Upper Canada Supply Partners Win Innovation Awards at IIDEX

Interior Designers of Canada (IDC) and IIDEXCanada, announced winners of their annual Innovation Awards program.

And Upper Canada supply partners win 2 silver and 1 bronze!

Silver goes to... Taction by Arauco and Polylac by Jutras

Bronze goes to... Pollmeier Ingenious Hardwood BauBuche Panel

Holiday Hours... At Upper Canada

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday Dec 26</td>
<td>Closed for the Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday Dec 27</td>
<td>Open regular business hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday Dec 28</td>
<td>Open regular business hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday Dec 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday Dec 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday Jan 2</td>
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Wood Waste Converted to Jet Fuel for Cross-Country Flight

Washington state-based Alaska Airlines made history flying the first commercial flight using the world's first renewable, alternative jet fuel made from wood waste and forest residuals – limbs and branches left over after a harvest of a managed forest.

Read More
Check out our NEW Website! Click here

Wood of the Month
Koa is widely considered to be the most beautiful and useful of Hawai'i's native hardwoods. READ MORE

Quote of the month
Year's end is neither an end or a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us.
~ Hal Borland

Information Downloads
Product Brochure
Purchasing Handbook
California Proposition 65
CARB
LEED
FSC
Upper Canada Supply Partners Win Innovation Awards at IIDEX

The Innovation Awards celebrate the industry’s leading manufacturers and suppliers within the fields of design and architecture, and recognize outstanding achievement in new product design for the built environment.

“Today’s products need to be competitive on many levels,” says judge, Michele Gunn. “The products awarded are not only well-designed, they stand out as sustainable, accessible, and have the users well-being in mind. They are certain to succeed in the marketplace.”

Eleven judges from the interior design and architecture communities determined the winning projects based on their technical creativity, marketability and design ingenuity. Judging took place on the trade show floor.

The Innovation Awards are organized by Interior Designers of Canada (IDC) and presented at IIDEXCanada, the country’s largest exposition and conference for the design, construction and management of the built environment.

Silver Award goes to...

Taction by Arauco

Product Description: Taction is a collection of embossed TFL panels that showcase true-to-life design and rival the look and feel of wood. This Oak’s natural characteristics are captured and replicated in five contemporary colours making a bold statement alone, or complemented by the Prism Accentz series. Click here to watch the video.

Design Objective: To incorporate the look and feel of real wood surfaces in a cost-competitive, flexible and environmentally-responsible manner.

Design and Technical Innovation: Taction’s EIR technology (embossed in register) is achieved when the TFL plate texture is synchronized with the Oak’s woodgrain pattern.

Market Application: Taction, as with all designs in the Prism TFL Collection, is suitable for residential, commercial and institutional furnishings; retail fixtures and wall paneling.

Sustainability: Taction substrates (particleboard or MDF) are comprised of 100% recycled and/or recovered wood, ECC® certified and qualify for up to five LEED credits.

Silver Award goes to...

Polylac by Jutras

Design and Technical Innovation: Taction’s EIR technology (embossed in register) is achieved when the TFL plate texture is synchronized with the Oak’s woodgrain pattern.

Market Application: Taction, as with all designs in the Prism TFL Collection, is suitable for residential, commercial and institutional furnishings; retail fixtures and wall paneling.

Sustainability: Taction substrates (particleboard or MDF) are comprised of 100% recycled and/or recovered wood, ECC® certified and qualify for up to five LEED credits.
Pollmeier Ingenious Hardwood BauBuche Panel

**Polylac by Jutras in the Decorative Panel category!**

**Product Description:** Polylac is an ecological multi-layered decorative panel, with the highest scratch and heat resistance on the market. It also has the highest gloss level in the industry with a mirror like reflection.

**Design Objective:** Polylac compared to existing products on the market is different by the distinctive richness of woodgrain and like glass effect for solid colours.

**Design and Technical Innovation:** Polylac panel is made by pressing a high-density decorative paper to MDF. A specially developed bio-optimized transparent film is then laminated on the surface to protect it from external factors. This top layer is flexible and heat resistant up to 140 Celsius.

**Market Application:** Polylac can be used by woodworkers to create kitchen cabinets, bathroom vanities, hotel, home and office furniture as well as wall panelling.

**Sustainability:** Polylac is PVC free and FSC certified.

Bronze Award goes to...

Pollmeier Ingenious Hardwood BauBuche Panel

**Product Description:** The only high-quality engineered hardwood product of its kind “Ingenious Hardwood BauBuche”. New technology which allows us to economically produce top-quality laminated veneer lumber from Beech for non-structural applications. BauBuche comprises boards and panels for furniture, countertops, cabinets, and interior design applications.

**Design Objective:** Clean, beautiful, and simple, BauBuche is carbon negative and sustainable, like no other laminated veneer product of its kind. BauBuche is highly functional and very cost efficient, for a myriad of aesthetically pleasing applications.

