# FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS ARE STEADILY CHOOSING LUMBER OVER LOGS

Lumber is wood material that has been rough sawn and cut to length, typically in standard increments, whereas logs refers to rough stock wood that hasn't been shaped or processed.



India has traditionally used tropical hardwoods to manufacture wooden products such as furniture, paneling, doors etc. Most hardwoods are either imported or available in India in the form of logs.

Coniferous wood coming from western regions of the world like British Columbia (B.C.), Canada are available in the form of sawn lumber which conform to standard grades, come in standard sizes and are kiln-dried (KD) & heat treated (HT) ready to use.

Moreover these wood products are certified for sustainability by PEFC/FSC. In recent times, a new trend is fast emerging in India-furniture manufacturers are increasingly opting for ready sawn lumber over logs. The prospective reasons for this are as follows:

#### Debarking

Debarking is a cumbersome process consuming a lot of time and effort. By contrast, sawn lumber is ready-to-use making the production process efficient.



### **Cutting & Wastage**

Before production, logs need to be converted to lumber. Sawn lumber on the other hand is processed in stateof- art facilities focused on this process alone. Lumber saves manufacturers from the added hassles.

#### Quality

For hardwoods, there are no proper systems and facilities in place for kiln drying, heat treatment or for standardization of grades hence a lot of uncertainty and added hassles of quality management at the raw material stage is involved.

As lumber comes in standardized grades and sizes and are heat treated and kiln dried in scientific facilities, manufacturers are assured of consistent quality at all times. Guidelines set by independent agencies such as NLGA and R-list ensure standardized grading throughout the world.

#### Certified Products

The Indian consumer is slowly becoming aware and conscious of the need to use sustainable, environmentally friendly products in their lives. Certified lumber gives buyers the confidence that furniture products produced from it are truly compliant.

## **Ability To Control Budgets**

Graded wood offers manufacturers flexibility to adjust their budgets by using lower grade wood and using techniques like finger joining to achieve a clear look. Similarly, they can use knotty wood to create furniture for a more rustic appeal. These features offer greater control over the budget as compared to logs.

Furniture manufacturers can look forward to a number of benefits by switching to lumber over logs. Canadian Wood species like Western Hemlock, Western Red Cedar, Douglas-fir and Spruce-Pine-Fir offer immense versatility, high durability and workability- qualities that are essential for producing high quality furniture.

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