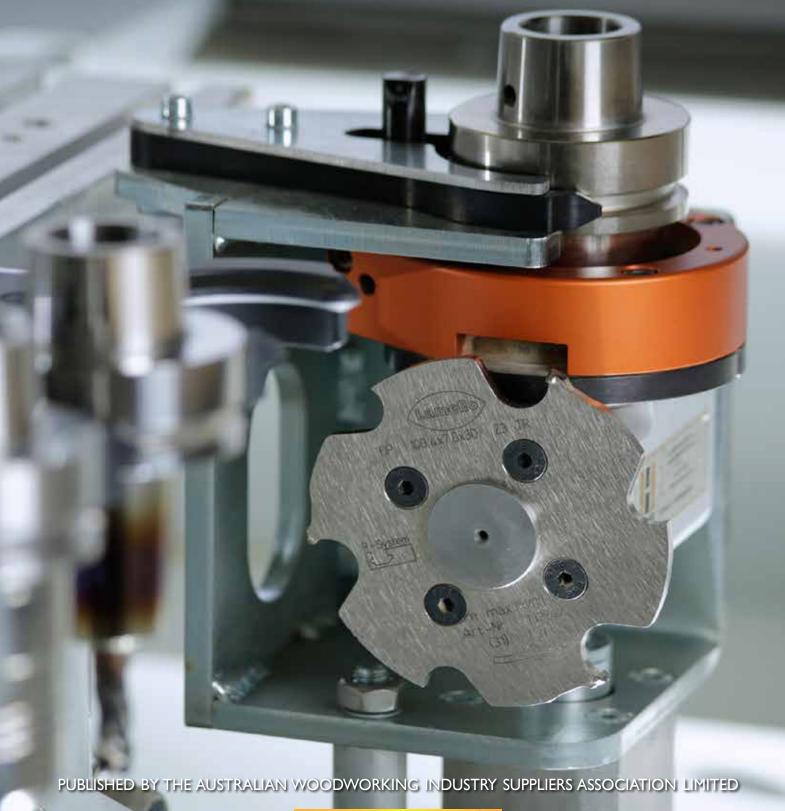
# THE MAGAZINE

FOR THE CABINET, JOINERY, FURNITURE, TIMBER AND PANEL INDUSTRIES



AWISA



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Published by the Australian Woodworking Industry Suppliers Association Limited ABN 44 134 548 253

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The Australian Woodworking Industry Suppliers Association Ltd is a trade association that represents the interests of suppliers to the cabinet, kitchen, joinery, furniture, fit-out, and other wood, timber, aluminium, plastic, stone and panel processing industries. Members include suppliers of machinery, materials, fittings, software and services. Membership and advertising enquiries are welcome.

#### DEAR READER,

Three years ago, in March 2020, the Australian Woodworking Industry Suppliers Association had to make the decision not to run the AWISA 2020 exhibition. The reasons are obvious and do not need to be re-visited here.

But now I can write with great pleasure and confirm that the AWISA exhibition has come out of hibernation and will be held in Sydney from 3-6 July 2024. Early indications are that the enthusiasm for the show among regular exhibitors is as high as ever. Every AWISA member I speak to comments also on the level of enthusiasm among the most important of people - the visitors.

Those readers who might have missed our emailing of information about the booking process should either contact me or visit www.awisa.com/exhibition. The show will continue to take place over two levels of ICC Sydney at Darling Harbour. The first show at ICC was in 2018 and the two-level layout was the subject of much discussion prior to the event but proved to be the perfect solution to both the design of the ICC and the two different sides of the industry. This resulted in the lower level of the venue being called AWISA Wood and Panel Processing and the upper level being called AWISA Design.

AWISA has always been one of the greatest trade shows in Australia, a place for the cabinet, joinery, furniture, timber and panel industries to explore and learn about all that's new in the woodworking industry. The social aspect of the show is also very important, and with a six-year gap between shows AWISA hopes that the industry uses the show as a place to re-establish face-to-face contact with suppliers and fellow end-users in the industry.

Geoff Holland General Manager Australian Woodworking Industry Suppliers Association Limited

FRONT COVER: Tool changers enable high efficiency processing. Photo courtesy of Michael Weinig Australia Pty Ltd.

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Plus other industry and product news.

www.awisa.com

## **NZ fine woodworking school**

## caters to a wide range of abilities

**SITUATED JUST NORTH** of Nelson in New Zealand and within sight of Tasman Bay is an unassuming and functional workshop. It's home to the New Zealand Centre for Fine Woodworking – proudly described by manager Helen Gerry as "the best little woodworking, furniture making and design school in the southern hemisphere".

Gerry says the creation of the school of excellence is down to John Shaw (previously featured in these pages) who trained in furniture making in the UK at Rycotewood College; and at the College of the Redwoods in California under James Krenov.

Through his experiences as a student, and teaching in the polytech system, Shaw came to the realisation that he was more interested in passing on design/making skills outside the formal trade qualifications structure.

"Without John and his vision to start up the school we would not exist. And since our small beginnings in 2007 – when we only ran a limited range of courses in benchmaking and cabinetmaking – we have continued to steer clear of formal qualifications. The restraints involved in offering such a framework would completely change the courses we offer."

"Not all of our students wish to pursue a trade career in furniture making. What we teach is not necessarily relevant to furniture manufacturing. It's more about studio furniture – one-off handcrafted pieces, or small batch work, using highly skilled techniques."

She adds that over 2,000 students from a variety of backgrounds and countries have attended courses at the school - from woodworking basics and specialised courses (including carving, dovetail box-making, steam bending and laminating, and table making) to the 32-week Furniture Makers' Programme.

"Some have completed design degrees and then identified that they would like to work with wood. Others are passionate hobbyists who want to be the very best they can be at fine woodworking. Many of them return year after year to undertake new courses or learn new techniques."

Gerry says the Centre for Fine Woodworking Trust is a not-forprofit organisation. "We gained charitable status in 2008 so that the time-honoured skills we teach can be handed down to future generations, and in recognition of the quality of tuition we offer, which is unique in New Zealand.

"The school is mainly funded through income generated from student course fees. We've also been supported in the past by generous funding from the Rata Foundation and the Dick Roberts Community Trust – and by numerous private individuals under the umbrella of our Friends of the School."

"We recently received substantial funding from Creative New Zealand for our exciting mentoring project where we are currently working with a number of graduate students and makers with guided and supported teaching opportunities here at the school - thus helping to create the next generation of highly skilled teachers."

She explains that the school's full-time Furniture Makers' Programme is an intensive course designed and developed by practising furniture makers and teachers, and "intended for the serious woodworker".

"The course provides an unparalleled opportunity for students to get to grips with the essence of fine furniture making ... with an emphasis on mastering traditional woodworking skills and processes to give students the understanding and confidence to design and develop their own work."

"For some it will provide a firm foundation from which they may go on to build a career in the field – while for others it will be more of a personal journey to enhance their skills."

The programme is run over four terms and includes an introduction to fine woodworking, carcass construction, steam bending and chair making. In the last term students have an eight-week timeframe to create a piece of work that shows the extent to which their skills, personal approach to woodworking and design style have developed.

Gerry says the tutors selected to teach the latter part of the course tend to be international makers/teachers who bring in

Left: Tutor David Haig, an expert in steam bending and curvature, is a highly respected furniture designer and maker.

[CFFW David Haiq]

Centre: Eight-week Beginners Intensive Programme.

Right: Michael
Fortune, a well-known
Canadian furniture
maker, hosts the
chair making term in
the current full-time
Furniture Makers'
Programme.







a wider range of expertise once the students have learnt the foundational skills taught in the first two terms.

Lou Fuller, who has a degree in furniture design and craftsmanship from the UK, takes the early course blocks. She is an experienced designer, maker and teacher - and has been involved with the school since 2010.

Terms three and four of the current course will be taught by Michael Fortune and Brian Reid. Fortune is recognised for his technical and design expertise ... and he has a particular interest in chair design and construction.

Reid (an honours graduate of the prestigious Parnham College in Dorset) divides his time between furniture making and course instruction, and has more than 15 years' experience of teaching worldwide.

Gerry says that usually the full-time course starts in April. "However, because the New Zealand borders were closed until July 2022, I had to make the difficult decision to delay the starting date by almost five months. We needed to be certain that by the beginning of this year we would have overseas tutors booked to teach the final two terms." (Note: this year's programme will revert to the normal slot of April-December.)

At the end of the course, the students' work is presented at a gallery in Nelson – an exhibition that attracts a large number of visitors.

"Because of the delayed start to the 2022 programme, we weren't able to book our usual spot at Refinery Artspace - a community-based and council-funded gallery. Instead we will have an exhibition at Parker Gallery, which will be quite different given that it operates on a commercial basis. Not all our students wish to sell their work, and both galleries are very supportive of that arrangement."

"Refinery have a very low fee and I believe Parker's have a higher commercial commission, but we are currently discussing this as they are very keen to support us and our emerging makers."







Top: Moon Child by Scott Storey: American black walnut and NZ-grown sycamore. Runner-up in the recent Australian Wood Review 'Maker of the Year' awards (Student, Tertiary

Above: Hall table by Sky Newall: European beech.

Left: Blanket Box by Peter Connelly: swamp kauri and Bubinga.

by Rob Ditessa

### **Australia versus Sweden**

## a comparison of training and attitudes to the wood craft industry

**EVAN DUNSTONE,** the leading Australian wood craftsman, was honoured last year with an invitation to give a presentation to a symposium at the internationally renowned woodwork training centre at Malmstens Linköping University in Sweden. Evan was able to travel to Sweden on a Gottstein Fellowship.

The symposium, organised by Malmstens Alumni, focused on the theme, 'Woodworking Tools & Techniques - Past, Present & Future'. Addressing fellow woodworkers from around the world, Evan focused on the methods Australian wood craftspeople have developed to work with the particular qualities of Australian wood.

Evan agreed to take time out from a busy schedule on his return to his studio workshop in Queanbeyan (NSW) to answer some questions from AWISA Magazine's Rob Ditessa about his visit.

#### RD: What stands out most from what you saw in Sweden?

ED: The different attitude to training across all disciplines in Sweden. A Swedish national can attend any one of the three big wood schools and be supported all the way through. They would not need a job to support themselves and they might spend five or more years in training without it being a problem.

It means that there is no huge economic pressure on the students. Swedes value practical education and the society is prepared to fund it.

By contrast, I believe the Sturt School for Wood now costs \$24,000 for the year. Sturt is supported by Austudy, but a student has to somehow rent in the Southern Highlands and pay for their tools and timber. It's a significant outlay. Without belittling Sturt, just the machine room at Malmstens is bigger than the entire space at Sturt and the equipment at Malmstens is industry-leading. Because students at Malmstens can train for up to five years, there are around 40 students on campus in the cabinet making stream. This gives first-year students exposure to the collective knowledge of a large cohort of more experienced students.

## RD: How does the attitude of the wider community to the wood craft and the wood industry compare in Sweden and Australia?

ED: First, I should say that the wood craft industry, whether here or in Sweden, has always been out of step with the timber industry. Australian and Swedish forestry is driven primarily by the construction industry, not the furniture or wood craft industry. Australia still has a sector of the timber industry

serving the furniture, or wood craft industry, but Sweden has practically no production aimed at furniture or wood craft. Swedish woodworkers are highly respected by the general populace, but they have almost no access to Swedish timbers.

### RD: How does the popularity of woodwork as a hobby compare in the two countries?

ED: The Swedes are a very practical people and they take woodwork seriously, but they don't 'play' with wood. An Australian woodworker can get excited about a piece of highly figured, weathered red gum and start imagining what they can make from it. There isn't really the same opportunity in Sweden.

The closest similarities would be in spoon carving, and small carving, and perhaps wood turning. Swedish woodworkers are more likely to make practical things like boats or cupboards rather than investigate form and timber. Swedes love design, but they don't have the same relationship with individual pieces of timber.

### RD: There is a lot of forest in Sweden. What is their attitude to forests and timber?

ED: In Sweden, forests are a 'crop'. They see a forest the way an Australian might view a field of wheat or a paddock of potatoes. Depending on how you do the sums, between 15% and 20% of Sweden's economy relies on forest products. Sweden is one of the largest exporters of sawn timber in the world, and it's all aimed at the construction industry. A very significant part of the economic activity north of Stockholm revolves around the forest industry. I'm sure there are some natural forests in the north of Sweden, but most of the forests you see in Sweden are working forests and comprised almost exclusively of spruce and pine.

### RD: Does this limit sourcing of timber from local supplies for Swedish woodworkers?

ED: All the woodworkers I met in Sweden were frustrated by the limited access to quality sawn boards of Swedish cabinet timbers such as birch, oak and beech. Any available 'local' timber has come off private land and was sawn by a farmer with a portable mill. You can't walk into a timber store in Sweden and easily buy a plank of Swedish cabinet grade timber. Most Swedish furniture makers rely on cabinet timbers from North America.

## Practical education with society prepared to fund it

## RD: Most of us in Australia will think of Sweden as exporting Volvos and IKEA products. How important is the exporting of timber to the Swedish economy?

ED: The vast majority of Swedish timber is exported to places like Germany, usually in a value-added form to meet the needs of the construction industry. Sweden is one of the richest countries in Europe, and they thank their timber industry for providing the backbone to their prosperity. As one Swede said to me, "Timber got us out of poverty, and education has kept us out of poverty."

## RD: From what you've seen, what are the major differences between the two countries, in how timber is treated as a resource, and how the wood craft industry is appreciated?

ED: To my astonishment, there is very little cultural appetite for bespoke furniture. Swedes appreciate craftsmanship and design, but they expect their furniture to come from a factory and be purchased through a retailer. I had trouble explaining my business model to people in Sweden, whether they were woodworkers or the average Sven. The idea that an ordinary person would commission an original piece of fine furniture directly from the maker was a foreign concept. They found the range of colour and figure of Australian timbers confronting. As far as I know, there is not a single gallery or retail space in the whole of Sweden that offers one-off art furniture in special timber. To the best of my knowledge, there is not a single workshop that supports itself by making contemporary fine furniture for the public.

#### RD: Does European civilisation in Australia understand Australian timber resource, as well as Swedes understand theirs?

ED: Australia still has some old forests. Woodwork is a huge hobby here because everyone has access to interesting timber. If you ask an Australian, 'should we cut down native forests?" many will say, 'no'. If you ask them, 'should Australian wood artists have access to native timbers?" many of the very same people will say, 'yes'.

You can't really have that conversation in Sweden, because almost all the forests are already a crop, and that crop is aimed at the construction industry.