**Design and Technical Innovation:** Finally an LVL product that is durable, comes in multiple thicknesses, can be produced in lengths up to 19.7’, is virtually void free, and can be machined, stained, and finished like regular solid hardwood.
Market Application: BauBuche panel, lends an entirely new and modern look to European Beech thanks to the vertically aligned veneer layers. The surface of the panel is both elegant and extremely durable, and is as easy to process as solid wood. Furniture, molding & millwork, flooring, and interior design applications are just a few of the many opportunities for BauBuche.

Sustainability: BauBuche is made from 100% European Beech, the most available temperate hardwood on the planet. 70% of all production is PEFC certified.

For more information please contact your Upper Canada Sales Consultant.

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Wood Waste Converted to Jet Fuel for Cross-Country Flight

The flight, flying from Seattle to Washington D.C., used fuel created from wood waste subjected to a chemical process that utilized enzymes to speed up the natural fermentation of wood sugars.

What’s produced is alcohol, which is then converted into a clean-burning jet fuel.

The project, led by Washington State University’s Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance (NARA) and funded by a $39.6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture, is part of the aviation industry’s goal to be carbon neutral by 2020.

“NARA’s accomplishments and the investment of the U.S. Department of Agriculture provide another key in helping Alaska Airlines and the aviation industry reduce its carbon footprint and dependency on fossil fuels,” said Joe Sprague, Alaska Airlines’ senior VP of communications.

Alaska Airlines estimated that if it were able to replace 20 percent of its entire fuel supply at Seattle's Sea-Tac Airport with biofuel, it would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about 142,000 metric tons of CO2. That’s equivalent to taking approximately 30,000 passenger vehicles off the road for a year.

NARA is a five-year project that launched in 2011 and is comprised of 32 member organizations from industry, academia and government laboratories. NARA says the flight represents its efforts to develop alternative jet fuel derived from post-harvest forestry material that is often burned after timber harvest.

The forest residuals used to fuel the jet were sourced from forests owned by Weyerhaeuser in Washington and Oregon, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe in Washington and the Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribes in Montana.

Wood of the Month: Koa

**Scientific Name:** *Acacia Koa*

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**Wood of the Month: Koa**

**Colour / Appearance:** Colour can be highly variable, but tends to be medium golden or reddish brown, similar to Mahogany. There are usually contrasting bands of colour in the growth rings, and it is not uncommon to see boards with ribbon-like streaks of colour. Boards figured with wavy and/or curly grain are also not uncommon.

**Grain / Texture:** Grain is usually slightly interlocked, and sometimes wavy. Uniform medium to coarse texture.

**Endgrain:** Diffuse-porous; large to very large pores in no specific arrangement; few; solitary and radial multiples of 2-3; growth rings indistinct; rays not visible without lens, very faint, can be reddish colour; parenchyma vasicentric.

**Rot Resistance:** Rated as non-durable to perishable regarding decay resistance, Koa is also susceptible to termite attack.

**Workability:** In most circumstances, Koa is easy to work, and sands well. However, figured wood, or pieces with heavily interlocked grain can be difficult to plane or machine without tearing or chipping of the grain; also, Koa can occasionally give problems in gluing, though this is somewhat uncommon. Koa turns, stains, and finishes well.

**Odor:** No characteristic odor.

**Allergies/Toxicity:** Besides the standard health risks associated with any type of wood dust, no further health reactions have been associated with Koa. However, several species of Acacia, including the closely related Australian Blackwood, have been reported to cause eye, skin, and respiratory irritation.

**Pricing / Availability:** With the tree endemic to Hawaii only, and with supplies dwindling, Koa is likely to be rather expensive. Also, boards of highly figured and/or curly Koa can command fantastic prices.

**Sustainability:** This wood species is not listed in the CITES Appendices, and is reported by the IUCN as being a species of least concern.

**Common Uses:** Veneer, furniture, cabinetry, musical instruments (especially guitars and ukuleles), canoes, gunstocks, carvings, bowls, and other turned/specialty wood objects.

**Comments:** Although Koa is naturally quite abundant on the islands of Hawaii, most Koa forests have been cleared for grazing pastures; and since young Koa seedlings are edible for grazing animals, most new trees are prevented from growing to lumber-harvestable size. As a result, mature Koa trees are either scarce, or in hard-to-access mountainous locations, and the price of Koa is likely to only increase further in the future. Australian Blackwood (Acacia melanoxylon) is considered to be a more sustainable, and visually/mechanically similar substitute.

Koa is widely considered to be the most beautiful and useful of Hawaii’s native hardwoods, and along with Monkey Pod and Mango, it is the most common Hawaiian species to be imported into the lower 48 United States.
Visually, Koa has been compared to Mahogany, while in terms of working and mechanical properties, it has been compared to Walnut. Because of its nearly equal tangential and radial shrinkage, (its T/R Ratio is only 1.1), Koa tends to be quite stable regarding environmental changes in humidity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Janka Ball Hardness Rating</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By comparison Alder is</td>
<td>590</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specific Gravity (Basic, 12% MC)</td>
<td>0.53, 0.61</td>
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</tbody>
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