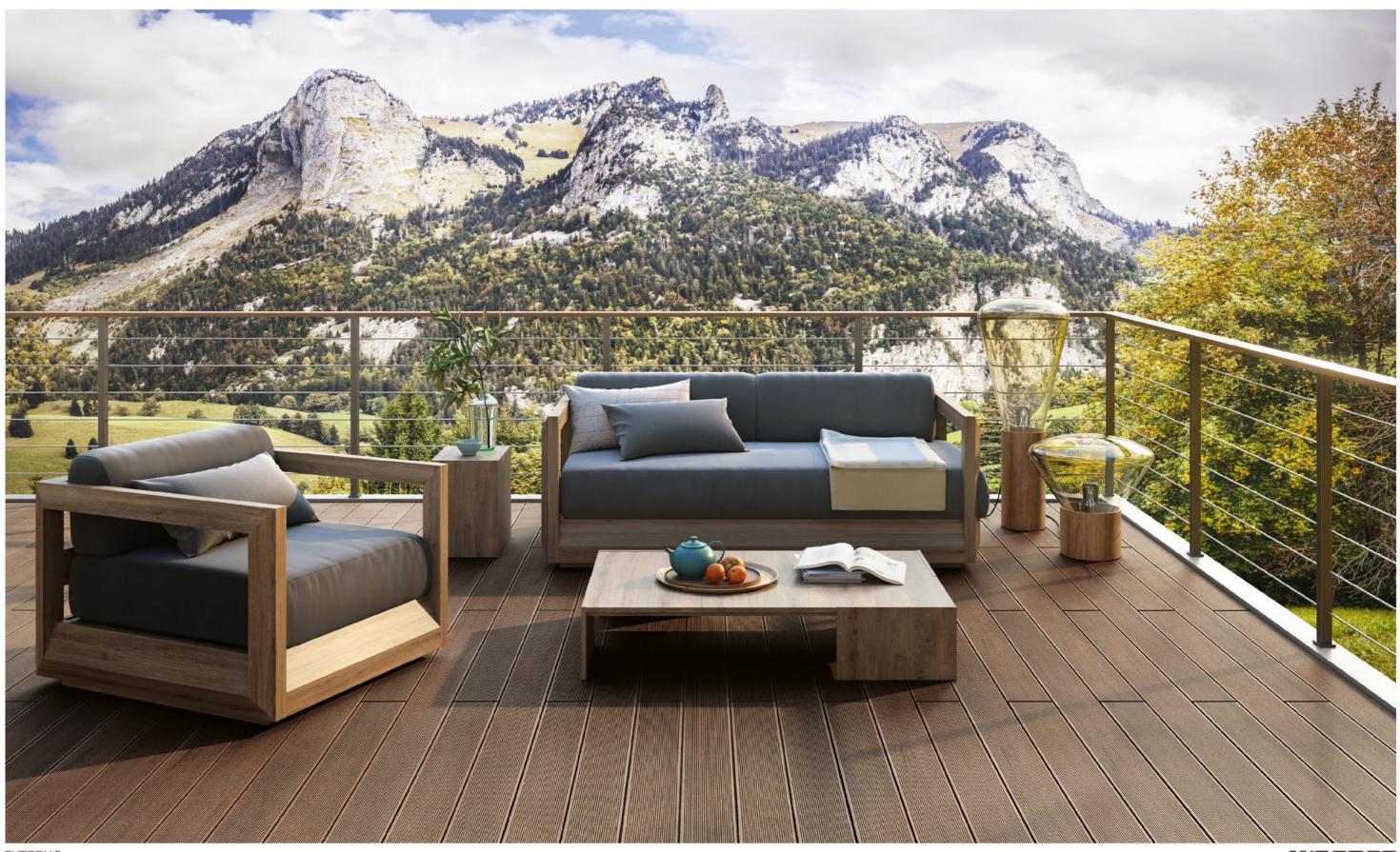
INTERNATIONAL

ILOVEPARQUET





NOOQ!







COVER BY Giacobazzi giacobazzilegno.it

4PUNTOZERO Srl Via Ressi, 28 - Milano Tel. +39 02 39265461 Fax +39 02 45497579 info@4puntozero.it

Editor in chief

Federica Fiorellini fiorellini@4puntozero.it

Editor

Davide Vemich vernich@4puntozero.it

Editorial staff

Anna Baroni, Franco Bulian, Tito Franceschini, Eleonora Mazzola. Chiara Merlini, Clara Peretti

Art Direction

Cremonesi & Co Srl info@robertocremonesi.it

Giuliana Garlaschelli garlaschelli@robertocremonesi.it

Advertisement Director

dorini@4puntozero.it

Accounting and Administration

Lara Papetti lara@4puntozero.it

Secretariat

Jacqueline Davis info@4puntozero.it







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Supplement to I LOVE PARQUET Magazine N. 38, April 2020

I LOVE PARQUET

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THE SKY IN A ROOM



I live in a fairly central area of Milan. I can see Boeri's Vertical Forest and the Library of trees. Years ago I chose to give up a few square metres (more than one!) in order to live here, in a popular, old quarter where small craft workshops obstinately continue to work and everyone more or less knows everyone else. I live in a period building with no garden or shared courtyard. I don't have a balcony or even a small bow window (this is a luxury reserved for the top floors).

To make up for it, I have a lot of windows which let in myriad pieces of sky. I've been working from home (like all the I Love Parquet staff) since 5th March, the day when the schools closed. Since that day (I'm writing mid way through April), I've left the house exactly 3 times, no more or less (I've been able to use efficient online food delivery services). My son, who is nine in a few days, hasn't even gone out those 3 times. In spite of all this, we feel very lucky.

There are loads of books in my house, I would say in every room. There are succulents, there is always a fresh flower. I eat, study and help my son do his homework. Every room has a wooden floor, including the bathroom. There's a designer lamp I lusted after for years. There are lots of little knick-knacks, including many snow globes found in the most

improbable places. I've thought a lot in these days (especially when the forced confinement seemed most unbearable), I've thought about what it would be like to live in a different house, maybe a bigger one, but that would not have felt so much mine. And how much more frustrating it would have been if I couldn't find something beautiful, something secure (wood? Certainly it counts). I am absolutely convinced that it is our moral duty to use this compulsory confinement (and the days following it) to rethink about the way the world is and how we want to live in it and to be. It would also be interesting to rethink our domestic living space. It will become an office, a study, a school, a digital platform more and more. We need to think of safer, more comfortable, more sustainable environments.





