# Case Study

**Project:** Centre of Excellence (CoE), Showroom and Training Centre
**Contractor/Manufacturer:** Caple Industrial Solutions, Vasai, Mumbai

Canadian Wood
www.canadianwood.in


## Canadian Wood species:

The fine art of working with wood

# Contractor/Manufacturer Profile

Caple, a leading supplier of quality woodworking machinery, collaborated with FII India to set up its Centre of Excellence (CoE) at their new facility in Vasai on the outskirts of Mumbai. Furniture and Fittings Skill Council (FFSC), the skilling arm of the government of India, facilitated the collaboration. They are responsible for coordinating skill upgradation and training programmes in the furniture sector. Capel wanted to use only eco-friendly materials hence FII India collaborated through technical assistance and wood for interiors besides connecting them with Canadian Wood stockists for their ongoing needs. This collaboration marked a significant milestone in the industry, showcasing FII's commitment to promoting sustainable practices and advancing the skill development of the workforce. It also symbolizes FII's dedication to creating a positive impact within the wood industry.


Established in 1974, Caple deals with modern European machinery brands, offering consultancy, supplies, and services. They prioritize their core purpose and values above business and have established strong connections with India's woodworking industry. They have been proactive partners in the World - Skills India Competition 2023 in collaboration with the FFSC.

# Project Overview

COE is a 22' high column-less building offering skill upgradation and training for the woodworking industry. Spread over 13000 sq. ft. it is the biggest showroom cum demonstration facility Caple has in India, where the latest models of woodworking machines are on display and participants can have detailed information about woodworking and machining. Here, stakeholders will conduct training activities for the industry dedicated to the OEMs, architecture and design students. FII India will also conduct its training programmes in the CoE.

FII provided four Canadian wood species, western hemlock, Douglas-fir, Spruce-pine-fir and western red cedar for interior woodwork. The participants and visitors had the opportunity to touch, feel and understand Canadian wood species, their properties and applications. The Centre of Excellence at Vasai was unveiled on August 5th, 2023. It was well attended by industry leaders, professionals, and media representatives.

# Challenges

The intent of the design was to expose key interior architectural elements in an aesthetically pleasing, practical and sustainable manner using Canadian wood.

# Opportunity

The Center of Excellence (CoE) is an innovative initiative that aims to showcase the latest technologies and offer comprehensive training programs throughout the year. This collaboration fills the gap left by the loss of FII's previous Display Center.

Additionally, Canadian Wood now has access to Caple's state-of-the-art facility to host a range of training workshops and events. With the support of FFSC, the CoE will conduct high-quality training sessions to equip participants with essential industry skills and knowledge. FII aims to educate, upskill, and empower carpenters, machine operators, production managers, and decision-makers by providing best practices in handling, manufacturing, and machining Canadian wood. They also strive to promote sustainable wood and production practices, expanding the use of B.C. wood in manufacturing applications in India. Moreover, the facility provides a strategic platform to showcase and promote Canadian Wood's products, elevating their brand presence and expanding their market reach.

# Wood Use in Project

FII has generously provided Canadian wood species to showcase their potential for interior design in this facility. The wood has been used skillfully in partitions, flooring, ceilings, and furniture applications to create training center spaces, elegant counters, exquisite panelling, and captivating wood interiors. The furniture made with wood is durable and aesthetically pleasing, adding a touch of natural beauty to the entire space.

At the grand entrance, visitors are welcomed by a Western red cedar reception table in the machine showroom and training space. Tongue and groove walls featuring SPF with glass inlaid panels take us to the corporate office and boardroom.

The facility features Western hemlock wood for wall panelling, chairs, tables, and workbenches. Hemlock was finished and slightly stained, highlighting its natural appearance. Hemlock FJEG boards were made for the conference and other tables in the training areas and finished with a clear coating that preserves the wood's natural colour and grain. Douglas - fir was used for ceiling rafters, chairs, staircases, and landing areas.

# Key Takeaways

FII has collaborated with Caple to promote workforce skills and build a community of responsible wood practitioners committed to sustainability. Caple is renowned for providing top-quality training and development facilities and is excited about the launch. This project highlights the many benefits of using B.C. wood for manufacturing in India, including:

- Beautiful appearance of colours, textures, and grains exhibited by each species of Canadian wood.
- Ease of interpreting good design and exceptional machine finishing and sanding enhanced by quality coatings.
- Canadian lumber that is sawn and kiln-dried comes ready for production, leading to improved manufacturing efficiency and lower costs.
- Choice of grades and efficient process.
- Versatility of Canadian wood as a finishing species with wide end-sections, incorporating four species used in this project in structural and aesthetic applications, performing exceptionally well.
- Canadian wood lumber is much easier on tools, increasing the life of the tools and machine knives. The wood also glues more easily and quickly, is easier and faster to sand, and takes stains and finishes beautifully.

# Why Use Canadian Wood?

**Sustainable, Green Building Material**

British Columbia (B.C.) Canada is the world's 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. If 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 interiors, outdoors and structural uses.

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

For technical/procurement assistance free of cost, write to FII India at info@canadianwood.in or call+91 22 4922 1600.

For design inspiration and decor ideas using wood, follow us on

**Updated April 2024**

**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 inputs from each trial partner.