

Pfleiderer: Sustainability at the core of the new collection

Neumarkt, January 2021 – With the presentation of its new 2021-2024 collection, Pfleiderer is showing how its consistent focus on sustainability has enabled the company to develop an extensive and comprehensively certified range of low-emission and environmentally friendly engineered wood products. These can be found in all design and surface texture combinations in the new collection.

The increasing scarcity of raw materials, environmental pollution and the consequences of climate change require companies to act more sustainably throughout the entire value chain. Pfleiderer defined the principles of the circular economy for itself years ago and introduced intelligent material and energy cycles for the sustainable production of its engineered wood at all its sites.

"We not only manufacture our products with the greatest care, but meanwhile also within the framework of a certified environmental management system - energy self-sufficient and without releasing any additional carbon dioxide. We take the requirements of ecology into account throughout and have the effects on the environment regularly evaluated to derive potential for improvement," says Stefan Göldner, Head of Communications at Pfleiderer Deutschland GmbH.

High-quality engineered wood without targeted tree felling

Pfleiderer sources and processes only recycled wood and co-products that are reused in the so-called cascade utilization process over several stages from harvesting to recycling. The recycled wood consistently complies with quality classes A1 and A2 in accordance with the Waste Wood Ordinance and is free of any chemical, metallic or mineral impurities. The co-products are sawdust, wood chips, slabs, and end pieces from industry or forestry. Pfleiderer thus achieves a recycling rate of around 66 percent and also ensures that no old trees are felled specifically for Pfleiderer panels. After sorting, gluing,

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compacting and pressing, new engineered wood panels are produced that meet the highest health and quality standards.

Comprehensively certified pioneering work

Pfleiderer's consistent focus on sustainability is also reflected in numerous certifications. With certificates for meeting the DIN EN ISO 14001*, ISO 50001* standards at company level, as well as certificates for PEFC* (PEFC™ license code 04-32-0828), FSC* (FSC® license code C011773), Blue Angel* and the Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Products Program, Pfleiderer is currently setting high standards throughout the industry.

"In September 2020, the most holistic award to date was made by the non-profit Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute. Pfleiderer was the first market participant to have selected product families evaluated with regard to a consistent circular economy system. This includes the criteria of material health, recyclability, use of renewable energies, responsible use of water, and social justice. Here, the LivingBoard family achieved very respectable results with a C2C certificate in silver and the DecoBoard and PrimeBoard families in bronze," explains Göldner.

By awarding almost all HPL and compact laminates as well as composite elements with the Blue Angel, Pfleiderer is also the first supplier to offer a full range of particularly sustainable wood-based materials with this independent environmental label. The seal certifies the use of wood from sustainable forestry and recycled materials, as well as a healthy indoor climate that goes well beyond the legal requirements.

This means that the HPL and DecoBoard substrate materials available as standard in the new collection are particularly sustainable, so that even particularly environmentally conscious consumers can use and recommend all Pfleiderer products with a clear conscience.

About Pfleiderer– 125 years of high-quality wood-based panels

Pfleiderer is a leading wood-based panel manufacturer in Europe with annual sales of approx. 700 million euros and around 2,000 employees. The company has its headquarter in Neumarkt in der Oberpfalz (Germany). Pfleiderer has five production locations in Germany and one in Poland, and sales branches in England, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Romania and France. Pfleiderer offers a complete range of products and services with a focus on furniture making, the timber trade, interior fit out and timber construction. Pfleiderer pools the Duropal and Thermopal product ranges under the Pfleiderer umbrella brand and is a partner of industry, commerce, installers, designers and architects.

Further explanations of the standards and certificates mentioned:

ISO 14001:2015

Environmental management standard that specifies globally recognized requirements for an environmental management system. Focuses on the continuous improvement process as a means of achieving an organization's defined environmental performance objectives using the "plan, execute, control, optimize" method.

ISO 50001:2011 (ISO 50003)

Energy management standard that describes the requirements for an organization's energy management system. Focuses on continuous improvement of energy-related performance, i.e. optimization of energy use and energy efficiency.

PEFC

The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes™ is an international certification system for sustainable forestry according to ecological, social and economic aspects. In Germany, around 7.6 million hectares of forest are certified according to PEFC. The content of the certification system for sustainable forest management is based on resolutions of the follow-up conferences to the Rio Conference on the Environment (1992). Specifically, these are the criteria and indicators adopted at the Ministerial Conferences on the Protection of Forests in Europe (Helsinki 1993, Lisbon 1998, Vienna 2003) by 37 nations in the Pan-European Process. The primary objective of PEFC is to document and improve sustainable forest management in terms of economic, ecological and social standards.

FSC

Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) was established to promote ecologically appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world's forests to ensure that the needs of the present generation can be met without compromising the needs of future generations. The FSC has defined globally uniform basic principles for responsible forest management. For their implementation, indicators are developed at national level according to a uniform procedure. FSC® is an international certification system that defines ten standardized criteria for sustainable forest management. Wood bearing the FSC seal comes from sustainable forestry operations. Certified operations are inspected

annually by independent auditors.

Blue Angel

The environmental seal for particularly environmentally friendly products and services was introduced in Germany in 1978. For particleboard, formaldehyde emissions are an important criterion for the award of the Blue Angel. Boards which, thanks to so-called formaldehyde scavengers, have an emission level approx. 50% lower than standard boards are awarded the RAL UZ 76 - Blue Angel eco-label. For the award of this eco-label, the boards are certified by the RAL Institute.

Cradle to Cradle (C2C)

Cradle to Cradle (C2C) is an approach for a continuous and consistent circular economy. The principle, which can also be perceived as a philosophy or system, was designed in the late 1990s by the German chemist Michael Braungart and the U.S. architect William McDonough. The C2C certification (Cradle to Cradle Certified™ product standard) for circular economy systems has been awarded since 2010 by the non-profit organization Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute based in San Francisco. Products are evaluated according to the aspects of material health, recyclability, use of renewable energy, responsible use of water, and social justice.