DOMOTEX asia/ **CHINAFLOOR**

National Exhibition and Convention Center - Shanghai

• 31 August - 2 September 2020 www.domotexasiachinafloor.com

DOMOTEX ASIA/ **CHINAFLOOR** ANNOUNCES THE **NEW DATES**

The organizers of DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR confirm that the leading flooring show in Asia Pacific will take place from August 31 to September 2, 2020 with a

total of 185,000 sqm gross space. With the new date. the exhibition gets also a new location: the National **Exhibition and Convention** Center (NECC), the largest exhibition center in Shanghai. The postponement of the original date (March 24-26) was necessary to protect the health and safety of exhibitors and visitors from the recent outbreak of the coronavirus in China. International visitors welcome the new dates since conveniently after the summer holidays and perfect restart of the second half of the year. Moreover, organizers research has shown that September is the month with most international visits to Chinese suppliers.



JOIN US AT NINDEX

INDEX

Dubai World Trade Centre United Arab Emirates

• 14 - 16 September 2020 indexexhibition.com

SOLUTIONS FOR **EVERY KIND OF** SURFACE

Surface materials are integral to interior design solutions, whether it's flooring, ceilings, wall coverings, textiles or innovative product solutions this is a key hub at INDEX. Over 2.3 trillion of dollars is spent in building the Middle East region's expansive construction projects. This is where the surface sector steps in, it is the region's premier platform for the flooring and contract surface

International suppliers of flooring, wall and ceiling solutions join INDEX to connect, network and engage with the industry and build their leads, customers, and revenue. 60% of INDEX visitors visit the exhibition to source surface materials, fixtures & fittings. This includes architects, consultants, contractors, and other industry specifiers. specifically working on creating interiors for some of the region's biggest construction projects across commercial, hospitality, healthcare, and residential

market.

PEDROSS DIE LEISTE · THE SKIRTING · IL BATTISCOPA Mounting skirtings has never been easier! Try our new fixing system! CLIPSTAR FAST













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SAIE Exhibition Ground BolognaFiere -Bologna, Italy • 14 - 17 October 2020 saiebologna.it

SAIE REINVENTS ITSELF

SAIE - the Building Fair. Design, construction, plant engineering - evolves and places the construction

system at the center of the event to confirm its role as a commercial, training and information meeting for all operators in the supply

An event that in the last edition involved more than 40,000 professionals and 10 delegations of foreign buyers, promoting networking and giving the opportunity to experience new products and technologies presented by 450 exhibitors.

Antonio Bruzzone, General

Manager of BolognaFiere.

"We're pursuing this



Cersaie 2020 Fiera di Bologna - Bologna • 9 - 13 November 2020 www.cersaie.it

CERSAIE 2020 WILL BE HELD IN BOLOGNA **FROM 9 TO 13 NOVEMBER**

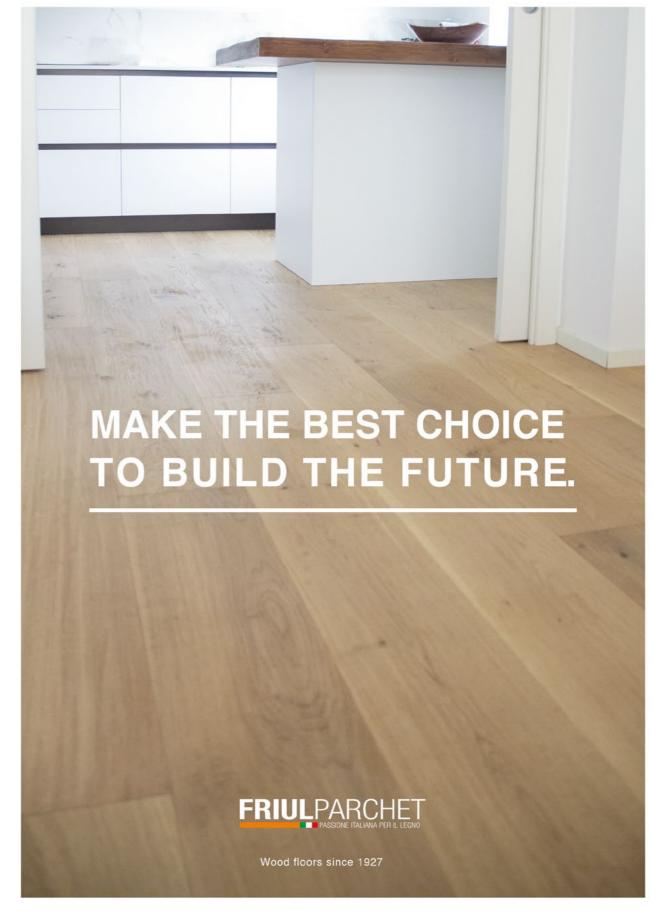
Cersaie 2020 is being moved to new dates and will adopt a safer, more engaging and more international exhibition format. The show will be held in the Bologna Exhibition Centre from 9 to 13 November and will maintain the events and appointments that have made it a global benchmark for the world of ceramic tile, bathroom furnishings, design and architecture. The exhibition has been pushed back by 42 days with respect to the original dates for several reasons. "The fact that we will have to live with COVID-19 for some time makes it essential to adopt European will be transformed into the protocols to keep exhibitors and visitors safe during their stay in Bologna," says

important goal at a national and European level while working alongside the institutions and trade associations to support companies during the economic recovery and boost the competitiveness of our industrial supply A second important factor was the need to ensure that the new Hall 37 will be ready following the shutdown of all construction work in Italy. The space available in this new hall will enable the various product categories to be reorganised while moving the bathroom furnishings sector to the heart of the exhibition centre. The entire Hall 18

Contract Hall and will host

leading companies from

new product categories.



It's been 15 years since we have started an awareness campaign focused on reforestation, from that moment our attention has been turned to eco-environmental problems and to the future of the green sources of our planet. Idea is very simple:

replant the same quantity of trees needed to produce our wood floors.





Xylexpo 2020 Fieramilano, Italy • 10 - 13 November xylexpo.com

XYLEXPO 2020, **NEW DATES FIXED**

This is the decision made by the Board of Directors of Cepra, the operating arm of Acimall, the Italian woodworking technology association, owners of the exhibition. So, the event will move away from the traditional date in May, due to the disruption caused by the Covid-19

pandemic across the entire planet.

"This is going to be a very different edition from those we have been used to, but it will allow the entire supply chain to meet again and look ahead, after missing a key event for wood and furniture technology", said president Lorenzo Primultini.



