

China Wood International Inc



# CHINA WOOD BASED PANEL

INDUSTRY  
REPORT

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## China's Fiberboard Production and Export Increased a Lot

**W**ood based panel industry in China develops very well in these years. With 10 years continuous increase in output, China is now a net exporter of wood based panel. Fiberboard export has grown up several hundreds of times since 2004, both in volume and in value (Table 1).

Statistics also showed that production of wood based panel was growing 40% on average every year in the middle of 1990s; especially production of MDF and HDF grew dramatically. It produced 20 million m<sup>3</sup> of MDF in 2005, up 30% from 2004. Analysts believe that production of MDF could reach 22 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2006.

With production is growing, fiberboard export is also up and up every year. Export in 2006 is pretty good (Table 2).

**We can see from the below table that:**

1. Fiberboard import was down more than 12% both in volume and value while export increased a lot. The export was as 2.35 times as import in volume, and 2.98 times as in value.

2. Export volume in the first 8 months of 2006 was 41.83% more than that in the same period of 2005; export value grew 56.4% from that in 2005.

3. Unit price of export was 92.21 higher than that of import; export price in the first 8 months was up 10.28%, compared with that in the same period of 2005.

4. Import was down 12.14% in volume and 12.42 in value; import price reduced 0.3%.

5. Fiberboard export is more and import is less in China.

China is becoming a key supplier of fiberboard in the world. The government made great efforts in supervising the quality, environmental protection and resource usage, which helped the industry to be mature in China. As the table shows, fiberboard export increase is not relying on lowering down price but on matching demand in international markets.

Enlargement of plantation area is another support for fiberboard industry. Now China has the largest fast-growing and high-yield forest in the world. There will be another 99.8 million m<sup>3</sup> of wood available in China in 3-4 years, 70% of which are from these forests. Plantation area could reach 200 million Chinese Mu in 2015, offering 140 million m<sup>3</sup> of wood annually. Another 10 million m<sup>3</sup> of the remains during logging could be used in wood based panel manufacturing per

year. Some fiberboard manufacturers invest in fast-growing and high-yield forests to supply material for their production.

However, high quality fiberboard made in China could not meet demand in domestic market so import is necessary. Exporters should improve the quality at all times.

Table 1 China's fiberboard export in 2000-2005

Year	Volume (Ton)	Up or down (+-%)	Value (thousand USD)	Up or down (+-%)
2000	24 708.3		1 020.4	
2001	18 771.7	-24.03	928	-9.06
2002	51 412.5	+200.52	2 054.6	+121.4
2003	44 421.5	-21.26	2 061.3	+0.33
2004	339 512.8	+664.3	12 026.2	+512.54
2005	965 000	+184.24	39 616	213.77

Table 2 China's fiberboard import & export in Jan-Aug, 2006

Item	Volume (Ton)			Value ( thousand USD)			Price (USD/Ton)		
	Jan-Aug, 2006	Jan-Aug, 2005	Up or down (+-%)	Jan-Aug, 2006	Jan-Aug, 2005	Up or down (+-%)	Jan-Aug, 2006	Jan-Aug, 2005	Up or down (+-%)
Import	389 244	443 016.6	-12.14	13 263.9	15 144.3	-12.42	340.76	341.84	-0.3
Export	914 153.7	644 560.3	41.83	39 489.1	25 248.9	56.4	431.97	391.72	10.28
Balance	524 909.7	201 543.7		26 225.2	10 104.6		91.21	49.88	

## General Survey of China's MDF Industry in 2005

China's MDF industry experienced 10 years of development. When the first production line which could produce 15 thousand m3 of MDF annually was born in Shanghai in 1995, the industry began its quickly development. Now we are expecting the 2nd decade of magnificence in this industry, which will be more stable and reasonable.

Analysts believe that there should ap-

pear some adjustments in MDF market in 2006. Well, for the whole industry, it is now the first step for adjustment.

10 years ago, China just could produce small quantity and low quality MDF products. It enlarged its production depended only on much lower labor cost. During the first 5 years of new century, it accelerated pace of improvement, with 60-65 new production lines added per

year.

