of handled cargo country-wide in 2015, when over

Shipments of Timber and Timber Products through Ports in Peninsular Malaysia, December 2016

Products	Port Klang		Kuantan		Pasir Gudang		Tanjung Pelepas		Penang		Total all Ports m ³	% Change Dec 2016/ Nov 2016
	m ³	% Change Dec 2016/ Nov 2016	m ³	% Change Dec 2016/ Nov 2016	m ³	% Change Dec 2016/ Nov 2016	m ³	% Change Dec 2016/ Nov 2016	m ³	% Change Dec 2016/ Nov 2016		
Sawntimber	66,790	5	12,788	6	1,318	-29	499	1	908	-93	82,303	-9
MDF	23,367	-27	547	89	7,094	-19	6,588	-26	13,679	-27	51,275	-26
Mouldings	11,741	2	198	-31	1,280	-26	395	20	2,067	4	15,681	-1
Plywood	6,368	-5	0	0	45	100	58	-38	12,153	131	18,624	54
Veneer	981	-19	0	-100	1	-99	58	625	1,015	-17	2,055	-20
Particleboard	45,487	-14	99	-63	201	-53	111	100	2,832	94	48,730	-12
TOTAL	154,733	-8	13,632	6	9,940	-23	7,709	-21	32,654	-21	218,669	-11

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DECEMBER 2016

8,000 TEUs were handled, down by 9.3% over the previous year. The port in Bremerhaven followed with less than 6,000 handled TEUs, down by 4.3%. In addition, the port in Wilhelmshaven let register the highest rate growth in the volume of handled freight at sea ports in Germany, with an increase of 536.2%. The increase rate was 8.8% in Cuxhaven while the remaining German sea ports of Kiel, and Lübeck experienced a drop in the volume of handled goods of 8.6% and 2.5% respectively.

Source: Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 20 December

Argentina: Chamber of Private Commercial Ports (CPPC) Praises Government Efforts to Lower Port/Shipping Costs

In Argentina, the CPPC has stated that 2016 has been a positive year for this sector because of a number of measures taken by the Ministry of Transport, which have reduced port/shipping costs. The government is seeking to increase competitiveness and boost national exports. Some objectives achieved by the Ministry of Transport in 2016 include the withdrawal of the so-called Transporte Argentino Protegido (TAP) certificate, which reduced port costs, in relation to containers, by 15%, the unpicking of legislation that prevented transshipments in Uruguayan ports, as well as lower costs at Bahia Blanca and General San Martin port. Overall, these measures have reduced local costs per vessel by up to 5%.

CPPC has outlined ten additional objectives to the government that would further increase the competitiveness of local ports, including raising water levels on the Hidrovia water transport system, along the Parana river, to 36 feet, a reduction in Hidrovia fees, an end to controls known as 'draft surveys' by the national customs authority, a reduction in moorage fees, the official authorisation of several ports that are already up and running, a reduction in additional costs linked to the customs authority, raising lengths of vessels for Zarate port to 275 metre as well as further studies into high internal logistics costs and possible solutions, such as lower waiting times for vessels.

Source: Punto Biz (Argentina), 21 December

South Korea: Busan Port to be Affected by Shipping Alliances Reshuffling

A total of 13 shipping firms under three international shipping alliances will undergo reshuffling

beginning April 2017. The reshuffling that will be carried out via mergers and acquisitions will result in CKYHE, Oceans 3 and G6 shipping alliances becoming nine shippers under the umbrella of two alliances. Due to the reshuffling, Busan Port's harbour volume in South Korea is set to dip by 3.5% starting 2017. There will be cut in three shipping routes via Busan Port, based on the three alliances' shipping line plan. Each of the route brings between 80,000 TEUs and 140,000 TEUs.

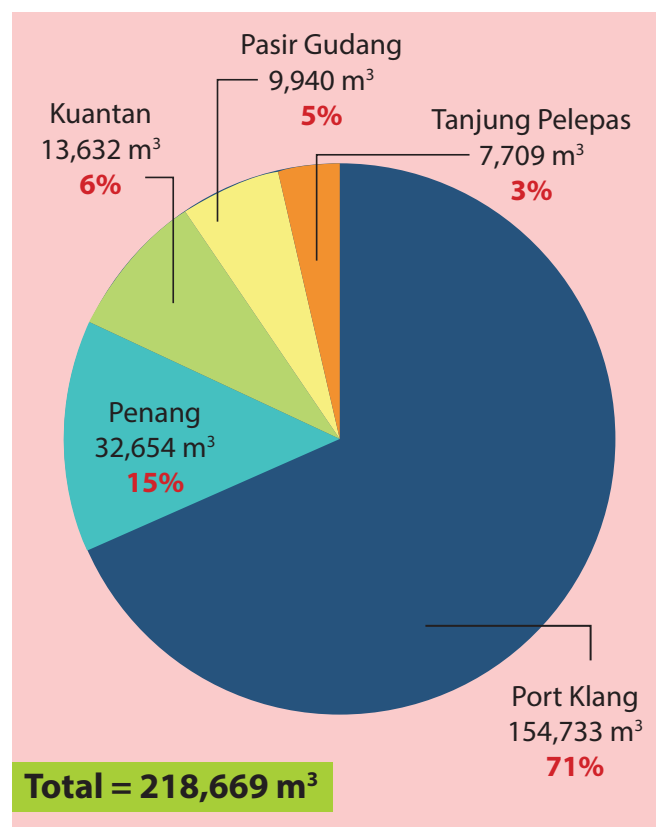
Source: Korea Herald (The), 27 December

South Korea: Incheon Port Container Volume Exceeds 2.5 Million TEUs

Incheon Port in South Korea reported a more than 2.5 million TEUs yearly container volume as of 16 December 2016, with the figure being the highest since 2005, while the Incheon Port Authority (IPA) has announced its goal of being the top 30 ports in the world. Maintaining its current pace, the container volume to be handled by the port is projected to increase 12% on-year to 2.68 million TEUs by end-2016.

Source: www.steelguru.com, 30 December

Timber Shipment through Ports in Peninsular Malaysia, December 2016



DECEMBER 2016

Total exports of timber and timber products in December increased 10% in value to RM2.09 billion over the previous month. However, cumulative export for the period of January to December decreased slightly 0.2% in value to RM22.11 billion compared to the corresponding period in 2015.

SAWNTIMBER

Export of sawntimber in December 2016 increased 8% in volume and 15% in value to 191,854 m³ with a value of RM341.2 million as compared to the previous month. Cumulative export for the period of January to December 2016 decreased 3% in volume however increased 7% in value to 1.96 million m³ totaling RM3.4 billion over the previous corresponding period.

Export of sawntimber to the EU for the month improved 108% to 12,385 m³ from 5,958 m³ in the previous month due to increased purchases made by major countries in the region. Export to the Netherlands increased 145% to 5,375 m³ followed by the UK at 279% to 1,994 m³. Similarly, France and Germany increased purchases by 291% to 1,158 m³ and 135% to 1,597 m³ respectively. However, export to Belgium declined by 3% to 1,359 m³ from the previous month.

Total exports to West Asia increased by 14% to 38,262 m³ from 33,439 m³ recorded in the previous month. Export to Qatar improved by 11 folds to 1,425 m³ from 687 m³ in the previous month. Similarly, export to Oman increased 39% to 8,323 m³ followed by Bahrain at 21% to 900 m³. On the other hand, export to Yemen and the UAE reduced by 52% to 15,590 m³ and 62% to 7,221 m³ respectively. Likewise, export to Saudi Arabia decreased 36% to 1,872 m³ from 2,222 m³ recorded in the previous month.

Buying from ASEAN increased 11% to 73,633 m³ from 66,404 m³ registered in the previous month. Export of sawntimber to Thailand, a major buyer of sawntimber from Malaysia decreased 24% to 29,170 m³ from 38,386 m³ in the previous month. Exports to Singapore and Viet Nam decreased by 11% to 8,035 m³ and 12% to 1,574 m³ respectively. However, export to the Philippines increased by 105% to 34,833 m³ from 16,992 m³ in the previous month.