In Australia, our native forests are threatened by urban development, agriculture, fire, drought, invasive species, and logging. We have a complex problem because we still have remnant forests.

It's simply not the same conversation in Sweden. The Swedish people love nature and they take global warming and the environment very seriously, but it's far too late to be worried about preserving natural native forests, at least in the southern part of Sweden. My understanding is that the spruce and pine that they grow is native, but they are by no means natural forests as we understand them.

### RD: Are there not any, at all, wood craft studios such as yours in Sweden? Do they teach?

ED: No. I couldn't find any creative workshops in Sweden doing one-off or even small-batch pieces to commission. There are lots of mid-sized workshops with about 30 employees that do a range of joinery and furniture pieces, but it's not the same. They don't recognise the concept of a designer/maker the way we do. Any wood clubs are aimed at enthusiasts, not aspiring professionals. It's a very different scene.

### RD: How do you compare the education of woodworkers in Sweden and Australia?

ED: Sweden takes wood craft very seriously as a profession. The training is well resourced, very practical, very broad and highly



Evan and Fenella

Dunstone at the
marina in Gothenberg
Image: Evan

Dunstone



One corner of the machine room at Malmstens. Note the natural light, the timber floors, the spacious layout, the comprehensive extraction and the modern, professional equipment.

respected. Any one of the 'big three' schools, Stenebyskolan, Capellagården or Malmstens would be the best holistic wood school in the world, if the other two didn't exist.

Despite a population of less than 11 million people, the competition to get into any one of the schools is fierce, and only the best and brightest are successful. The training places great emphasis on wood technology, and they are training students to be employable across a range of industries. After five years of intense study and rigorous testing, a graduate of Malmstens has the finest technical wood craft training in the world. They are industry-ready and could walk into any role that involves woodwork.

We have no comparable training. TAFE trains for the joinery industry. The Sturt School for Wood trains skills, design and creativity, but not business skills, and there is no focus on speed, or potential employability. Australian design schools don't teach hand skills, or wood technology in any depth. In short, we offer a range of specific training options, but nothing comprehensive, and nothing as well resourced.

It's no coincidence that IKEA comes from Sweden. Sweden has invested heavily in training every aspect of wood craft; understanding material, craftsmanship, design, production, and construction from the perspective of packaging efficiency and cost analysis. Say what you will about IKEA, but every aspect of that company is on-mission. IKEA is an US\$18 billion company that's a massive export earner for Sweden, even though less than 30% of its products are still made in Sweden. It might not be fine furniture, but it's an extraordinarily impressive operation, and it's only been possible because of the depth of understanding that all the highly trained staff, across all disciplines, bring to the table.

Sweden started the 20th century as one of the poorest countries in Europe. It is now one of the richest countries in Europe. Sweden invests heavily in education across all disciplines, because it has to feed an export-oriented economy with the best educated, most talented people available.

#### RD: Do we nurture our woodworkers enough?

ED: I don't think we nurture our makers at all. All the passion for the craft comes from the ground-up despite the obstacles. I'm not sure I would seek to change that.

We have great woodworkers because we have great timber. Most Australian makers fall a little bit in love with the wood, which leads them to the craft. We punch well above our weight internationally, because the hobby stream is strong and the materials we have are so interesting.

As a culture, we take wood more seriously than actual craftsmanship or even design, and that can be challenging. I've seen the People's Choice award at various exhibitions go to the shiniest wood, not the most makerly pieces. In a way, this is telling us where the love comes from, the natural material. If an enthusiast polishes up an old red gum fence post, sticks a candle in it and calls it a candelabra, who am I to be critical? They are responding to our amazing timber from a very genuine place. If I think about my business, we are able to sell original designs in Australian native timbers directly to the public in sufficient quantity to keep three craftsmen in beer

and chips. Our equipment is modern, and we have a big workshop to play in. There are very few places in the world where this is possible. I think the training available in Australia is terrible, but I think the opportunities are fantastic. I'm not sure how you change one without disrupting the other.

One thing I would say, the best training in Australia still comes though apprenticeships. I don't mean the external aspect of the training; I mean the on-the-job training in the work place. Whatever other training they have subsequently done, the young-guns like Tim Noone, Nathan Day, William Bayliss and Rolf Barfoed all started off as apprentices. They understood what the job was, then they refined their skills in various ways as they developed their artistry.

The main entrance to Malmstens in Stockholm.

Images: Evan Dunstone.



association's website explains, "Malmstens Alumni is a non-profit association started in 2019 on the initiative of Ulf Brunne, master cabinetmaker, conservator furniture former Head of Department at Malmstens Linköpings University. As a freestanding association Malmstens Alumni aims to bring together a diverse group of professionals with the common denominators Malmstens and wood, including cabinetmakers, upholsterers, conservators, luthiers/guitar builders and designers.

As a wood craft artisans' node and alumni cluster our goal is to strengthen the alumni network both nationally and internationally, promoting lifelong learning and creating inclusive further education opportunities."



## What is needed to build one million homes in five years?

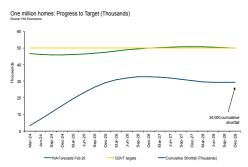
**THE AUSTRALIAN** Government has announced an ambitious goal to build more than one million homes over the next five years.

This is consistent with research undertaken in 2020 by the National Housing Finance Investment Corporation (NHFIC), showing Australia's need for two million new homes to commence construction over the whole decade.

This is a stretch goal, but possible. After all, in the five years to the end of 2018, Australia commenced construction of 1.1 million new homes including half a million multi-units.

Unfortunately, it is not ambitious enough for a government that wants to improve housing affordability.

One million homes started within five years will be sufficient to ensure that the acute shortage of housing supply does not deteriorate further, but it will not be sufficient to address the undersupply that already exists.



Achieving this goal will require State governments and local Councils to improve the supply of land and infrastructure and lower the cost of delivery.

This is wholly consistent with the recommendations laid out in a 2022 report, the Falinski Report.

The Falinski Report was

the result of a recent federal inquiry into housing affordability in Australia. Its conclusion places the solution to housing unaffordability squarely on the supply-side of the equation - Australia needs more housing.

But the incentives of government are not always aligned with this goal. Local and state governments have much greater control over housing supply than the Australian government. This includes planning frameworks that allow - or disallow - higher density housing development in existing suburbs, and approval processes that affect the speed and ease - or lack thereof - of new land release and home building.

Unfortunately, local authorities face obstacles to allowing more home building in their own back yards.

Concerns from local residents about congestion and loss of neighbourhood character, amenity and heritage are often top of the list of objections to more and higher density housing development.

And at the end of the day, local Councils are more beholden to their existing residents' concerns, not the concerns of potential future residents who would move into the area if affordable housing existed. This represents a tremendous loss, not just in terms of affordability for home buyers, but lost rates revenue for the local Council.

It also puts increasing pressure on urban sprawl, forcing new housing development to the outskirts of large metropolitan areas. Long commutes cost Australia in lost productivity and vehicle pollution. Expensive transport and utilities infrastructure is required in new greenfield areas. Urban sprawl also requires further destruction of the natural environment.

All of these problems are minimised by housing more people in existing areas:

- It makes better use of existing infrastructure and minimises the need for expensive new infrastructure.
- It puts people closer to their jobs and desired services and amenities.
- It makes a place livelier and more dynamic.
- It produces less carbon emissions and environmental destruction than urban sprawl.

Perhaps most importantly of all, it gives people a more affordable roof over their head in the places they want to live, work and recreate.

So how can vauthorities be incentivised to release more land in existing suburbs, and facilitate higher density redevelopments?

This is where the Australian government comes in. The Falinski Report identified several actions the Australian government could take.

Firstly, simple cash grants could be offered to local authorities for every new dwelling built over and above a certain target. This would explicitly internalise the value of potential future residents into Council decision making, by forcing them to potentially forgo a significant amount of money if they don't allow more housing.

In terms of local concerns of congestion, the Report also recommends federal and state commitments to infrastructure works that could help local Councils accommodate larger local populations. Improved transport infrastructure, for example, literally creates new well-located land for residential development, while minimising the need for urban sprawl.

Local and state authorities face too many conflicting incentives that have prevented them from building sufficient housing for Australia's growing population. It is time the Australian government realigns these incentives for the collective benefit of all Australians.

Home ownership remains the ambition of the vast majority of Australian renters. It is a bitter pill to swallow that this goal is obstructed by housing that is either unaffordable or poorly located - or both.



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## New Nova Pro base mount runners make things achievable

Typically, the installation of drawer systems requires both runners to be side mounted inside the cabinet. This can be a problem when looking to include under-counter appliances such as water filtration system or in sink food waste disposers.

Traditionally, these applications have been limited to hinged doors. This has all changed with the launch of the new Nova Pro base mount runners. Base mount runners are exactly as they suggest – mounted to the base of the cabinet instead of the sides.

This means that the cabinetmaker can position a Nova Pro Scala drawer in any position and allow additional drawer front overlays to compensate for this. A base mount runner can be used in combination with a standard side mounted runner.

An overlay of one-third cabinet width is possible. Typically, 300mm is required for many of the undercounter appliances, which means a design can have a 900mm wide cabinet and utilise 600mm for drawer space.

Base mount runners are also push-to-open compatible and retain the market leading pull out force of 20N. The range of applications is limitless.

GRASS AUSTRALIA Phone 03 9421 3048 www.grass.at







## **Enhance kitchens with Eurofit's designer handles**



Handles are the centre piece of any joinery project. The choice of cabinet handles can determine the overall feel of the kitchen. Increasingly, they are also used to create a style statement and bring individuality to a design.

Over the past 18 years, Eurofit has been adding to and growing its full handle collection to where they can now fulfill any style or finish for the kitchen and furniture industry.

Each Eurofit handle is designed ergonomically for appreciation and sustainability. Rest assured that they are as comfortable as they are stylish, whether used by the youngest or oldest member of the household.

The vast variety of designs includes classic and contemporary looks, which can all be used to echo other features in a room.

The vintage options capture the essence of popular looks from the past, whereas the Shaker style handles with curved shape adds a softer, more homely touch.

Eurofit's latest European contemporary designs are versatile and on trend in today's market. They can be mixed and matched for an eclectic look or tied together in a matching finish for a collaborative design.

EUROFIT Phone 03 8592 1955 www.eurofit.com.au



## **ACFA Industry Awards now open**



**THE AUSTRALIAN** Cabinet and Furniture Association team is pleased to announce that entries have now opened for this year's Industry Awards, to be held on Friday 15 September 2023 in Sydney. With over 25 categories to win, including Cabinet Maker of the Year and Workplace Champion of the Year, there are categories to suit all businesses.

ACFA CEO, Dean Brakell shares, "The ACFA Industry Awards exist to recognise outstanding achievements within the furniture, joinery and cabinet-making industry. The awards showcase our industry's hard work, dedication and craftsmanship."

Each year, the entries become more difficult to score by the panel of independent judges selected by the ACFA. The independent, expert panel consists of industry representatives who have a strong knowledge of the industry, operations, manufacturing, and trends. Bias towards any person or company is controlled through the 'blind' judging process - any reference to a company or person is removed from the material that the judges review. This ensures every entry is evaluated on equal grounds. Judges assess each entry on three focus criteria - design, functionality, and innovation

Entries to the 2023 ACFA Industry Awards showcase recent work to both the industry and potential clients. There is no limit to how many entries a business can place, whether that be across multiple categories, or multiple entries for a particular category. Eligible projects must have been completed between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023.

ACFA Marketing Coordinator, Blake Cugley, remarks "The Industry Awards bring many beneficial opportunities for finalists and winners to promote their projects and achievements to potential clients. For our previous ACFA Industry Awards, we produced our first digital magazine featuring all the winners and finalists, which can be viewed on our website."

#### Key dates:

Early bird entries close: 26 May 2023 Entries close: 21 July 2023 Finalists announced: Early August 2023 Awards night: 15 February 2023









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## **Dulux forecasts colour themes for 2023**

### **REVIVE**, Connect and Balance reflect new relationships with our homes

Many Australians' relationships with their homes have changed since the Covid-19 pandemic, with forced work-from-home rules now becoming the preference for numerous employees who want to cut the commute and enjoy more flexibility in their daily lives.

Pandemic shock has left many with an overwhelming desire to live more simply and authentically, taking stock of what we surround ourselves with, how we spend more time in our homes and how we create space for more meaningful connections.

Photos: Dulux®

Photographer: Anson Smart

Stylist: Bree Leech

Dulux colours:
Cabinets - Dulux
Moorland.
Ceilings/Walls - Dulux
Vivid White™

The Dulux Colour Forecast 2023 reflects this desire to bond with the environment, communities and the people we love, with warming, earth-drawn neutrals, natural textures and an array of uplifting brighter hues.

The Dulux annual forecast is based on year-round research into the latest global and local trends predicted to influence Australian design and lifestyles.

The new forecast - led by Dulux Colour and Communication Manager Andrea Lucena-Orr in conjunction with Dulux Colour



Forecaster and Stylist Bree Leech – has been informed by seminars, including Future Laboratory London and Colour Hive, Milan Design Week, trend reports and editorials, fashion catwalks, product and design launches, engagement with global and international brands, and customised research through Dulux's extensive networks in the UK, Italy and France.

"Colour forecasting for interiors is an evolution," says Lucena-Orr. "While fashion is an important influencer, the shifts in interiors are more subtle and nuanced. The palettes we can expect to see in our homes in 2023 are predominantly warm and nurturing, with nature continuing to be a key driver of trends. Brighter hues continue, however, they are deeper than last year.

"We have all reacted to the upheavals of the last couple of years in different ways – from people who crave lightness and whimsy to those who seek order and reassurance. The three palettes in the Dulux Colour Forecast 2023 reflect these differing needs," she says.

#### Kitchens the focus of many homes

With more time being spent in the home, and the kitchen a key element of open-plan living, Dulux's new colour palettes encourage consumers and kitchen manufacturers to move away from the standard white kitchen.

"Be brave" could be excellent advice to consider when incorporating more colour and life in the room where people cook, congregate and often enjoy casual dining.

The Dulux Revive palette is an instant mood lifter for a busy, joyful kitchen. It's filled with playful, uplifting brighter colours, such as rose pink, breezy blue, sunshine yellow, emerald, violet and burnt orange.

"It's just what many of us need after the gruelling last couple of years," says Lucena-Orr.

Dialling the brightness back, but still with an emphasis on warmth, the Dulux Connect palette features earthy tones of moss, wasabi, sandstone, muddied yellow-green and burnt charcoal.