Before 1999, most producers were small-scaled, only producing no more than 35 thousand m3 of MDF per year. Our survey showed that 59.5% of producers are small ones, taking for above 40% of production.

Large or middle scaled manufacturers (which could produce 35-75 thousand m3 of MDF annually, including foreign invested companies) are only offering one third production till 2003, although they are key suppliers in China.

Now companies that could produce less than 35 thousand m3 annually account for 60%, between 35-75 thousand m3, 25%, and above 75 thousand m3, 15%.

Attached Table MDF production lines &amp; capacity in China before 2005

Regions	Province / City / Autonomous Region	Imported lines		Domestic lines		Factories	Average capacity (0,000 m <sup>3</sup> / a)
		Produc- tion lines	Capacity (0,000 m <sup>3</sup> /a)	Produc- tion lines	Capacity (0,000 m <sup>3</sup> / a)		
North China	Beijing	1	12.0	1	1.0	2	6.5
	Tianjin	1	2.0	—	—	1	2.0
	Hebei	3	18.0	47	152.8	38	3.42
	Shanxi	—	—	6	25.5	4	4.25
	Inner Mongolia	—	—	12	38.3	12	3.19
	Subtotal	5	32.0	66	217.6	57	3.52
Northeast China	Liaoning	3	13.0	18	48.0	20	2.90
	Jilin	2	8.0	8	28.7	9	3.67
	Heilongjiang	2	10.0	21	79.2	22	3.88
	Subtotal	7	31.0	47	155.9	51	3.46
East China	Shanghai	—	—	3	24.0	2	8.00
	Jiangsu	2	27.5	32	159.0	29	5.49
	Zhejiang	2	27.0	14	64.0	15	5.69
	Fujian	3	23.0	23	83.0	21	4.08
	Anhui	3	20.0	22	117.0	21	5.48
	Jiangxi	3	47.5	15	54.5	16	5.67
	Shandong	3	28.5	112	476.5	77	4.39
	Subtotal	16	173.5	221	978.0	183	4.86
Middle China	Henan	2	8.0	34	115.5	21	3.43
	Hubei	5	39.8	15	64.2	15	5.20
	Hunan	1	3.0	15	56.0	12	3.69
	Subtotal	8	50.0	64	235.7	58	3.98
South China	Guangdong	11	97.8	43	168.0	46	4.92
	Hainan	1	3.0	2	11.0	2	4.67
	Guangxi	5	73.50	37	139	27	5.07
	Subtotal	17	174.3	82	318.5	75	4.98
Southwest China	Sichuan	2	30.0	20	72.0	20	4.64
	Chongqing	—	—	2	7.5	2	3.75
	Guizhou	—	—	6	16.0	5	2.67
	Yunnan	2	14.5	21	58.0	19	3.15
	Tibet	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Subtotal	4	44.5	49	153.5	46	3.74
Northwest China	Shanxi	1	13.5	5	12.0	5	4.25
	Gansu	—	—	2	3.5	2	1.75
	Ningxia	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Qinghai	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Sinkiang	—	—	15	32.2	15	2.15
	Subtotal	1	13.5	22	47.7	22	2.66
Total		58	519.6	551	2106.9	492	4.31

## Perspective of China's OSB Industry

As OSB is light and durable, with little adhesive, it is more and more popular, especially in North America and Europe market.

China imports 200 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of OSB every year and might be the largest market for OSB consumption in following years.

### 1. China's OSB production

China made R&D on OSB since 1976; and set up 6 production lines from 1988, with whole capacity of 76.8 thousand m<sup>3</sup>. But most of them could not produce in gear, for the following reasons:

- Fewer people use OSB in China;
- People knows little about OSB;
- Quality is poor;
- Price of raw material is high, while of product is low;
- Equipment is not advanced.

### 2. Perspective of OSB market in China

China will need more wood based panel in furniture, in packaging, home improvement and construction in the 11th Five Year Plan. It is estimated that demand for wood based panel could reach 80 million m<sup>3</sup> in China in 2010, including for 13 million m<sup>3</sup> of OSB.