Shipments to East Asia decreased by 22% to 33,033 m³ from 42,486 m³ in the previous month. Similarly, export to China declined by 48% to 13,199 m³ followed by Japan at 21% to 4,550 m³. In the meanwhile, export to Taiwan and South Korea increased by 40% and 20% to 10,933 m³ and 3,822 m³ respectively.

Elsewhere, exports to the US increased by 49% to 774 m³. However, intake by Australia decreased 32% to 786 m³. Demand from South Africa increased by three folds to 4,163 m³ from 1,072 m³ in the previous month.

The average FOB price of sawntimber increased 7% to RM1,778 per m³ from RM 1,667 per m³ in the previous month. Price of Dark Red Meranti (DRM) decreased 4% to RM1,488 per m³ from RM1,545 per m³ in the previous month. Contrariwise, price of DRM to the Netherlands increased 2% to RM3,231 per m³ from RM3,165 per m³ in the previous month. Keruing was traded at RM1,578 per m³, an increase of 11% from RM1,428 per m³ in the previous month.

PLYWOOD

Export of plywood in December increased 3% in volume and 7% in value to 230,576 m³ valued at RM408.1 million as compared to the previous month.

Total exports to the EU increased by 141.9% to 12,987 m³. Similarly, exports to Belgium, Netherlands and the UK improved by 31%, 45% and 182% to 173 m³, 676 m³ and 10,922 m³ respectively and France maintained its intake at 212 m³ whilst Denmark, Germany and Italy resumed their intake. However, Ireland reduced its intake by 24% to 514 m³.

Exports to ASEAN region decreased as Singapore and Thailand intake of plywood declined by 1% and 8% to 2,536 m³ and 4,458 m³ respectively. However, Brunei, Indonesia and the Philippines increased their intake by 15%, 82% and 84% to 769 m³, 51 m³ and 4,210 m³ respectively. In East Asia, China, Japan and Taiwan increased their intake by 20%, 7% and 48% to 2,881 m³, 106,975 m³ and 24,792 m³ respectively. Conversely, Hong Kong and South Korea reduced their intake by 27% and 19% to 3,656 m³ and 27,598 m³ respectively.

Overall exports to West Asia decreased by 33% as compared to the previous month. Similarly, shipments to Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar and Yemen reduced by 92%, 50%, 76% and 22% to 761 m³, 1,293 m³, 90 m³ and 10,806 m³ respectively. Meanwhile, Bahrain and Kuwait increased their intake by 233% and 100% to 1,937 m³ and 515 m³ respectively.

Elsewhere, exports of plywood to South Africa, the US and Australia increased by 98%, 7% and 4% to 85 m³, 13,880 m³ and 2,599 m³ respectively. However, Mexico and Canada reduced their intake by 30% and 74% to 2,553 m³ and 119 m³ respectively whilst Algeria, Mauritius, New Zealand and Turkey did not make any purchases.

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DECEMBER 2016

The FOB price of plywood increased by 4% to RM1,770 per m³ from RM1,706 per m³ in the previous month.

VENEER

Exports of veneer for December 2016 showed an increase of 42% in volume and 38% in value to 191,854 m³ at RM38.7 million as compared to the previous month. Similarly, exports to China, Taiwan, Philippines, India and Australia improved by 18%, 259%, 45%, 16% and 45% to 3,740 m³, 11,786 m³, 633 m³, 333 m³ and 167 m³ respectively.

On the other hand, South Korea, Singapore and Viet Nam reduced their intake by 18%, 38% and 17% to 7,699 m³, 20 m³ and 49 m³ respectively.

The FOB price of veneer decreased to RM1,522 per m³ from RM1,564 per m³, a reduction of 3% from the previous month.

MEDIUM DENSITY FIBREBOARD (MDF)

Malaysia's exports of MDF for December 2016 showed a decrease of 29% in volume and 24% in value from the previous month. Exports totalled 65,371 m³ at RM79.5 million. However, cumulative export of MDF for the period of January to December 2016 valued at RM1.18 billion, an increase of 4% compared to the same period last year.

Exports to East Asia registered a decrease of 6% to 13,150 m³ from 13,936 m³ in the previous month. Similarly, demand by Japan and China (including Hong Kong) decreased 9% to 11,767 m³ and 37% to 164 m³ respectively. However, demand from Taiwan and South Korea improved by 44% to 638 m³ and 129% to 581 m³ respectively.

Furthermore, exports to West Asia in December 2016 recorded a negative growth with a decrease of 47% in volume to 20,593 m³ from 38,520 m³ in the previous month. Likewise, exports to the UAE, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Oman and Lebanon reduced by 9% to 8,002 m³, 16% to 4,575 m³, 34% to 5,767 m³, 45% to 158 m³, 76% to 472 m³ and 87% to 132 m³ respectively, whilst Iran and Syria did not make any purchases. On the other hand, exports to Qatar and Bahrain increased by 58% to 833 m³ and 82% to 654 m³ respectively.

Exports to South Asia declined by 8% in volume to 11,781 m³ from 12,807 m³. Similarly, export to India and Sri Lanka reduced by 28% to 3,121 m³ and 29% to 1,007 m³ respectively. However, Pakistan and Bangladesh improved their intake by 1% to 5,157 m³ and 25% to 2,496 m³ respectively.

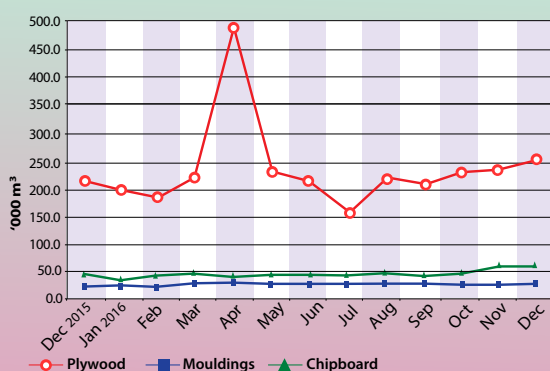
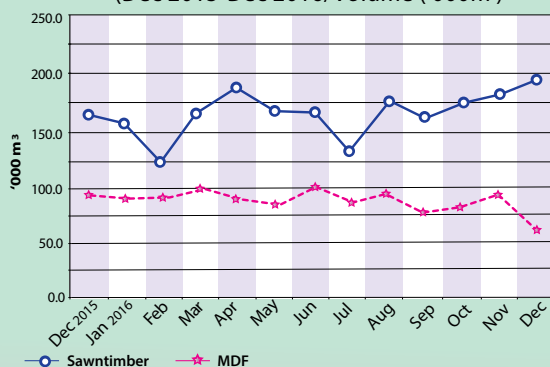
Exports to the UK showed an increase of 22% to 325 m³, likewise demand from South Africa also improved by 385% to 698 m³. Meanwhile, demand from the US, Australia and Mauritius reduced by 10% to 1,518 m³, 14% to 2,512 m³ and 40% to 128 m³ respectively.

In ASEAN, total export to ASEAN region for this month decreased by 25% to 13,961 m³ from 18,572 m³ in the previous month. Similarly, shipments to Singapore decreased by 23% to 206 m³, Viet Nam decreased by 29% to 8,627 m³ and the Philippines decreased by 47% to 1,663 m³. However, Indonesia increased its intake by 9% to 3,245 m³.

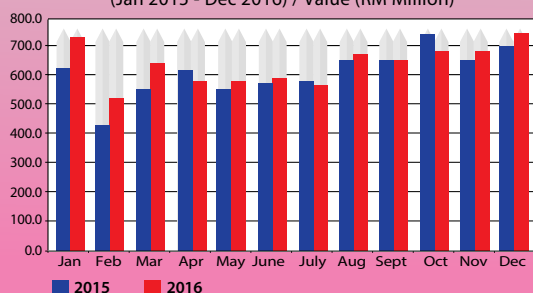
MOULDINGS

Exports of mouldings for the month increased by 13% in volume and 24% in value to 21,027 m³ and RM76.7 million respectively. However, cumulative exports for the period of December 2016 decreased by 10% in volume and 1% in value to 236,881 m³

Malaysia : Export of Major Timber Products
(Dec 2015-Dec 2016/Volume ('000m³)



Malaysia : Export of Wooden Furniture
(Jan 2015 - Dec 2016) / Value (RM Million)



Source : Department of Statistics, Malaysia

DECEMBER 2016



LOGS

The rainy season particularly at the eastern side of Peninsular Malaysia in December has limited the supply of logs.