These shades are about fostering relationships with the outdoors, and could work beautifully in a kitchen where the home is surrounded by city or country gardens.

"This palette speaks of calm, comfort and an honest approach to living, and brings in many of the pastimes we experienced during lockdown, including cooking. Muddied yellow-green



has something of a nostalgic, country-house feel, cinnamon is grounding, whilst rich, purple-brown adds an indulgent and contemporary twist," she says.

For those who now crave the reassurance of structure and rules, Dulux Balance is a refined palette of serene marine blues, gentle greens and accents of deep garnet that evoke the beauty and fluidity of the ocean and shoreline.

"Post-pandemic, not everyone is craving indulgence, risk and change," says Lucena-Orr.

"Balance is very much inspired by a 'less is more' philosophy, with minimal detailing and a restrained approach to decorating. Instead, the focus is on immersive colour with an elegant, understated feel that would work beautifully in an inner-city apartment or a terrace home."

#### Sustainability

This will be another important focus in the year ahead, with  $\text{Dulux's envirO}_2^{\text{TM}}$  an excellent environmental choice.

"Ninety per cent of our lives are spent indoors," Lucena-Orr says. "Research shows that there is between two and five times more pollution indoors than outdoors, including airborne particles, formaldehyde, household odours and gases, ozone and carbon dioxide."

Dulux's  $envirO_2$ <sup>TM</sup> is the only major paint brand with a Global GreenTag<sup>TM</sup> certification. It contains a very low level of volatile organic compounds (VOC), which are known to impact indoor air quality.

This paint also has very low emissions – <1g/L VOC\* - making it less harmful to health and the environment.







- With a new and improved formula, Dulux's envirO₂ ™ is available in acrylic sealer undercoat, ceiling, interior matt, water-based enamel semi-gloss and interior low sheen. Dulux's envirO₂ ™ has good washability and scrubability for easy cleaning in busy areas.
  - \* Very Low VOC untinted and when tinted with Dulux Decorama tinters. VOC content is calculated in accordance with APAS Australian Testing Standards. Visit www.apas.gov.au for further information.

#### New Fast Finish range

A new Dulux range that is attracting a lot of interest is  $\mathsf{FASTFINISH^{\mathsf{TM}}}.$  Designed for trade painters wanting to save time and reduce labour requirements, the range is optimised for spray application. Surfaces can be recoated immediately, so there is no downtime between coats. The finish is very high premium.

"Customers have been really impressed with the way the product doesn't run or sag, which has always been a major issue with water-based enamels," says Lucena-Orr.

"It's a game-changer, allowing customers to save time - not just because surfaces can be recoated immediately - but also because spraying becomes much simpler. There's no need to set and re-set equipment between coats, the product sprays at a lower pressure which is kinder on tools, and there's no more sagging.

"The range is very low VOC, extending Dulux's goal of using more sustainable and environmentally friendly products, something our trade customers tell us clients are requesting more often."

FASTFINISH™ features the following products: Dual purpose Undercoat & Ceiling Flat, Dry Fall Ceiling, Level 5 Prep Coat, Water Based Enamel Gloss and Water Based Enamel Semi-Gloss.

For more information visit www.dulux.com.au/collections/ professional-fastfinish

Photos: Dulux®

Photographer: Lisa Cohen

Stylist Bree Leech

Kitchen artwork: Petite Fille by Jean Paul Mangin

Dining artwork: Pines by Matilda Dumas, Studio Gallery

Kitchen: Cabinets Dulux Lexicon® Quarter, Panelling Dulux Perplexed, Right Wall Dulux Paper Brown

Dining: Dulux Namadji®

Kitchen shelving: Dulux Casper White Quarter

Cabinets/bulk head: Dulux Domino





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## **SURTECO** Australia



## **Sharing passion - The HOMAG Experience at LIGNA 15-19 May 2023 Hanover, Germany**

In May 2023, the spotlight moment will return: Under the motto "Sharing passion", HOMAG will present its latest innovations at LIGNA. But what does passion have to do with new solutions from HOMAG? Everything.

HOMAG shares the industry's passion for quality, for precision and for innovation. HOMAG takes this passion and puts it into everything it does. It's what fuels the company as it invents, innovates, improves, and provides the machine, digital, and support solutions that empowers the industry. HOMAG looks forward to sharing passion with visitors at LIGNA 2023.

At LIGNA, visitors can look forward to experiencing the right HOMAG solutions for their requirements. The innovations at LIGNA cover all applications and all production levels, from individual machines and digital solutions, to integrated cell concepts, to complete systems. Discover the full range across three different halls.

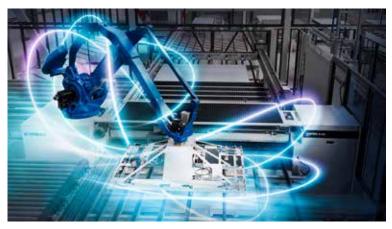
#### HOMAG's key passions at LIGNA

#### Digital transformation

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- Digital job folders and much more





#### Service and support

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#### Sustainability and innovation

- Could innovative technologies fundamentally change manufacturing?
- What is possible when the technology controls itself?
- How can production become even more resource-efficient and sustainable?



HOMAG Phone 1800 355 635 www.homag.com by Bob Norgren, Joiners Magazine NZ

## **Peter Hay Kitchens in partnership with HOMAG**

The recent installation by Auckland based Peter Hay Kitchens of three sophisticated edgebanding production line machines from the EDGETEQ S-500 range made by German manufacturer HOMAG represent not only a substantial commitment to the development of new processes and the use of technology but also to HOMAG as the mentor behind the technology. Bob Nordgren from New Zealand's JOINERS Magazine spoke with both owner Peter Hay and Sales and Marketing Manager Karl O'Hanlon about this latest installation that moves the business ever closer to the creation of a world class Batch One processing line for cabinet production, a process they started back in 2015.

The three edgebanders including one with the latest HOMAG airTec technology have enabled the business to deal with the challenge of meeting increased demand by producing efficiently more volume in kitchen and bathroom cabinet production and the variation in jobs to be performed. These machines are capable of working with all types of edging materials be they solid or veneer. The integration of their existing returns provide for greater productivity as part of the Batch One system. "We needed a partner who in our view could take us through to the full potential of automated production machinery. Choosing HOMAG Group was a decision based on the future and where we see our future business going. We came to the conclusion that HOMAG as the leading manufacturer of robotics and automated machinery made for that partner" explains Peter. "They fit as the machinery supplier who have developed the best technology and most

importantly, continue to develop their technology down to the smallest detail. This detailed approach in all aspects of their machinery is vital to our business." One of the more interesting outcomes has been the use of all the production data to help grow the business. Karl says "This has become a powerful tool for us to grow and develop the business in terms of sheer production as well as the future direction."

The factory operation has been digitally linked to HOMAG in Germany. This enables any issues with their operation and maintenance to be addressed quickly and effectively. "These machines are the very latest in edgebanding technology." comments Karl. "The inclusion of the FF32 multi trimming unit and the use of a multi profile scraper offers us a greatly improved quality of finish. These machines offer us real flexibility such as being able to use either PUR or EVA glues as well as airTec. The use of hot melt glue is guick and easy to set up and clean. They provide for greater configuration options through the processes of premilling,, gluing and post processing. In particular they offer us three key features: perfect trimming through vibration free tooling, minimal set up time with multi profile technology and optimum processing due to servo controlled positioning throughout the machine. The airTec option means zero joint technology that produces even better quality finishes." The business has benefited in several ways from this technology. There has been low staff turnover. "Through this kind of investment in the business it has made life easier for everyone. In many cases staff can now take on more functional roles than before. For our clientele be they merchants, 'brownbox' or commercial anywhere in New Zealand we are able to meet demand for whatever they need on-time."

The use of technology, automation and software at their 10,000 square metre factory will continue to see Peter Hay Kitchens as the foremost business of its kind in New Zealand. "I believe our partnership with HOMAG Group with their developed and developing technology and their Imos/HOMAG iX software will see this business go forward as a world class operation." says Peter. With the business to have its 50th anniversary in 2023 there will be even more to celebrate.



HOMAG Phone 1800 355 635 www.homag.com

AWISA thanks Peter Hay Kitchens and Joiners Magazine for allowing publication of this article.

by Gordon Guppy National Services Manager Planit Australia.

## Have you ordered a new CNC machine for delivery this year?

Or maybe you have been thinking about pulling the trigger in 2023 to upgrade your current machine?

In either case, congratulations on taking the first step to taking your production capacity to the next level and improving your productivity and efficiency this year.

At Planit we have been helping cabinetmakers upgrade and improve for over 30 years. In 1988 CABINETVISION was introduced to the Australian market with the goal of helping our industry automate production; we haven't looked back since.

I joined Planit in 2015 after working extensively in the industry with CABINETVISION and woodworking machinery. My first role was in technical support which included onboarding customers with our software and performing new machine connections as an integrator.

After leaving Planit for a few years to pursue an opportunity working with the first fully automated production line in the southern hemisphere. I returned as National Service Manager in 2021, soon after Sandy Passmore took full ownership of the company.

My team help manage all facets of technical support for Planit's clients nationwide as we pride ourselves of providing some of the best support in the industry.

The focus of this article is particularly on machine connections and how Planit can help make the process of commissioning your new machine both smooth and stress free!

We find that many customers only start thinking about software once their shiny new machine lands in the country. This often leaves too little time to plan properly for the software integration and, in my experience, can lead to unnecessary disruption, frustration and more than a few bumps in the road with what is often a fairly tight timetable.

Ideally, its best if you contact our team when you are first considering your new machine or when you order so we can advise on what software will suit you best, based on your production needs. This is a process that our business

development team will take you through, before handing over to my team to proceed to scheduling and implementation.

The more coordinated we can be in the early stages, the smoother the rollout when your machine is installed!

I believe that a real partnership doesn't end when a 'sale' is made, for Planit, this is when it starts.

We are very proud of the fact that we have customers at Planit who have been with us for over 30+ years, who keep coming back to seek advice on how they can continue to improve their business.

Its all about trust built up over many years and our team being able to provide the very best advice and assistance available to help you produce amazing products in your workshop every day.

These kinds of partnerships are the cornerstone of our business at Planit, and we like to kick them off at the time you order your new machine. From there we can work with you to plan the all-important steps of scheduling the commissioning of your new machine, software integration and the final execution into production.

2023 has started strongly for my team working with all the major machinery suppliers (and most of the smaller ones too) with a record number of new machine connections scheduled or executed from January through to the end of the financial year.

Once again, given the unprecedented market conditions our industry is experiencing, it is imperative that we start our planning with you as early as possible to give you the outcome we all want - a super smooth installation and commissioning for your new baby.

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## The new Furnipart wood collection

## introduces new materials from sustainable forestry





Wood is a new collection of wooden handles and wooden knobs. All the wood used in these designs is FSC certified from sustainable forestry. In addition, Furnipart has worked to ensure that the design has a reference back to the proud Danish joinery traditions - this can be seen, among other things, in the beautiful pin joints in the design of the JOIN handles and JOIN knobs. For this collection, designers Kaschkasch and Adam Laws illustrate how simplicity can be very beautiful.

#### Crossing

This d-handle comes from the idea of combining two materials - wood and metal. The part you touch is made of wood which brings warmth and a pleasant feel. The metal feet brings precision and an exciting mix of materials.

#### Glove

Glove unites material and shape in the best possible way, which ensures a perfect grip.

#### Join

For this wooden handle we look at the beauty and statement of traditional wood joints. It's a wooden interpretation of a well-known classic rail handle - the round shape makes it comfortable and practical to grab and gives the handle its very own DNA.

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The standardised high-performance aggregates from ATEMAG are used for drilling, milling, sawing, planing and grinding in CNC machining centres and on robots. Industry 4.0 ready, with AC 4.0 technology, the unit can transmit process data to the user in real time. By working as a manufacturer, ATEMAG can meet the requirements of each individual customer and always satisfy the highest quality demands. In the case of special requirements, the specialised design team develops individual solutions, which are created in the closest cooperation and exchange with the customer and are manufactured in Höfen in the Black Forest after the customer's approval.

ATEMAG's high-performance power units are developed and produced for various industries and distributed worldwide directly and with many partners. For example, it is impossible to imagine the wood processing industry without ATEMAG's product solutions and they are used for production and manufacturing in all areas of the wood industry. The automotive, aviation and rail transport industries also use ATEMAG precision units. Due to constant further

development, all standard units always remain technically up-to-date and always guarantee the highest process reliability.

Founded in 2004, ATEMAG, a precision supplier based in Hofstetten in the Black Forest, has built up and consolidated a very good reputation in the wood, composite materials, aluminium and plastics markets on CNC machining centres. For the entire ATEMAG team, the most important goal is to offer each customer the right unit that is optimally adapted to their application and the associated requirements. For this reason, customers become regular customers and partners, because ATEMAG sees itself not only as a manufacturer.

The partnership-based approach is also reflected in the above-average range of services offered. The service portfolio offers a broad spectrum that guarantees customer wishes such as price transparency, speed, quality and reliability at all times. Aggregate repair and service is offered for all CNC aggregates on the market, no matter the brand.

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## DTC and Nikpol have been working together for more than a decade bringing world class hardware to Australia

Established in 1991, DTC specialise in servicing the needs of functional hardware such as concealed hinges, drawer slides, drawer box systems, kitchen and wardrobe storage systems, lifting systems, sliding door systems, connecting fittings and more for home-living spaces.

At present, DTC's scale and market share rank in the top three worldwide, DTC's sales network extends to 106 countries and regions around the world.

Being one of the top quality hardware manufacturers in the world, DTC runs a robust production system throughout its 5 production sites of over 600,000 square meters.

A general production programming system that coordinates the operation of a large number of stamping, roll-forming, injection, die-casting, powder-coating, electro-plating, assembly, and packing machines, has generated optimal production efficiency and resource utilization.

DTC's pursuit of quality, technical breakthroughs, and constant customer communication are key factors behind product improvements in safety, durability, functions, and comfort.

#### **Future development**

Now, and in the future, DTC will advance with the times, embrace the capital market, plan overseas production bases and expand its global service network to better provide quality products and solutions. Maintaining close cooperation with worldwide furniture manufacturers and strategic dealers at all levels, we strive to create greater value for all customers to make home living the best it can be!













#### DTC and Nikpol have been working together to bring the DTC hardware to Australia for over 10 years.

Nikpol is a 100% Australian owned and run company supplying hardware, decorative surfaces and appliances. The company operates 3 facilities with over 140 employees and has become a leading supplier for the new home, renovation and commercial joinery market across Australia.

