



Press Release

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Flakeboard to Install Melamine Presses in US Particleboard Plants

Markham, CANADA –Flakeboard announces plans to install new melamine presses in Simsboro, LA; Albany, OR and Bennettsville, SC.

The company purchased three state-of-the-art presses from Siempelkamp to add decorative finishing capabilities to the raw board sites. The 5x20 fast-cycle presses are capable of running 200 cycles per hour and will add to the five currently in Canada; one continuous and two fast cycle presses in St. Stephen, NB and two fast cycle presses in Sault Ste. Marie, ON.

“Having new melamine capacity strategically situated in the east, west and southern U.S. will enhance our ability to distribute to the entire North American marketplace, and effectively service national accounts” comments Vice President of Sales and Marketing, Kevin Shotbolt. In addition to building national melamine programs and North American-wide distribution, Flakeboard will develop regional marketing programs to address the unique demands of each local market. The new regional laminating centers will be producing both laminated particleboard and MDF for the furniture, cabinet and store fixture markets, as well as meeting the growing demands for melamine laminated panels used in closets and storage.

The expanded melamine program will be launched in April with the installation of an existing 5x12 press; the set-up of the new 5x20 presses will start this summer in Simsboro, with the Albany and Bennettsville installations beginning in early 2008.

The investment in these new high capacity melamine presses will allow Flakeboard to significantly expand its product offering into these areas, and to continue to provide the broadest composite panel choices in North America.

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.

Contact: Mr. Kevin Shotbolt, Vice President of Sales and Marketing

Ph. 800-268-9830

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Flakeboard Company Limited
80 Tiverton Court, Suite 701, Markham, Ontario, Canada L3R 0G4
(800) 268-9830
www.flakeboard.com