Log prices for the species of Chengal, Balau and Merbau stood firm at RM4,000 per tonne, RM3,000 per tonne and RM2,700 per tonne respectively. Similarly, prices of Keruing and Kapur continued to be traded at RM1,430 per tonne and RM1,700 per tonne respectively. Meanwhile, prices for Kempas increased by 3% to RM1,720 per tonne over the previous month. However, prices of Red Meranti fell slightly by 1.2% to RM1,680 per tonne. Prices of Mersawa increased by 5.7% to RM1,480 per tonne. On the other hand, logs prices for Mixed Heavy Hardwood charted at RM958 per tonne whilst prices of Mixed Light Hardwood remained at RM1,200 per tonne.

SAWNTIMBER

The average price of sawntimber in December was still hovering at last month's level due to continuous market volatility from both overseas and domestic market.

The sawntimber prices of Chengal, Balau and Merbau maintained at RM6,638 per m³, RM3,178 per m³ and RM3,849 per m³ respectively. Similarly, prices for Keruing and Kapur were traded at RM1,328 per m³ and RM2,248 per m³ respectively. Prices for Kempas however dropped by 1.9% to RM2,154 per

m³. Meanwhile, prices of Red Meranti and Mersawa increased by 3.7% and 4.7% respectively to RM1,977 per m³ and RM1,554 per m³. On the other hand, sawntimber prices for Mixed Heavy Hardwood and Mixed Light Hardwood charted at RM794 per m³ and RM1,130 per m³ respectively.

PLYWOOD

The supply of plywood to the domestic market reported to be sufficient although the industry is facing a challenging market due to the competition of plywood from other supplying countries. Plywood of 4mm, 6mm, 9mm and 12mm of thicknesses were continued to be traded at RM14.60, RM22.00, RM34.50 and RM41.50 per piece respectively.

MEDIUM DENSITY FIBREBOARD (MDF)

The MDF industry reported that they have started to face a shortage supply of raw material for the month due to stiff competition received from other users of timber. This situation has led the price of MDF for the month to increase slightly as compared to the previous month. The MDF of 4mm, 6mm, 9mm and 12mm of thicknesses were sold at RM12.10, RM16.55, RM22.15 and RM28.80 per piece respectively.

INTRA-MALAYSIA TRADE *- DECEMBER 2016

The shipments of sawntimber from Sabah to Peninsular Malaysia for the month under review

INTRA-MALAYSIA TRADE – DECEMBER 2016

From	Products	NOV 2016		DEC 2016		% Change in Volume Dec 2016 / Nov 2016	% Change in Value Dec 2016 / Nov 2016
		Volume (m ³)	Value (RM '000)	Volume (m ³)	Value (RM '000)		
SABAH	Logs	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Sawntimber	319	699	150	327	-53	-53
	Plywood	9,572	16,237	11,813	16,801	23	3
	Veneer	0	0	0	0	-0	0
SARAWAK	Logs	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Sawntimber	889	959	1,097	1,255	23	31
	Plywood	8,175	10,442	9,285	12,615	14	21
	Veneer	3,822	5,351	3,821	5,301	0	-1

Source : Department of Statistics, Malaysia

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DECEMBER 2016

decreased by half or 53% in volume from 319 m³ last month to 150 m³ which valued at RM327,000. Export of plywood however increased by 23% in volume at 11,813 m³ worth RM16.8 million.

increased by 14% in volume to 9,285 m³ worth at RM12.6 million. A total of 3,821 m³ in volume worth RM5.3 million of veneer was supplied to Peninsular Malaysia for the month.



Export of sawntimber from Sarawak to Peninsular Malaysia jumped by 23% to 1,097 m³, valued at RM1.3 million. Likewise, shipments of plywood

No intra trade from Peninsular Malaysia to Sabah and Sarawak was recorded in December 2016.

* Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

***AVERAGE DOMESTIC PRICES OF LOGS, SAWNTIMBER, PLYWOOD AND MDF IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA
DECEMBER 2016 (VALUE IN RM)**

SPECIES	LOGS/tonne	SAWNTIMBER/m ³			
	18" UP	GMS	STRIPS	SCANTLINGS	
HEAVY HARDWOOD					
Chengal	4,000	6,638	7,062	8,828	
Balau	3,000	3,178	3,249	3,531	
Red Balau	2,500	2,987	3,037	3,213	
Merbau	2,700	3,849	3,884	3,955	
Mixed Heavy Hardwood	958	794	851	975	
MEDIUM HARDWOOD					
Keruing	1,430	1,328	1,412	2,203	
Kempas	1,720	2,154	2,260	2,331	
Kapur	1,700	2,248	2,260	2,331	
Mengkulang	1,100	1,483	1,554	1,624	
Tualang	1,400	2,472	2,542	2,585	
LIGHT HARDWOOD					
Dark Red Meranti	1,900	2,013	2,154	2,707	
Red Meranti	1,680	1,977	2,013	2,048	
Yellow Meranti	1,200	1,342	1,448	1,554	
White Meranti	1,070	2,119	2,189	2,260	
Mersawa	1,480	1,554	1,624	1,660	
Nyato	900	777	812	847	
Sepetir	1,100	1,283	1,335	1,469	
Jelutong	1,100	1,540	1,589	1,730	
Mixed Light Hardwood	1,200	1,130	1,222	1,236	
MALAYSIAN RUBBERWOOD <i>Hevea brasiliensis</i>	LOGS/tonne	SAWNTIMBER/m ³			
	150	1" X 1"	2" X 2"	3" X 3"	4" X 4"
		784	1,150	1,180	1,200
PLYWOOD 4' X 8' (RM per piece)	4mm	6mm	9mm	12mm	
	14.60	22.00	34.50	41.50	
MDF 4' X 8' (RM per piece)	4mm	6mm	9mm	12mm	
	12.10	16.55	22.15	28.80	

Note: Log prices ex-batau. Sawntimber, plywood, MDF and Malaysian Rubberwood (*Hevea brasiliensis*) prices ex-mill

* Prices are only indicative



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and RM820.8 million respectively as compared to the previous corresponding period in 2015.

Exports to the EU for the month recorded at 7,552 m³, an increase of 34% compared to the previous month. Netherlands, Germany, Belgium and the UK increased their purchased by 45%, 28%, 2% and 28% to 3,836 m³, 1,276 m³, 551 m³ and 514 m³. However, Italy did not make any purchases.

Exports to ASEAN region increased as Viet Nam and Indonesia intake of mouldings increased by 142% and 6% to 278 m³ and 35 m³ respectively. However, Singapore reduced its intake by 13% to 1,471 m³ compared to the previous month.

Meanwhile, exports to Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan increased by 5%, 17%, 42% and 1% to 1,937 m³, 1,783 m³, 266 m³ and 167 m³ respectively. However, exports to China decreased by 31% to 941 m³ compared to the previous month. Elsewhere, export to Australia, the US and Canada increased by 2%, 34% and 63% to 3,382 m³, 1,716 m³ and 135 m³ respectively.

FOB unit value increased to RM3,650 per m³, an increase of 10% compared to the previous month.

BUILDERS JOINERY AND CARPENTRY (BJC)

Total BJC cumulative exports from December 2016 increased 9% to RM195.4 billion as compared to RM1.1 billion in the corresponding period last year. Export to the EU increased 12% to RM333.2 million. Similarly, exports to the UK, Germany, France, Turkey and Italy improved by 10%, 200%, 6%, 123% and 80% to RM180.2 million, RM28.8 million, RM19.8 million, RM6.9 million and RM6.3 million respectively, whilst Netherlands increased its imports rapidly by eight folds to RM5.7 million. However, export to Belgium, Denmark and Sweden decreased by 6%, 1% and 61% to RM48.7 million, RM20.1 million and RM6.5 million compared to the previous year.

