

ISSUE 32

马来西亚家具总会简报 NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 32, SEPTEMBER 2023



2023年世界家具联合会年会暨世界家具产业集群大会 2023 Annual General Meeting of World Furniture Confederation & World Furniture Industrial Clusters Conference

随着边境重新开放，现在许多活动以允许实体进行。这确实是个好消息，因为实际互动比虚拟世界更为真切。在2023年8月17日，世界家具联合会（WFC）举行了2023年度股东大会以及世界家具产业集群大会。

该活动于上午在中国东莞举行。位于广东省，毗邻香港和广州等主要经济中心，使其成为中国主要家具产业集群之一的绝佳位置。此次活动由中国家具协会（CNFA）和东莞市人民政府主办，并得到世界家具联合会（WFC）、亚洲家具联合会（CAFA）、各国驻华使领馆以及投资贸易促进机构的支持。

作为自新冠疫情爆发以来的首次实体股东大会，本次活动吸引了近600名与会者，包括世界家具联合会主席、亚洲家具联合会会长、中国家具协会理事长徐祥楠先生。包括世界家具联合会秘书长、亚洲家具联合会副会长兼秘书长、中国家具协会副理事长秘书长兼秘书长的屠祺女士等。由于此次活动汇聚了来自世界各地的领导人，马来西亚家具总会新任总会会长陈文海先生以及其理事会成员代表均受邀出席。

As borders reopened, many events are now permitted to be conducted physically. This is indeed good news as physical touch remains a better option than the virtual world. Hence, on August 17, 2023, the World Furniture Confederation (WFC) conducted its 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM) alongside the World Furniture Industrial Clusters Conference.

The event was held in the morning at the coastal city of Dongguan, China. Located in the Guangdong province, the city's proximity to major economic centres like Hong Kong and Guangzhou puts it in a perfect position to be one of the major furniture clusters in the country.

The event was hosted by the China National Furniture Association (CNFA) and Dongguan Municipal People's Government and supported by the WFC, Council of Asia Furniture Associations (CAFA), foreign embassies as well as trade and promotion agencies in China.



配合本次股东大会主题“团结合作，共享未来”，家具集群的发展及其重要性成为与会者讨论的焦点。

徐祥楠先生在演讲中提到，与某些行业的孤立运作不同，家具行业与全球供应链紧密相连，有高度的整合性和全球化特性，技术发展的速度在疫情期间引入创新后变得更加迅速。

在政府的支持下，中国家具协会启动了中国（东莞）世界级家具产业集群，重点关注工业制造、集群示范、会展贸易、智能办公、设计与创新以及跨境电子商务六个中心。

通过发挥集群的巨大制造潜力、创新资源和开放生态系统，发达地区与新兴市场相连接，形成更具包容性的生态系统。

为了进一步推动东莞家具产业集群发展，邢文聚先生（中国共产党东莞市委常委、东莞市人民政府副市长）、麦耀钦先生（东莞市工业和信息化局副局长）以及陈尚荣先生（东莞市厚街镇党委副书记、镇长）分别发表讲话。

国际与会者也不愿错失利润丰厚的机会，纷纷借此机会推动各自国家的家具集群和产业发展。最近被宣布为全球人口最多的国家，印度政府也付出了巨大的努力来发展其家具集群。印度贸易促进理事会主席Mr Mohit Singla提到，目前印度国内生产的办公家具和家居家具大多仍然来自家庭作坊的手工作。



Being the first physical AGM since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, the event saw an attendance of nearly 600 attendees including Mr Xu Xiangnan, Chairman of WFC, CAFA and CNFA and Miss Linda Tu, Secretary General cum Vice President of WFC, CAFA and CNFA. Since this event gathers leaders from around the world, the Malaysian Furniture Council was represented by its new President, Mr Desmond Tan Boon Hai alongside members of the Governing Committee.

Aligning with the theme of the AGM, “United Cooperation, Shared Future” the development and importance of furniture cluster is the forefront of discussion among the participants.

Mr Xu Xiangnan in his speech mentioned that unlike certain sectors which can operate insularly, the furniture industry is highly integrated and globalised with the global supply chain. The speed of technology evolution moves even more rapidly as new innovations were introduced during the pandemic.

Under the support from government, the CNFA has launched the China (Dongguan) World- Class Furniture Industry Cluster focusing on six centres which are industrial manufacturing, cluster demonstration, exhibition & trade, smart work, design & innovation and finally cross border e-commerce.

Through the tapping into the cluster’s huge manufacturing potential, innovation resource and open ecosystem, developed regions are linked with emerging markets making it a more inclusive ecosystem.

Seeking to further promote Dongguan as a viable furniture cluster, this saw Mr Xing Wenju (Member of the Standing Committee of the Communist Party of China Dongguan Committee cum Deputy Mayor of Dongguan Municipal People’s Government), Mr Mai Yaoqin (Deputy Director of Industry and Information Technology Bureau of Dongguan) and Mr Chen Shangrong (Deputy Secretary of the Party Committee cum Mayor of Houjie Town, Dongguan City) delivering their respective comments.

Not wanting to lose out on the lucrative potential, international attendees also took the opportunity to promote their country’s own furniture cluster and industry’s development. Being recently declared the most populous country in the world, this has prompted the government of India to make strong efforts to develop its furniture cluster. Mr Mohit Singla, Chairman of the Trade Promotion Council of India mentioned that currently office and home furniture produced within the country are still mostly handmade from family workshops.