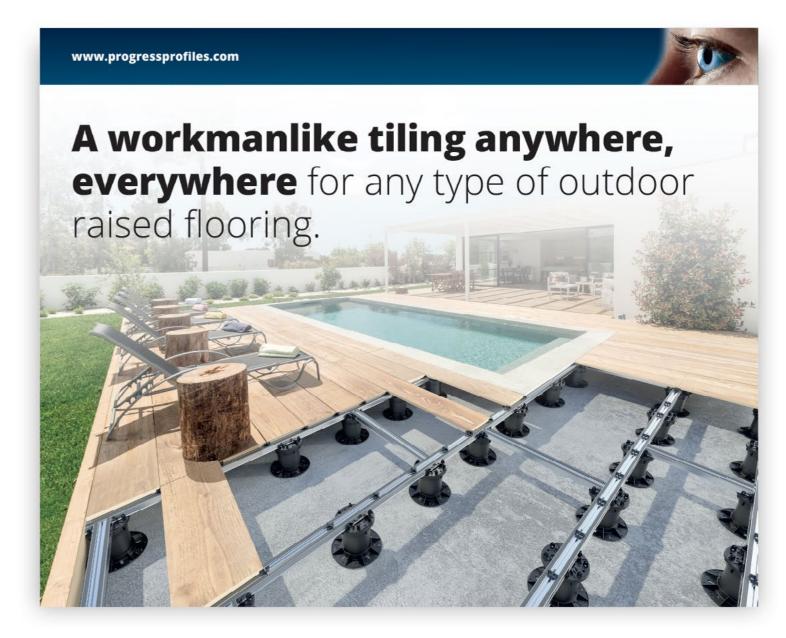
Salone del Mobile.Milano FieraMilano Rho, Milano, Italy • 13 - 18 April 2021 salonemilano.it

SALONE DEL MOBILE.MILANO POSTPONED TO 2021

The 2021 edition, which will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Salone, will be a special event for the entire sector. For the first time ever, all the biennial exhibitions will be held in conjunction with the Salone Internazionale del Mobile, the

Accessories Exhibition, Workplace3.0, S.Project and SaloneSatellite. This means that EuroCucina, FTK - Technology For the Kitchen and the International Bathroom Exhibition will also take place next year, along with Euroluce, which was already scheduled for 2021. This single, great sector-wide trade fair will represent a fresh opportunity to pull together to revitalise our businesses, the entire supply chain that works in synergy with the Salone, and Milan.

International Furnishing



PROSUPPORT **TUBE SYSTEM**



PROSUPPORT **SLIM SYSTEM**

















SOUTH EUROPEAN PARQUET MARKETS ALREADY SEVERELY HIT **BY THE COVID- 19 CRISIS**



The Board of Directors of the European Federation of the Parquet Industry met virtually on 2 April 2020 and discussed amongst others the parquet situation and the first impacts of the Covid-19 crisis on the European markets. A brief per country recap is provided in the table below.



AUSTRIA

The Austrian parquet sales significantly decreased by 10% during the first quarter 2020 compared to the first three months of 2019. Activity was good in January and February, but the market collapsed in March. Some companies have stopped activities, shops are closed or work on-line only.



BALTIC STATES

Baltic countries' parquet markets remained flat during the first quarter of the current year. Activities are so far continuing in these countries.



DENMARK

The Danish parquet market was flat during the first quarter 2020. Project market is still doing well while the retail shops have started to close with the crisis. People are nevertheless working a lot at home for refurbishing.



FINLAND

While the Finnish market does not seem to be hit by the crisis so far, starts of new (premium) buildings are declining. All in all, parquet sales were stable on the Finnish market during the first quarter 2020.



FRANCE

Compared to the first three months of 2019, parquet

consumption fell by 15 to 17% during the first quarter 2020. January and February were normal months of activity, but the French parquet market collapsed in March. All shops are closed. All factories have stopped their activities.



GERMANY

Parquet sales were flat (0 to -1%) in Germany during the first quarter 2020. The German market was stable until beginning of March which started well compared to 2019. Retail shops are now closed but DIY shops are open in most of the Lands. Companies and installers are still working.

Production and construction activities are continuing (with restrictions) for the time being.



ITALY

The Italian parquet market declined by 10% during the three first months of the current year. Activity in January was slow then Italy was the first European country hit by the crisis. All factories and shops are closed at least until mid-April and the comeback to normality will take time.



NORWAY

Data indicates that the Norwegian market remained flat during the three first months of 2020. Restrictive measures are not as strong as in the South of Europe, but Norwegian are staying at home and demand for

DIY products for refurbishment. such as paintings, is increasing. This does not concern parquet. Impacts of the unexpected weak Norwegian krone on the 2nd quarter's activity are difficult to predict at this stage.

Θ

SPAIN

Parquet consumption decreased slightly by 3 to 4% during the first quarter 2020 compared to the first quarter 2019. This slight decline is due to structural changes, such as the decrease of starting of new buildings, but does not reflect the current crisis as life is almost normal in Sweden: businesses and shops are open.



SWEDEN

Il consumo di parquet è calato tra il 3 e il 4%. Questo calo è dovuto a cambiamenti strutturali, come la contrazione dell'edilizia, ma non riflette l'attuale crisi europea. In Svezia la vita procede quasi regolarmente: imprese e attività commerciali rimangono aperte. Per ora.



SWITZERLAND

Data indicates that parquet consumption fell by 8% in Switzerland during the three first months of 2020. The Swiss market was stagnating before plunging the two last weeks of March. Construction sites are closed and activities reduced. The restriction measures are significantly tougher in the French speaking part of the country.







Rhinowood™ is the sustainable and innovative solution to the future of wood and its application in our world.

Rhinowood™ is distributed in Europe by Ravaioli Legnami: wooden solutions for outdoor. A world of quality and natural design.





COVERINGS REPORTS ATTENDANCE NUMBERS FOR ONLINE EVENT

Coverings released post-show attendance numbers and digital resources from Coverings Connected, which took place April 20 to 23.

The online digital experience was the first of its kind and provided nearly 4,000 industry professionals with four days of valuable educational webinars and online networking opportunities.

Attendees of Coverings Connected consisted of architects, designers, builders, remodelers, contractors,



installers, distributors, fabricators, retailers, and others spanning the global tile and stone industry.

Attendees of Coverings Connected, and those who were not able to attend, can engage with 900+ exhibitors through organized online exhibitor galleries and the new product showcase.

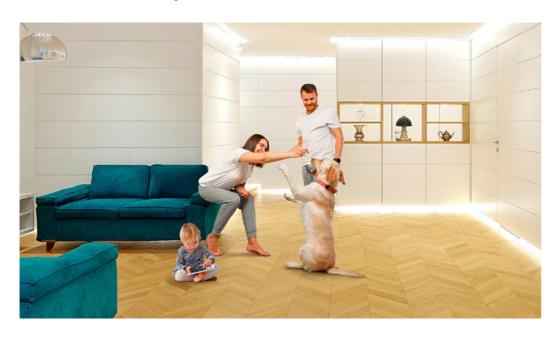
SILVER DEFENCE BY GARBELOTTO

To guarantee more and more safety and hygiene inside our homes, Garbelotto has decided to use the new Silver Defence paint with antibacterial action on all lines including the patented Clip Up System ® system at no additional cost so as to always be innovative and close to the needs of our customers who at this moment of emergency, due to the Covid-19 virus, pay more and more attention to the healthiness of the home environment.

The antibacterial sanitizing varnish is CATAS certified and helps to reduce the population of bacteria by 99.9% in just 24 hours, when they come into contact with the silver ions. Thanks to mixture of the water-based finish, the Silver Defence sanitizing characteristics

maintain their effectiveness forever, respecting the already appreciated final characteristics of our finishes: hardness, opacity, colour stability, soft touch, chemical and mechanical resistance.

