

FII SEMINAR: KOCHI

# Canadian wood woos Kerala manufacturers



destination, timber milling practices adopted by Canada, kiln-drying and heat treatment of lumber, technical information on each species, their working properties leading to a high quality finished product.

The audience was responsive towards knowing Canadian wood species and was very keen to get engaged with the FII team of wood experts to know more about the wood species.

Forestry Innovation Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. (FII India), the market development agency funded by the Ministry of British Columbia to promote Canadian solid wood lumber, hosted an interactive seminar 'Wood from Sustainable Sources' at Kochi (Kerala) on August 25.

The speakers of the evening from FII India were its Technical Advisor Mr. Peter Bradfield, Country Director Mr. Pranesh Chhibber, and Director for Market Development Ms. Nirmala Thomas.

The event, managed by *WoodNews*, was highly informative and interactive, with more than 70 participants, including architects and interior designers, furniture manufacturers, timber importers, and builders and developers from in and around Kochi.

Kerala is a growing wood market with a preference for hardwood. Peter shared an engaging and detailed presentation on usage of Canadian wood in building and designing with wood, innovation in interiors, emerging trends and new-age wood technology; showcasing projects and products produced by Indian manufacturers.

This opened the audience's mind to new wood species which are perfectly suited to Indian conditions. Canada is the world leader in sustainable forest management; and the wood species of Western Hemlock, Douglas-fir, Yellow-Cedar, Western Red Cedar and Spruce-Pine-Fir (SPF) are certified by either PEFC or FSC.

The open forum threw up various questions regarding size, availability, time duration for wood to reach