如果印度希望成为全球前五家具产出量市场，这种情况是不能持续下去的。Mr Mohit指出，新德里计划设立配备基础设施的特殊经济区，以提高成本效率并吸引外国投资。此次活动还见证了Mr Mohit 也和徐祥楠先生签署了一份谅解备忘录，共同致力于发展印度的家具集群。

长期以来中国主要家具出口目的地之一的欧洲，也派出了代表~欧洲家具产业联合会会长 Mr Edi Snaidero分享。欧洲是最早开始工业革命的地区之一，该地区目前拥有成熟和发达的产业能力和市场，提升了其在创新和人力资源竞争力方面。

最后，韩国家具产业合作社联合会会长 Mr Lee Sunjong 也强调了集群在地区经济中的重要性。他引用了半导体行业为例子，指出集群还可以通过技术创新和专业知识方面带来益处。事实上，正是韩国的技术和创新实力为其家具产业带来了竞争优势。

总的来说，世界家具联合会2023年度股东大会暨世界家具产业集群大会取得了巨大成功，共享了更多想法，探讨了共同点，以确保全球家具社区在全球产业链发生根本性变化的经济复苏过程中实现强大合作。

2023年世界家具产业合作大会

随着2023年8月17日世界家具联合会（WFC）的年度大会结束后，与参会者紧接着参与了另一场重量级活动。

与世界家具企业家论坛同时举办的“2023世界家具产业合作大会暨全球家具跨境电商大会”在中国东莞市举行。该活动由中国家具协会（CNFA）和东莞市人民政府共同主办，由厚街镇人民政府和大岭山镇人民政府承办。

此次活动吸引了约600名与会者，包括中国家具协会主席、亚洲家具协会理事会主席（CAFA）以及世界家具联合（WFC）主席徐祥楠先生；中国家具协会、亚洲家具协会和世界家具联合秘书长兼副主席屠祺女士、中国家具产业集群的政府官员，以及各国驻华大使馆和各国投资贸易促进机构代表。

而马来西亚家具总会陈文海总会长、总秘书长吴松煌以及理事会成员也代表马来西亚家具业出席。

徐祥楠先生在开幕致词中指出，随着世界加速变革的步伐，国际形势变得更加复杂。这自然地带来了前所未有的机遇和挑战，只有在保持和平的同时，行业保持团结、合作和创新，才能应对这些挑战。这次活动也为各国探讨合作机提供了新平台。



This cannot continue if India aspires to be the top five furniture output market in the world. Hence, according to Mohit, New Delhi plans to set up special economic zones equipped with infrastructure to improve cost efficiency and attract foreign investment in the future. The event also witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Mr Mohit and Mr Xu Xiangnan to work on the development of furniture clusters in India.

Europe, long been one of China's major furniture export destinations also sees its representative, Mr Edi Snaidero, President of the European Furniture Industries Confederation pointing out that the continent is one of the first regions where the Industrial revolution began. Currently, the region has a matured and developed industrial capacity and market elevating its competitiveness in innovation and human resources.

Finally, Mr Lee Sunjong, President of the Korea Federation of Furniture Industry Cooperatives stresses the importance of clusters in regional economies. Citing the semiconductor industry, he mentioned that clusters also serve to bring benefit in the form of technological innovation and professional knowledge. Indeed, it is Korea's technology and innovation prowess that brought competitive advantage to its furniture industry.

In essence, the WFC's 2023 AGM and World Furniture Industrial Clusters Conference was a resounding success where more ideas were shared, and common grounds being explored to ensure strong cooperation of the global furniture community as the world is economically recovering with fundamental changes happening in the global industrial chain.

Source: Press Statement: (The 2023 AGM of World Furniture Confederation & World Furniture Industrial Clusters Conference are held at Dongguan, China), World Furniture Confederation, Council of Asia Furniture Associations, China National Furniture Association

2023 World Furniture Industrial Collaboration Conference

Following the World Furniture Confederation's (WFC) 2023 annual general meeting in the morning of August 17, 2023, participants took a breather before the launching of another event on the same day.

The event, the 2023 World Furniture Industrial Collaboration Conference was held together with the WFC Entrepreneur Forum and Global Furniture Cross-border E-commerce Conference was convened in the city of Dongguan, China. The event was co-hosted by the China National Furniture Association (CNFA) and Dongguan Municipal People's Government and organised by the Houjie Town People's Government and Dalingshan Town People's Government.

世界家具联合秘书长兼副主席屠祺女士表示，世界家具联合会应在解决行业问题和创造未来机遇方面发挥积极作用，例如国际交流加强行业之间，促进全球家具贸易，更多地关注传统市场的潜力，吸引更多投资到产业集群，以及利用技术提升消费者体验。

东莞市商务局顾问杨荣先生提到，家具制造仍然是该市四大产业支柱之一。因此，为了提升东莞家具中心的声誉，中共政府和东莞市委政府采取了多项措施，如与企业家保持密切沟通，协助他们解决生产或经营问题，促使企业转型变得更加高效。

大健云仓（GigaCloud）的运营总监Allen Hao先生指出，如果政府能够制定负责任且有利于企业的政策，营造一个有利环境。那么私营部门有责任引入新技术，提升生产价值和产量。大健云仓是一家专门从事大件商品跨境贸易的公司，包括家具在内。

该公司通过线上线下跨境贸易服务，将传统出口业务转变为数字化业务。通过自主研发的B2B交易系统和全球自营物流，大健云仓将供应商和零售商连接起来，减少了中间环节和成本。这将有望帮助数千家同样能依赖海外订单维持运营的中国制造商。

The event saw an attendance of about 600 participants including Mr Xu Xiangnan, President of China National Furniture Association, Chairman of Council of Asia Furniture Association (CAFA) and Chairman of the World Furniture Confederation, Miss Linda Tu, Secretary- General cum Vice Chairman of the CNFA, CAFA as well as WFC, government officials from China furniture industry clusters as well as representatives of foreign embassies and foreign trade promotion agencies in the country.

As for Malaysia, the furniture industry was represented by President of the Malaysian Furniture Council (MFC), Mr Desmond Tan Boon Hai alongside Mr Goh Song Huang, Secretary General of MFC as well as members of the Governing Committee after being invited by the organisers.

In his opening address, Mr Xu Xiangnan pointed out that as the world is accelerating its pace of revolution, this consequently causes more complications in the international arena. This has automatically caused unprecedented opportunities and challenges to emerge which can only be tackled if the industries remain united, cooperative, innovative while peace is preserved. This event also serves as a new platform for countries to explore cooperative opportunities.