In addition, Silver Defence is suitable for environments that require high hygienic standards such as medical workplaces, restaurants, bakeries, swimming pools, saunas, children's rooms, bathrooms, etc... but it is an added value to any environment! The antibacterial action will last over the years and will be exhausted only when the parquet is refinished. All Garbelotto cleaning and maintenance products are compatible with the sanitizing varnish and do not interfere in its daily antibacterial action.







Long lasting renovation without sanding down or replacing the floor

- Multi-surfaces: all wood floor finishes, laminated floors and PVC, vinyl, LVT floors
- Conceals scratches*, revives tarnished floors
- Single coat system
- Perfect adhesion, excellent grip, without primer
- High chemical and scratch-resistance
- 2-component with hardener

*Surface wear & tear: regular use and small scratches









NWFA RESPONSIBLE PROCUREMENT PROGRAM ACCEPTED INTO NAHB **STANDARD**

The National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA) Responsible Procurement Program (RPP) has been accepted into the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) new ICC 700-2020 National Green Building Standard (NGBS).

The NGBS ensures that homes are healthy, efficient, and sustainable, and is the most utilized third-party residential green building certification program in the United

Participating manufacturer members of the NWFA RPP include Sheoga Hardwood Flooring, AHF, Anderson Tuftex, Mohawk, Mannington, Mullican and Shaw.

UPDATED COVID-19 DEROGATION FOR CERTIFICATION BODIES

Given the recent developments around the global outbreak of COVID-19 and increasing travel restrictions, FSC has updated the derogation that allows certification bodies unable to conduct on-site audits to either postpone the audit or replace it with desk audits. In the press release FSC declares: "FSC is aware that desk audits cannot fully replace on-site audits, but we see this derogation as justified in the current situation: Our priority is to protect the health of staff of certification bodies and certificate holders, and to support global measures to minimize the spread of the virus. To mitigate the difference in audit intensity and enable us to monitor the situation, we are setting up additional reporting requirements for the CBs. With the flexible audit options, we aim to assure certificate holders

that they need not be concerned of losing their certification status because auditors and staff are unable to conduct on-site audits in these challenging times. Additional information can be found in the amended FSC derogation (FSC-DER-2020-001). A new auditor requirement derogation (FSC-DER-2020-004) is also published, including regulations concerning auditor qualification and continuous auditor qualification. Both derogations are valid to 31 December."









TUTORIAL **SMART INSTALLATION**

SCAN O GO TO

BALANCE SUPPORTS
AUTOMATICALLY ADJUST THE LAYING SURFACE'S **SLOPE UP TO 5%**

PEDESTAL LINE

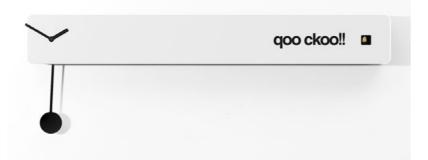
SELF-LEVELLING SUPPORTS HIGH FROM 10 TO 1020 MM FOR RAISED FLOORS IN TILE AND DECKING 100% ECO-SUSTEINABLE ITALIAN PRODUCTION

MEET US AT CERSAIE (28/09 - 02/10) BOLOGNA ITALY

OH MY

Cuckoo

Q02 is the first clock that doesn't follow the trend of cuckoo clocks with a traditional birdhouse that have symbolised these type of clocks for years. The Q02 cuckoo function is displayed by a simple coloured horizontal or vertical line which is both innovative and effective. The pendulum and the writing 'coo ckoo!!', which give the idea of a little cuckoo bird, complete the clock.





Remo Wood

Remo is a plywood chair that merges the producer's artisanal heritage with the latest manufacturing technologies. The chair's defining feature, the T-shaped backrest, is made possible through a sophisticated interlocking joint that attaches the curved seat to the horizontal back rest. This two-piece construction results in an ultra light but strong shell which offers exceptional comfort.

plank.it

Craftwand

Craftwand is an intelligent and modular wall system crafted from massive and untamed wood easy to build up and highly functional. The modular nature of the system means that as workspace demands change, the wall can be easily taken down and repositioned without the significant mess associated with typical drywall demolition and repair. The system also integrates invisibly standard electrical, communication, and pc wiring. craftwand.info



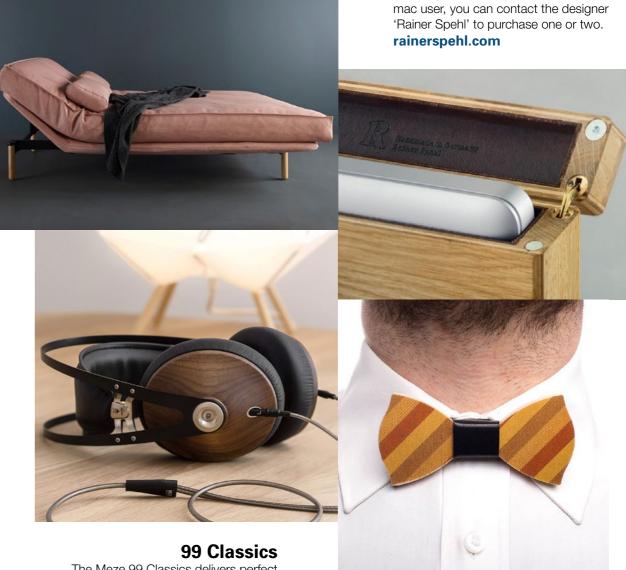
Sofa bed

Ample Frej is a simple and curious sofa bed for multiple scenarios and settings. A gorgeous eye-catcher that has smooth and clear shapes characterizing the Danish design while buttons in seat and back intensify a modern and stunning mattress featuring the iconic Innovation Living three levels of a split back vertical, rest and horizontal.

innovationliving.com

Laptop Case

This wooden laptop case looks rigid and strong. Designed for Apple MacBook and MacBook Pro 15-inch, features leather and magnetic closing device. If you're a mac user, you can contact the designer 'Rainer Spehl' to purchase one or two.



The Meze 99 Classics delivers perfect natural sound even to the pickiest of audio lovers. The walnut wood earcups, soft earpads, and the spring steel headband will make the 99 Classics an heirloom rather than just a pair of headphones.

mezeaudio.com

Smart working

Handcrafted wooden bow tie, for formal meetings, but not too much.

ellys.it

22







Getting to know timber: Millettia stuhlmannii

Panga panga timber, from the tree which grows in the south-east of Africa, is very similar to Wengè, so those who are not expert can easily confuse the two species. Let's get to know it together.

GIANNI CANTARUTTI



Mpangapanga (as it is known in Swahili) is a tree which grows in part of south-east Africa (Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda and Ruanda). Its timber is quite heavy (about 800kg/mc dried to 12%), dark brown in colour with black stripes (after surface treatment with oil, in time it becomes all black).