2.1 OSB used in furniture manufacturing  
With China entered into WTO, foreign

furniture manufacturers moved their factories to China, making China as furniture center in the world. OSB is used as shelf or support in furniture, because it is light and durable. It is also waterproofing when used in kitchen or bathroom.

### 2.2 OSB used in packaging

Wood packaging plays very important role in export in China which needs 10 million m<sup>3</sup> of logs for packaging every year. OSB is more appropriate than solid wood to be used in packaging as it is strong, waterproof and antibacterial. Now most importers asked packaging to be fumigated and disinfected. OSB is processed by high temperature and pressure when manufacturing. So it is ideal for packaging.

### 2.3 OSB used in home improvement

Construction Ministry planned that there will be 330 million m<sup>2</sup> of new residential houses available per year in 2001-2010. Supposed 80% of the new houses and 5% of old houses, which is 2 billion m<sup>2</sup>, plus some public ones, will be decorated, then the area could reach 350 million m<sup>2</sup>. Wood flooring, especially laminate wood flooring, is selected by more people in home improvement. Laminate flooring is now sharing 15% of the flooring market, ranked No. 1 in 2005, reaching 190 million m<sup>2</sup>. OSB could be easily and economically used in manu-

facturing laminate flooring, with no painting and screwing. OSB is also fit for steps and stairs.

### 2.4 OSB used in construction

About 3.2 million m<sup>3</sup> of moulding board is needed in construction in China. As wood resource is limited, most board is made by steel. OSB is noiseproof, durable, anticorrosive and cost-effective, so it is better than steel.

It is planned that 8-10 million m<sup>3</sup> of wood based panel will be employed in construction in the 11th Five Year Plan, 11-15 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2015. OSB could definitely play more important role then.

### 2.5 As substitute for plywood

With large diameter log is less, plywood producing will not be environmental friendly. OSB is made by wood from fast-growing and high-yield forests or wood remains during processing.

Economy in Asia and Pacific Ocean area is most active in the world. But wood resource in this area is shortage. As wood exporters is discouraging log export, companies is replacing log for wood based panel as raw material.

Comparative proportion of plywood and OSB in North America in 1980s is 80% and 20%, now, 30% and 70%. In China, there are 53 million hm<sup>2</sup> of fast-growing and high-yield forests, which helps forest coverage increased from 12% in 1980s to 18.21%, accounting for 26% of that in the world. Fast-growing and high-yield forests will offer plenty of raw materials for producing OSB. So we can see a prosperous future for OSB development in China.

# Utilization of Recycled Wood in Manufacturing Wood Based Panel

**W**ith China's wood products industry is developing, raw material is pretty shortage. How to resolve this problem in China? To enlarge fast-growing and high-yield forests or to import more log are the main resolutions. Besides, employing recycled wood is another important way.

Government of many countries has already paid high attention to recycled wood. A particleboard production line that taking recycled wood as raw material was set up in China. Recycled wood is also broadly used in factories, especially in MDF factories.

## 1. Source of recycled wood

a. Getting from construction and decoration

When new houses are built or decorated, or when old houses are broken, there will be some wood remains. Mouldings in construction could also be recycled.

b. Getting from vehicles

When cars, buses or ships are scrapped or repaired, wasted board could be recycled.

c. Getting from old furniture

Nowadays, people like change their furniture even within a very short time. Old kitchen cabinet, wood sofa and chairs could be used as recycled wood.

d. From people's necessities

Amusement parks replace their wood things frequently, which offering a lot of recycled wood. A great deal of disposables chopsticks are also could be used again.

e. From wood processing

f. From military affairs or sports

Wood equipment in military affairs and sports is another source for recycled wood.

g. From wood packaging

Wood packaging is often used only one time.

h. From public places

It is estimated there is approximate 85 million m<sup>3</sup> of wood garbage per year in urban areas in China, which is almost same as all wood needed in plywood producing in 2004.

## 2. How to process recycled wood?

Recycled wood is not as good as fresh wood. It may be corrupted or polluted so that can not to be processed easily. Sometimes there will be some impurity in recycled wood, which may hurt tools in processing. Recycled wood may also bring much more formaldehyde.