The joint efforts have seen great customer satisfaction on product quality, stock availability and customer service. Nikpol is proud of being the exclusive distributor for Australia.

With a wide range of products, DTC x Nikpol's stunning slimline DRAGON-PRO drawer is designed with perfect unity and functionality, making it one of the best drawer solutions for your ideal kitchen.

From the ever-popular white drawer to the bold matt black drawer, your kitchen will make an impact especially with the clean design on the double wall profile, creating space saving and practicality in your modern-day kitchen.

We can't forget about DTC x Nikpol's award-winning hinge, PIVOT-STAR. This iF design awarded hinge creates the ultimate fine tuning to your everyday kitchen needs.

PIVOT-STAR offers a clean and minimalistic look with a one of a kind ultimate soft-close adjustment, ideal for all end users. The hinge is designed with a seal of excellence and quality, with it also being cyanide free and electroplating suitable for schools and hospitals.

Find inspiration for your next kitchen and choose to experience Nikpol's innovative designs on the DRAGON-PRO and PIVOT-STAR.



## **Wauchope's Bago Woodworks**

## continues town's long association with timber and woodworking

WORKING IN THE workshop of the joinery and furniture business he owns and operates in Wauchope on the New South Wales North Coast, Jarrod Butlin is in his element. "I am more of an introvert than an extrovert, I guess, and I've always been very much hands on, even with the machines and repairing them. When I start work on a joinery or woodwork project, I am in my own world."

In conversation with AWISA Magazine on another busy day for him and his team at Bago Woodworks, Jarrod speaks enthusiastically about the region's historical connection with the timber industry, and the ethical use of timber today. "I guess we probably take it a bit for granted but we are somewhat in the middle of Australia's best timber supplies."

At its height the industry drew on timber from the surrounding 40,000 hectares, he explains. There were countless small mills but eighteen major ones. Shipments of railway timber reached thirteen million super feet each year. In one deal, one million sleepers were exported to South Africa. No mills remain in Wauchope itself today, but Jarrod notes, the region supplies the majority of Australia's F27 Blackbutt, now mostly from long term reforestation or plantations.

"We usually look for donated logs or trees that need to be removed anyway and will otherwise just be burnt. Once it is sawn, our timber is air-dried for six to twelve months before going into one of our two solar kilns. Two-inch stock can take up to three months in the kiln over winter. With such a slow Images: drying process, we find we have less waste due to collapse

the process."

Claudia Gabriel Lim. and cracking, and pretty furniture grade timber at the end of

Lethbridge house.

The result of such care and control over the whole product is that they can cater to most clients' tastes, whether they prefer a more rustic look with lots of features, or a clean, straight grain. "Even from the same tree," adds Jarrod, "there is plenty to choose from. It's not unusual for a pack of timber to get sawn especially for an upcoming job and put in the kiln before the house is even built."

Bago Woodworks was set up back in 2000 to recycle reclaimed and salvaged logs for making furniture. Geoff Carney designed and made furniture in a small workshop at the rear of the Bago Tavern where he sold it in a showroom. In 2004, the works moved to the present location in Commerce Street.

Jarrod's own life story is unique. Until year six, he had attended twelve different schools around Australia, including a boarding school, when his family moved to a 400-acre forest property and he was semi home-schooled.

His experience there started his affinity with timber and milling, he reflects. His mother enrolled him in the year-long Carpentry and Joinery Pre-apprenticeship course that TAFE used to offer. After completing his apprenticeship in a joinery specialising in traditional doors, windows and stairs, Jarrod stayed with the business for twelve years. Subsequently, he worked as a section manager at Bago for five years before buying the business in 2008. He says, "I have always had my own work philosophy that as an employee you can never really fully express, so that was definitely motivation to follow through with the purchase."

The first three years were very tough, says Jarrod. More recently Ewald Bouwer joined Bago as Sales Manager, taking on most of the direct retail and wholesale customer contact, and, says Jarrod assisting throughout the business so that he refers to Ewald as the 'main manager'. By carefully selecting apprentices and nurturing their skills, they have created an efficient team, which is more like a family. But while Jarrod



can lose himself in work, he knows he has to be there ready to answer any questions. He has to know each machine and process well enough so he can be on the same page as everyone else to resolve any problems that arise in the workshop. "Ewald and myself spend around 70% of our time in the workshop, and so we provide a direct connection from the customers' needs to the workshop floor."

Before he acquired the business, Bago Woodworks made furniture but now it can also supply all joinery. "Customers love that they only need to find one joinery, and they know what to expect through the whole build. Interestingly, over the years we have been doing less and less design work, but more fine tuning someone else's designs to ensure it is practical and durable. In a way this is good, as to be honest, my passion is more in the manufacturing, practical, and durability aspect of our products. I'm happy to leave the initial design to them."

One project he found especially satisfying was a stairway in Lethbridge House, designed by Moore Design (Pacific Palms, NSW). Jarrod explains, "It had a challenging six run stair with a continuous round handrail, made in-house here and then put together on site. The treads all cantilevered off the walls

and supported two full height glass panels, that the handrail was mounted to on pre-calculated holes. It's just a stunningly beautiful house overlooking Elizabeth Beach. The combination of great design and the satisfaction of nailing tricky handwork and angle calculations on the stair made it memorable. We also built a huge all solid 30mm Blackbutt bookcase, with a black stain, which had to be craned into place."

Ewald nominates Coast Avenue house at Boomerang Beach as a favourite project of which he is especially proud.

It is an island bench and curved sideboard all constructed from solid Blackbutt with shop-made board cut veneers for the fronts, wrapping the whole way around to continue the grain. He continues, "It's an absolutely beautiful set of joinery and credit to Michaela from Moore Design. The stair, downstairs cabinetry and all the steel beams were encased in solid tallowwood. All the timber joinery was a collaboration with the skilled carpenters on site as each piece was unique and custom built by us and then scribed, fitted and installed by them. It was a real privilege to work on a project where the quality was to the highest standard at every aspect and a great example of traditional timber joinery used in a modern context."

Coast Avenue house.

Images: Claudia
Gabriel Lim.









JOINERY



Jarrod Butlin working on a large table.

Image: Melissa Lee.

The work all happens in a well thought out workshop that is flexible in that the layout and processes can be adapted with the installation of any additional machinery. The layout works well, Jarrod explains, because the primary machinery, jointer, six-head moulder, radial arm saw and band resaw, are closest to the timber storage area. Staff can pick and dress boards without getting in the way of the workbenches. In the main joinery section, there is a panel saw, wide-belt sander, glue clamp rack, and a pod and rail CNC closest to the workbenches. It can get a little bit crowded, he adds, when they are working on big stacking doors or boardroom tables, but they are lucky to have more space than most furniture joineries.

Jarrod continues that in the shop they use CAD and CNCs, with three Masterwood CNCs on the floor, and they will utilise every tool possible to meet deadlines which can be as important to a builder as the finish quality. Delays cost money for everyone but good use of computerised equipment opens up so many approaches to a job. It also facilitates easy direct communication with the architects where they can import drawings and manipulate key parts. It is particularly helpful, he stresses, for curved work, making templates, and large-scale workpieces that would be hard to process and mark out with hand tools.

At the same time, he points out, to truly run a CNC most efficiently on timber, you need to understand how to run a basic hand router first, otherwise you will just have breakout everywhere. "There are plenty of times you are better off to just use traditional methods rather than the CNC. It is just another tool, albeit one that needs some serious skill to utilise to its fullest extent."

While Jarrod cannot nominate one item of equipment as a favourite, he says the biggest game-changer was the addition of a Combilift forklift with additional racking. It takes a bit to get used to, but that machine is just so manoeuvrable, he says.

Reflecting an early interest in mechanics, Jarrod admits to deriving great satisfaction from restoring machinery that was scrapped for parts, and getting it back up and "running sweet". He has turned his hand to Altendorfs, CNCs, bobcats, trucks, log skidders and now a very large sawmill that has sat in the weather for seven years. "It's my version of recycling and not being wasteful. Manufacturing machines emits carbon too. Also living off the grid for years, I have a bit of an obsession

with solar and batteries, so I have the workshop near to self-sufficiency energy-wise, with four "Second Life" Nissan Leaf batteries, and 160 solar panels as a start, with plenty more in the works, including our first EV due next week."

With timber at the heart of his business, and the district, Jarrod notes he bought his first sawmill at age fifteen and there is a larger one in the works. He sources a large amount of logs from people who have removed trees and would use them just for firewood. He is still salvaging dead hazard trees off the sides of local roads and his 417-acre property that was hit very hard in the 2019 fires. Recent bad weather has brought down more trees. However, he says, they still rely on general timber wholesalers to supplement their supplies, especially where clients need a whole house load of joinery of a species they do not hold in stock. "We also utilise a large amount of recycled timber, often coming directly from a demolition and renovation project to which we are supplying the new joinery. That creates quite a synergy."

In the midst of all this timber, does he have a favourite? "Yes a few," answers Jarrod. "They all have their own strengths, and weaknesses. For appearance, Camphor and She-oak are my favourites, but Camphor is a bit soft for some applications, and She-oak is only available in salvaged logs, and quite difficult to dry, to say the least. New Guinea Rosewood is an awesome timber for a lot of reasons, but its sustainability is certainly in question. And you cannot beat Accoya for stability and water resistance."

Without mentioning his own drive for quality, Jarrod attributes the success of Bago Woodworks to staff. Bago aims to retain good staff wherever possible. They will select new staff mainly from apprentices, and allocate them to the workshop section that best suits their skills. Working hours are flexible with staff starting work at six, seven, even eight o'clock. Ewald's hours vary as needed. Staff have flexibility but there is opportunity for feedback every three to six months, which sorts out any issues

A successful team? Jarrod answers, "Yeah, and we'll put on barbeques, and we'll have parties. We are kind of a family." Last year's Christmas party was held on a private catamaran hired for the afternoon.



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# **Showing 3D renders in Staircon an invaluable option**

Helping clients visualise the finished product can be a crucial key to success. For the stair and balustrade experts at On The Way Up Pty Ltd, software from Staircon was the solution. The company's Director Matthew Pocock explains: "Often clients cannot visualise the finished product when looking at plans from a bird's eye perspective. The 3D render in Staircon enables us to show our clients what the stairs, balustrade and screens will look like when complete."

Since being founded back in 2006, Queensland-based On The Way Up has achieved steady growth over the years. The company manufactures and installs high-end custom stairs, balustrade, screens and barn doors. Their clients range from custom builders to individuals who are looking for beautifully finished products that are a statement piece for their homes and businesses.

"Software was needed at an early stage to streamline manufacturing with the influx of orders we were receiving. We chose Staircon because it is the best software on the market for our needs. It has features that have enabled us to enhance our customer service and streamline our business practices", says Matthew Pocock.





### Working hand in hand with clients

On The Way Up has had major growth over the last four years in particular. They started using Staircon in 2020 and Matthew Pocock believes that choosing Staircon has been an important step for the company's development: "The implementation of Staircon into our business practices has assisted us to achieve that growth seamlessly. We can show our clients 3D renders for each option under consideration and implement design changes during consultations. This is an invaluable feature for us. It allows us to work hand in hand with our clients in real time at the design stage to achieve their vision for the stairs and balustrade in their home or commercial premises."

## Staircon is flexible, responsive and intuitive

Staircon is developed and delivered by Elecosoft and On The Way Up has been extremely satisfied with the customer service provided both before and after the implementation.

"The training provided by Elecosoft was hands on and practical, meaning that our new staff members could step into their role quickly and with confidence. Overall, Elecosoft has been a pleasure to deal with and their technical support is excellent and incredibly responsive", says Matthew Pocock.

He is convinced that the software solution will be of great importance for his company's future development: "We are incredibly happy with Staircon and how it works for us. It is flexible, responsive, and intuitive and will absolutely be able to keep up with changing trends and manufacturing methods. The options inbuilt into the program are extensive and can be updated by users. This ensures that the program can keep up with trends in architecture and interior design."

ELECOSOFT Phone 0415 665 828 www.staircon.com www.elecosoft.com





# Made-to-measure "suits" for windows and doors

## Meesenburg Großhandel KG invests in a HOMAG sawstorage combination

Construction and furniture fixtures, tools, machines, industrial safety equipment, construction chemistry products and much more: with over 120,000 products in its range, Meesenburg Großhandel KG is a real megastore for corporate customers from the construction trade and industry. That was not always the case. Founded in 1758, the company has often reinvented itself in the course of its history, just as it is doing now. The most recent chapter of innovation is about nothing less than the company changing from a wholesaler to a manufacturer of its own innovative products. Taking centre stage is a newly installed HOMAG "made-to-measure production centre."



Martin Meesenburg, owner of Meesenburg Großhandel KG: "The collaboration with HOMAG runs optimally. We have received exemplary support in every respect and at all times, from the time the order was placed to the present day. This is extraordinary and impressively justifies HOMAG's reputation as a market leader."

Meesenburg Großhandel KG is located in the far north of the country on the German border with Denmark. The company, founded more than 260 years ago in Flensburg, is still a family-owned company and trades in hardware as it did at the time of its founding. But that's the only thing that hasn't changed. When you look more closely, the history of Meesenburg has proven to be a history of constant transformation and change. At the beginning, the company made hardware for agricultural customers, and at some point, the fixtures that still characterize the range and the assembly material for windows and doors were added — but were not always as dominant as they are today. "When I took over the management from my father more than 30 years ago, we also sold porcelain and household goods in our own store," recalls owner Martin Meesenburg.

## Leading construction fixture wholesaler for assembly materials and construction fixtures in Europe

Since then, the company has developed into one of the leading wholesalers for assembly materials and construction fixtures in Europe. The family-run company generates sales of around EUR 330 million per year. In addition to the headquarters in Flensburg, Meesenburg operates 31 further locations in Germany alone, with additional branches in other European countries. All in all, the wholesaler employs more than 1200 people. "With this performance, we are one of the 100 oldest family-owned companies in Germany with an annual turnover of more than EUR 100 million," says Meesenburg, adding immediately: "However, this proud company history doesn't buy us anything. At the end of the month, we too have to be able to meet our costs and pay salaries. This is only possible if we are economically successful and convincingly competitive."

The environment in which the wholesaler and its customers have to assert themselves is shaped by the megatrends of our time. The three most important ones are digitalization, lack of skilled workers and the big issue of sustainability. Meesenburg faces these challenges and sees them as an opportunity. The company therefore consistently focuses on digitalization and is already generating a growing share of its sales online. "We develop products and systems to meet market requirements and offer our customers the right solution," emphasizes Robert Leinert, head of product management at Meesenburg.

