

## mitech news



### In this edition:

- Wuertz price commitment
- Melamine pressing challenges  
Part 2: process

### Greetings to all for this late June News Letter edition



We start this late edition with a pledge from Wuertz, with whom Mitech has enjoyed a 30 year relationship. This commenced as an appreciative customer, then for 24 years as a representative .

### Wuertz commitment

It is certainly no longer news that the pandemic is causing our industry enormous stress: economic, social and emotional! The consequences include inevitable increases in costs. Added to material costs are increased transport costs, both for supply to Wuertz and from Wuertz to customers. For many suppliers these costs are normally passed on to customers. Wuertz management recognises this, and is determined to support our customers. So we have not increased prices during the pandemic and are committed to absorbing costs and to maintain prices.

Vessel container prices are not within our control but for those whose orders include delivery, Wuertz has generally made efforts to absorb the extreme ocean vessel price increases

**We will ride this storm together until better days.**





Wuertz service extends to many industries, so the wood panels and lamination services are based on a broad base of experience. For over 50 years the famous PAT<sup>®</sup> products have been successfully used in the processing of numerous polymers.

Release Agents | Resin Catalysts | Hardeners | Curing Agents | Cleaning Agents | Accelerators | Release Coatings | Wetting Agents | Plastisizers | Internal Release Agents | External Release Agents | MDI-Release Agents | Hydrophobic Coatings | Semi Permanent Release Agents | Silicone-based Release Agents | PU-Release Agents | Polyester-Release Agents | Vinylester-Release Agents | EP-Release Agents | Epoxy-Release Agents | Reactive Diluent for EP-Resins | Reactive Diluent for Epoxy-Resins | PVC-Stabilizers | Rubber Release Agents | Elastomer Release Agents | Release Agents for Thermoplastics | Lubricants | Vulcanisation Activators | Levelling Agents | Antimicrobial Additives | Antiblocking Agents

## Delayed shipments



We remind again! Please plan and order in advanced with contingency allowances for vessel cancellation or departure delays!

And we thank those who have selflessly assisted customers for supplies, and who in some cases were competitors

## Short cycle melamine pressing challenges – Continued.

As mentioned last month, The production of engineered wood panels can present challenges to the most experienced production crews and technologists Especially in the short cycle melamine press process.

**And I am sure we have all experienced that frustration of the illusive problem!**



We started to list the ones which come to mind, from press to impregnated paper.

Last month we focused only on machinery:



- **Hydraulics**
- **Press frames**
- **Press platens**
- **Press pads or cushions**
- **Press plates**

This edition we discuss substrate and films:

## Substrate



- Uneven thickness over a short span, often along a panel edge
- “Pits” (micro holes) in the surface. Or the gaps between surface particles or fibres and shakes.
- Pre-cure remaining on surface after insufficient removal by sanding
- Glue lumps under the surface (PB) shrinks when heated
- Excessively high density surface (MDF & HDF)  
(Non-yielding to pressure)
- Sanding marks
  - Coarse sanding lines along the panel length
  - Sander “chatter” lines across the panel width
  - Sanding belt pad lines along panel length

## Impregnated paper



- Is the defect related to one type, design or colour?  
If so, it is probably a paper problem so discuss with your supplier
- Does the defect move if the paper is turned around 180 ° ?  
If so, it is probably a paper problem so discuss with your supplier
- Has the impregnated paper has been stored at an excessively high temperature  $>27^{\circ}\text{C}$   
If so, the resin in the paper may have pre-cured, and need specialised process settings



For long term or temporary “fixes” Mitech or our associates may be able to offer solutions or advice.

Further comments on any item are available on request

Next News issue we will discuss the pressing process issues effecting surface quality

### Engineered wood panels

- Conveyors
- Chippers
- Resin plants
- Chip washers
- Plywood presses
- Mat Spray Systems

### Panel Lamination

- Paper impregnation lines
- Short Cycle Presses
- HPL Presses
- Veneer presses
- Press Pads
- Press Caul Plates
- Paper winders
- Paper Cutters
- Protective Foil application

### Additives

- Release Agents
- Wetting Agents
- Hardeners
- Dyes and Pigments

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## An Experienced Wood panel machinery and materials supplier

We are a reputed wood panel machinery and associated materials supplier. Our years of experience in the market, dealing with various clients, each with unique requirements have driven us to increase knowledge and skill

We always endeavour to meet your expectations.

Contact us any time for any query related to our products. We are happy to assist you.