It's a medium sized tree, sought after for its timber for decades, especially by the English, who use it in many different ways.

The tree is of medium size (between 6 and 25 metres high, although some have reached 35 metres with a diameter of 1.2 metres). It can therefore be used for general furnishings and floors, especially outdoors as it is not susceptible to fungi, termites or other timber parasites (xylofagi). It is also used to make musical instruments like acoustic guitars or the bodies of electric guitars.

Panga panga timber is very like that of Wengè (Millettia laurentii) from Central African countries. So it is easy for the less expert to confuse the two.

PROCESSING

Panga panga does not lend itself easily to conventional processing as it is highly porous. It therefore needs a special finish.

In the past it was widely used in Italy in the flooring sector along with Mecrusse and Muhuhu timbers, which come from the same areas. Drying must be preceded by good seasoning, both at the source and in the warehouse of its final users, to guarantee the stability and long life of the final products.

Nowadays, Panga panga is coming back as there are very few darkcoloured or nearly black timbers on the market, because of their scarcity in the areas where they grow (I'm thinking of Ebony, Rosewood and Swartzia). Its timber can also be found with Forest Stewardship Council certification, which guarantees the sustainability of the species. In its countries of origin, Panga panga is not used only for its timber. Local populations may, for example, use the bark for medicines or for "witchcraft". This timber at the moment is at the medium high end of the market among highly prized timbers like black walnut, widely used in various situations.





ILOVEPARQUET

ITLAS: A WAY OF LIFE

Itlas Spa was born from a very clear choice, for itself and the final consumer: an eco-friendly project with all guarantees.
People who choose Itlas floors and boiserie are sure to carve themselves an active position in the safeguard of the environment.



A floor without transitions. The new Flex processing technology enables us to bend planks so far that we can achieve radii of up to 360°. This can be used to create a continuous symbiosis between flooring and furniture or wall cladding. What's especially innovative is the way that this flooring is liberated from the horizontal plane, opening up new areas of application without imposing a transitional separation from the floor itself. This means that the planks can run up from the floor without any interruption and be used as table tops, kitchen counters, or wall covering. [mafi.com]

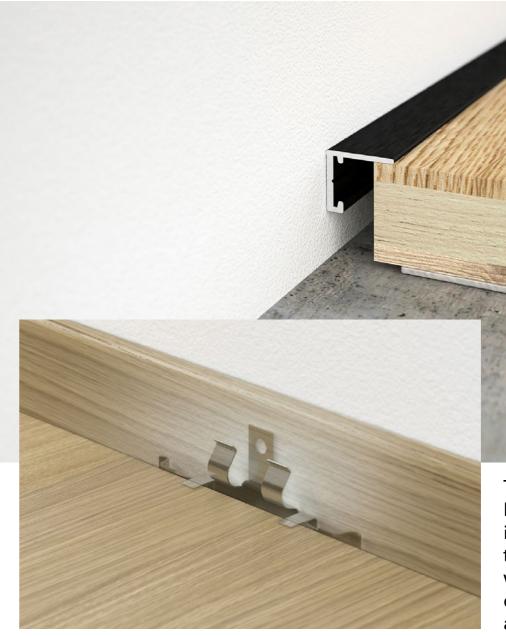


All the wooden floors produced by Garbelotto can be used as walls, ceilings and, why not, also as furnishing accessories, creating a continuum between furniture and floor, thanks to the possibility of having the same wood species and surface finish . Creating impactful and creative.





EASY AND SMART



With the new, patent-pending clip system **Clipstar Fast**, skirting boards can be mounted five times faster and completely tool-free.

The familiar Pedross Clipstar milling guarantees invisible fixing and is suitable for all standard skirting profiles (40-100mm height and 14-22mm thickness).

Thanks to the practical spring effect, even installation on floating floors and in dry construction is not a problem. Unpleasant drill holes and dirt are a thing of the past thanks to the innovative fastening system.

The new Pedross **Smartline** also meets modern customer requirements.

It is a small and elegant end-profile, which was awarded twice the highest distinction "Best of the Best" in the areas of "Product Design" and "Innovative Products" at the international Red Dot Design Award. And all this, of course, not without a reason!

The skirting producer Karl Pedross AG based in Laces - Italy presents two new products that will make the mounting of your skirting boards as easy as never before

Due to the innovative mounting system, it can be installed without tools and without visible fixing points. The new mini-skirting is available in four different sizes, is suitable for floor thicknesses starting from 5mm and is suitable for connection joints between 4mm and 12mm

Irregularities in the wall can be easily compensated with the additionally attached mounting clips.

More info at: **pedross.com**

ILOVEPARQUET

ALMA BY GIORIO

style of the owners.

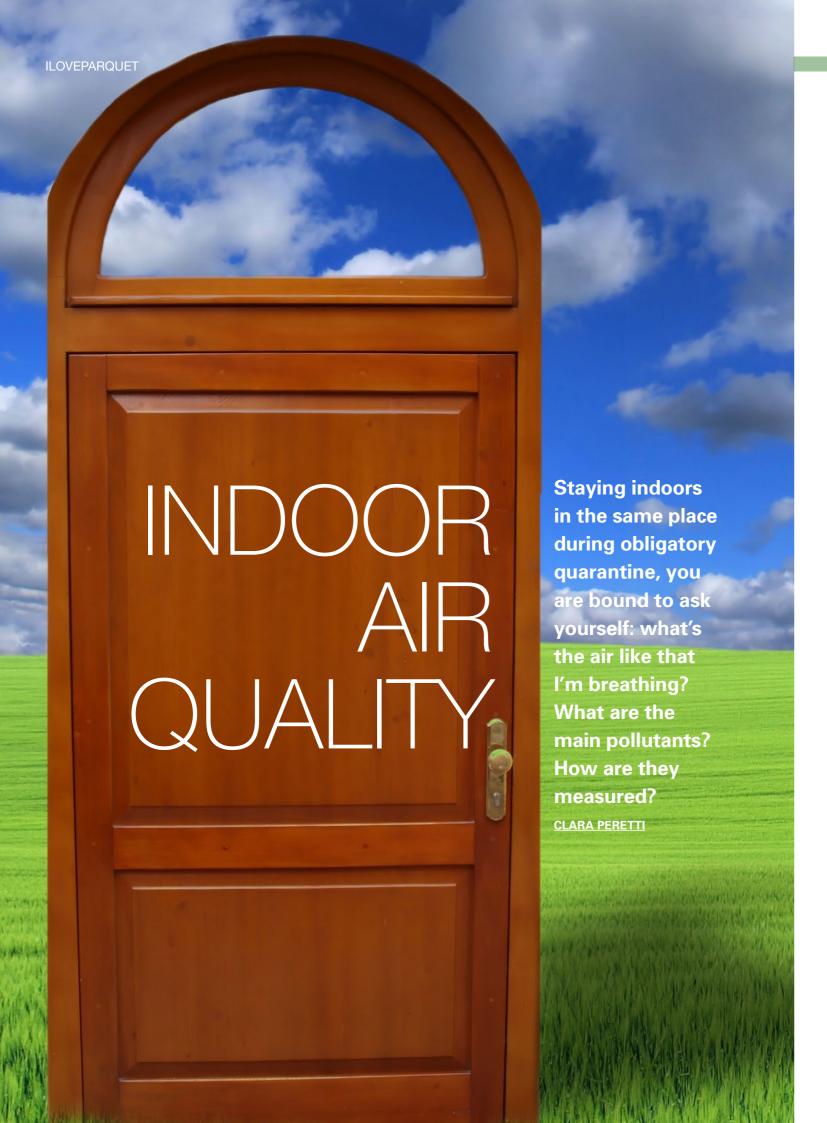
The boiserie, now back in fashion, has the ability to transform an anonymous room into