## New in the range: Made-to-measure "suits" for windows and doors

This is exemplified by the innovative products that Meesenburg has recently been producing using the newly installed HOMAG production centre at the Bischofswerda site. The driving idea behind it? With new buildings and energy-efficient renovations, a great deal of technical effort goes into increasingly improving the insulation in houses. This is done, for example, with highly insulated facade elements and windows that are designed to keep the noise outside and the heat inside the house — or so the theory goes. "In reality, there are often enormous gaps around the windows and doors of a building. Gaps through which noise penetrates and heat escapes," explains Leinert. The reason for this is the lack of assembly solutions. Companies active in the construction industry have so far simply executed these structural connections on their own with varying degrees of improvisation. This has been time-consuming and not energyefficient

## Tailor-made profile system solutions to optimize energy efficiency

"Our aim is to close this gap in the market and offer our customers tailor-made profile system solutions for fitting windows and doors to optimize energy efficiency," explains Leinert. To this end, the team around the product manager has gradually developed an entire portfolio of products. The portfolio ranges from base insulation profiles and adapter profiles through windowsill connection profiles and frame extensions to special profiles for lifting/sliding doors. "These products are like made-to-measure suits for windows and doors," says Meesenburg, "they just fit perfectly."

#### The new production process: Highly automated

"Initially, we spent a great deal of effort producing the new profile system solutions on a simple table trimming machine cutting was done using a circular saw. In 2019, during the pilot phase, that was okay," Leinert recalls. However, demand grew so fast that it was difficult to cope with the incoming orders both technically and in terms of personnel. Initially, the team primarily produced windowsill connection profiles. However, other solutions were quickly added. Today, the portfolio of profile system solutions manufactured in-house comprises around 4000 items.

This rapid growth was only possible thanks to the consistent investment in an intelligent, highly automated and efficient production centre at the Meesenburg site in Bischofswerda. It includes a HOMAG saw-storage combination, consisting of the SAWTEQ B-400 panel dividing saw in conjunction with the STORETEQ S-200 automatic storage system, as well as the downstream HOMAG CENTATEQ P-200 CNC processing centre. The pace of development was tremendous: "At the beginning, we had to exert a great deal of physical effort to place the panel materials on the circular table saw and cut them, then bring the parts to the CNC trimmer, destack everything and store offcuts in between, but with our new HOMAG production centre, everything now runs almost fully automatically," says Leinert, pleased.

## Efficiency also improved in leaps and bounds

At Meesenburg, digitalization is the key to progressive automation. For example, the company's order process is SAP-based. When a customer orders the new profiles for their system online, all order data is recorded in the SAP system and forwarded from there to the HOMAG Cut Rite optimization software for work preparation. This is then used to create the cutting pattern and supply the machines with job data. In the pilot phase, at least three skilled workers were still occupied

finding the right panel material, cutting it to size and then processing it on the CNC trimmer but now, the same work is done in a much shorter time and much more precisely by just one skilled worker.

The increase in efficiency results from major improvements in many areas - for example, in offcut management. On the one hand, the optimized cutting results in much less waste and much fewer offcuts. The latter are also recorded immediately and - in the truest sense of sustainability - are immediately available again for production. The HOMAG woodStore storage software handles all of this fully automatically. The process has also been made considerably leaner in terms of setup times. "With our old table trimming machine, we had to change the trimming tool manually for each new profile. This involved a lot of personnel, interrupted the process constantly and took a lot of time," says Leinert, adding: "With the new HOMAG CNC processing centre, this effort is completely eliminated. The unit is equipped with an automatic tool change system and is virtually self-equipping."

The upstream saw-storage combination ensures even more throughput power and strain relief for the CNC. "For example, we opted for the power grooving option for the saw," confirms Leinert. Equipped with this, the saw creates all the required grooves at the same time, in just one throughfeed — and at an unprecedented speed. The HOMAG saw takes just 5 seconds to make each groove. On the CNC, this work step would have taken around 20 seconds. "We now save this processing time on the CNC station, meaning this work step is four times faster," confirms the product manager, concluding, "This increases our efficiency and throughput enormously."

The HOMAG sawstorage combination consisting of the SAWTEQ B-400 panel dividing saw in conjunction with the STORETEQ S-200 horizontal storage system.





Meesenburg has recently been producing innovative products with the newly installed HOMAG production centre.

### Conclusion and outlook

In August 2022, with the commissioning of the new HOMAG production centre at the Bischofswerda site, the long-established wholesaler finally achieved the change they had desired and became a manufacturer of innovative profile system solutions for doors and windows in the construction industry. Natalie Schell, head of brand management at Meesenburg, explains that this is a big step that is also unique in the industry: "With the profile system solutions of our own brand blaugelb, which are manufactured exclusively by us, we have become the link between assembly companies, investors, architects and production companies. The first C2C SILVER certification of the blaugelb Triotherm+ profiles and blaugelb production products of the EPS family will give all participants the opportunity to combine their projects in terms

of economy and ecology in the future. We look forward to making our contribution to continuous CO2 savings."

The innovative products can be ordered around the clock on the new Meesenburg online marketplace and delivered quickly from the manufacturer. In addition, they increase the energy sustainability of the buildings equipped with them and minimize the effort required on the construction site. The same applies to the production process itself, confirms Meesenburg: "We use the HOMAG production cell to produce in a digitalized, automated and sustainable manner with relatively low energy consumption and very little waste so that we can fully serve a completely new market segment for the time being and continue to grow as a manufacturer without having to hire additional skilled workers."

CENTATEQ P-200.
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Hettich, a leading manufacturer of durable fittings, unveils its Alfresco Kitchen collection for outdoor kitchens



## **SURTECO Australia invests \$2.5 million**

## in its ABS edgeband facility in Australia

SURTECO Australia, the only local manufacturer of ABS edgebands for the cabinet-making industry, is boosting stock supply and delivery timeframes with a \$2.5 million investment in its NSW plant. A warehouse extension coupled with a new production line will provide more capacity and offer exciting new products to the Australian market.



"Our German parent company has invested heavily in the Australian business for the past 30 years," says Aldo Borazio, Managing Director of SURTECO Australia. "We manufacture ABS Edgebands in Australia - purely for the Australian market and conditions.

Aldo Borazio, MD of SURTECO Australia.

"We have our own product formulations and testing processes, and we go to great lengths to improve UV resistance and maintenance of colour to deal with our hot summers."

SURTECO produces a range of ABS melamine and thermoplastic edgebands in various sizes and thicknesses, and is one of the world's largest manufacturers of the décor papers that are supplied to local fabricators for the production of laminated surfaces.

"The unique position that SURTECO Australia holds is that it is the only company that can take designs developed for décors through to edgeband and other related products." Borazio says. "All other companies in our field are either décor or edgeband manufacturers. SURTECO does both, resulting in a perfect match between décor and edge, and enhancing the surface technology."

SURTECO leads the way with choice for customers with the ability to offer not only ABS edgeband but digital print, fusion

edgebands in different thermoplastic solutions such as ABS, PVC, PP and acrylics, with all options either manufactured or stocked in Australia ready to be supplied when customers need.

SURTECO was established in Germany some 140 years ago and opened its Australian plant more than 30 years ago.

While Australian manufacturing processes are tailored for the local market, the equipment and technology used to further improve product quality and efficiency are based on decades of German engineering know-how. For example, ongoing research is carried out on the most effective means of adhering edge bands to different types of boards.

The benefits of buying locally made, extend beyond the product specifications, Borazio says.

With more than 30 years of manufacturing experience in Australia, SURTECO colour matches and manufactures quickly and effectively, and supports the market with branches and sales representation nationally.

SURTECO is a one-stop shop for all products associated with edgebands, including adhesives, Release agents and cleaners.

The company provides decorative surfaces, with SURTECO Australia offering a large portfolio of products including decorative paper, release paper, finish foil, skirtings, roller shutters and technical profiles.

#### The fusion of innovation and creativity

"SURTECO Australia offers customers absolute freedom of design," says Borazio. "They can take advantage of international trends or incorporate their own designs, then choose from countless decor and embossing variants, and various gloss levels and materials.



SURTECO's Sydney facilities.







"A premium combination of decor and embossing is guaranteed, and we have a very diverse range of edges to ensure the right fit for material and design."

#### Spectacular Deko Metal finishes

One of SURTECO Australia's ranges is the Deko Metal collection, made with real metal and matched with edgebands.

"Cabinet makers who want to make a really dramatic statement in a kitchen are incorporating these metal surfaces to great effect," Borazio says. "The edgebands can also provide a very striking contrast to benches and cupboards when used as a pop of colour in a more subtle décor."

The Deko Metal collection is available in brushed and mirror finishes, four board thicknesses and five luxurious colours in SURTECO Australia's stock collection. Colours are Brushed Bronze, Brushed Copper, Brushed Gold, Brushed Titanium and Brushed Silver. Deko Metal edges are available in 23mm wide by 1mm thick to perfectly match the metal surfaces.

Deko Metals are stocked in Sydney.

## Other trends in decorative finishes

After having their domestic lives turned upside down during the Covid-19 pandemic, and adjusting to working from home, many Australians are now seeking a sense of serenity and peace.

There has been an influx of natural materials and earth-inspired colour tones, along with a big emphasis on tactile decorative surfaces and finishes that mimic natural textures.

Super matt interior surfaces are also proving popular as they provide a sense of calm and softness both visually and to the touch.

SURTECO's Deko+ range has a velvet touch with low light



reflectivity, making it a very appealing super matt laminate for calming interior spaces.

## Sustainability

SURTECO has established a global sustainability team that works closely with the company's engineers in Australia. There is a growing focus on selecting sustainably compliant products that are environmentally sound and long-lasting.

SURTECO Australia is GREENGUARD and GREENGUARD GOLD certified for all Australian-made edgebands.

"We are looking at every possible action we can take with regards to sustainability," Borazio says. "We continually are trying new materials both here in Australia and globally to always improve our product whilst ensuring SURTECO takes a leading position with sustainability initiatives."

The SURTECO website - www.surteco.com/au is a major creative and technical resource for cabinet makers wanting information and inspiration on new designs and products, services and support. Products can also be ordered online.

SURTECO AUSTRALIA Phone 02 9421 0300 www.surteco.com/au



Top: Velvet with Deko Metal brushed gold edge.

Above: Copper metallic edgeband.

Mirror metal kitchen



# What should you look for when purchasing a CNC machine?

Woodworking CNC machines have revolutionised the way we produce wooden products and have become an essential tool for many woodworkers. Whether you are a hobbyist, a small business owner, or a large manufacturer, a woodworking CNC machine can help you create accurate and precise products with ease. However, with so many options available, choosing the right machine can be a daunting task. To help you make an informed decision, SCM Group Australia has put together a comprehensive guide on what to look for when purchasing a woodworking CNC machine.

### **Cutting area**

The cutting area refers to the size of the workpiece that can be processed by the CNC machine. Before making a purchase, consider the size of your largest project and ensure that the machine you choose can accommodate it. A larger cutting area is great for larger projects, but it also requires more floor space and may increase the cost of the machine. So, think carefully about your needs before making a decision.

## Accuracy

Accuracy is crucial in woodworking, and the CNC machine you choose should have the precision and accuracy you need to produce high-quality results. Especially if you are working with fine details or tight tolerances, accuracy is of the utmost importance. Evaluate the type of work you plan to do and choose a machine that can meet your accuracy requirements. If you are working with intricate designs, you may require a machine with higher accuracy. On the other hand, if you are mainly cutting larger pieces of wood, a machine with lower accuracy may be sufficient.

SCM's morbidelli m200 CNC machine

### **Cutting speed**

Cutting speed is another important factor to consider. How quickly the machine can move its cutting tool along the workpiece? A higher cutting speed can increase productivity, but it may also result in a rougher finish. Consider the level of finish you require for your projects and choose a machine with an appropriate cutting speed.

## Tool compatibility

It's essential that the machine you choose can accommodate the tools and accessories you plan to use, such as different sized bits, and has the ability to easily change tooling. Consider the types of tools you plan to use and ensure that the machine you choose can accommodate them. A machine with a wider range of tool compatibility can provide greater versatility and flexibility.

#### Control system

The control system is the means by which the CNC machine is operated and programmed. Consider the ease of use and accessibility of the control system, especially if you are new to using CNC machines. A computer-based software control system may provide more advanced features and capabilities, but a standalone control panel may be simpler to use. Choose a machine with a control system that is user-friendly and meets your skill level.

## Maintenance

Regular maintenance is crucial for the longevity and performance of your CNC machine. Before making a purchase, consider the ease of maintenance and upkeep, as well as the



MACHINERY

availability of replacement parts. A machine that is easy to maintain and has readily available parts can save you time and money in the long run.

SCM recommends you should allow for at least one major service per year. Many suppliers run a scheduled service program, if your prospective supplier does not offer a service program be concerned.

#### New versus used

If you are considering purchasing a used machine, there are two critical areas to look at: the condition of the machine and the technology that drives it. Make sure the machine has been well-maintained and cleaned and check if it has a maintenance record. Ensure that the technology is current and supported, as you don't want to be stuck with an outdated machine that is difficult to repair or replace. With the purchase of a new machine, you can be assured that you are getting the latest in technology.

### **Budget**

Finally, consider your budget when choosing a CNC machine. There are options available at various price points, so it's important to determine your budget and compare the cost of different machines against their features and capabilities. Keep in mind that a higher-priced machine may offer advanced features and better performance, while a lower-priced machine may be more suited to simpler projects.

Avoid hidden costs by researching these crucial areas:

- The CNC machine itself
- Extraction and ducting systems
- Air quality (dry and clean pneumatic air required)
- Electrical capacity of your factory to run the machine

Ultimately, the right woodworking CNC machine for you will depend on your business' specific needs and preferences. Research and compare multiple options to make an informed decision and ensure you purchase a machine that meets your needs and exceeds your expectations.

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## "We've tripled our business"

'We've tripled our business, and we only started four years ago!" exclaims Mick Hussin from Online Flatpacks when chatting about Cabinetry.Online. "It's been really good. It fills all our gaps."

Mick has been in the cabinetry business for 25 years now. He started Hartnett Cabinets in 1994. During one particularly busy February, their CNC machine broke down. They had to wait six weeks for the parts for the machine to be shipped from Germany. In desperation, Mick turned to Google for help. He found Cabinets By Computer who connected him with a local manufacturer who used the Cabinetry. Online system, and they did all their cutting for the six weeks it took for the parts to arrive.