Usually, the above said problems could be avoided by adjusting proportion of recycled wood and fresh wood.

## 3. Utilization in manufacturing wood

### based panel

Recycled wood is most used in manufacturing wood based panel. 2 tests are made successfully in some factories. One is recycled wood from cement mouldings could be made into particleboard after well processed. The other is mixture of recycled wood and straw, which is plentiful in China, could be used in MDF manufacturing. Quality of MDF made by recycled wood and straw is good. So it is a feasible way to save wood and cost.

## 4. Endings

Although recycled wood is not easily to be collected and used now, we still could develop good products by using them. Utilization of recycled wood is a so big project that all of us should show concern on.

Wood-Based Panel Prices in China Timber Markets Sep. 25, 2006

Type	Description	Market Location	Dimension	Price (RMB/Piece)	6-month Change %
Plywood	Imported from Indonesia	North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	28	0
Plywood	Imported from Malaysia	North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	28	0
Plywood	Imported from Philippine	North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	27	0
Plywood	Three-layers	North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	14~28	0
Plywood	Three-layers	North of China	915*1 830 mm	18.5	0
Plywood	Three-layers	North of China	100*200 mm	16.5	0
Plywood	Five-layers	North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	47	0
Plywood	Five-layers	North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	45	0
Plywood	Nine centimeters Single side	North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	53	0
Plywood	Nine centimeters Double sides	North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	28~82	0
Plywood	Twelve centimeters	North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	50~62	0
Decoative plywood	Red beech surface	South of China	4*8*3	35~60	-12.28
Decoative plywood	Black walnut surface	South of China	4*8*3	35~70	7.69
Decoative plywood	Teak surface	South of China	4*8*3	40~70	10.99
Decoative plywood	Ebony surface	South of China	4*8*3	50~120	9.09
Decoative plywood	Red sandalwood surface	South of China	4*8*3	50~60	9.09
Decoative plywood	Red Bubinga	South of China	4*8*3	60~80	46.67
MDF		North of China	1 220*2 440*15 mm	50.5	1
MDF		North of China	1 220*2 440*16 mm	60	0
MDF		North of China	1 220*2 440*18 mm	60	0
MDF		North of China	1 220*2 440*8 mm	30	0
MDF		North of China	1 220*2 440*5 mm	25	0
MDF		North of China	1 220*2 440*3 mm	25	0
MDF(water-proof)	Melamine surface	North of China	1 220*2 440*9 mm	40~45	0
MDF(water-proof)	Melamine surface	North of China	1 220*2 440*12 mm	38~50	0
MDF(water-proof)	Melamine surface	North of China	1 220*2 440*16 mm	70~72	0
MDF(water-proof)	Melamine surface	North of China	1 220*2 440*18 mm	45~65	0
Fibreboard		North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	21	0
Particleboard		North of China	1 220*2 440*8 mm	15~20	0
Particleboard		North of China	1 220*2 440*9 mm	20~25	0
Particleboard		North of China	1 220*2 440*12 mm	17~23	0
Particleboard		North of China	1 220*2 440*16 mm	20~25	0
Particleboard	Melamine surface, water proof	North of China	1 220*2 440*12 mm	30	-1.64
Particleboard	Melamine surface, water proof	North of China	1 220*2 440*16 mm	35~40	0
Particleboard	Melamine surface, water proof	North of China	1 220*2 440*18 mm	30~48	0
Block board	Poplar	North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	45~120	0
Block board	Basswood	North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	70~110	0
Block board	Pine	North of China	1 220*2 440 mm	38~70	0