a welcoming and original environment. Today

we also find very modern wood paneling, with

different surfaces depending on the taste and

Alma boiserie can be made with the same





Buzz words for recent and future weeks are smartworking, flexible working, smart schooling, smart learning. Whether you work or study the common denominator is the place where you carry out the activity, your own house or apartment, the place where you live. If you spend many hours in the same indoor environment, you are bound to wonder: what's the air quality like? What are the possible sources of pollution? What are the indicators? What can I do to improve this?

AIR QUALITY

A comfortable temperature and the quality of the air are the basics for guaranteeing well-being and health for occupants for various reasons:

• Because they have an effect on people's health

- Because they affect productivity
- Because more and more people are demanding greater levels of comfort and safety in the environment.

Indoor air has been considered an important environmental factor for more than a hundred years, since the beginning of the hygiene revolution which started about 1850 and became a dominant topic in the 60s. Nowadays Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) plays a fundamental role in public health

Air quality depends both on the pollutants which accumulate indoors and on the substances which enter from outside and accumulate inside. Indoor air pollution therefore also depends on the quality of the air around a building. For example, it

there is a lot of traffic nearby, particle concentration (like PM10 and PM 2.5) will be higher.

Poor air quality can also be caused by the wrong management, maintenance, planning or installation of air conditioning and central heating. But the presence of "spoiled" air in an environment can also depend on bad habits.

Even when there are no external polluting factors, indoor air quality gets

CLARA PERETTI

Self-employed Engineer, with a studio in Bolzano. Q-RAD Secretary General: Italian Consortium of Producers of Quality Radiating Systems. Italian expert in CEN TC 130-WG9 and ISO TC 205-WG8 worse the more people there are in a closed space for a prolonged period of time

INDOOR POLLUTANTS

Air is mainly made up of gases like oxygen (21%), nitrogen (78%), argo (1%) and carbon dioxide (0.04%). The concentration of impurities in the outside air is variable, but is generally lower than the contaminants produced by man indoors.

Contaminants which cause particular problems indoors are tobacco smoke, radon and formaldehyde. The table at the side shows the sources of pollutants and their causes.

Parameters to define air quality
One important thing to establish
for defining air quality is the unit of
measurement.

The concentration of polluting gases in the air is normally expressed in:

- Ppm: parts of pollutant per million parts of air. 1 ppm = 1000 ppb
- Ppb: parts of pollutant per billion parts of air. 1 ppb = 1/1000 ppm
- Mg/m³: milligrams of pollutant per cubic metre of air
- Mg/m³: micrograms of pollutant per cubic metre of air.

SOURCES OF INDOOR POLLUTION AND THEIR CAUSES

MATERIALS

Sources of pollution may be: solvents, mineral fibres, earth (radon gas), Pesticides, indoor fittings and furnishings (flooring, adhesives, carpets, covers, paints, varnishes, colours).

CONSTRUCTION

Planning and construction of buildings which have not been carefully done can affect the quality of indoor spaces. The following aspects should be thoroughly researched: hermetic sealing, energy saving and ventilation.

OCCUPANTS

Contaminants can be introduced through the occupants' activities (like, for example, cooking,) humidity, tobacco smoke, photocopying, cleaning products, organic compounds, particles.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

Humidity and mould, radon gas, gas emissions and pollutants from outside.

MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The IAQ can worsen through poor building maintenance and checks and incorrect environmental management.

The main indicator of air quality is the concentration of CO₂, which is usually measured in ppm. Carbon dioxide is an odourless, colorless gas. It is not toxic in itself, but it is not breathable. Breathing in an atmosphere with a high CO₂ content produces an acid taste in the mouth and irritates the nose and throat. This is because it reacts with water to form carbonic acid.

Carbon dioxide has a density at room temperature and pressure of about one and half times that of air. It therefore tends to settle at lower levels in closed unventilated spaces. There are other very important parameters which need expensive measuring instruments with a high accuracy in analysing and interpreting data. These are, for example, VOC (volatile organic compounds), dusts (PMX, where x is substituted by a number representing the size of the dusts), radon and formaldehyde.

MEASURING AND MANAGING AIR QUALITY IN YOUR OWN HOME

Nowadays, there is a huge quantity of dataloggers, screenings and electronic control units for indoor analysis.

Through measuring CO₂, occupants can manage their own living quarters better by opening windows and doors or, if they have one, using a controlled mechanical ventilation system.

With reference to CO2 levels, below there are some notes extracted from the UNI EN 16798-1 norm, which defines levels of CO2 concentration according to the category of the indoor environment:

- At a concentration in the environment of less than 1000 ppm. Windows and doors can be kept closed;
- When the concentration exceeds 1250 ppm, open the windows;
- When the concentration exceeds 1800 ppm, open windows and doors to circulate the air.

Wood. Dance to a different tune.



In defence of the original.

Wood used in building comes from forests with controlled timber felling. It is a completely renewable material which requires very low levels of energy in the production processes. A wood fl oor helps to maintain an ideal micro-climate inside the house, softens the falls of those just learning to walk and can be restored an infi nite number of times.

Choose a wood floor.
Sounds like music to your ears?



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ILOVEPARQUET THE FEP PAGES

Parquet plays a positive role for the environment





A New Circular Economy Action Plan to implement the EU Green Deal. FEP's position and (re) actions

BY EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF THE PARQUET INDUSTRY

A second EU Circular
Economy Action Plan has
been issued on 11 March. It
is one of the main initiatives
derived from the Green
Deal adopted by the EU
Parliament mid-January
2020. The first Circular
Economy Action Plan dated
from 2015.

The aim of the Action Plan 2.0 is to accelerate the transformational change required by the EU Green Deal's main objective to reach carbon neutrality by 2050.

Products will have to be sustainable, meaning durable but also designed for reuse, repair and high-quality recycling. The final goal being to reduce waste

as much as possible and to develop a functioning market for secondary raw materials of high quality.