In Asia, exports to Singapore, Japan, Pakistan, Viet Nam and the UAE grew 11%, 7%, 17%, 22% and 55% to RM147.2 million, RM78.7 million, RM54.1 million, RM41.7 million and RM6.1 million respectively. However, exports to India, Thailand, Taiwan, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Qatar and Bahrain decreased by 0.3%, 7%, 16%, 48%, 14%, 71% and 99% valued at RM67.9 million, RM33.7 million, RM16.0 million, RM3.4 million, RM2.7 million, RM2.7 million and RM20 thousand respectively.

Elsewhere, exports to Australia increased by 19% to RM204.8 million compared to the previous year. However, South Africa and Mauritius reduced their purchases by 18% and 41% to RM17.4 million and RM0.479 million respectively. On the other hand, the US increased its intake by 9% to RM106.9 million

from RM98.2 million.

FURNITURE

Exports of wooden and rattan furniture for the period under review in 2016 rose 3.9% compared to the corresponding period of 2015. Total shipment recorded RM7.6 billion against RM7.3 billion in 2015. Exports of wooden furniture for 2016 increased by 4% to RM7.3 billion as compared to the previous corresponding period in 2015.

Imports of wooden furniture by the US increased 6% from RM2.5 billion to RM2.6 billion. However, Canada reduced its consumption by 13% from RM262.8 million.

In East Asia, wooden furniture exports to Japan, China and Taiwan increased by 7%, 92% and 13% to RM696.8 million, RM121.7 million and RM53.0 million respectively. Whereas, South Korea reduced its consumption by 1% to RM124.0 million. Exports to ASEAN region increased as Singapore and the Philippines intake of wooden furniture increased by 16% and 32% to RM470.2 million and RM157.2 million respectively.

Exports of wooden furniture to West Asia declined as the UAE and Saudi Arabia reduced their intake by 10% and 24% to RM198.9 million and RM158.22 million respectively. However, Bahrain and Iraq increased their wooden furniture consumption by 32% and 13% to RM23.6 million and RM5.3 million respectively. Shipment of wooden furniture to India recorded an increase of 5% to RM157.5 million.

In Europe, the UK and Spain improved their intake by 14% and 8% to RM427.9 million and RM24.9 million respectively. However, France, Belgium, Poland and Norway reduced their intake by 14%, 9%, 8% and 28% to RM62.9 million, RM42.2 million, RM29.9 million and RM12.0 million respectively.

Meanwhile, Australia improved its intake by 16% to RM621.7 million. Contrariwise, South Africa reduced its intake by 32% to RM50.4 million.

Rattan furniture shipments increased to RM42.0 million compared to RM31.4 million in 2015, an increase of 34%. Singapore remains as the top importer as its intake increased by 3% to RM7.0 million in 2016. Shipments to India and China improved by 62% and 63% to RM5.1 million and RM1.1 million respectively.

France increased its demand by 16 folds to RM5.8 million whilst Australia increased its intake by 84% to RM4.5 million. The US however had recorded a reduction of 55% to RM859 thousand as compared to the previous year.

BUSINESS AS USUAL FOR MASZMA MARKETING SDN. BHD.



Encik Amin Razak, Managing Director of Maszma Marketing Sdn. Bhd.

Malaysian furniture is exported to more than 160 countries and it has continued to thrive over the last decades. Export has increased many folds and it registered its highest performance in 2015, at RM7.3 billion. Malaysian furniture has always been in the limelight due to the aesthetic beauty of the wood and high quality of the products manufactured by companies which are both resilient and dynamic. Maszma Marketing Sdn. Bhd. is one such company having been able to remain competitive and sustain their business for the last 30 years.

COMPANY BRIEF

Maszma Marketing started as a trading company in late 1980s with a small workforce and the man helming the company is Encik Amin Razak. He started the company out of sheer coincidence when his French friend who was sourcing furniture from the Far East for the Scandinavian countries sought his assistance. As an engineer by profession, he had no experience and knowledge about the furniture industry back then but he liked challenges and creativity in his work. Since then, his passion for furniture has grown and he has never looked back.



During the initial stages, Maszma's furniture was mainly for the US market when Encik Amin set up a company there with a few of his local friends. He imported most of his furniture from established Malaysian companies to meet mail order operations managed by US companies. Maszma's business continued to flourish so much so that they expanded and opened up an office in Viet Nam.

The furniture produced by Maszma Marketing is mainly customer design items (OEM) and are exclusively made for the said companies. Furniture for hotels, restaurants, apartments and student housing are among the products that they have produced over the years for the US market. The species commonly used to produce the furniture are Rubberwood, Oak, Beech and Ash, hence offering a variety of choices to buyers. Their furniture is mostly for the medium to high end markets compared to low and medium end markets in the 1990s.



Furniture manufactured by Maszma Marketing Sdn. Bhd.

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FURNITURE PROCUREMENT

In order to remain competitive and be updated on the latest trends and demand of buyers for furniture, Encik Amin made it a point to visit international furniture exhibitions yearly such as in ASEAN countries, Europe, the US and the Far East. He would observe and study the designs, pricing and latest trends of furniture so that he could apply them to the furniture orders that he received.

Over the years, Maszma Marketing has gained the reputation of being a reliable furniture supplier because Encik Amin abides by the terms and conditions stipulated by the buyers. When he received any new orders, he would provide the designs which were prepared by the buyers to his suppliers and this has enabled the suppliers to fetch a premium on the price of the furniture. Before the furniture is shipped to the buyers, Encik Amin would inspect them to ensure the quality and specifications of the furniture are being adhered to. Most of the buyers in the US have given Encik Amin the sole right to produce their products, thus giving him a competitive edge from other furniture suppliers.

Maszma Marketing has acquired a network of suppliers especially from Muar, Johor to cater to the needs of overseas buyers. Most of them produce bedroom furniture from panel products with paper veneer for mail order companies in the US.

Exports by Malaysian furniture companies are able to withstand the challenges and barriers imposed by various countries because they have equipped themselves with the standards and certifications required by the said country.

OUTLOOK OF FURNITURE INDUSTRY

Encik Amin laments that Malaysia's competitiveness has dropped drastically in the past few years due to issues pertaining to manpower, raw material and design. He advocates that Malaysia take advantage of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), established in December 2015 where Malaysia can collaborate with member countries in creating a single market and production base through free flow of goods, services, investment, skilled labour and freer flow of capital.

On that note, Maszma Marketing's office in Viet Nam was set up, taking advantage of their labour and raw material supply. According to Encik Amin, Malaysia should emulate Viet Nam in addressing raw material supply where they import logs from the EU and US and stock-up the timber by a company appointed by the government. This has increased the competitiveness of the timber companies in Viet Nam. He noted that China is becoming less competitive because of their rising labour cost and delivery problems. Due to these problems, the US and EU companies have shifted most of their factories to Viet Nam.



Another set of furniture produced by the company.

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Products from Maszma Marketing in Malaysia are mostly for the US markets while their subsidiary in Viet Nam is producing products for the US, EU, Canada, Australia, India and New Zealand. Encik Amin observed that Viet Nam is vigilant in conducting their business while Malaysia is more professional.

BUSINESS STRATEGY

With the advent in technology, Maszma Marketing does their promotion and transaction through the internet unlike the previous years. When they first started their business, Maszma Marketing used to follow MTIB's programmes by participating in local and international trade exhibitions. Their quest for customers and buyers increased every year because of their consistency in participating in those exhibitions and their follow-through mechanisms. Due to their aggressive marketing and their stringent quality standards, Maszma Marketing has remained in business to this day.

By displaying and offering their products in the website, Maszma Marketing is able to garner more interested buyers. In 2015, their turnover was USD10 million. According to Encik Amin, they mostly acquire their new buyers through word of mouth and recommendation from existing buyers.

To new entrepreneurs venturing in the furniture industry, Encik Amin's advice is to be humble and pro-active with the demand of the buyers. Entrepreneurs should be professional and have their own work ethics and abide by the contracts agreed in order to build trust and establish longer business dealings.