"Then I thought, what a good idea!" explains Mick, "we should do that as well." The rest, as they say, is history. Online Flatpacks have tripled their revenue in four years since onboarding with Cabinetry.Online. "You can cater for anyone because there are so many choices of hardware and colours," says Mick on what he considers to be the most important feature of Cabinetry.Online, "You can cater for any cabinet maker."

Mick describes the onboarding process with Cabinetry.Online as "seamless". "If you want to set up a business, you just need to buy the machinery, and then ring Cabinetry.Online to get started. You would probably be working within a week," states Mick "It's really, really good service."

We're all aware of how an effective online quoting and ordering system can revolutionise a business. The ability to place orders and receive quotes electronically eliminates the need for manual processes and allows for faster communication between the manufacturer and the customer. This not only saves time, but it also increases efficiency.

"I find it so good because there's hardly any wages involved in producing a product through the software for a customer,"

says Mick on the reduced amount of admin involved in generating quotes and orders. "It's just so quick and easy online. If the customer doesn't have any variations, you just process the job straight through. It's done in 10 minutes or so."

A happy coincidence recently occurred after Online Flatpacks committed to sponsoring a local

footy team. "Online Flatpacks has just become a major sponsor of the Frankston Dolphins VFL team, and there's a lot of signage around the grounds, some terrific exposure," explains Mick, "We were trying to figure out how to give discounts to people who came through, then Justin (General Manager) contacted us with the new coupon codes feature. So the timing was perfect for us. Now we know we can measure where we're getting work from and how much work we're getting from the football signage."

The coupon code feature was released at the end of last year. This feature allows Cabinetry.Online manufacturers to create coupon codes of varying amounts. This feature can be used for promotions, limited-time offers, targeted marketing and building customer loyalty. It is an invaluable tool in determining your return on investment on marketing activities.

"I just find it so easy. It's so easy to work with the software, 99.9% of the time. We're just really happy with it". When asked about the ongoing support when they experience a problem with the software, Mick says, "Most of the time it's fixed within a day. Sometimes if it's a tricky one, it can take a little longer. But it's never a hold up enough for it to be a problem for our customers or getting a job out."

When asked what advice he'd give to someone considering getting started with Cabinetry.Online, Mick states "I would tell them to jump straight in, as quick as they can. It is the easiest way that I know to make money in the cabinet making business!" During times of high inflation and interest rates, reducing wages and business admin is a no-brainer.

CABINETRY ONLINE Phone 1300 783 997 www.cabinetryonline.co





## The importance of workplace policies

AWISA Magazine recently spoke to the workplace advice team at the Australian Cabinet and Furniture Association (ACFA), about some common questions being asked through the industry. As business owners and managers, it is important you stay up to date with your requirements and obligations as an employer.

The ACFA workplace advice team responds to member inquiries on an array of topics and one of the many questions they get asked is:

### Workplace policies - why are they important?

Workplace policies provide employees with transparency and expectations of what is required of them during their employment.

Workplace policies also help employers manage staff more effectively, by clearly defining acceptable and unacceptable behaviour in the workplace and outlining the consequences of not complying with those policies.

It is not recommended that workplace policies are included within an employment contract, as policies are a fluid document. Employers can update a workplace policy when required. However, a contract of employment can only be changed with the agreement of the employee.

#### **Training**

Providing training to employees on your workplace policies and procedures should be ongoing. Training may be different for each business depending on your industry and the size of your company. Training can be as simple as regular toolbox talks, reminding everyone including management of expectations, and also what action is to be taken if policies are not adhered to.

#### Communication

As always, it is best practice to communicate with your employees prior to implementing a policy, offer the opportunity for feedback and address any questions or concerns.

Involving your employees in developing and implementing workplace policies will promote a stronger awareness and understanding of expectations and procedures.



Employees should be reminded of your policies on a regular basis.

Policies can be effectively communicated in a number of ways, such as:

- conducting face-to-face training sessions
- team meetings/toolbox talks
- including the policy in your employee induction manual
- including the policy on the company's intranet, on noticeboards, or in newsletters
- sending email messages and/or
- including the policy as an attachment to payslips

Training and communication are key in ensuring everyone understands their responsibilities and expectations. The more engaged people are with workplace policies the more likely they are to adhere to them.

## Reviewing and updating your policies

As there have been a number of legislative changes with the Secure Jobs, Better Pay Bill, and Respect at Work Bill ACFA highly recommend that you review your workplace policies to ensure that they align with these changes, and are therefore compliant.

Policies should be reviewed on a regular basis and updated where necessary.

Outdated policies put your company at risk and may be noncompliant with new laws and regulations.

Ensure employees read and understand policy updates, and have them sign off on any new or updated policies.

## ACFA continues to keep you updated

ACFA updates members on legislative changes via regular email alerts and the continual update of member resources/fact sheets that are available via the member portal.

ACFA offers membership tiers that include workplace policies and contracts of employment as part of membership. ACFA members have access to over 500 workplace resources including workplace policies, checklists, and award information that can be downloaded 24/7 from the ACFA Member portal or you can contact our workplace advice team who can assist you. With unlimited workplace advice, we are only a phone call or email away.







# **DOCKING DRAWER**PRODUCT UPDATE

Joining our Docking Drawer range are the new Pop-Up Charging Grommets, as well as an updated Trio configuration.

This adds to the existing range which includes: in-drawer power outlets, steel canisters, flush pop-up charging outlets and more. Available in a variety of finishes and configurations to suit any style.

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## **Transform spaces with Magic-Pro's**

## slim and sleek drawers

Upgrade the storage game with the Magic-Pro drawer system - the epitome of style, functionality, and versatility. With its sleek and elegant straight-sided design, Magic-Pro adds a fashionable touch to any kitchen, bathroom, or bedroom interior. Choose from three colours; black, grey and white and the option to add glass sides or choose from soft closing or push-to-open, and five different drawer side heights (62mm/88mm/126mm/172mm/238mm) to create an endless array of design options.

Maximise storage space with Magic-Pro's slim design and 3-dimensional adjustments (left and right, up and down, and tilt) for ultimate flexibility. The tool-free assembly and removal of the drawer front make it a breeze to use. The highly stable construction guarantees a smooth and stable motion with soft-closing for wide and high drawers.

Built to last, Magic-Pro has a 40kg or 60kg load capacity and is tested to 100k cycles for durability. It comes with a lifetime warranty for added peace of mind. The straight lines, minimal 13mm thickness, well-crafted components, and finishes make Magic-Pro a sleek and sophisticated addition to any space. Experience the magic of Magic-Pro Drawer System today.

LEK SUPPLY PTY LTD Phone 1300 489 399 www.leksupply.com.au







## **LIGNA 2023: the perfect stage for Biesse**

At LIGNA, Hanover 15-19 May 2023, Biesse will showcase a new visual identity that represents the corporate renewal process and actively expresses the group's values and identity—centred on multi-materiality and being inherently international—while preserving the features that distinguish the various sectors in which it operates. It's an evolution that will enable the company to compete in ever-changing international markets and bring tangible benefits to customers.

## Hall 11 - Technology in action

"We look forward to meeting all who visit Hall 11 to discover the group's evolutionary journey and its emphasis on multimateriality, which distinguishes Biesse from its competitors," says Ettore Vichi, Chief Regional Officer EMEA and APAC. "High-tech solutions, integrated systems and lines designed to accommodate the needs of manufacturing companies wishing to strengthen and increase production performance will be in action," Vichi concludes.

A great emphasis will be placed on automated solutions, which ensure a decisive increase in production and the complete reliability of both the production process and the loading and unloading operations. Visitors will get a first-hand look at an integrated plant consisting of panel sizing and nesting solutions, with automatic loading and unloading linked together thanks to SmartConnection, a software programme for in-house order management.

The focus will be on the new batch one edgebanding line with robotic loading and unloading. The dual characterisation  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

of the new product marks the beginning of a path towards sustainability which, thanks to the skills and assets available, will enable the group to recognise and assess its environmental and social impact and integrate innovation into product development processes. It is in this context that Biesse presents its new product, introducing technological innovation while also improving environmental performance.

#### Hall 12 - LIGNA.Stage

In Hall 12, trade fair visitors will be able to participate in a rich programme of panel discussions (streamed to the LIGNA website with simultaneous translation into English) covering the most relevant trending topics in the woodworking industry. Biesse will contribute to the programme with three panel discussions on the following topics: Smartconnection - Production Planning & Control, software for factory/production management; Woodworking made lzy - a common language connecting machines; Technologies & Sustainability.

#### Hall 11 - Biesse stand tours

Biesse invites visitors to take part in the guided tours organised by the trade fair, during which innovative products and optimal solutions for every process will be demonstrated alongside top product specialists.

BIESSE GROUP AUSTRALIA Phone 1300 BIESSE www.biesse.com



Discover Biesse's

new visual identity

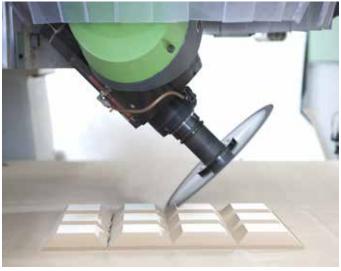
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cdkstone.com.au/AWISA

## **Additions to the Docking Drawer range**





Wilson & Bradley is proud to announce the arrival of three additions to its Docking Drawer range. Available now is the new Docking Drawer Trio, the Docking Drawer pop-up charging grommets and the stainless steel canisters.

Equipped with two USB ports (1 x USB-A & 1 x USB-C (PD)) and two power sockets, the new Docking Drawer Trio has the ability to power and charge up to four devices at once creating the perfect in-drawer power station for hair dryers, curling irons, kitchen accessories and more. Also compatible with the new Docking Drawer Trio are the new stainless steel and brushed brass cover plates.

The Docking Drawer Pop-up charging grommets offer a concealed and discrete charging station for all devices. Simply press down on the centre of the cover to reveal the USB charging ports. Perfect for offices, kitchens and even bedside tables, the Docking Drawer charging grommets have the ability to charge up to 3 devices simultaneously with 2 x USB-A outlets and 1 x USB-C (PD) for fast charging capabilities. Simply plug it into the power socket and it is ready to go.

Combining in-drawer power with Docking Drawer canisters adds organisation and purpose to the drawer while eliminating clutter from vanity surfaces. Made from high quality materials and designed for simple specification into any type of drawer, the Docking Drawer steel canisters are guaranteed to enhance every project by creating highly functional space. The steel canisters are available in a variety of sizes and styles to fit blow dryers, curling irons, shavers and other styling accessories.

Choose from an open, closed, capped or crimped bottom or a bathroom canister bundle. With sizes ranging from

2 to 5 inches, and available in a stainless steel finish that is electropolished for a shiny bright smooth corrosion resistant finish or basic chrome. Drawer canisters that will pair perfectly with any project can be found.

WILSON AND BRADLEY PTY LTD Phone 1800 633 507 www.wilbrad.com.au







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Staircon is a CAD/CAM software designed to provide the best possible support for a simplified and cost effective production of stairs – from sales to production. It's powerful, user-friendly and enables fast design of standard stair shapes as well as flexible design capabilities for advanced stair shapes. Offered via different license levels, the modular construction of Staircon allows you to add functions at any time, when required.



A word from Matthew Pocock, Director at On The Way Up Pty Ltd:

"We are incredibly happy with Staircon and how it works for us. It is flexible, responsive, and intuitive and will absolutely be able to keep up with changing trends and manufacturing methods."

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## **Hettich elevates design**

## with Zephyr + Stone sister duo as brand ambassadors

Hettich Australia, a leading producer of cabinet hardware and fittings, is proud to announce Ania Forster and Kasia Clarke of Zephyr + Stone as its 2023 brand ambassadors.

Zephyr + Stone is an interior design studio run by the talented sister duo, who are known for their expertise in kitchen, bathroom, and laundry design. With a large following across social media platforms and their online blog, Ania and Kasia are respected as experts in creating functional and aesthetically beautiful designs.

The sisters have been working with Hettich's German-made products for over a decade and have a deep understanding of the company's product range, making them the perfect match as brand ambassadors.

In this exciting partnership, Hettich and Zephyr + Stone will be collaborating on new projects, including the integration of the premium AvanTech YOU drawer system with Illumination, making custom cabinetry even more customisable. Additionally, interior drawer organisation systems from Hettich will be a priority, offering additional order to what can be a cluttered space.

Ania and Kasia's recent completion of the joinery and interior design of the new Hettich South Melbourne showroom is a momentous occasion in the creation of this modern space.





The showroom is a beautiful and functional space that will provide visitors with an unforgettable experience.

HETTICH AUSTRALIA Phone 1800 687 789 www.hettich.com



## **Commitment to South Australian market**

It was an exciting start to the month with Lincoln Sentry officially finalising the purchase of FHS South Australia (FHS SA) on Wednesday 1 March and welcoming new employees who collectively share 80 plus years of industry knowledge and experience.

Lincoln Sentry General Manager Kevin Bruce said he was delighted to acquire FHS SA, an industry leading hardware distributor.

"Our acquisition of FHS SA forms part of Lincoln Sentry's exciting national strategic growth plans," he said.

"With this acquisition, we'll be maintaining everything customers know and value about their FHS SA relationship, and building on this with the benefits that come from being one of the country's biggest names in this sector. This includes providing South Australian customers with a more expansive product range, including Lincoln Sentry's diverse portfolio of architectural hardware components, as well as the many efficiencies and conveniences our advanced logistical and ordering platforms, including our Online Store provide."

Karl Johnson of FHS SA (left) with Kevin Bruce, General Manager of Lincoln Sentry.



"The timing was right for Lincoln Sentry to look for expansion opportunities following the rollout of a major systems upgrade within the business in recent years."

"In 2021, we heavily invested in a new ERP and e-commerce system and a digitally enabled, integrated warehouse management system. This has created a very strong foundation that allows us to really meet customer needs and expectations and it's put us in a position to be able to best support our growth ambitions."

"It's part of our broader company DNA to be continually looking for ways to enhance what we already offer in the marketplace and that's certainly true within Lincoln Sentry," said Kevin.

In acquiring FHS SA, Lincoln Sentry is now proudly employing 310 employees throughout Australia, including close to 100 field sales staff working at 25 locations.