Statistics of China Wood-Based Panel Export & Import August, 2006

Product	Unit	Total Export		Total Import	
		Amount	Sum US\$X0000	Amount	Sum US\$X0000
<b>Plywood, veneered panel and similar laminated wood</b>	Cubic Meter	924 027	32 609.69	31 040	1 622.01
Thin plywood with at least one surface of tropic wood<=6mm	Cubic Meter	86 429	2 625.52	10 059	610.4
Plywood with at least one surface of Variable Zone non-coniferous wood<=6mm	Cubic Meter	10 325	957.14	1 321	98.14
Plywood with at least one surface of non-coniferous wood <=6mm	Cubic Meter	4 624	254.47	2 835	110.89
Other plywood, each ply<=6mm thickness	Cubic Meter	642 669	18 370.37	8 326	315.64
Other plywood with at least one surface of non-coniferous wood and one layer of tropical wood	Cubic Meter	13 732	533.99	3 583	266.92
Other plywood with at least one surface of non-coniferous wood and one layer of particle board	Cubic Meter	13 272	335.99	113	5.49
Other plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood, with>=1 surface of Variable Zone non-coniferous wood	Cubic Meter	17 853	2230.52	477	31.55
Other plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood, with>=1 surface of non-coniferous wood	Cubic Meter	123 946	6 586.85	1 882	69.94
Other plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood, with>=1 ply of tropical wood	Cubic Meter	0	0	100	3.62
Other plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood, with>=1 ply of particle board	Cubic Meter	1 777	106.66	7	0.29
Plywood, veneered panels & similar laminated wood, nes	Cubic Meter	4 042	127.73	2 013	104.3
<b>Fibreboard made of wood fibers and other ligneous materials</b>	Ton	184 037.3	7 187.03	50 773.8	1 767.53
Fibreboard, density>0.8g/cm <sup>3</sup> , not mechanically worked or surface covered	Ton	3 297.7	74.43	3 807	155.97
Fibreboard, density>0.8g/cm <sup>3</sup> , mechanically worked or surface covered	Ton	81 686.9	4356.9	3 959.8	261.22
Fibreboard, 0.5g/cm <sup>3</sup> < density<=0.8g/cm <sup>3</sup> , not mechanically worked or surface covered	Ton	58 845.9	1 361.95	10 235.6	375.13
Fibreboard, 0.5g/cm <sup>3</sup> < density<=0.8g/cm <sup>3</sup> , mechanically worked or surface covered	Ton	35 205	1 239.55	30 239.6	887.04
Fibreboard, 0.35g/cm <sup>3</sup> < density<=0.5g/cm <sup>3</sup> , not mechanically worked or surface covered	Ton	0	0	50.3	1.77
Fibreboard, 0.35g/cm <sup>3</sup> < density<=0.5g/cm <sup>3</sup> , mechanically worked or surface covered	Ton	366	10.72	62.3	3.84
Other fibreboard, not mechanically worked or surface covered	Ton	574.5	9.08	146.8	2.71
Other fibreboard, mechanically worked or surface covered	Ton	4 061.2	134.39	2 272.4	79.85
<b>Partical board</b>	Ton	8 919	222.47	31 581.4	910.17

### 1. 240 USD / m3 of anti-dumping duty is levied on plywood from China in Turkey

**I**t was reported by Turkey that it levied anti-dumping duty on plywood from mainland China since Oct. 20. It also listed Turkey's plywood import in recent years. The plywood import was 11,236 m3 in 2002, 68,396 m3 in 2003, 33,742 m3 in 2004 and 70,148 m3 in 2005, including 49 m3, 159 m3, 3,198 m3 and 31,201 m3 (valued 14,985 USD, 55,119 USD, 1,548,125 USD and 12.55 million USD) from China. Import from China was 0.44% of whole import in 2002, 0.23% in 2003, 9.48% in 2004 and 44.48% in 2005. 0.09% of plywood consumption in Turkey was from China in 2002, 0.14% in 2003, 3.90% in 2004 and 18.85% in 2005. CIF price of imported plywood from China was 305.84, 346.66, 484.09 and 402.23 USD in the said 4 years.

### 2. Consumer tax will be levied on engineered flooring in China

**P**rice of engineered flooring is up smoothly these days. Take engineered flooring veneered with teak of 0.6 mm as example, its price increased from RMB 200 to 210 per m2.

We can see the change in many selling centers after golden week. Prices for most popular products are grew 5-20 RMB Yuan per m2. For those veneered with 2-3 mm face, the prices are above 300 RMB Yuan per m2. While, average price of the same period of last year was 150-200 RMB Yuan per m2.

