

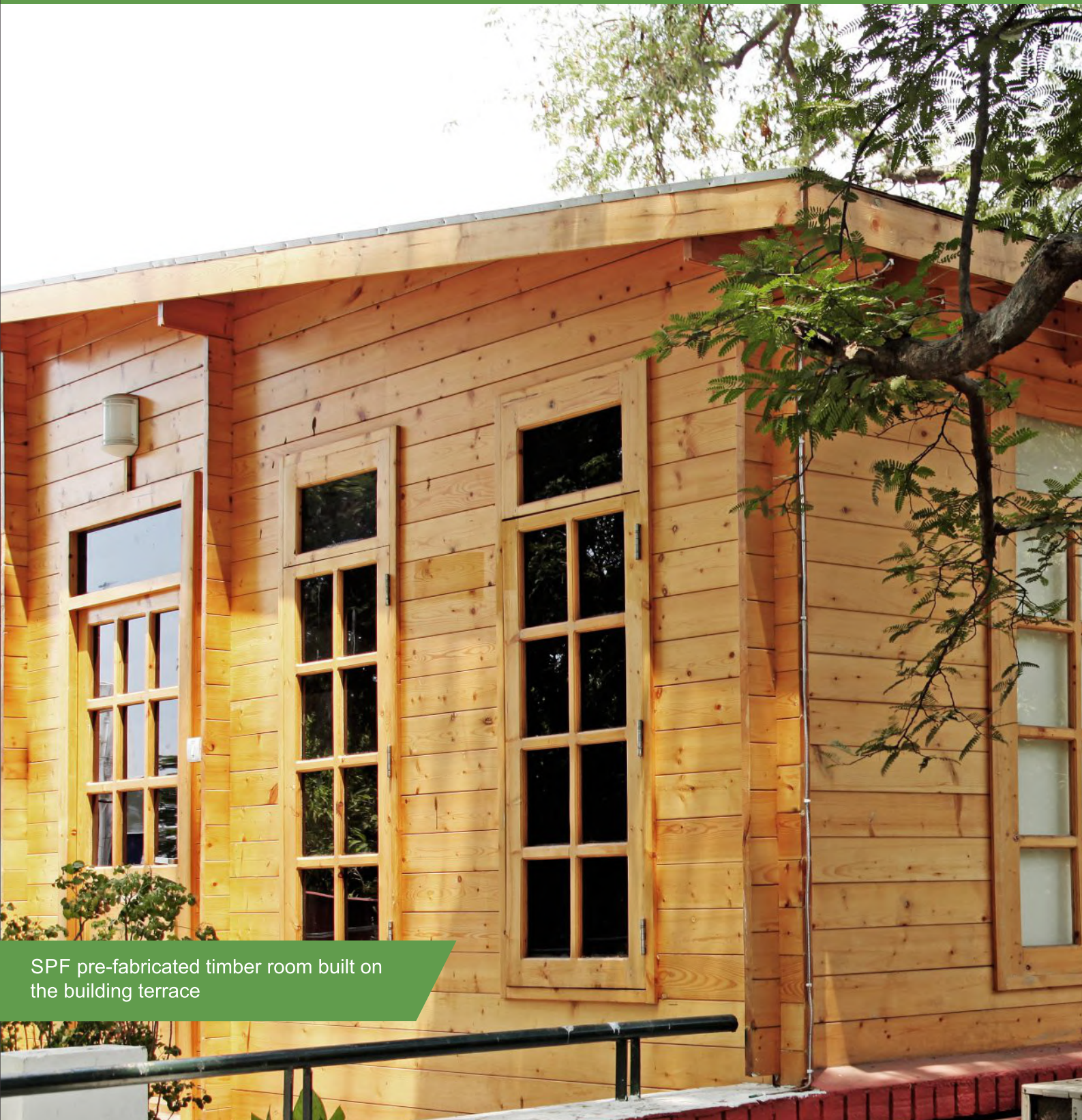
Case Study

Partner: Madras Boat Club, Chennai
Project: Billiards room on the terrace



**Canadian
Wood**

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SPF pre-fabricated timber room built on the building terrace

Canadian Wood species
Inspiring architects and engineers in India

Institution Profile

Established in 1867, Madras Boat Club is one of India's oldest rowing clubs. Located by the River Adyar in the historic city of Chennai the club actively promotes and encourages amateur rowing. The membership is a healthy mix of rowing and social members.