Moving on to the next speaker, Ms Linda Tu she opined that WFC should play an active role in solving the industrial problems and create future opportunities such as more international exchange within the industry, the promotion of global furniture trade with more attention to untapped potential of the traditional market, to attract more investment to clusters as well as the utilisation of technology for a better consumer experience.

Mr Yang Rong, Consultant of the Dongguan Commerce Bureau mentioned that furniture manufacturing remains one of the 4 main industry pillars in the city. Hence to enhance the city's reputation as a strong furniture hub, the Communist Party of China (CPC) and People's Government of Dongguan City have carried out multiple measures such as constant communication with entrepreneurs, assisting them in solving production or operation problems as well as transforming their businesses to be more efficient.

Moving forward, if the government has the ability to churn of responsible and business friendly policies to create a conducive environment, it is the private sector's responsibility to introduce new technology for better production value and volume. This has been indicated by Mr Allen Hao, COO of GigaCloud, a company specialising in cross-border trade of big items including furniture.

The company transforms conventional export businesses into digital ones via both online and offline cross-border trade service. Through self- developed B2B trading system and self-operated logistics around the globe, GigaCloud links suppliers and retailers with the fewest possible distribution points as well as cost. This will hopefully assist the thousands of Chinese manufacturers who are also dependent on overseas orders to sustain their operation.



知名平台eBay国际跨境贸易销售与品类管理总监Tony Pang先生表示，多年来eBay一直在帮助中国品牌拓展海外市场。电商平台的进驻，使得中国制造的家具受到欧洲买家青睐。eBay提供的综合服务，从物流、产品开发、营销到业务运营，使客户能够应对跨境挑战，找到新的交易机会。

与此同时，慕思健康睡眠有限公司副总裁Jeffery Yao先生表示，中国消费者现在更集中在更年轻一代，他们更喜欢生活解决方案和定制服务，而不是单一产品以及知名品牌。由于对更健康生活的需要和需求，该公司凭借其突出的生产基地和具有竞争力的健康睡眠服务生态系统，将使其成为最大供应商为越来越多注重健康的中国消费者提供智能睡眠解决方案。

由于世界家具产业合作大会是一个国际级别的会议，因此国际与会者的评论也不容忽视。为此，意大利对外贸易专员驻在北京兼意大利ITA- ICE中国和蒙古办事处协调员，Gianpaolo Bruno先生对意大利家具品牌所取得的成功带来高度赞扬。他将这些成就归因于将传统工艺与现代技术相结合，生产出高质量、耐用且令人愉悦的家具产品。目前，欧洲国家正在采用新材料和先进技术，以实现可持续目标，这也可以激励更多国家效仿。

总之，该活动取得了巨大成功，通过国际交流与合作，致力于推动全球家具行业的共同繁荣。

Mr Tony Pang, Director of Sales and Category Management International Cross Border Trade of renown platform, eBay mentioned that for years, eBay has been helping Chinese brand expand into overseas by venturing and opening new markets. Over the years, the presence of e-commerce platforms has enabled Chinese- made furniture to be favoured by European buyers. The comprehensive service offered by eBay such as logistics, to product development, marketing and then business operation has enabled clients to cope with cross-border challenges and find new trading opportunities.

Meanwhile Mr Jeffery Yao, Vice President of DeRUCCI Healthy Sleep Co Ltd said that Chinese consumers are now more concentrated in the younger generation who prefers living solution and customized services instead of a single product as well as well- known brands. Due to the need and demand for more healthy living, the company with its prominent production bases and competitive ecosystem of healthy sleep services will make it the biggest provider of intelligent sleep solutions to an ever-growing number of health-conscious Chinese consumers.

Since the World Furniture Industrial Collaboration Conference is an international level conference, the comments by its international participants are not to be neglected. Hence, Mr Gianpaolo Bruno the Italian Trade Commissioner of Beijing Office and Coordinator of ITA- ICE Offices in China and Mongolia commented on the successes achieved by Italian furniture brands. He attributed those achievements with the combination of traditional craftsmanship with modern technology to produce high- quality, durable and eye-pleasing furniture products. Currently the European nation is embracing new materials and advanced technologies to keep up with sustainable goals which could also inspire more countries to emulate.

In conclusion, the event was a resounding success as it is working towards a common prosperity of the furniture industries around the world through international communication and cooperation.

Source:

Press Statement from The 2023 World Furniture Industrial Collaboration Conference, WFC Entrepreneur Forum and Global Furniture Cross-border E-commerce Conference are held at Dongguan, China) World Furniture Confederation, Council of Asia Furniture Associations, China National Furniture Association



欧盟将甲醛释放量管控在E1等级的一半

European Union limits formaldehyde emission to half the value of E1 classification

于2023年7月14日，欧盟委员会针对居住环境空气中甲醛浓度提出了新的限制。新法规“2023/1464”将家具和木制产品的甲醛释放量管控升级，排放量新限制设定在0.062 mg/m3。这意味着该限制恰好是1989年世界卫生组织对E1登记，0.124 mg/m3指示值的一般。

木材行业测试和认证机构Catas认为，与旧的E1分类不同，这个新法规是必须遵守并适用于所有欧洲国家、其木制和家具行业，以及所有进口到欧盟的产品。这新限制措施也引起了不同方面的意见。

同时，Catas总监Franco Bulian表示，这项新法规将改变与国际上其他限制的比较。

“这项新法规还表明，欧洲正果断地采取有关产品安全的具体行动。它减少了产品中粘合剂和漆料的使用对三聚氰胺的处理。”

