



INNOVATION SINCE 1946

9200 SE Sunnybrook Boulevard
Suite 200
Clackamas, Oregon 97015

Phone: 503-228-7361
Toll Free: 800-824-3296
Fax: 503-221-1340

NEWS

Call or email for hi-res photo.

Contact: Timm Locke
(503) 546-7811
Timm@pipelineprm.com

Veneer wrapped components from Contact Industries offer Window and Door Product Designers seemingly endless possibilities

January 6, 2009, Portland, Ore. – Contact Industries' veneer profile wrapped components allows innovative window and door manufacturers a new opportunity to offer a broader array of options to a customer base that is increasingly demanding products that are unique and more flexible.

"In addition to competing with one another, window and door manufacturers compete for budget dollars with other product manufacturers for their place in the home – be it competition from kitchen appliances, countertops, bath and kitchen fixtures, or other amenities" says Peter Himes Contact Sales manager. "We are giving manufacturers the opportunity to aesthetically upgrade their standard products with unique species veneers through the use of profile wrapping, allowing windows to compete for builder and consumer mindshare at a higher level.

"Most window and door manufacturers have traditionally offered pine or Douglas fir windows," Himes continued. "With our profile wrapping capabilities, they can just as easily offer a much wider range of species, including cherry, alder, sapele, teak, and dozens of others."

According to Himes, many window manufacturers have attempted to broaden their species offerings by fabricating components out of solid wood but they've found the experience to be too cost-intensive, resulting in products with price points that cannot compete in today's market. Contact offers these same OEMs profile wrapped components utilizing the veneer species that are desired at a significantly lower price point than is possible with solids. "That's because we can run the profiles using multiple veneers all in the same run and we can ship mixed loads that mirror the customers' production levels for each species," Himes explained.

As an example, Himes said a particular customer might order a run of which 80 percent of the components are pine for use in the OEM's main product line, and the other 20 percent consists of a mix of four or five different species for use in product upgrades. As long as the components are all the same profile, Contact can accomplish that sort of order fulfillment with relative ease. "It gives our customers the opportunity to economically expand their species offerings nearly exponentially," Himes said. "Design with profile wrapped components in mind and we can give OEMs and their customers the design freedom they desire."

Contact already supplies both solid and profile-wrapped components to many window and door OEMs. The company is now simply extending this capability to provide wrapped components in more than 200 different veneer species, as well as a wide range of vinyls, foils and films.

The components can be engineered to each OEM's proprietary designs using a wide range of substrates including finger-jointed pine, aluminum, extruded vinyl, LVL, MDF, fiberglass or just about any combination of these materials. "Our goal is to work with the OEM's product design team to engineer components that will work seamlessly with the OEM's existing assembly system," Himes said.

In addition to simplifying manufacturing processes, Contact's veneer-wrapped components have the added benefit of environmental efficiency. By utilizing a thin veneer where formerly a solid piece of wood would have been used, Contact extends valuable clear wood resources by as much as 50 times over manufacturing processes based on solid wood.

Contact Industries is ISO-9001 certified and maintains quality control measures that are unmatched in the industry. Contact also has the ability to offer FSC chain of custody certification for its cores and veneers upon request. Components can be provided ready to assemble (RTA) and prefinished using a variety of paints, stains and topcoats with UV curing capability.

About Contact Industries:

Contact Industries' veneer wrapped solutions and advances in adhesive technology eliminate delamination concerns and allow their products to perform better than the solid woods they replace. Contact Industries is capable of wrapping any species of real wood veneer over profiles in almost any substrate, including metal, vinyl, fiberglass and a variety of wood composite materials. In addition to wood veneers, Contact is also capable of wrapping synthetics such as printed and embossed vinyls and impregnated cellulose over both wood and non-wood substrates. After completing an extensive accreditation process, Contact Industries was awarded Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) chain-of-custody certification. For more information, visit www.contactind.com or call 800.547.1038.

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