CONCLUSION

Exports of Malaysian furniture have grown rapidly and will continue to increase in the years to come. With the forming of TANGGAM (an MTIB initiative) where a group of young designers are nurtured, Malaysian furniture companies will be able to transform from just being Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) to Original Design Manufacturer (ODM) and Own Brand Manufacturing (OBM) through TANGGAM's creative and innovative designs.

In order to remain competitive and continue to be an important global player in the furniture industry, Malaysian companies need to develop appropriate strategies to reinforce its strengths. They should follow the mainstream, that is, to be electronically linked with the internet and the multimedia since business transactions are mostly done online today. The government has provided various incentives and ample opportunities for Malaysian furniture companies to be in the international arena as well as to sustain their business.

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Fax : 603-5191 5076

References :

- Company's Brochure
- Interviewed Encik Amin Razak, GM of Maszma Marketing Sdn. Bhd.





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NURTURING LOCAL TALENT FOR SUSTAINABLE FURNITURE GROWTH



Meeting & Discussion among MTIB, PSA & MFA.

INTRODUCTION

In year 2015, Malaysian wooden furniture export was recorded about RM7.28 billion, 62.2% of the export share being mainly from Johor, followed by Selangor with 23.9% and Penang with 4.3%. The shortage of labour faced by furniture companies and the reluctance among locals to work in the furniture sector has affected the growth of wooden furniture in Malaysia generally and Johor furniture specifically.

In year 2016, MTIB in conjunction with Job Malaysia Temerloh and Muar, local authorities and Muar Furniture Association (MFA) conducted a job fair to encourage the locals to join the furniture sector via "Program Transformasi Belia Daerah Temerloh" in Lanchang, Pahang on 13 November 2016 and "Karnival Kerjaya: Azam Kerja Muafakat Johor in Muar on 3 December 2016. The objectives of this programme were to promote the positive aspects of establishing a career in the furniture making sector as well as to provide a better understanding of the various job opportunities of the sector. This programme would also give the opportunity for the locals to fill in the more than 2,000 job opportunities offered by 32 factories in Muar, Johor.

Based on an analysis report, the local people are reluctant to join the timber industry because of location distance. At the same time, local graduates demand high salaries. Only two candidates from 15 people were invited to join furniture companies in Muar, Johor. Most of the Muar furniture companies were willing to invest in the accommodation and hostel and to give better opportunities to locals to start on their career path in the furniture industry.

NURTURING LOCAL TALENT FOR FURNITURE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

MTIB collaborated with Politeknik Shah Alam (PSA) and Muar Furniture Association (MFA) to nurture local talents for sustainable furniture growth via MTIB, PSA and the MFA Internship programme. The pioneer programme was introduced by MTIB to assist the academia-industry to cater to the manpower shortage problem and to execute their short-term and future planning for next five to 10 years for local talents to be absorbed into the furniture industry in Muar, Johor. The first meeting was conducted by MTIB on 2 December 2016 at the MFA building in Muar, Johor. This meeting was attended by the MTIB, PSA and MFA Human Capital Committee.

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Encik Mohd Amin Kadir from MTIB briefed on the background of the internship programme.



Puan Rafidah Farah Hanim from PSA briefed on the courses related to timber offered by PSA.

The National Blue Ocean Strategies' (NBOS) initiatives involved government agencies, academic institutions, industry players and non-governmental organisations (NGO) as a catalyst for enhancing the local talents to push their limits for a career pathway in the furniture industry. The main objectives of these programmes were to collaborate among the academia-industry and government agencies to empower local talents for sustainable furniture growth via an internship programme. It was also to cater to the gap among the academia-industry for human capital development for the furniture industry. The programme acted as an interactive platform for sharing knowledge and expertise on human capital development especially on local supply and demand, for locals working in the furniture industry in Muar, Johor.

During this meeting, the MTIB, PSA and MFA Internship Programme Committee were established to implement and monitor the internship programme. The first intake will be held on November 2017 based on the December 2016 student enrollment by PSA. The PSA students will be working at selected MFA factories for six months with incentives in the form of wages.

After completing the internship programme, the PSA students will be offered jobs in furniture sector such as designing/planning graphics (R&D), sample making, quality control (QC), in-house maintenance and warehouse control.

A SUSTAINABILITY PLAN TO ATTRACT LOCALS TO JOIN THE TIMBER INDUSTRY

Based on mutual understanding among PSA, MTIB and MFA, a sustainability plan to attract locals to join the timber industry was discussed and

will be implemented in year 2017 for long-term sustainability and for local talents to work in the industry.

The pioneer first batch of 40 students from PSA will be attached at Muar factories in November 2017. The students will be exposed to real working conditions in furniture factories and practical soft skills, learning and experiencing processes, and getting a better understanding of working in furniture sector.

In other words, a successful pilot study will be expand nationwide with the cooperation of with the Malaysian Furniture Council (MFC), training providers and higher education institutions. The NBOS implementation will be used as a platform to reduce dependency on foreign workers and to cater to the shortage of workers in furniture industry.

BENEFICIAL PROGRAMME

This programme will help the academia-industry gain a better understanding of the furniture manufacturing process in Muar, Johor. The beneficial programme is as below:

- New furniture technology adoption
- Technology and knowledge transfer
- Expertise and experience sharing
- PSA student Internship programme
- PSA lecturers attachment programme
- Factory tour (Furniture Industry Familiarisation Programme)
- Curriculum and furniture industry module development
- Furniture industry expert lectures
- Part time working experience in furniture factory during midterm-semester break

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- Career pathway in furniture industry in Muar, Johor
- Creating a conducive working environment
- Creating a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) culture among furniture players
- Student incentives and accommodation
- Corporate tax exemption

CONCLUSION

The MTIB, PSA and MFA Internship programme will be a game-changer for human capital development in the Muar furniture industry. This programme

will also be used as a pilot before implementing it nationwide. Based on the discussion on 2 December 2016 in Muar, all the parties will be set a standard for key performance indicators (KPI), milestones and the action plans to measure the effectiveness of the programme and to achieve the internship programme objectives.

References:

- LI - Wood-Based Learning, PSA, 2016
- MTIB, PSA and MFA Minutes Meeting on 2 December 2016
- MTIB Retreat 2016, Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan, 12-12 January 2017



Ms Candice Lim from Deep Furniture Sdn. Bhd. briefed about her company.



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MTIB TRAINING PROGRAMME 2017

MTIB will conduct the following courses in 2017 at the Wood Industry Skills Development Centre (WISDEC) in Banting, Selangor and Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. These courses are designed to assist in expediting technology transfer and to impart skills and knowledge to the wood-based industry in particular the downstream wood processing sectors. Besides these, MTIB offers customised courses according to the specific needs of the companies or agencies, upon request.

VENUE: WISDEC SELANGOR

MONTH	NO	COURSES	FEE (RM)*	DATE
FEB	1	Identification of Malaysian Timber Species	742.00	16-19 Feb
MAR	2	Rubberwood Grading	742.00	2-5 Mar
	3	Timber Drying (CoC)	1,590.00	13-31 Mar
APR	4	Basic Furniture Making	742.00	13-16 Apr
	5	Furniture Making (Built-in Furniture)	742.00	27-30 Apr
MAY	6	AutoCAD in Furniture Drawing (3D)	742.00	18-21 May
JUL	7	Basic Wood Technology	742.00	20-23 Jul
AUG	8	Wood Machining Technology	742.00	3-6 Aug
	9	Technology and Operation of Woodworking Machine CNC Router (AlphaCAM Software)	742.00	17-20 Aug
SEPT	10	Technology and Operation of Woodworking Machine – 6 Head Moulder	742.00	7-10 Sept
SEPT & OCT	11	Knife Grinding and Maintenance	742.00	28 Sept – 1 Oct
OCT	12	Operation and Maintenance of Woodworking Machines	742.00	12-15 Oct
	13	Wood Lamination Technology	742.00	26-29 Oct
NOV	14	Furniture Finishing Technology	742.00	2-5 Nov
	15	Safety and Health in the Wood-based Industry	371.00	16-17 Nov
DEC	16	Furniture Quality Control (QC)	371.00	7-8 Dec
	17	Marketing Strategy	371.00	14-15 Dec