虽然欧盟委员会已发布这项新法规，但受影响行业的公司将给予三年的时间来遵守新法规。

这也为欧洲化学品管理局（ECHA）提供了必要的时间，让欧洲相关协会和组织在测试方法面能参与其中。

不同国家/地区对甲醛的限制标准

国家/地区	甲醛限值	暴露时间
中国	-	0.08 mg/m ³ 1 h
美国（加利福尼亚州）	0.027 ppm	0.033 mg/m ³ 8 h
	0.05 ppm	- 长时间
加拿大	0.1 ppm	0.123 mg/m ³ 1 h
	0.04 ppm	0.05 mg/m ³ 8 h
英国	-	0.1 mg/m ³ 0.5 h
澳大利亚	0.1 ppm	0.12 mg/m ³ 长时间
	0.08 ppm	0.1 mg/m ³ -
新加坡	0.1 ppm	0.12 mg/m ³ 8 h
日本	0.08 ppm	0.1 mg/m ³ 0.5 h
韩国	0.1 ppm	0.12 mg/m ³ 8 h
WHO	0.08 ppm	0.1 mg/m ³ 0.5 h

美国上室内空气中甲醛限值



On the July 14, 2023, the European Commission introduced a new limit for the concentration of formaldehyde in the air of living environments. The new regulation ‘Regulation 2023/1464’ saw the cutting of the previous value by setting the new limit to 0.062 mg/m3 for the emission of this substance for wood-based products and furniture. With that, it means this limit is exactly half of the value indicated by the World Health Organisation’s 0.124 mg/m3 back in 1989 towards E1 classification.

Catas, a testing and certification body for the wood industry opined that unlike the old E1 classification, this new regulation must be applied by all European countries, its wooden and furniture sector as well as all products imported into the EU. This new restriction has drawn opinions from different quarters.

Franco Bulian, Head Director of Catas expresses that this new regulation will alter the comparison with other limits in the international arena.

“This new regulation also demonstrates how decisively Europe is increasingly moving towards concrete actions regarding product safety. It reduces the usage of adhesives and paints in products or what is being done to melamine.”

While this new regulation has been published by the European Commission, companies in the affected sector are given three (3) years to comply with the new regulation.

This period also provides much needed time for the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) to define the involvement of the related European associations and organisations regarding testing methods.

东盟峰会重燃哲帕拉家具企业家对出口市场的希望 *ASEAN Summit Sparks Hope for Furniture Entrepreneurs in Jepara to Revive Export Markets*

印尼爪哇中部哲帕拉（Jepara）县的家具和雕刻企业家，对即将举行的东盟峰会给予重望。受到新冠疫情重创的海外市场，目前正寻求机会恢复往日趋势。

印尼家具与手工艺品工业协会（Asmindo）主席Sahli Rais对定于2023年9月5至8日在雅加达举行的2023年东盟峰会持有乐观态度。他表示，尽管该行业在疫情期间，对欧洲和美国地区的销售额有所增加，但近期乌克兰冲突等地缘政治事件也间接地对这些传统市造成了负面影响。

ASMINDO 除了努力开拓新市场外，印尼政府内部正在讨论，如何扩大和加强在东亚地区的市场。尽管东亚地区的前景可能无法与欧美媲美，但确实能提供一些商机。Sahli 进一步提到，东亚独特的购买行为，主要围绕在项目上，这与欧美洲的以高价值个人交易特征形成鲜明对比。

除了拓展东亚市场外，家具和雕刻企业家也在政府的鼓励下开始关注本地市场。他们也希望得到政府的支持，以确保与中国家具产品价格保持竞争力。

Furncraft.id持有人Muhammad Haidar Zaqi Umar表示，希望东盟峰会能够振兴位于哲帕拉县的家具行业。这峰会被视为潜在海外市场，如马来西亚和新加坡等东盟国家的市场开拓催化剂。



Furniture entrepreneurs in Jepara Regency, Central Java, have expressed positive hope regarding the upcoming ASEAN Summit on the local furniture and carving industry. The sector, which faced challenges in foreign markets post-COVID-19, is looking to regain its momentum.

Sahli Rais, Chairperson of the Furniture and Carving Industry Association Indonesian Crafts (Asmindo) Jepara Regency, expressed optimism regarding the 2023 ASEAN Summit scheduled for September 5-8, 2023, in Jakarta. He acknowledged that while the industry experienced robust sales during the pandemic especially to regions like Europe and the United States, recent geopolitical events, such as the conflict in Ukraine has indirectly caused a negative effect to these traditional markets.


Henceforth, efforts are now underway to explore new market such as discussions within the Indonesian Government to facilitate market access in East Asia. While he acknowledged that prospects of East Asia may not match those of Europe and America, it does offer some opportunity.

Sahli explained the distinct buying behavior in East Asia revolves around project-based transactions, in contrast to the higher-value individual transactions characteristic of Europe and America.

In addition to expanding into the East Asian market, furniture and carving entrepreneurs are also focusing on local markets, as encouraged by the government. They are also hopeful for government support to ensure competitiveness against Chinese furniture products known for their competitive pricing.

Muhammad Haidar Zaqi Umar, owner of Furncraft.id also expressed hope for the ASEAN Summit to rejuvenate the furniture industry, particularly within the Jepara Regency. The event is viewed as a catalyst for potentially opening new overseas markets such as Malaysia and Singapore within ASEAN that were impacted by the pandemic.





美国公布对来自越南硬木胶合板出口做出最终判决

US issues final determination of hardwood plywood exports from Vietnam

经过长时间的调查，美国商务部（USDOC）公布对来自越南的硬木胶合板做出了最终裁决。美国商务部在其裁决中裁定，从越南进口的某些硬木胶合板产品，实际上使用了中国制造的胶合板原材料和组件。

这些产品被发现规避了此前针对中国硬木胶合板所征收的反倾销和反补贴税。

在调查期间，发现共有37家公司未配合调查做出回应，海关和边境保护局被责令以183%的反倾销税和23%的反补贴税税率，向这些公司收取现金保证金。

然而，欲证明自己没有参与规避行为的公司可在2023年8月14日前，向美国商务局提供必要的证明。

虽然这与马来西亚无关，但我们希望本地业者能继续遵守国际贸易规则 and 规定，实行负责任的贸易，以维护马来西亚家具行业的良好声誉。

Following a long investigation, the United States Department of Commerce (USDOC) issued its final determination on hardwood plywood from Vietnam. In its ruling, the USDOC decreed that the import of certain hardwood plywood products from Vietnam are actually using plywood inputs and components manufactured from China.