THE MOST RELEVANT INITIATIVES FOR THE PARQUET SECTOR

Here are the most relevant

initiatives of the new Circular Economy Action Plan for the Parquet sector.
First of all, a Sustainable Product Policy Legislative Initiative will be launched in 2021. The aim of the initiative is to design sustainable products as up to 80% of products' environmental impacts are determined at the design phase.
Mandatory and voluntary initiatives already exist:

standardisation, Ecodesign Directive, EU EcoLabel, Green Public Procurement (GPP). These will have to be broader in scope and more coherent – there is so far no comprehensive set of requirements to ensure sustainability and circularity. The Ecodesign Directive will concern other products than energy-related ones as it is presently the case. Sustainability principles will be as follows:

 Improving products' durability, reusability, upgradability and repairability while adressing the presence of hazardous chemicals and increasing energy and resource efficiency; Increasing recycled content in certain products while ensuring performance and safety;

RESOURCES

- Enabling remanufacturing and high-quality recycling;
- Reducing carbon and environmental footprints;
- Restricting single-use and premature obsolescence;
- Introducing a ban on the destruction of unsold durable products;
- Incentivising product-as-aservice;
- Rewarding products based on their environmental performance.

In addition, circularity will be further promoted through

the Industrial Emissions
Directive in the Best
Available Techniques (BATs)
benchmark, but also by
supporting sustainable and
circular bio-based sector
through the implementation
of the Bioeconomy Action
Plan

The focus will be on several areas of activity including construction (representing 50% of all extracted materials, 35% of EU's total waste, and 5-12% of total national GHG emissions). A Strategy for a Sustainable Built Environment will be launched in 2021 aiming at ensuring coherence between policies: climate, energy, resource efficiency, waste management of



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EU FOREST-BASED INDUSTRIES 2050:

A vision of sustainable choices for a climate-friendly future

Construction & Demolition, digitalisation and skills. The Strategy will:

- Adress sustainability performance of construction products in the context of the revision of the Construction Products Regulation (CPR), including recycled content requirements for certain products.
- Use LEVEL(S) to integrate Life Cycle assessment in Public Procurement and the EU sustainable finance framework. The appropriatness of setting carbon reduction and

- carbon storage targets will be evaluated.
- Set material recovery targets for Construction & Demolition waste.

Furthermore, the Renovation Wave announced by the Green Deal, will look at energy efficiency in line with circularity principles including optimised life cycle performance and longer-life expectancy.

It worth noting that the new Action Plan recognises the possibility of storing carbon in wood construction and products.

ABOUT FEP

The European Federation of the Parquet Industry (FEP) reunites European national parquet federations, parquet manufacturers and suppliers to the industry. It is the main body representing and defending the interests of the European parquet industries at all relevant levels. The activities of FEP are situated in the areas of raw material supply, production, market and internal affairs. Typical examples of work items are: The collection of market data in FEP territory and beyond; The follow-up of relevant European legislation and standardisation; The publication of newsletters; The organisation of an annual European Parquet Congress; The initiation of market research related to parquet flooring; The promotion of personal contact and communication amongst its members.

parquet.net

FEP'S POSITION AND (RE) ACTIONS ON THESE EU INITIATIVES

Once again, FEP highlights that the Parquet industry is already supporting the EU Green Deal's and Circular Economy Action Plan's objectives by offering a longlife, circular product which substitutes energy- and/or fossil- intensive materials. The wood flooring sector hopes that the CO2 savings through carbon storage into long-life products it proposes, as well as its sustainable management of forests and the carbon sink they represent, will be fully and tangibly recognised by the EU in the implementation of the proposed measures, including in the potential regulatory framework for certification of carbon removals (2023) and the EU taxonomy regulation. To further highlight the positive role played by wood and wood products, the European Forest-Based Industries (F-BI) have developed their Vision 2050: "EU Forest-Based Industries 2050: A vision of sustainable choices for a climate-friendly future"

The Vision covers the entire EU-wide value chain of forest-based products, from forest owners and managers to transformation industries. as well as research and development. It focuses on forest-based solutions, how they help meeting the emerging expectations of the European citizens and play an essential role in contributing to the new EU carbon neutrality target. The F-BI see themselves becoming the most competitive and sustainable provider of net-zero carbon solutions.FEP has been

involved in the preparation of this Vision and is one of the supporting organisations. The Vision has been communicated to relevant European Commissioners and Members of Parliament asking for its translation into operational actions and measures.

On the other hand, FEP as well as the woodworking industries in general and the construction sector have to underline weaknesses currently present at EU level. The Single Market is of utmost importance to translate policies into concrete actions throughout the EU and beyond. Unfortunately, the present lack of functioning of this Single Market, the uncertainties regarding the future of the Construction Products Regulation (CPR) and the related harmonised standards & CE-marking are not the least of worries for our sectors.

Additionally, although it

is right now impossible to predict when activities will restart and how consumption will then evolve, it is obvious that the Covid-19 crisis will have long-term and significant impacts on the European economy and industry. A truly functioning Single Market is one of the numerous policies that should, more than ever, be unified at EU level and coherent throughout Europe in the context of the relaunch of the economy now and once the crisis will fade away. FEP is also hoping that the EU will base its recovery strategy on the general principles set by the Green Deal & the new Circular Economy Action Plan.

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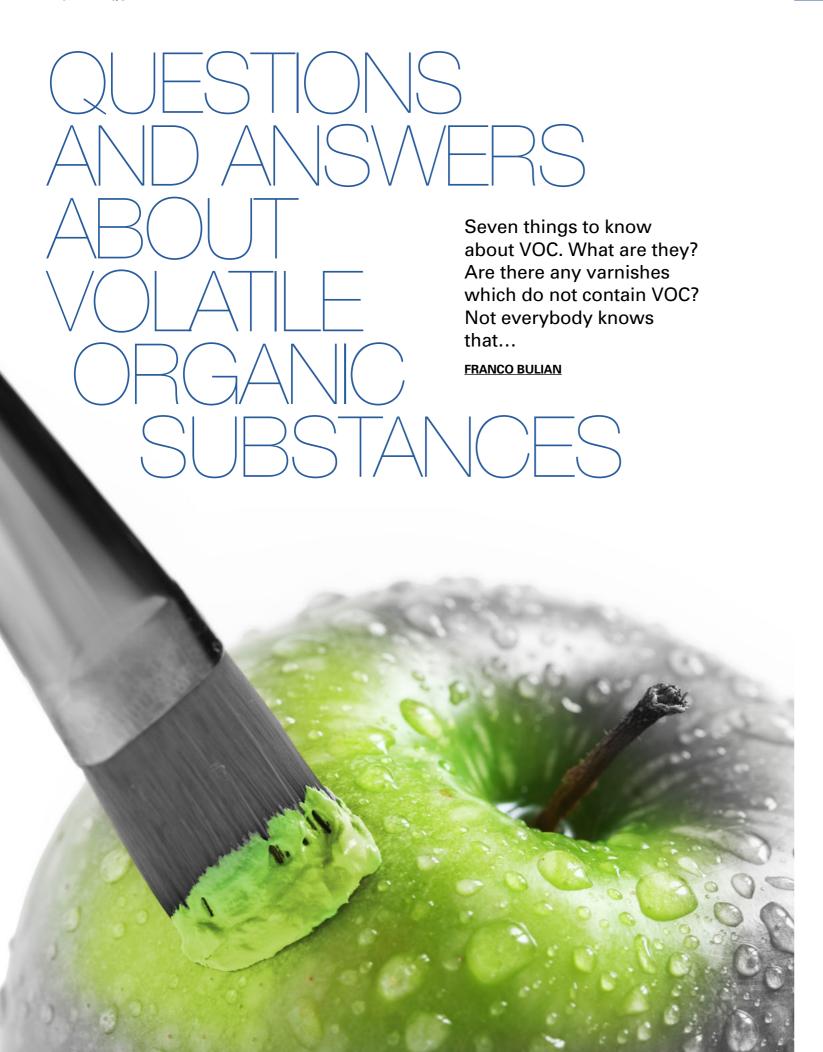
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WHAT ARE VOLATILE ORGANIC SUBSTANCES, OR VOS?