For WISDEC Selangor, please contact :

Puan Rohaiza Abd Kadir Zailani
 Wood Industry Skills Development Centre
 Lot 167, Jalan 3, Kompleks Perabot Olak Lempit,
 42700 Banting, Selangor
 Tel : 603-3149 2924
 Fax : 603-3149 2122
 E-mail : wisdec@mtib.gov.my

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VENUE: WISDEC SABAH

MONTH	NO	COURSES	FEE (RM)*	DATE
FEB	1	Safety and Health in Logging Operation	265.00	13-14 Feb
MAR	2	Furniture Making (Children Furniture)	530.00	25-28 Mar
APR	3	Furniture Making (Pallet Furniture - Recycling and Auto Construction)	530.00	8-11 Apr
JUL	4	Furniture Making (Display Cabinet)	530.00	22-25 Jul
AUG	5	Autodesk 3D Studio MAX in Furniture Design	625.00	19-23 Aug
OCT	6	Acacia Wood Processing (Advanced)	265.00	9-10 Oct

For WISDEC Sabah, please contact :

Encik Mohd Hilmi Shamsuri
Wood Industry Skills Development Centre
Lot 4, Fasa 1, Jalan Timur 6,
Taman Perindustrian Kota Kinabalu (KKIP),
Peti surat 177, Pos Mini Indah Permai,
88450 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah
Tel : 6088-498 822
Fax : 6088-498 811/33
E-mail : mtibsabah@mtib.gov.my

* Course fee inclusive 6% GST
GST No : 000143245312



Hands-on session at WISDEC Selangor (left) and WISDEC Sabah (right).

MYANMAR'S LOGGING BAN A MAJOR STEP TOWARDS FOREST SECTOR REFORM



Overview

Myanmar is a country in Southeast Asia, also known as Burma; it's also called the Golden Land. With an area of 676,578 km² the country is almost twice the size of Germany or slightly smaller than the US state of Texas. Myanmar is bordered in the north and northeast by China, in the east by Lao PDR and Thailand, in the south by the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal and in the west by Bangladesh and India. At 5,881 metres, Mount Hkakabo Razi in Kachin is on the border tri-point with China and India, and is the highest elevation in Myanmar. It is also Southeast Asia's highest mountain. The main rivers are the Chindwin and Irrawaddy rivers. Myanmar has a population of 54.1 million people. Its largest city, former capital, and the economic centre of Myanmar is Yangon. Its capital, since 2005, is the planned city of Naypyidaw. The spoken language is Burmese.

As the largest country in mainland Southeast Asia, Myanmar has one of the lowest population densities in the region, with fertile lands, significant potential to increase its production, yields and profits in agriculture, and a rich endowment of natural resources. Its geographic location at the intersection of China and India, two of the world's most dynamic economies, makes it well positioned to resume its traditional role as a regional trading hub and a key supplier of minerals, natural gas and agricultural produce.

Economy

Since the transition to a civilian government in 2011, Myanmar has begun an economic overhaul aimed at attracting foreign investment and reintegrating into the global economy. Economic reforms have included establishing a managed float of the Burmese kyat in 2012, re-writing its foreign investment law in 2012 to allow more foreign investment participation, granting its Central Bank operational independence in July 2013, enacting a new Anti-corruption Law in September 2013, and



authorizing a small number of foreign banks to open branch offices for limited operations beginning 2015.

The Myanmar government's commitment to reform, and the subsequent easing of most Western sanctions, has begun to pay dividends as economic growth accelerated in 2013 and 2014. Myanmar's abundant natural resources, young labour force, and proximity to Asia's dynamic economies have attracted foreign investment in its energy sector, garment industry, information technology, and its food and beverages industry. Despite these improvements, living standards have not improved for the majority of Myanmar citizens residing in rural areas.

The forestry sector has been vitally important to Myanmar. When the country was isolated by sanctions, the selling of logs and wood helped bring in desperately needed hard currency. Exports of forestry products in 2011, the year political reforms began, broke USD1 billion. However, since the reforms began, much has changed. Myanmar has increased their engagements with other foreign groups, companies and governments that has led to a rise in the awareness of how to better manage natural resources.

In Myanmar, the timber industry is ranked second after agriculture as a major export earner for the country. Teak and hardwood timbers are the most important export products and Myanmar commands about 90% of the world's commercial supply of Teak. Logs remain a major export item. Besides Teak, other popular hardwood species include Padauk, Pyinkado, Kanyin, Tahung Tahyet and Pine.

Till today, Myanmar remains one of the poorest countries in Asia, nearly one-third of the country's 51 million people live in poverty. The previous government's isolationist policies and economic

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mismanagement have left Myanmar with poor infrastructure, endemic corruption, underdeveloped human resources, and inadequate access to capital, which will require a major commitment to reverse. Key benchmarks of sustained economic progress would include modernising and opening the financial sector, increasing budget allocations for social services, and accelerating agricultural and land reforms.

Forest Resources

Myanmar is rich in vast varieties of natural resources, both renewable and non-renewable. Among them, the forest resource is one of the most critical and principal suppliers for the livelihood of the people and the national economy as well. Indeed, Myanmar is home to the best quality Teak which is one of the most valued and sought after tropical timbers in the world. Moreover, it is asserted that extensive and beautiful natural Teak stands can be seen only in Myanmar today. Its forest covers 32.4 million hectares or 52% of Myanmar's total land area of 676,577 square kilometre.

Myanmar has a large number of timber species. There are 85 recognised and accepted species which yield premium quality timber with some 100 lesser known species. The area of planted forests is estimated at 710,000 hectares, 31% (227,060 hectares) of which is Teak. Special Teak plantation projects have been implemented since 1998 in various divisions such as in Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Tangon and Ayeyarwaddy. The annual plantation target is 20,000 acres for a 40-year period. By 2038, an expected total of 800,000 acres will be planted with 1.8 million m³ of Teak, churning USD1.1 billion. Agro industrial plantation includes 110,000 hectares of rubber trees.

However, the new government of Myanmar has agreed on a temporary national logging ban and a 10-year logging ban in Pegu Yoma region to give its beleaguered forests breathing space from years of unchecked exploitation. The national logging ban will run until the end of March 2017, in effect closing the forest for one complete logging session. All exports of round logs from the country have been banned since April 2014.

The bans came after years of mismanagement and corruption in Myanmar's logging and timber trade sector which has contributed to conflict and enriched individuals; over-harvesting has been rife, with annual allowable cut targets routinely flouted and widespread illegal logging of precious timber species such as Teak and Burmese rosewood. For the duration of the new national ban, Myanmar will rely on stockpiled timber to supply its domestic wood processing industry and the international market; current stockpiles are sufficient to meet current demand for up to three years.

The result is a dramatic shift in export policies and gradual reforms of the sector and the institutions that work within it. In the near term, the transition has been disruptive in terms of exports and is potentially challenging in terms of total production. Yet over the long-term, the sector is set to become stronger and more sustainable as systems are put into place to better manage resources and as the relevant institutions shift emphasis from output to conservation and balanced growth.

Timber Production in Myanmar

According to the latest FAO forest statistics on Myanmar, the country produced around 1,812 million m³ of wood in 2015. Details of production are as follows:

Myanmar: Production of Timber and Timber Products, 2013 – 2015

(Volume: m³)

Product	2013	2014	2015
Sawntimber	1,530,400	1,530,400	1,530,400
Veneer	36,000	64,000	166,000
Plywood	116,000	116,000	116,000
Total	1,682,400	1,710,400	1,812,400

Source: FAO Stats

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Timber Industry in Myanmar

The timber industry in Myanmar was initiated in the year 1824 and the nationalisation of the forestry industry started in 1948. The State Timber Extraction Organisation was developed to monitor Myanmar's timber industry. Currently, there are two major organisations under the Ministry of Forestry namely the Forestry Department, responsible for the conservation of forests development in Myanmar and the Myanmar Timber Enterprise (MTE) which looks after the harvesting, processing and marketing of timber products.