These products are found to be circumventing the anti-dumping duty and countervailing orders previously imposed towards hardwood plywood from China.

During the duration of the investigation, thirty-seven (37) companies were found to have failed to cooperate and the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Department were ordered to collect cash deposits from these companies at a rate of 183% for anti-dumping duty and 23% for countervailing duty.

Nevertheless, companies intending to prove that they are not involved in circumventing can provide the necessary certification to the American authorities by August 14, 2023.

While these products are not related to Malaysia, it is hopeful that our local industry players will continue to adhere the rules and regulation of international trade by practising responsible trading to preserve the good name of the Malaysian furniture industry.

2023年6月日本胶合板进口量下降

Declining Plywood Imports in Japan in June 2023



早在2023年6月，日本胶合板进口量大幅下降，与前一年相比减少了38.2%至142,632立方米。《日本木材报告》（JLR）报导了这种需求和供应的变化，特别是对南海（热带）胶合板。

据报导，用于混凝土模板的12毫米3X6喷漆胶合板的价格在2023年6月上漲了约日元50，以胶合板模板交付时达到每张1,900日元。批发商的价格略高，每张可达1,950日元。成型胶合板和结构胶合板交给批发商时的售价，则为每张1,800日元。

相比之下，由于库存水平下降以及2023年7月底价格保持不变，日本国内软木胶合板市场的价格已接近最低点。尽管某些类型的胶合板出现了短缺，但仍可获得替代木材来源。

在南海（热带）原木和产品领域，汇率波动影响了对南海木材和中国木材的需求。当美元兑日元从145日元下跌到130日元时，日本买家更为活跃；但日元兑美元贬值时采购速度放缓。物流公司也根据这些货币动态制定木材采购策略。

目前，各企业正在等待合适时机购买木材，因为印尼Merkus松木的价格为每立方米820 – 850美元，而中国的价格为每立方870– 890美元。

至于南海木材，由于需求不足，从2023年1月至6月的到货量为14,343立方米，比去年同期少了21.4%。尽管如此，这一数额仍然被认为足以让钢铁制造商和造船公司继续他们的项目。

总的来说，日本胶合板和木材市场正经历受经济和地缘政治因素影响的负复杂格局。随着业者适应这些转变，监测趋势并利用可持续增长的机会仍然至关重要。

Back in June 2023, Japan saw a significant decline in plywood imports, dropping by 38.2% to 142,632 cubic metres compared to the previous year. This shift in demand and supply, particularly for South Sea (tropical) plywood, was reported by the Japan Lumber Report (JLR).

According to the report, the price of 12mm 3X6 painted plywood for concrete form has increased by approximately 50 yen in June 2023, reaching 1,900 yen per sheet when delivered to form plywood forms. At wholesalers, the price is slightly higher at 1,950 yen per sheet. Whilst Form plywood and structural plywood are priced at 1,800 yen per sheet when delivered to wholesalers.

In contrast, Japan's domestic softwood plywood market is approaching its lowest price point, due to decreasing inventory levels and unchanged price at the end of July 2023. While some shortages have been observed in certain types of plywood, alternative sources of lumber are still accessible.

In the realm of South Sea (tropical) logs and products, exchange rate fluctuations have influenced demand for South Sea lumber and Chinese lumber. Japanese buyers were more active when the US dollar dropped to 130 yen from 145 yen, though purchasing slowed when the yen depreciated against the dollar. Logistic companies are also strategizing their lumber purchases based on these currency dynamics.

Currently, companies are waiting for the right time to purchase lumber as it is the season for Indonesian Merkus pine lumber with a price of US\$ 820 – US\$ 850, C & F per cubic metre compared to its Chinese counterpart of US\$ 870 – US\$ 890, C & F per cubic metre.

As for South Sea lumber, demand has remained sluggish due to the lack of demand where arrival volume from January to June 2023 is 14,343 cubic metres, 21.4% less than the same period the year before. Nevertheless, this amount is still deemed adequate for steel manufacturers and shipbuilding companies to proceed with their projects.

Overall, the plywood and lumber market in Japan is navigating a complex landscape of supply and demand influenced by economic and geopolitical factors. As industry players adapt to these shifts, it remains crucial to monitor trends and leverage opportunities for sustainable growth.

DECIPHERING 'CARBON FOOTPRINT'

What furniture manufacturers need to know?

by
Prof. Dr. Jegatheswaran Ratnasingam, Lim Choon Liat and Natkuncaran. J.
Universiti Putra Malaysia

This article is the 2nd in the ESG series, which aims to provide useful information and create awareness among the industry players, on issues that are in the horizon of global business trends.

The Concept

The term energy technology is by far, one of the most underestimated topic within the global wood products industry. In almost all wood processing operations, energy is consumed to carry out the 'the work of cutting' to achieve the desired shape, surface, etc. The energy to drive the motor not only for the motor in the machine, but also exhaust fan, etc. are derived from electricity, which is generated through a mixture of fuel source, including petroleum, gas, coal, hydro, etc. This burning of the fuel source, depending on how much 'horse-power' is required by the motor, will determine how much green-house-gases (GHGs) are emitted. The emission of GHGs is the important factor contributing to global warming and climate change phenomenon. This is the premise on which energy management has been encapsulated within the Environment, Social, Governance (ESG) framework.

Introduction

For a furniture manufacturer to reduce his/her carbon emissions, he/she first needs to be able to measure how much carbon it is using and where it is using it. In this respect, it is the 'carbon footprint' of the manufacturer that would give an indication of its carbon impact. Whilst the term 'carbon footprint' has varying definitions, for the purposes of assessing products it is widely accepted that 'carbon footprint' is simply the methodology to estimate the total emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in carbon equivalents from a product across its life cycle from the production of raw material used in its manufacture to the disposal of the finished product. These emissions may be caused directly or indirectly by a person, organisation, event or product.