Besides cost of raw material's rising, consumer tax is another reason for the increase. According to the national laws, engineered flooring belongs to solid wood flooring so that 5% of consumer tax should be levied.

### 3. Sino-Forest Announces Opening of Flooring Facility in China

**S**ino-Forest Corporation ("Sino-Forest"), a leading commercial forestry plantation operator in China, today announced the opening of its engineered wood flooring manufacturing facility in Suzhou, China. Approximately 60 km from Shanghai, Suzhou is a rapidly expanding economic and industrial zone located along the Yangtze River Delta.

The state-of-the-art facility occupies 22 hectares of land including a covered area measuring 35,000 m2, and is expected to have an annual production capacity of 8 million m2. Built in two phases, phase one of the project has been completed and is in full commercial operation with an annual capacity of 4 million m2. Completion of the second phase is expected to be in 2007 which would increase the production capacity to 8 million m2 when completed.

The engineered wood flooring is marketed under the Sino-Maple brand and is distributed through more than 200 outlets nationwide, including B&Q's mega do it yourself chain stores. Sino-Maple has also participated in numerous international exhibitions promoting its wood flooring products, which are fast becoming a popular substitute for solid and laminated flooring in

China due to its environmentally conscious use of forest plantation logs over large diameter natural forest logs.

In addition, this facility recently received accreditation from the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC certification) for its flooring products. With the rise in China's economic development, and the high demand in residential renovation projects throughout China, Sino-Forest estimates annual revenue of approximately US\$130 million when the facility is completed and operating at full capacity of 8 million m<sup>2</sup> of production.

"This new facility positions Sino-Forest to better serve our customers with our own products versus the OEM process. Moreover, we are excited to promote the use of small diameter plantation logs," said Mr. Allen Chan, chairman and CEO of Sino-Forest who officiated the opening ceremony with the presence of Mr. Wang Jinhua, Vice-Secretary of Suzhou Municipal People's Government & Secretary of Suzhou Industrial Park Working Committee.

#### 4. Biggest plywood plant in Siberia and Far East to be built in Krasnoyarsk

**T**he biggest plywood manufacturing plant in Siberia and Far East will be built in Krasnoyarsk in 2007, as Deputy Governor of Krasnoyarsk Territory Andrei Gnezdilov reported.

'We have not had such plants before,' he stated, 'The matter concerns deep wood processing,

which must substitute export of round wood gradually, according to the development conception of the regional forest industry.' Construction of Yenisei Plywood Plant will be opened in Krasnoyarsk Trailers Plant.

It is worth reminding that an agreement about social and economic cooperation, where the conditions of the project implementation were specified, was signed by the Administration Council and MS Management in May.

Gnezdilov told, 'This agreement is being followed in full volume today, both in terms of time and money.' The customers increased processing volume and output at the planning stage. It is predicted that the wood processing industry will make up to 250 thousand cubic meters of large coniferous, 100 thousand cubic meters of large birch plywood, and 150 thousand cubic meters of dry boards a year. It is planned to enlarge the staff from 550 to 800 people at first. Midway United Ltd Director Alexander Kirpichnikov stated, 'Apart from 10-12 foreign experts, we are going to employ mostly Sosnovoborsk and Krasnoyarsk citizens'. The planned investment sum is \$100 million. The project capacity will be achieved in 18 months, experts say.

90% of sales will be in America. However, the talks about sale of products in the region are being held too,' Gnezdilov said. He added, 'First of all, it will be of great use for wooden cottage construction as part of the national project 'Affordable accommodation'. The advantages of this project are obvious. It goes without saying that we will support it by all means,' In addition, an ecological expert examination of the project will be carried out.

# CHINA WOOD BASED PANEL INDUSTRY REPORT

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# China Wood Based Panel Market Report

INVESTMENT/POLICY/STATISTICS/MARKETS/  
COMPANIES

On Dec 1st, 2005, China Wood International (CWI) published the first issue of their professional newsletter entitled China Wood Based Panel Market Report, to assist overseas companies in obtaining up-to-date information on China's wood based panel industries (y) and markets. Contained in

1. Investment & Acquisition
2. Legislation on Changes
3. Construction and Building Statistics
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