Challenges

When a billiard room was suggested as an addition on the roof terrace, a keen social member and solid wood manufacturer, suggested a lightweight wooden hall which could be pre-fabricated at his modern manufacturing facility in Dindigul and simply erected onsite.

The area available on the Club's roof terrace would only just be large enough to accommodate the billiard hall if the design allowed for the concrete plinth and foundation joists to be placed to the extreme forecourt edge. Another challenge would be the Club's non-negotiable stipulation that the 100-year-old tree providing canopy shading over the roof area should not be pruned or disturbed in any way.

Once the design and layout were approved it would be important to complete the project in the shortest time possible with minimum disruption to club activities, upstairs swimming pool access, adjacent guest accommodation, ground level car parking, garden area and member access, since construction would proceed without compromising day to day business.



Opportunity

Such parameters are “gold” for pre-fabricated timber buildings which are light weight, easily transported and easily handled with minimal machinery. Buildings constructed with wood from sustainably managed forests and certified lumber are eco-friendly, carbon positive, efficient in terms of temperature and sound insulation and aesthetically pleasing.

The manufacturer chose to design and build in a simple tongue and groove interlocking design using Canadian spruce-pine-fir (SPF). The method has become popular in India, particularly in beach resorts, hill stations, difficult terrains and forested areas. It can be constructed in various styles including floating accommodation, single and multi-storey weekend getaways, farmhouses and tree-houses.



Products Trials

SPF 38 x 140 mm J-Grade, sized, planed and seasoned, was selected due to its structural grading, working properties, pleasing colour and appearance and PEFC certification. The manufacturer was conscientious about setting up floor joist spacings to support the full-size billiard table weighing ~1250 kg plus a group of members (up to 15) weighing ~1250 kg for a total load of 2500 kg. A topical preservative treatment was applied to the floor joists and a barrier placed between the wood and concrete plinth, then the prefabricated notched planks were added to construct walls with window and door openings, roof and floor.



Key Takeaways

The club committee and members have expressed immense satisfaction with the result and the billiard room is a wonderful asset and addition to the club's facilities. In fact, the club is so pleased that another timber building is being contemplated for the remaining roof terrace area.

Why Use Canadian Wood?

Sustainable, Green Building Material

British Columbia, Canada is a world leader in sustainable forest management. The rigor of B.C.'s forest management laws is demonstrated by third-party forest certifications (PEFC/FSC).

Long-Term Performance

Wood's versatility, character and individuality are unmatched. When it is properly maintained, wood can be reused, repurposed, and reapplied to other projects. Canadian wood species produce stable lumber with consistently straight grain. The wood is easy to work, finish and glue.

Easy to Manufacture

With low to moderate density values, species like western hemlock, Douglas-fir, yellow cedar, western red cedar and spruce-pine-fir (S-P-F) are all easy to face-laminate, edge-glue, and/or finger-joint.

Quality Assurance

Canadian wood species from B.C. are separated into a wide variety of grades and each grade is intended for a specific end use. Factory grades are intended for ripping or cross cutting to recover the wood's clear fibre; the clear grades help produce knot-free products in a length range of 8-20 feet. This variety of grades allows buyers to choose a quality that suits both their needs and their price considerations.

Multipurpose Applications

Because of their low tangential to radial shrinkage (T/R) ratio, softwoods typically have better stability than hardwoods. Softwoods are well suited to many applications across outdoor, interior and structural uses.



If you're interested in incorporating Canadian wood species into your product line, the 'Try Canadian Wood' initiative is an ideal way to use, experiment and understand wood's numerous advantages.

For free technical/procurement assistance write to FII India at info@canadianwood.in or call +91 2249221600.

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Canada 

Western hemlock | Douglas-fir | Yellow cedar | Western red cedar | Spruce-Pine-Fir (S-P-F)

FII India has made every attempt to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information provided with input from each trial partner.

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