In 2014, Myanmar stopped exporting timber logs and temporarily banned logging to slow deforestation and boost its own production as part of a plan to re-establish its forests. At the same time, sawmills and factories in Myanmar need raw timber. Myanmar Timber Enterprise will continue to sell existing stocks of Teak and hardwood during 2016 - 2017 to meet the needs of local factories. Meanwhile, logging is expected to resume in the 2017 - 2018 financial year due to local demand for raw timber, but only enough for local consumption.

Myanmar's Export of Timber and Timber Products

Myanmar's export of timber and timber products in

2015 decreased 70% to USD454 thousand over the previous corresponding period. China is the biggest export market for Myanmar's timber and timber products followed by India and Thailand. Myanmar exports mainly logs, sawntimber and veneer. Export of logs, sawntimber and veneer totalled USD186 thousand, USD139 thousand and USD74 thousand respectively. Myanmar export logs and sawntimber mainly to China amounting USD171 thousand and USD44 thousand respectively. Meanwhile, its veneer is mainly exported to India which amounts to USD71 thousand compared to the previous years.

Myanmar's Import of Timber and Timber Products

According to the latest UN Comtrade statistics, Myanmar's import of timber and timber products in 2015 decreased 0.4% to USD111 thousand over the previous corresponding period. Myanmar imported mainly wooden furniture, plywood and fibreboard. Imports of wooden furniture, plywood and fibreboard totalled USD55 thousand (a decrease of 18%), USD28 thousand (an increase of 88%) and USD10 thousand (a decrease of 0.6%).

China is a major import source for Myanmar's import of timber and timber products. Meanwhile, Malaysia is ranked third after China and Thailand as importer of Myanmar timber and timber products.

Myanmar: Export of Timber and Timber Products, 2011 - 2015

(Value : USD'000)

Product	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Logs	984,683	1,062,471	1,461,733	1,344,008	186,284
Sawntimber	88,065	95,189	120,397	94,793	139,338
Veneer	11,732	9,329	10,902	24,028	73,858
Wood Charcoal	32,951	24,684	31,765	27,890	21,548
Mouldings	10,007	13,296	13,055	14,145	13,264
Plywood	14,256	13,040	12,041	11,196	10,464
Wooden Furniture	4,239	5,652	4,735	5,426	4,229
Builders Joinery and Carpentry	3,619	4,136	7,181	5,861	3,775
Wood Marquetry	1,195	1,043	1,036	1,003	827
Other Articles of Wood	806	767	838	615	363
Others	2,909	1,783	1,667	803	315
Total	1,154,462	1,231,390	1,665,350	1,529,768	454,265

Source: UN-COMTRADE

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Myanmar: Import of Timber and Timber Products, 2011-2015

(Value: USD'000)

Product	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Wooden Furniture	100,880	71,271	61,763	66,604	54,910
Plywood	2,464	3,393	4,221	14,614	27,501
Fibreboard	3,314	5,130	6,028	10,312	10,243
Builders Joinery and Carpentry	864	1,186	4,788	6,828	6,325
Other Articles of Wood	171	1,129	941	2,137	3,062
Particleboard	2,833	2,321	3,784	3,927	2,768
Veneer	94	337	383	546	1,945
Wood Marquetry	59	454	203	3,271	1,193
Mouldings	14	819	112	386	955
Casks, Barrels, Vats, Tubs	37	153	74	1,147	618
Others	1,097	619	715	1,577	1,390
Total	111,827	86,812	83,012	111,349	110,910

Source: UN-COMTRADE

Malaysia's Export of Timber and Timber Products to Myanmar

Myanmar has always been a significant timber trade partner for Malaysia. Myanmar ranked 63rd with 0.67% of Malaysia's total market share. In 2015,

export of Malaysian timber and timber products to Myanmar registered an increase of 14% to RM14.94 million from RM13.06 million in 2014. Wooden furniture was the main product exported with a total value of RM8.62 million, followed by particleboard at RM3.58 million and plywood at RM1.08 million.

Malaysia: Export of Timber and Timber Products to Myanmar, 2011-2015

(Value: RM)

Product	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Wooden Furniture	4,117,047	3,990,788	5,244,908	7,101,637	8,619,183
Particleboard	2,253,103	2,493,960	3,211,913	4,270,100	3,579,395
Plywood	58,687	144,166	38,146	0	1,079,952
Fibreboard	655,723	614,993	484,790	614,980	618,454
Rattan Furniture	229,690	0	0	81,692	433,380
BJC	243,978	214,278	256,512	638,571	324,043
Sawntimber	0	0	17,975	0	95,935
Veneer	0	0	0	0	83,308
Mouldings	0	0	0	9,596	79,877
Others	852,019	46,002	102,238	366,506	24,199
TOTAL	8,410,247	7,504,187	9,356,482	13,083,082	14,937,726

Source: DOSM/MTIB

Malaysia's Import of Timber and Timber Products from Myanmar

In 2015, import of Malaysian timber and timber products from Myanmar show a decrease of 46% to RM45.69 million from RM84.22 million in 2014.

Myanmar ranked 11th with 1.29% of Malaysia's total market share. Sawntimber was the main product imported with a total value of RM36.34 million followed by logs at RM4.93 million and mouldings at RM3.03 million.

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Malaysia: Import of Timber and Timber Products from Myanmar , 2011-2015

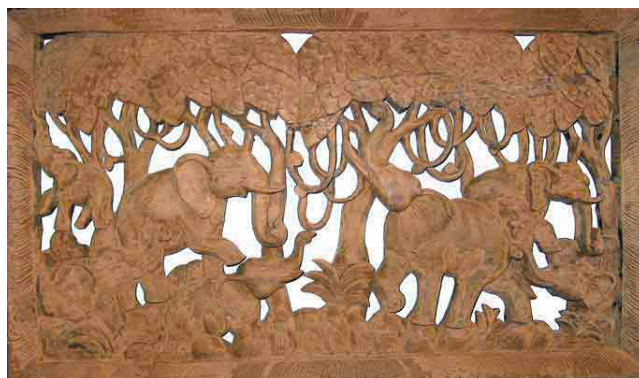
(Value: RM)

Product	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Sawntimber	45,324,329	48,555,215	58,594,443	53,886,462	36,339,056
Logs	12,981,355	12,788,840	4,519,816	28,573,174	5,931,508
Mouldings	3,526,802	1,331,510	332,538	458,021	3,029,994
BJC	1,003,355	0	5,821	814,955	237,478
Wooden Furniture	0	7,031	41,994	134,467	113,812
Plywood	280,187	5,321	0	0	0
Veneer	6,045	68,999	331,642	241,650	0
Chipboard/Particleboard	0	0	164,395	0	0
Wooden Frame	0	16,380	0	0	0
Rattan Furniture	0	5,923	8,386	0	0
Others	1,586,154	186,195	101,148	111,559	36,196
TOTAL	64,708,227	62,965,414	64,100,183	84,220,288	45,688,044

Source: DOSM/MTIB



Myanmar's Teak Wood Furniture



Myanmar's Teak Wood Craft



Malaysian Wood
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Variable Styles**

Incomparable
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Frontier of
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Malaysian Timber Industry Board
(Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities)

Level 13-17, Menara PGRM No.8, Jalan Pudu Ulu, Cheras P.O. bOX 10887, 50728 KUALA LUMPUR
Tel : 603 - 9282 2235 , Fax : 603 - 9285 1477 / 9200 3769, E-mail : info@mtib.gov.my, Website : www.mtib.gov.my

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Import Tariffs

The Myanmar's import duty on timber and timber products ranges from 0 – 30%. Details are as follows:

Product	ASEAN Tariff (%)	MFN Tariff (%)
Fuel Wood	0	3
Wood Charcoal	0	3
Logs	0	0
Hoop Wood	0	3
Wood Wool and Wood Flour	0	1
Sleepers	0	3
Sawntimber	0	1 - 7
Veneer	0	3 - 7
Mouldings	0	5
Chipboard/Particleboard	0	15
Fibreboard	0	15
Plywood	0	15
Densified Wood	0	3
Wooden Frame	0	10
Packing Cases	0	7
Casks, Barrels, Vats and Tubs	0	3 - 5
Tool Bodies and Handle	0	3 – 10
Builders Joinery and Carpentry	0	5
Tableware and Kitchenware	0	5
Wood Marquetry	0	10
Other Articles of Wood	0	3 - 10
Wooden Furniture	0	3 - 30

Prospects

According to the economists at the World Bank, Myanmar will witness an economic growth of 6.5% in 2017 and is forecast to further witness an average real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of 7.1% within the next three years due to gradual recovery in private investment and the agriculture sector.