VOS is the acronym for volatile organic substances, sometimes also called VOC (volatile organic compounds), particularly in English. Organic substances are those which contain at least one carbon atom in their molecule. 'Volatile' means that, in normal conditions, they are liquids, but they have the tendency to become gaseous (to evaporate) very easily. There are two definitions of VOC in the world of varnishes. The first, in legislative decree 152, states that all those substances which at 20°C have a vapour pressure greater than 0.01 kPa are to be considered VOC. The second definition, in decree 161, states that VOC are all those substances which have a boiling point at less than 250°C.

2 IS IT TRUE THAT VOLATILE ORGANIC SUBSTANCES CAN BE REPLACED BY OTHER ORGANIC SOLVENTS WHICH ARE NOT CLASSIFIED AS VOC?

We need to be very careful and to understand this concept well, we have to understand what is meant by vapour pressure. Let's imagine an experiment where we put a volatile organic substance in an empty box at a temperature of 20°C. Some of the substance in the box will immediately start to evaporate and will do this more quickly depending on the volatility of the substance itself.

As it is in a closed space,

at a certain point there will be a balance between the molecules of the liquid which evaporate and those which return from the evaporated phase and become liquid again. Under these conditions, the pressure which the vapour exerts on the box walls is called vapour pressure. The abovementioned decree states that all substances whose vapour pressure is greater than 0.01kPa, are classified as VOC, however at 20°C (293.15 K)! If, in the above experiment, we increase the temperature in the box, the substance inside evaporates more easily and the vapour pressure therefore increases. Thus, if we acquire a varnish which contains liquid substances not classified as 'volatile' at 20°C, but which

3 ARE SOLVENTS AND THINNERS THE SAME THING?

Not exactly. The term

we then dry using an oven at

50°C, we risk not following

the regulations as the decree

tells us that 'volatility' is also

evaluated on the basis of the

particular conditions of use

of any substance.

'solvent' encompasses the idea of 'dissolving', while a thinner is something which dilutes the concentration and consequently the density of a liquid.

Different volatile organic substances are distinguished by these two effects. In relation also to the characteristics of the solute, or in the case of varnishes, to the type of resin.

Therefore there are VOC which reduce the density of

a varnish better than others

and their use may render the varnishing process more efficient, especially in environmental terms. In practical terms, a varnish can be applied using less thinner if you choose the right one obviously.

4 ARE THERE ANY VARNISHES WITHOUT VOC? (VOC=0)

With some special exceptions, all varnishes contain VOC, including water based ones, even if in a lower quantity. As we have already said the resins in varnishes need to be diluted to produce a film on the surface to which they are applied as well as dilution making it easier to apply them.

Water can only play a secondary role in that it is not able to dilute the resins with which varnishes are made. So, a little solvent always, even in water based products.

ARE THERE VARNISHES WHICH HAVE SUCH A LOW VOC CONTENT THAT THEY ARE CLASSIFIED AS NONTOXIC?

The CLP (classification, labelling and packaging of chemical substances) European regulation states that terms such as 'nontoxic' or 'ecological' should not be used. Therefore within the European Union there should be no varnishes carrying this wording.

IS IT TRUE THAT

WATER VARNISHES,
CONTAINING FEWER VOC,
ARE LESS DANGEROUS
THAN SOLVENT
VARNISHES?

The term 'dangerous' is very vague. First of all, we have to understand what the possible risks of using a varnish are, after the production phase. For simplicity, we can subdivide the risks into three categories on the basis of the impacts which the varnishes may in theory have:

- a. Risks for workerssolvents are directly responsible for many health risks. Water and photocrosslinkable (UV) varnishes contain fewer solvents and are therefore considered to be less dangerous for workers.
- b. Environmental risks In this case too, a lower risk of emissions means water and UV varnishes are much better than solvent ones.
- c. Risks for the final user - this is not easy to evaluate. Emissions of organic substances from the finished product depend on many factors such as: The quantity of VOC initially present in the varnish, the type of VOC ('light' or 'heavy'), the quantity of varnish applied and the method of drying. Water varnishes certainly contain fewer VOC than solvent ones, but they are generally 'heavier', that is, they evaporate more slowly. The combination of all these factors is not easily defined and therefore the only possibility is to have data and values from laboratory tests.

7 IS IT TRUE THAT NATURAL VARNISHES DO NOT CONTAIN VOC?

The first thing is to be clear that there is no totally accepted definition of natural varnish. There are various types of these products on the market including those which are called 'natural' simply for the effect they produce on a surface. In this wide range, there are even some types of varnishes which have a VOC content of over 50%. It is true that these substances may come from natural sources (natural turpentine for example), but from the point of view of emissions, there is little difference. Existing regulations consider them as volatile organic substances anyway.

CATAS AND VOLATILE ORGANIC SUBSTANCES

Catas looks at the subject of volatile organic substances from all angles, starting from a chemical analysis of the raw materials. The qualitative and quantitative assessment of solvents in varnishes, adhesives and other products for the wood-furnishing sector is carried out using gas chromatography analysis for which they have a certified laboratory (EN ISO 11890-2).

On the subject of "content", Catas is able to determine the photoinitiators and the residual monomers in the film of a dry varnish.

This test, which is principally used on UV varnishes, is carried out using a specially designed, validated analysis protocol to satisfy the specific needs of the market. The other topic regarding volatile organic substances is that of emissions from raw materials and from the finished products. Catas is certified for this also under the norms EN ISO 16000-6/9and EN 15516. For these tests, Catas can also give a declaration of conformity to the minimum Italian environmental criteria (CAM), to

French law or to other specific criteria.



Finally, Catas can carry out analyses on the concentration of volatile organic substance in work environments as well as everyday ones (offices, schools, homes etc.). Demand for the latter type of research is growing noticeably and for this reason Catas has developed special procedures for short term and long term studies for a complete, exhaustive evaluation of these problems.