



Press Release

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Flakeboard and Metso sign Dry-resin Blending License Agreement

Markham, CANADA – The commercialization of revolutionary dry-resin blending technology took a major step forward when Flakeboard and Metso in January, 2007, signed a license agreement regarding the manufacturing equipment and installation of dry-resin blending technology at Flakeboard's MDF plants in North America.

Upon completion of these installations, Metso will market and sell this patented technology, branded EVOjet, to MDF plants outside of North- and South America as well as door-skin lines worldwide. It is foreseen that a first external sale to a major panel manufacturer will be achieved in October 2007.

The core idea with this mechanical resination technology is based on dried fiber moving through two rollers which accelerate and disintegrate the fiber flow before the resin (adhesive) is sprayed onto the fiber. This process results in a system that makes all the benefits of traditional blow line blending achievable.

Dry-resin technology will assist Flakeboard in managing its resin consumption, and will work to contain increasing resin costs when manufacturing both standard and thin MDF. The system will also yield an additional and major benefit in the reduction of formaldehyde emissions from the process (as the resin is applied to the fiber after the dryer).

With this solution, Flakeboard expects Metso to be the sole supplier of reliable and true dry-resin blending technology for the foreseeable future.

Flakeboard, a privately-held company, is the largest manufacturer of particleboard and medium density fiberboard panels in North America. Since its incorporation in 1960, Flakeboard has been focused on growth within the composite panel industry, and on the formation of a highly integrated business model through constant reinvestment and optimization.

Metso is a global engineering and technology corporation with 2006 net sales of approximately EUR 5 billion. Its 25, 500 employees in more than 50 countries serve customers in the pulp and paper industry, rock and minerals processing, the energy industry and selected other industries.
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