1. The carbon footprint of a piece of furniture, consists of emissions over the life of a product or service, and may include all emissions from the extraction of raw materials and manufacturing of the product, potentially extending right through to its use and final reuse, recycling or disposal.
2. Key to calculating the carbon footprint is the determination of what boundaries are used to assess the product; in other words what factors that affect a footprint are included in the calculation of the footprint.

For example: some calculations may include the transportation impact of delivering a product from the manufacturer to the customer, whilst others may choose to stop their analysis at the factory gates. [These differences in boundaries between studies mean that not all company and product footprints are directly comparable.](#)

The International Standards Organisation (ISO) has published its standard for "Carbon Footprints of Products" for the quantification and communication of carbon emissions associated with goods and services. The standard is developed based on the existing ISO standards for life cycle assessments (ISO 14040/44) and environmental labels and declarations (ISO 14025). The GHGs emission related ISO standards are the ISO 14064 and ISO 14065, while ISO 50001 is related to energy management systems, and will soon be enforced in many countries throughout the world (Ratnasingam 2017).

In this context, manufacturers of furniture and wood products alike, need to start paying attention to the topic of energy management sooner than later. The authors, have over the years, carried out several ground-breaking research that have become benchmark values, incorporated in several guidelines in several jurisdictions within the ASEAN region.

So, what exactly is Carbon Footprint and how do I measure it?

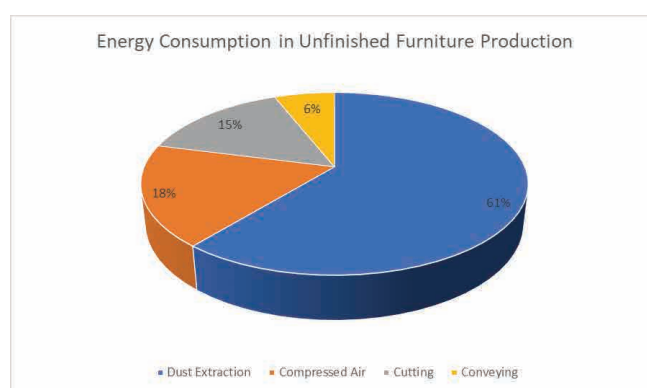
In simple terms, carbon footprint refers how much green-house gases (GHGs) is released from the point the product is manufactured until it expires its service life. So it refers to the concept of 'from cradle to grave'.

The most common method employed in establishing carbon footprint is using the life-cycle analysis (LCA) framework. As highlighted previously, it is essential to define the boundary within which measurements will be implemented, and thereafter to decide on the functional unit: for instance the functional unit is taken as 1 chair (unfinished), while the carbon footprint is expressed in kg CO₂-eq/unit product. The data collected are usually the amounts of wood material consumed, waste produced (including off-cuts and saw dust), etc., while the energy input measured are the electrical and fossil fuel (i.e., diesel for forklift, generators, etc.) consumed to produce the various component of the chair until assembly. In essence, only operations directly involved in the production processes are taken into consideration (CES Guide 2015).

Generally, the resource consumption (both raw materials and energy) during the production of the piece of chair results in GHGs emission, which is a matter of concern. The primary gases of concern are carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and dinitrogen oxide/nitrous oxide (N₂O), which are main constituents taken into the carbon footprint calculations (IPCC 2013).

The fact that wood and its waste, is considered CO₂ neutral is a key point. Inevitably, the decomposition of wood waste i.e., dust and off-cuts, leads of CO₂ release, but is considered biogenic carbon – meaning carbon that is absorbed by trees and stored. This is an important consideration associated with wood, in the sense that these losses are considered biogenic carbon loss, which do not contribute to global climate change (IPCC 2013).

Hence, in the calculation of carbon footprint as defined within processing boundary, the energy consumption is of primary concern. The energy consumption pattern in a typical furniture factory can be depicted as in Figure 1 (Ratnasingam et al. 2021).

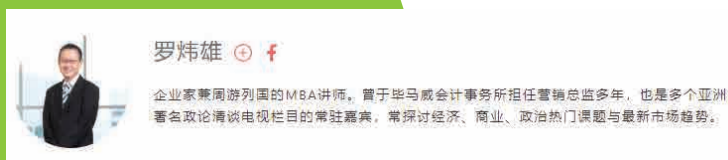


The GHGs emission is calculated on the energy consumed multiplied by the emission factors of CO₂, CH₄, and N₂O, which is then converted into the carbon footprint by converting the emission values of the three components into carbon footprint by multiplying each value with the equivalency factor of the three GHGs components. [In a report by Ratnasingam \(2020\), it was found that the typical carbon footprint for rubberwood 'Windsor' design chair was calculated to be 21.3 kg CO₂-eq/per piece.](#)

However, any change in energy consumption pattern in the furniture manufacturing processes, due to change in process variables (i.e., type of material, cutting tool, or even process parameter), new technology, dust extraction, etc. can have a profound impact on the carbon footprint of the product as whole. Extensive studies have been conducted by the authors since 2017 on many types of wood products, based on several technology-manufacturing framework, and these data have been proved useful (Ratnasingam et al. 2020, 2021, 2022). Unfortunately, the topic of energy consumption remains a topic that has attracted limited research in the past, but with the push towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the emergence of the Environment, Social, Governance (ESG) reporting and compliance becoming an important business risk indicator, the furniture and wood products industry cannot ignore energy efficiency and the perils associated with not knowing it. Further, unlike the European Union Timber Regulation (EUTR), the newly released European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) provides for some scope for products, which could be indirectly linked to carbon footprint, which will open up new avenues for furniture manufacturers to explore and capitalize on.

On this note, furniture manufacturers must begin to pay attention to the topic of energy management, as it is the basis on which carbon footprint is often established, which may very soon become an important criteria that determines the product competitiveness in the global marketplace.