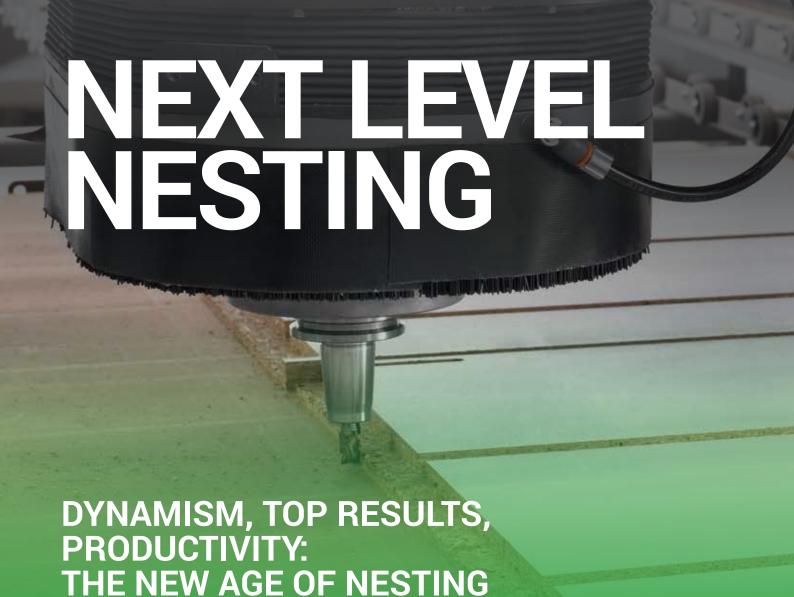
#### **About Lincoln Sentry**

Lincoln Sentry was established in Brisbane in 1986 and is now one of Australia's leading suppliers and distributors of hardware and components to the cabinet and furniture making industry and the window, door and glazing industries. It is the largest Blum distributor in Australia and ships over 8,000 lines daily across the country. Lincoln Sentry is part of DuluxGroup.

#### About FHS SA

FHS SA has been supporting the cabinet making industry in South Australia for over a decade and has built a reputation around offering premium components for quality kitchen finishes and a hands on approach to customer management.

LINCOLN SENTRY Phone 1300 551 919 www.lincolnsentry.com.au



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## **HighLeitz - a year of milestones**

## for Leitz Tooling Systems Australia and New Zealand

2022 was a year of milestones at Leitz Australia and New Zealand. Leitz Australia celebrated its 30th anniversary in January 2022, since opening in the region. Founded in 1876 in Oberkochen, Southern Germany, the Leitz Group is a worldwide leading manufacturer of tools for industrial processing of wood, wood derived materials, plastics, compound materials and non-ferrous metals. 1992 saw the foundation of Leitz Australia and the last 30 years has seen the team draw on this extensive global experience to remain at the forefront of tooling technology and service, expanding operations across the country and to New Zealand.

This year, Leitz celebrated continued strong growth throughout Australia, with a new branch opening in South Australia. Robert Brown and Tim Barr are Leitz Technical and Service Sales Representatives on the road across Adelaide and the wider South Australia and Northern Territory regions.

Leitz longevity within the local industry is also translated to the colleagues working for Leitz. Many colleagues have achieved a tenure of 15 years or more, with some reaching 20 and 30-year milestones with the company in the last 12 months. As a family business in its fifth generation, there is a strong culture of working together to achieve its goals, where each colleague's input is valued when it comes to refining processes, creating solutions and working on exciting new projects. Managing Director, Sam Czyczelis sees education as one of the most important tools in the Leitz toolbox, with five apprenticeship positions across Australia and New Zealand, and advanced training for employees available. Sam says, "Investing in our people is key to not only providing quality in service and solutions for customers, but for staying ahead of market demands, and at the forefront of technology in today's environment".

Leitz Tooling proudly installed two new Vollmer QXD250's in its Queensland workshop, complementing the existing six diamond eroding machines located across Australia, increasing the capacity and speed for sharpening diamond tipped tooling country-wide. At Leitz, the latest in diamond eroding technology is used for the servicing of diamond tipped



cutters, saws and routers. This, added with over 140 years of Leitz experience, makes Leitz the market leader globally for tool servicing. The Australia and New Zealand service centres utilise the same machinery and programmes as the tool production facility at Leitz in Germany to ensure consistent top quality for tools, sharpened to as-new condition.

2022 also saw Leitz in Australia take leaps into sustainability and social responsibility initiatives. A voltage optimizer and solar panel installation was completed at the Melbourne head office, for quality sustainable power. Green cooling systems that use 80% less electricity than conventional air-conditioning were installed in the Sydney and Brisbane factories.

Leitz Tooling partnered with local Victorian charity, Backpacks 4 VIC Kids, with a commitment to long-term support for the organisation. This included sponsoring a cardboard recycling program at their warehouse, as well as running fundraising events with colleagues and customers throughout the year. However, the largest impact has been made with the implementation of a carbide recycling program. Leitz Tooling believes in being custodians of their tools for the full lifecycle of the tool. Old carbide tools from customers can be collected by sales representatives and are submitted for recycling to be made into new tools. All proceeds received from the program are donated directly to Backpacks 4 VIC Kids to support their efforts and help children entering emergency care. Recycling old carbide protects the environment by conserving this natural raw material. Overall, for 2022, Leitz was able to donate over \$7,400, providing 109 children with material aid over the year.

The future is bright for Leitz Tooling Systems Australia and New Zealand, and they look forward to sharing in this success through optimised solutions, the best tooling and technology and second-to-none servicing with their customers.

LEITZ TOOLING SYSTEMS PTY LTD Phone1300 135 127 www.leitz.com.au







Top: Testing the new Vollmer QXD250 diamond eroding machines in Queensland.

Centre: The Leitz ANZ sales team ready for 2023.

Left: Recycled old carbide tools - all proceeds donated to local charity.





## MAGIC-PRO

5 Heights | 3 Colours | 40/60kg Loading Capacity | 3D Adjustment Slimline Design | Push To Open | Glass Boxside | Soft Close

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# New OptiMatt and OptiGlace board finishes from Titus Tekform

Titus Tekform has recently launched additions to its Stefano Orlati OptiBoard doors and panels programme. With the introduction of the OptiGlace PET gloss finishes replacing the previous OptiGlaz acrylic gloss, the OptiBoard range is now entirely PET foil-finished for a superior and more sustainable décor surface. The entire OptiBoard PET portfolio is sourced from post-consumer used plastics, making it one of the most environmentally friendly board products on the market.

The best-selling OptiMatt product line has also gained a new finish with the launch of OptiMatt Sage, a green-hued board that works well with the popular brass, matt black and grey décor tones prevalent in modern interior designs.

The OptiMatt PET Matt, OptiGlace PET gloss and OptiGrain PET embossed woodgrain finishes are all available to order as sheets, or can be cut-to-size with the Titus Tekform Made to Measure programme for double-sided edged doors and panels.



TITUS TEKFORM
Phone 1300 0 TITUS
www.titustekform.com.au



# A trusted name for edgebanders and processing centres

HOLZ-HER manufactures machines that cover a wide range of wood products. Whatever is produced, HOLZ-HER will have a machine suited to the needs, including CNC processing centres and edge banders, the two major pieces of equipment necessary for any leading manufacturer of wood products. In both these areas, HOLZ-HER excels with class-leading machines strong enough to provide many years of trouble-free service.

HOLZ-HER CNC machines are particularly suited to heavy work on solid wood, built with strong frames and equipped with powerful motors. And their edge banders are amongst the most popular brands on the market; and have been for decades. With over 150,000 machines operating around the globe, Weinig Group, incorporating HOLZ-HER, has the credentials to stand as one of the world's leading brands.

### The heart of the machine

For 45 years HOLZ-HER has produced edge banding machines from entry-level machines to highly-flexible equipment

suitable for large-scale production. The reason HOLZ-HER edge banders are highly regarded is the heart of the machine; the gluing station. HOLZ-HER uses their own, widely accepted system known as Glu Jet, a closed system where only the amount of glue needed is melted, burning of expensive glue is not possible and cleaning takes only a matter of minutes.

Further advantages of this technology are that there is no waste that normally happens with glue in a heated pot, and there is also no loss of adhesive strength when glue is reheated. With its unique hybrid technology, this unit ensures perfect interaction between glue, edging and panel material. With Glu Jet and PUR glue it is also possible to achieve the holy grail of edge banding; the 'zero' join without the need for hot air or laser equipment. Glu Jet will deliver ultra-thin glue joints, easily equivalent to industrial laser edges.

#### A best seller

HOLZ-HER's SPRINT range of edge banders are designed to meet the highest requirements of quality and flexibility. Various





compact models are available for complete processing of state-of-the-art edging and panel material. Program selection allows the machine to be set up without even opening the hood, so that it is ready for production immediately. With the SPRINT, invisible joints can be achieved with Glu Jet thin film technology. The machine also comes standard with the advanced iTronic system that includes an adaptive trimming blade and pressure unit; automatic glue quantity control; an automatic cleaning routine and remaining glue quantity indicator.

Motor-driven adjustable axes are used for the entire machine. This enables users to precisely reproduce any setting at the touch of a button. The SPRINT uses Holz-Her's new high-speed servo-axes where the rapid in-feed capability allows what Holz-Her refer to as "set-up in the gap", which makes it possible to run various applications in the machine simultaneously.

The SPRINT edge bander provides multifunction technology at the highest level. SPRINT comes with a PC control with touch screen; variable feed rate up to 18 m/min; and will handle workpiece thickness up to 60 mm and edge thickness up to 15 mm.

Markus Ostermaier, Managing Director of Weinig Australia, said, "We understand what our industry needs, and we create solutions for the changing market. With our patented Glu-Jet system the Sprint range has a collection of highly dynamic machines which were first launched in 1999 and are still our best-sellers today."

## Next generation CNC

Enter the next generation of CNC woodworking with HOLZ-HER's EPICON Series. The optimised design of the EPICON CNC machining centres offers the ideal basis to ensure

absolute precision and perfectly machined workpieces while simultaneously allowing extremely high acceleration and cutting rates. To this HOLZ-HER have added a high precision direct servo-drive, wear-free couplings and covered, precision linear guides, all covered by HOLZ-HER's 10-year guarantee. A comprehensive range of optional equipment is offered to satisfy all production requirements, allowing the EPICON to be configured optimally for furniture production, staircase construction, window and door joinery, and machining solid wood or manufactured board.

#### Investing for the future

Last September, Holz-Her announced a two-stage investment program with a total investment of 15 million euros. Stage one will be a new machine production facility with floor space of 1,700 square metres to cater for the increased worldwide demand for HOLZ-HER machines, including right here in Australia and New Zealand. Stage two, a new, highly automated storage hall, will be started in 2023 and will ensure effective, real-time supply of spare parts. The new automated storage facilities save space and provide for an additional 3,000 square metres of floor space.

HOLZ-HER is a name trusted worldwide, not only for their excellent edge banders but more recently, their range of heavy-duty CNC processing centres that continue to break new ground. An investment in a HOLZ-HER CNC machine adds value to products in terms of accuracy and quality.

MICHAEL WEINIG AUSTRALIA PTY LTD Phone 1800 736 460 www.holzher.com.au



# **Avoid rust issues** with Concelo®

Kitchen bins are subject to a lot of dirt and moisture over their lifetime. For kitchen designers and manufacturers its important they can trust that the bin system they use will stand the test of time for their customers.

While all bins look great in the showroom, they quickly get dirty and messy in the real world. Dirt traps, typically between the door front and the bin, can hold moisture and this can cause the metal structure of the bin to rust. This often leads to service calls and warranty claims.

Concelo waste bins have been specifically designed to minimise the risk of rust and corrosion. Firstly, key components of Concelo waste bins are constructed using materials that simply will not rust. The Clip'n'Clean trays that support the buckets are made from polypropylene, a durable plastic that will not

rust. The trays are then supported by drawer sides made from powder coated aluminium extrusions which, again, will not rust.

The second strategy is minimising dirt traps that can hold moisture. The removeable Clip'n'clean trays make it quick and easy to remove dirt and grime, especially between the door front and the bin. The door bracket mechanisms on Concelo are protected by plastic covers to reduce dirt and moisture reaching key components.

Cleaning with warm soapy water is all that is required. Removing dirt, grease and grime is especially easy as the polypropylene they are made of does not allow substances to adhere to their surfaces.



Hideaway Bins are 100% designed and made in New Zealand and have been engineered to endure. Concelo bins will stand the test of time, and are confidently backed up by a 10-year warranty for the homeowner.

To learn more, visit hideawaybins.com.au or contact one of Hideaway's distribution partners - Hafele, Nover or Galvin Hardware.

HIDEAWAY BINS Phone 1800 042 642 www.hideawaybins.com.au



## **HOMAG IX**

3D design and production



## **MERIVOBOX - the box system for new ideas**





Inspire projects with Blum's newest box system, MERIVOBOX. Its exceptional unique combination of a slim drawer side design, high stability and easy assembly, MERIVOBOX allows designers and cabinetmakers to create a broad range of drawers using just a few components to tailor projects best to suit the design and storage needs of each customer.

With LEGRABOX, MERIVOBOX and TANDEMBOX, Blum's range of box systems is able to provide a perfect solution that maximises manufacturing processes to help deliver projects that customers will enjoy for a lifetime.

## **Enhanced manufacturing efficiency**

MERIVOBOX utilises the same drilling position and front fixing bracket across the entire MERIVOBOX range to ensure that the manufacturing process is consistent and efficient. Thanks to the identical fixing positions, the manufacturing process remains the same, allowing motion technologies to be easily retrofitted. The box system has simple, clearly labelled and easily accessible 3-dimensional adjustment features which are the same for every drawer side to make on-site adjustments quick and easy.

## Runner system built to last

The unique L-shape of the cabinet profile makes the new box system exceptionally stable, even at its highest load-bearing classes, capable of carrying 40 kg or 70 kg at full extension. Thanks to its low-friction nylon rollers, along with the drawer and roller carriage synchronisation, MERIVOBOX delivers a smooth feather-light glide to create a pleasant open and closing experience for all customers.

## Distinctive design

MERIVOBOX is beautifully designed from the inside and out. The metal drawer sides have a distinctive design line that

helps produce a stunning light reflection. Available in a range of colours, including silk white matt, Indium grey matt and Orion grey matt, MERIVOBOX is a suitable option for all parts of the home

Customers can also keep their drawers neat and tidy using the AMBIA-LINE inner-dividing system, which can be completely customised and configured to accommodate their needs and workflows

## Versatile for the entire home

Make the most of every storage opportunity for customers by pairing MERIVOBOX with Blum's range of cabinet solutions. By specifying SPACE TOWER, SPACE TWIN, SPACE STEP and Sink drawer, manufacturers can offer customers endless possibilities for wide, narrow and tall storage units for the kitchen, bathroom and living areas.