With regards to the forestry and timber sector, in 2015, Myanmar's new government opened up opportunities for foreign investors to operate in the wood-processing industries. From the ASEAN region, it was reported that Malaysia and Thailand have carried out processing Teak and other hardwood species to be processed into secondary and tertiary output products, thus, enabling enhancement of the bilateral relation between Malaysia and Myanmar especially in the timber sector. This investment partnership is a strategic step to increase the potential supply of wood raw material for Myanmar's domestic processing industry.

In light of the economic growth and opening up of Myanmar's timber processing sector, the Malaysian timber industry should have a stronger presence in the market. In order for the Malaysian timber industry, particularly the furniture industry to enhance its export in the Myanmar market, the Malaysian manufacturers need to maintain and enhance their presence through participation in major timber, furniture and construction fairs and exhibitions such as Myanmar Furniture Expo and Yangon International Lifestyle Furniture Fair as it will help promote and increase demand for Malaysian furniture and value added timber products in Myanmar. In addition, there are also ample opportunities for Malaysian entrepreneurs to participate in agarwood plantation and its value added processing.

With Malaysia's advance experience in the complex supply chain of the timber industry, it will also be able to offer training to the Myanmar timber industry to enhance efficiency and productivity in the Myanmar timber sector. Therefore, it is hoped that with the above possibilities, timber trade for both countries, especially in terms of export and import activities and investments in timber products, will be increased in the coming years.

References:

International Trade Centre
 MTIB's Statistics
 The World Bank
 The Myanmar Times
<http://www.myanmargeneva.org>
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myanmar>
<http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/myanmar>



Malaysian Wood
Standing on Excellence



MTIB is committed towards enhancing the sustainable growth of the Malaysian timber industry through various initiatives and innovations.

For more information, contact:

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[facebook.com/pages/Malaysian-Timber-Industry-Board](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Malaysian-Timber-Industry-Board)

Shaping the Timber Industry of Malaysia

Spot the difference

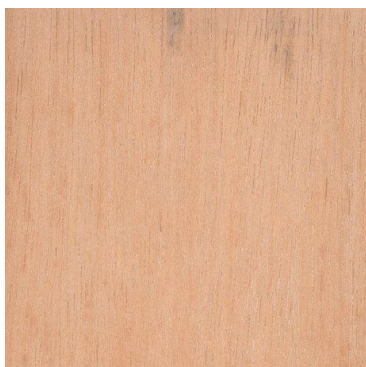
They look similar, are made from the same type of hardwood and have similar price tags. The only difference is that one came from a rainforest and the other from a plantation.

Every year, millions of trees are felled to fulfill the demands of the timber industry. Problems arise when these trees are not replaced as fast as they are taken, causing a multitude of environmental problems.

MTIB is fully aware of the need for renewable resources. One solution is forest plantation, where trees are planted specifically for commercial purposes. Not only does it provide a steady supply of timber, it also works to the advantage of our environment.

We care about the environment as much as we care about the timber industry, which is why it is important for us to come up with solutions that benefit both – because beautiful furniture doesn't have to come with a high environmental price tag.

NYATOH KUNING – SUITABLE FOR HOUSE-BUILDING



Wood colour and texture.

Nyatoh kuning is the Standard Malaysian name for the timber of Pouteria spp. (Sapotaceae). Vernacular names applied include Menasi (Peninsular Malaysia), Misi (Peninsular Malaysia), Nangka-nangka (Peninsular Malaysia), Nyatoh laut (Sabah), Nyatoh nangka (Peninsular Malaysia) with various epithets and Umas-umas (Sabah). In Sabah and Sarawak, this timber is mixed with other members of Sapotaceae and sold as Nyatoh. Major species include P. maingayi and P. malaccensis. The sapwood is not differentiated from the heartwood, which is creamy white to light yellow. It's also known as Northern yellow boxwood (Australia); Sarosaro and Tadirī (Fiji); Lambapatti (India); Nyatuh (Indonesia); Thitcho (Myanmar); Pencil cedar, Planchonella and Silk wood (Papua New Guinea); White nato (Philippines); and Keta, Sesele and Verure (Soloman Islands).

Distribution

The timber is found in lowland forest.

Density

The timber is moderately hard to hard and is moderately heavy to heavy with a density of 690-880 kg/m³ air dry. The timber is classified under Medium Hardwood in Malaysia.

General Description

The sapwood is not differentiated from the heartwood, which is creamy white to light yellow. The texture is moderately fine and even. The grain is straight to shallowly interlock. Growth rings are visible, demarcated by layers of denser fibres in the wood, usually without the layers of wood parenchyma. Vessels are moderately few to moderately numerous, medium-sized; in radial groups of two to eight or more, with some groups in two radial chains; tyloses are absent; deposits

are absent. Wood parenchyma is abundant, apotracheal, in narrow regularly and closely spaced bands. Rays are very fine, not visible to the naked eye; not conspicuous on the radial surface. Ripple marks are absent. Intercellular canals are absent.

Air Drying

The timbers seasons slowly with only some staining as the main source of degrade. Boards of 25 mm thick take five to six months to air dry.

Shrinkage

Shrinkage is very high, with radial shrinkage averaging 2.3% and tangential shrinkage averaging 4.3%.

Preservative Treatment

This timber is difficult to undergo preservative treatment.

Strength Properties

The timber falls into Strength Group 5 (SG 5)

Mechanical Properties

Static Bending :

Modulus of Elasticity : 12,000 – 14,460 N/mm²
Modulus of Rupture : 110 – 130 N/mm²

Compression Strength :

Perpendicular to Grain : n.a.
Parallel to Grain : 60 – 72 N/mm²
Shear Strength : 11 – 13 N/mm²

Machining Properties

It is moderately easy to saw and is easy to work. The timber produces a smooth planed surface.

Uses

Suitable for indoor use, furniture, decorative doors and paneling, interior finishing, joinery and flooring and also suitable for house-building.

References:

- 100 Malaysian Timber (2010 Edition), MTIB
- <http://www.publicnow.com>
- <http://www.woodwizard.my>



YBhg. Dato' Dr. Jalaluddin Harun, MTIB Director-General (third from right); H.E. Dr. Mapabuthi Moorosi-Molapo, High Commissioner of the Kingdom of Lesotho (centre); Puan Zaleha Mohd Kurid, Secretary to High Commissioner of the Kingdom of Lesotho (second from left) posing with MTIB officials during their courtesy call to MTIB, Kuala Lumpur. The visit was on 9 January 2017.



MTIB Management Retreat held on 12-14 January 2017 at Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan.



YBhg. Dato' Dr. Jalaluddin Harun, MTIB Director-General (front row, second from right) with MTIB officials and visitors from Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS). The courtesy call was made on 16 January 2017.



Puan Hj. Norchahaya Hashim, MTIB Deputy Director-General (centre) with MTIB officials at the Royal Selangor Pewter's Final Lean Management presentation held on 19 January 2017 in Setapak, Kuala Lumpur.



MTIB officials at a Final Presentation on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)-5S MTIB Programme at Jukraf Sdn. Bhd. in Shah Alam, Selangor on 19 January 2017.



YBhg. Dato' Dr. Jalaluddin Harun, MTIB Director-General (seated, third from left), YBhg. Dato' Kamariah Hussain, Chairman of PUSPANITA MTIB (on his left) posing with MTIB officials during the 27th AGM held on 27 January 2017 at MTIB, Kuala Lumpur.