昌明经济抗绿潮



六州选举可以说落幕了，目前各个政党都在计算得失。这次州选最大赢家无疑是行动党和伊斯兰党，行动党出战47席位，赢了46席位，其中在槟州、雪州和森州保持全胜记录，更是四连胜夺下槟州政权；另一边厢，伊斯兰党出战128席位，赢了106席位，其中在登嘉楼表现最抢眼，横扫32席位。

至于其他政党表现，其中就属巫统最不理想，出战108席位，才赢了区区19席位，在登嘉楼更是挂零。公正党出战59席位，赢取27席位。诚信党出战31席位，赢取8席位。土团党出战81席位，赢取39席位。

这次六州选举，团结政府在雪州可以说是低空飞过。国盟从上一届的6席位增加到22席位。在森州，国盟也取得零的突破，拿下了六个席位。在槟州，虽然希盟毫无悬念以三分之二优势执政，但是首相安华的选区峇东埔三州议席全部被绿潮吞没。

这次六州选举，团结政府从原有的114席位减少至80席位；国盟则从88席位增加到146席位。这次六州选举延续了去年11月的国会选举，绿潮汹涌。

目前，摆在团结政府眼前至关重要的问题，就是如何能够在未来三年到四年的时间扭转局面。换句话说，留给团结政府的时间不多了。

“这是经济问题，笨蛋。”

这句话是美国前总统克林顿的至理名言。宗教狂潮的出现，主要是因为经济环境不佳，生活担子重的时候，宗教是最好的心灵寄托。马来西亚经济经历了1997年风暴后就陷入中产收入陷阱。经济增长平均为4.7%，而人均收入增长缓慢。人民感觉生活越来越困难。尤其是绿潮汹涌的州属，基本上都属于贫困落后的州属。因此，唯有提振经济来消除绿潮威胁。

7月26日，现任首相兼任财政部长安华提出了他的昌明经济政策。安华很罕见地承认，目前马来西亚的经济表现正处于走下坡阶段。

上世纪六十年代，马来西亚经济长期享有7%的增长，这让马来西亚迅速崛起为东南亚的经济强国。1997至1998年的经济风暴，重创了马来西亚的经济表现。过去20多年，马来西亚经济增长平均为4.7%。这经济表现让马来西亚陷入一个恶性循环，即高成本、低工资、低利润、缺乏竞争力的经济体。因此，安华宣布了昌明经济的新经济框架。

昌明新经济框架的短期目标，是要解决人民面对生活成本高涨的问题，长期目标则是将马来西亚打造成为一个吸引外资的经济体。这样就可以让马来西亚人民摆脱目前低工资的窘境。

昌明新经济列出了七大经济目标：

成为全球30大经济体（目前38名）；
成为全球12个最具竞争力的经济体（目前27位）；
提升劳动力工资占国家收入的45%（目前43.4%）；
提升妇女就业率至60%（目前55.5%）；
人力发展指标全球25（目前62位）；
清廉印象指数25（目前61名）；
财政赤字占GDP 3%或更低（目前5.6%）。

目前，马来西亚的经济总量在东南亚位居第五，全球排名38。若要挤进全球前30名，意味着我们需要追求更高的增长率。目前，我们的经济总量在4000亿美元左右。如果要在未来晋级前30名，那么我们需要增加21%的经济总量。如果马来西亚能够继续增长6%以上，那么这个目标是可以完成的。

另外一个重要指标，就是马来西亚的全球竞争能力。1997年，我国的全球竞争能力一度排名全球14，目前滑落到27名。其中，最重要的是我们的教育体系、商业法律以及社会框架需要加强。除此之外，我们的人力资源发展指数也放眼从目前的62名提升到25名。我们都知道，人力资源是国家发展的基础，若人力资源发展不到位，将会直接削弱一个国家的经济发展。



目前留给安华团结政府时间不多。昌明经济政策如果落实，绿潮或许会随着生活好转而慢慢退潮。（图片来源：首相署脸书）

伴随着人力资源发展提升，提升劳动力工资占比将是水到渠成的事情。一个员工工资的增长，取决于员工本身的竞争能力以及经济环境。中国过去二十年工资上涨迅速，其中一个原因就是经济的迅速增长以及员工能力快速提升所致。安华的经济政策也在设法提升妇女的就业率，放眼从目前的55%增加到60%，这将协助更多家庭增加他们的家庭收入。

最后就是肃贪。这是安华政府一上台就打出的旗号。1997年，我国的清廉指数为29名，目前滑落至61名。贪腐已经成为经济增长的绊脚石。因此，安华政府的目标，就是提升我们的清廉指数到25名。这意味着，未来将会有大量政策上的调整和增加政府政策的透明度。这都会有效打击贪腐，并且也会对营商环境起到促进作用。

安华政府希望能够通过以上的政策提升人民的收入。过去25年，马来西亚经济陷入“中产收入陷阱”，这导致马来西亚年轻人工资偏低。目前，超过一半的24岁年轻人，每月工资是马币2250左右。这低工资状态让人民生活困难。因此，政府希望能够通过一系列的政策改革，提升马来西亚的经济增长，最后让马来西亚成为东南亚甚至东亚的经济强国。

昌明经济政策聚焦于打造新的工业蓝图、强调农业科技、提升回教金融的竞争力，力图把马来西亚打造成全球的回教金融中心。这一切都有助于马来西亚提升经济增长的能力。

绿潮发生的其中一个不容忽视的原因，就是年轻一代发觉工作机会不多，工资也不高，生活艰难。这一切导致很多年轻一代向宗教倾斜。每一天，新山有30万民工过海关到新加坡做马劳，就是一个很好的例子。

目前留给安华团结政府时间不多。昌明经济政策如果落实，绿潮或许会随着生活好转而慢慢退潮。

19 JANUARI 2023 | 26 JAM LAKHIR 1444H (KHAMIS)
PUSAT KONGRES ANWAR WANGSA PUTRAJAYA (PICC)



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIAMALAYSIAN ECONOMIC
STATISTICS REVIEW
VOL. 6/ 2023

PRODUCTION

Production of Fresh Fruit Bunches
(Oil Palm)May 2023: 7,686,113 tonnes ▲ 3.1%
Apr 2023: 6,102,439 tonnes ▼ -17.3%

Production of Natural Rubber

Apr 2023: 23,460 tonnes ▲ 3.4%
Mar 2023: 27,188 tonnes ▲ 10.8%

Industrial Production Index (IPI)