## A memorable opening and closing experience

Stand and out from the crowd with motion technologies that enhance the functionality and feel of projects. MERIVOBOX comes with Blum's trusted and reliable soft-close BLUMOTION as standard and can also be equipped with TIP-ON mechanical opening support system and SERVO-DRIVE, Blum's electrical opening support system to complement clean handle-less designs and provide easier access to drawers for customers.

For more information and inspiration on how to incorporate MERIVOBOX into designs, visit blum.com.

BLUM AUSTRALIA Phone 1800 179 186 www.blum.com









## **NEW OptiGlace PET Gloss**





**OptiGlace PET Gloss** is the latest addition to the Stefano Orlati OptiBoard range.

Featuring double-sided PET foil-finished decors, OptiGlace is available in four stunning finishes -OptiGlace Ice White, OptiGlace Ivory, OptiGlace Dune and OptiGlace Anthracite Metallic.

The OptiGlace PET foil is made entirely from postconsumer used plastics, for one of the most environmentally friendly board products on the market.

## Shop online now!

- + High sheen double-sided finish in four trendy colours
- + PET foil made from envirnonmentally friendly post-consumer used plastics
- Available in sheets or as made to measure doors and panels through the Titus Tekform MTM service

Contact Titus Tekform www.titustekform.com.au info@titustekform.com.au





## **Keep track with CAD+T**

Think an automated parts tracking system is only suitable for large-scale manufacturers? Think again. Software specialist, CAD+T has launched a fully customisable RFID parts tracking software solution that can be tailored to a company's production needs, whatever its size.

With contactless parts tracking, users can quite simply have the answers at their fingertips. CAD+T's digital network offers consistent and precise parts tracking for the production cycle which lets users keep a track of every part going in and out of their factory at any one time. What's more, the whole process is live, allowing users to see the exact status of each part from their computer, laptop or mobile device.

Regardless of the production output, the ability to manage and optimise production processes in this way offers significant time and cost savings. Plus, the software's ability to offer real-time insight into a company's workflow and resources lends itself to improving efficiencies across the board. From human operation and machinery running times to material usage, it includes simple, measurable processes that highlight efficiencies within any manufacturing facility.

So how does it work? The scale of production will determine the level of automation required. Strategically placed gateways work with RFID tags or labels that are attached to individual parts during the manufacturing process. When scanned, either by a mobile scanner or automated reading device, part numbers will allow the user to identify where the item is. Depending on the structure of a business, this could start with the raw materials being delivered to the factory, followed by step by step tracking that shows what stage of the cycle a specific part is currently in, if it has been assembled or packaged and if the order has left the warehouse.

Martina Schwarz, CEO of CAD+T says: "There are huge cost savings to be had when using a RFID system and it is proven to reduce losses, limit human error and improve customer service. Whether you want an all-encompassing tracking system that tracks parts throughout your entire production cycle or want to track specific areas within the business, CAD+T works with you to create the most effective solution. For smaller businesses,









parts can be manually scanned but still offer live data feedback at any time and highlight delays in production. Alternatively, larger manufacturing facilities could benefit from automatic reading devices that follow the parts from the warehouse all the way though to shipping. The level of tracking is unique to you and CAD+T's specialists are here to help you create a digital network that is specific to your production facility. To make it even more simple for you - we supply you the soft- and hardware "

CAD+T AUSTRALASIA PTY LTD Phone 02 8006 2067 www.cadt-solutions.com



## A captivating showroom experience









Hettich has unveiled its all-new showroom in the heart of South Melbourne - a harmonious mix of world-class quality brands coming together in a space that brings Hettich products to life.

Designed by Zephyr + Stone and located at 220 Coventry Street South Melbourne, the new space for architects, designers, industry professionals, residential home buyers and renovators provides access to the latest innovations from Hettich. With each display demonstrating a curated collection of Hettich's finest cabinetry hardware fittings, manufactured in Germany.

As you move through pockets of the showroom be immersed in the world of Hettich, from the kitchen to bathroom, wardrobe, laundry, and home office. Distinctly blending to visually represent the quality fittings of a functional working home like environment.

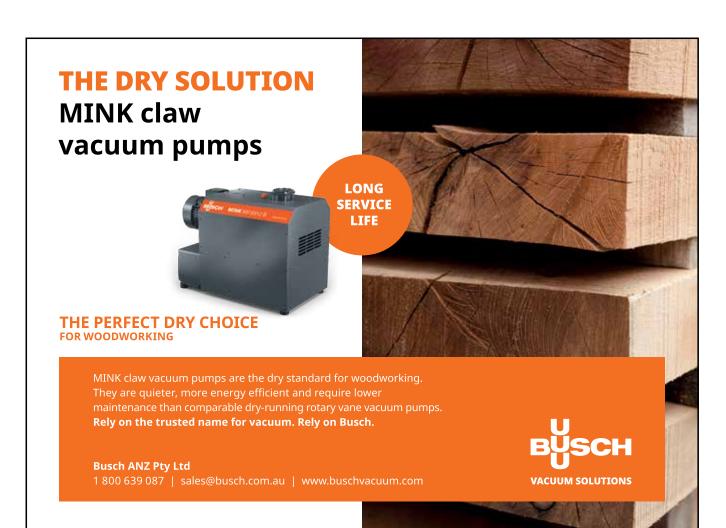
"Melbourne is renowned for their thriving architecture and design community, Hettich was inspired to create an inviting showroom experience that would meet the needs of our customers and to provide the ultimate platform to showcase what is possible with our products. With the new location making it easier for industry and design professionals to access quality cabinetry hardware solutions for their next residential and commercial project" says Martin Gane, Managing Director, Hettich Australia.

Hettich has proudly partnered with the following leading brands Zephyr+Stone, Forest One, Cosentino, ADP Australia, Fisher & Paykel, Wattyl, and Yale Home to bring the showroom to life.

The showroom is by appointment and can be booked through the Customer Service Team on 1800 687 789 and is open Monday to Friday, 8:30am-4.00pm.



HETTICH AUSTRALIA Phone 1800 687 789 www.hettich.com





## Make drawer capacity larger with Häfele's

## Alto Slim drawer system







The Hafele Alto Slim drawer system increases the functional use of cabinetry with perfectly straight thin 13mm drawer sides. Making the drawer capacity larger, while maintaining the stability and quality with a load capacity of 35kg.

Three side heights, 84mm, 135mm and 199mm allow for flexible and versatile use from the kitchen to the wardrobe and bathroom areas.

The option of white and black colours in matt finishes allows Häfele Alto Slim to meet everyday design requirements and complement the continuing trend of darker decorative colours.

Häfele Alto Slim has been tested and passed European DIN EN 15338 level 3 standards. This was achieved with a full 35kg weight capacity with over 60,000 opening cycles.

Comfortable height and lateral front panel adjustment from inside the drawer allows easy adjustment when installed in corners or against walls.

Complementing the range of Alto Slim drawers is a range of Häfele drawer inserts, Classico 500, Classico – multi utensil tray and Basic cutlery tray.

Alto Slim comes with Häfele's renowned lifetime warranty and will last for the life of the kitchen.

For more information scan the QR code or call the nearest, Häfele sales office or Account manager for a personal demonstration.

HÄFELE AUSTRALIA PTY LTD Phone 1300 659 728 www.hafele.com.au





# INDUSTRY AWARDS CABINET MAKING & FURNISHING

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#### **KEY DATES & INFORMATION**

Early Bird Ends: 26th May 2023 ENTRIES CLOSE: 21st July 2023 FINALISTS ANNOUNCED: August 2023

AWARDS NIGHT: 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023 AWARDS VENUE: Dockside Cockle Bay

2 Wheat Road, Sydney

QUALIFICATION PERIOD: 1 July 2021 - 30 June 2023

### **AWARD CATEGORIES**

#### MAJOR AWARDS

Cabinet Maker of the Year
Design of the Year
Outstanding Achievement
of the Year

#### DESIGN OF THE YEAR

Best Kitchen
Best Bathroom
Best Free-Standing Furniture
Best In-built Furniture
Best Soft Furnishings/
Interior Design

#### **OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS**

Workplace Champion Apprentice of the Year

#### **CABINET MAKER OF THE YEAR**

Best Kitchen Project-New Build Best Kitchen Project-Renovation Best Bathroom Project-New Build Best Bathroom Project-Renovation Best Commercial Project Best Alfresco Project Best Walk-in Robe

**PROVIDE** 

PLUS Best First Time Participant Design/Project

Best Laundry Project

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the end of the machine's warranty. In addition, MMR Mobile, the smartphone app for easy analysis of machinery, is always free of charge.

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# 30

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## **Push to open soft close bins**

## round out a complete product line from Titus Tekform

Titus is a global provider of damping and engineering solutions for industries including kitchen hardware, automobiles, whitegoods and medical equipment, so it's no surprise that this push to open mechanism has been well received.

The Titus Push latch is characterised by its effortless universal mounting and intuitive positioning, and these features have carried through to the Tekform SDWD-T touch opening soft close drawers. The narrow operating gap ensures perfect drawer alignment and operation down to a minimum of 1.5mm with Titus proprietary damping technology. Designed to improve efficiency as well as drawer performance, the SDWD-T drawer uses a pre-mounted

applicator and non-handed mechanism to shorten assembly time and make installation a breeze.

And now Titus Tekform has released the Tekno Push to Open bin system to capitalise on the SDWD-T drawer for a push open soft close bin. Available in 400mm, 450mm and 600mm configurations, as well as a laundry hamper option for each, the Tekno Push to Open bins are a hands-free, stylish, and high-capacity solution to kitchen waste.

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## **New software alert:**

## best-in-class vein matching software that is efficient and functional





Vein matching natural and engineered stone slabs for highend kitchens, bathrooms, floors and accent walls is attracting growing interest among designers and end consumers. This growing trend has been inspired by vein matched stone in the best contemporary projects around the world.

Vein matching stone involves the stone being processed to showcase its natural veins; then working with the veining of the stone slabs to create a coherent connection of the vein and colour gradients across different applications and shapes within a design. This effect crafts unique designs that range from subtle to the dramatically expressive.

Once a very time-consuming, manual and costly process, new software developments have simplified the process and created more efficient methods to achieve a precise vein match effect.

"Vein matching has traditionally been a very time-consuming and therefore expensive process," says Jonathan Height of CDK Stone. "However, new software developments like CDK Stone's vein matching and nesting modules with digital scanning have made the process substantially less time-consuming and more precise."

As the process becomes more efficient and less costrestrictive, "designers and end-users are now rapidly growing the demand for vein matched execution because of the very distinctive visual impacts it creates."

CDK Stone offers one of the most sophisticated solutions on the market for vein matching. A two-in-one solution, for precise

and effective processing from imagery to machine execution. Using high-end cameras or slab scanning technology, the stone slabs are digitised. The slab pictures and workpiece layouts are imported into the SeKON TOP nesting and vein matching software. The workpieces are nested on the slab picture overlay. The vein matching view allows the placement and ability to shift the workpieces on the slabs to achieve the highly desired connection of veins and colour patterns on the final project layout. Larger jobs like a U-shape kitchen, floors or wall cladding that require veins connecting over multiple slabs can be easily executed. The software is designed to import and work with as many slabs as required for the project. Advanced pre-programming allows multiple stone slabs to be vein matched to reflect the client's preferred design.

The software's practical functionality has been designed to fully support the stone fabrication process with the ability to view stone cuts before being made, lay out the entire design with digitised slabs and can show the customer the final design execution plan. Industry-leading stonemasons using the vein matching technology by CDK Stone speak to the accuracy it creates in the fabrication process, the time it saves and the reduced wastage that occurs. These benefits can save thousands of dollars in the usage and placement of premium stone in the design while flawlessly aligning the veining across the project.

Traditional vein matching was laborious and involved a high level of expertise to carefully align the stone veining and colour tones across the project. CDK Stone's new software technology can use multiple slab images throughout the design, giving a flawless matching execution without the traditional risk and pain of manually selecting slabs for placement.

"The advanced vein matching module brings the best in industry vein matching processes from the factory floor to the office to create a scalable solution that is practical to use and efficient to execute" says Jonathan.

Mistakes and risks are substantially reduced with final production designs that can be produced in 3D format so they can be viewed by designers and end customers. This ensures the final vein matched solution meets customers' expectations.

The advanced, vein matching technology is world-leading with its ability to integrate with a wide range of stone machinery

and production facilities that are using SeKON software. This makes integration available to all, from smaller stonemason operations to larger fabricators.

SeKON Software is Germany's leading stone CAD/CAM software and can be installed on a wide range of stone processing machinery from all the top manufacturers. CDK Stone has tailored solutions for a small factory wanting to increase their efficiency and accuracy of vein matching on a single saw, right up to the largest of plants processing on multiple bridge saws, waterjets and CNC work centres.

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## Australian Woodworking Industry Suppliers Association Limited

#### **AWISA The Association**



AWISA was formed in 1986 by the principal suppliers to the Australian woodworking industry. The main aims of the association are to present industry exhibitions, publish industry magazines, co-operate with other organisations, and to uphold the highest ethical standards and encourage members to do the same.

Membership applications are welcome from Australian based companies, and from overseas companies with Australian agents or distributors that are also members of AWISA. Membership of AWISA includes suppliers of woodworking machinery, cabinet and furniture hardware, panel products and surface materials, portable tools, computer software, materials handling equipment, dust extraction equipment, components, and general plant and safety equipment.

#### **AWISA** The Exhibition



The exhibition has been held regularly since 1988, and attracts furniture manufacturers, cabinet makers, kitchen manufacturers, joiners, shop and office fitters, and other wood, timber and panel processing industries. Architects and interior designers also attend.

The next AWISA exhibition is planned to take place in Sydney in July 2024 at ICC Sydney, Darling Harbour. For more information visit www.awisa.com/exhibition or phone Geoff Holland on 0412 361 580.

### **AWISA** The Magazine



AWISA's magazine is published quarterly and is distributed free to a database of over 13,000 end users in the industry. AWISA's editorial policy is to produce quality editorial about business and technical issues that affect the woodworking industry, and to provide members with a means of disseminating information about their products. The association welcomes input from both members and end users about subjects that should be written about in the magazine.

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#### www.awisa.com

#### DISTRIBUTION

AWISA - The Magazine is distributed free to a list made up of companies that attended the last three AWISA exhibitions, plus the client databases of some major AWISA members. To be added to the distribution list send an email to info@awisa.com. (AWISA Ltd may at some time in the future charge a subscription for personally addressed magazines)



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