Apr 2023: ▼ -3.3%
Mar 2023: ▲ 3.2%Sales Value of Manufacturing
SectorApr 2023: RM145.0b ▼ -2.0%
Mar 2023: RM156.2b ▲ 8.0%Sales Value of Wholesale & Retail
Trade SectorApr 2023: RM136.0b ▲ 6.3%
Mar 2023: RM138.5b ▲ 11.9%

EXTERNAL SECTOR



Exports

May 2023: RM119.6b ▼ -0.7%
*Apr 2023: RM105.4b ▼ -17.4%
Mar 2023: RM129.7b ▼ -1.4%

Imports

May 2023: RM104.2b ▼ -3.3%
*Apr 2023: RM92.6b ▼ -11.1%
Mar 2023: RM103.0b ▼ -1.8%

* As published for the corresponding month

LABOUR MARKET



Number of Employed Persons

Apr 2023: 16.25 mil persons ▲ 2.5%
Mar 2023: 16.22 mil persons ▲ 2.9%

Unemployment Rate

Apr 2023: 3.5%
Mar 2023: 3.5%

PRICES



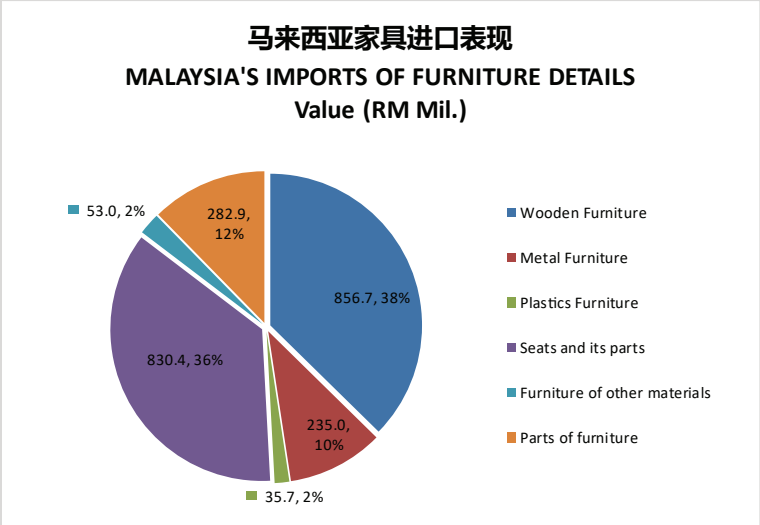
Consumer Price Index (CPI)

May 2023: ▲ 2.8%
Apr 2023: ▲ 3.3%
Mar 2023: ▲ 3.4%

Producer Price Index (PPI)

May 2023: ▼ -4.6%
Apr 2023: ▼ -3.0%
Mar 2023: ▼ -2.9%

MALAYSIA'S TOP 10 IMPORTS OF FURNITURE, BY COUNTRY							
马来西亚10大家具进口表现							
Data sorted by value of 2022							
As at 5.9.2023							
COUNTRY	2022 ^f		2022 (Jan-Jul) ^f		2023 (Jan-Jul) ^p		
	Value (RM Mil.)	Share %	Value (RM Mil.)	Share %	Value (RM Mil.)	Share %	Change %
TOTAL IMPORTS	4,751.6	100.0	3,010.0	100.0	2,293.7	100.0	-23.8
1 PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA 中国	3,272.3	68.9	2,070.2	68.8	1,267.0	55.2	-38.8
3 REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA 印尼	240.3	5.1	127.5	4.2	166.3	7.2	30.4
2 THAILAND 泰国	278.3	5.9	151.9	5.0	164.8	7.2	8.5
6 FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY 德国	128.2	2.7	63.2	2.1	122.5	5.3	93.7
4 JAPAN 日本	156.4	3.3	91.6	3.0	111.4	4.9	21.6
5 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 美国	135.6	2.9	60.6	2.0	88.4	3.9	45.8
8 ITALY 意大利	90.9	1.9	58.7	2.0	55.1	2.4	-6.2
9 POLAND 波兰	80.7	1.7	49.5	1.6	46.2	2.0	-6.6
7 SOCIALIST REP. OF VIETNAM 越南	123.3	2.6	75.8	2.5	40.8	1.8	-46.2
10 TAIWAN 台湾	73.4	1.5	46.1	1.5	26.4	1.2	-42.7



马来西亚10大家具出口表现							
MALAYSIA'S TOP 10 EXPORTS OF FURNITURE, BY COUNTRY							
Data sorted by value of 2022							
As at 5.9.2023							
COUNTRY	2022 ^f		2022 (Jan-Jul) ^f		2023 (Jan-Jul) ^p		
	Value (RM Mil.)	Share %	Value (RM Mil.)	Share %	Value (RM Mil.)	Share %	Change %
TOTAL EXPORTS	13,585.8	100.0	8,499.2	100.0	6,287.7	100.0	-26.0
1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 美国	7,237.2	53.3	4,681.2	55.1	2,720.0	43.3	-41.9
2 REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE 新加坡	1,005.5	7.4	534.2	6.3	719.4	11.4	34.7
3 AUSTRALIA 澳洲	659.7	4.9	372.7	4.4	390.8	6.2	4.9
4 JAPAN 日本	764.7	5.6	458.5	5.4	337.4	5.4	-26.4
5 UNITED KINGDOM 英国	433.5	3.2	252.9	3.0	242.2	3.9	-4.3
6 INDIA 印度	431.9	3.2	209.1	2.5	202.8	3.2	-3.0
7 CANADA 加拿大	380.2	2.8	232.9	2.7	192.9	3.1	-17.1
8 PHILIPPINES 菲律宾	316.9	2.3	159.1	1.9	169.8	2.7	6.7
9 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 阿联酋共和国	254.9	1.9	127.5	1.5	151.2	2.4	18.6
10 THAILAND 泰国	183.8	1.4	116.4	1.4	116.4	1.9	0.0

