

ET Acetech bridges consumer-supplier gap

ET Acetech tradeshows at Mumbai and Bangalore concluded last month with successful bringing together of national and international brands, eminent architects, real estate developers, equity investors in infrastructure, engineers and designers from across the globe on a single platform. The International Lighting Summit (ILS) 2014 was an event that ran concurrent to the Mumbai exhibition to discuss various aspects of light and light technology.

An initiative - Connect - facilitated direct meetings between various building industry stakeholders. At the Mumbai exhibition, the title of Mega Booth Award was won by Pidilite Industries Ltd and Special Jury Recognition Award was given to Wipro Enterprises Ltd. Amongst other winners were Simpolo Vitriified Pvt Ltd and Mahaphanth Fibre-Cement (South Asia) Pvt Ltd (Shera) in the category of Platinum Award, Gold Award winners were Simas (Q-bo) and Inpod, Silver Award winners were Hafele India Pvt Ltd and Beautex Industries Pvt Ltd and Bronze Award winners were Merino Industries Ltd and Focus Lighting & Fixtures Pvt Ltd.

At the ACETECH Design Wall venue, top 50 shortlisted brands displayed their innovative products, services and technologies before the jury panel. The Gold Winner was ThyssenKrupp Elevator (India) Pvt Ltd, Silver Winner- Inpod and Bronze Winner- Rocland Pvt Ltd.

In association with 'Roca Bathroom Products Pvt. Ltd., Acetech felicitated Nayan Bheda of Neptune Developers, Shrikant Joshi of L&T Realty, Rajeev Piralal of Peninsula Land Ltd, Boman Irani of Rustomjee Group including Ar. Sanjay Puri, Ar. Nina Puri, Ar. Bobby Mukherji, Ar. Claudio Bellini, Ar. Nigel Austin, Ar. Chris Bubb and Narsi Kularia of Narsi Interiors for their contribution towards construction, architecture and design industry.

A panel discussion on Smart Homes

Several noted real estate honchos met to discuss the various facets of Smart Homes at the event held in Bangalore by ACREX India 2015 in November. The discussion included the demand, market, challenges faced and the solutions to overcome these challenges in order to pave the way for a smarter way of living.

The panelists Nirmal Ram, Cerebration Consultants (Consultant) & National president of ISHRAE, Ramakrishnan, Sobha Developers (Developer), Avinash Gautam, Silvan Innovation Labs (Solution Provider) and Tilak Thomas, Thomas Associates (Architect) deliberated the need

for Smart Homes and how energy efficiency has become need of the hour.

The key panelists also discussed challenges in the form of government regulations, human intervention and availability of skilled labour that the industry is experiencing today. They gave solutions to overcome the barriers in installation of automated devices like the right education to the manufactures, need for certification of installations and right technology with full proof systems. There is a need to identify sustainable measures that can be maintained easily. The discussion concluded with a common thread of thought that Smart Homes are a

New particle board technology

India is dependent on plywood to the extent of almost 85% market share. On the other hand in all developed countries and many developing nations the market share of plywood is mere 15% and reducing every year. Particleboards are extensively used because of the quality that ensures long life of furniture. In addition, state of the art production facilities with latest resin technology is now making particleboards available with very low thickness swelling even after 24 hour testing.

HeveaBoard with in-house R & D has developed a low formaldehyde emission particle board which meets the E1 as well as E0 emission levels as required by buyer but without any compromise in the internal bond or bending strength. A low formaldehyde emission board E1 norm which has an internal bond of >0.60N/mm² and bending strength of >15N/mm² is expected to give thickness swelling <9% even after 24 hour test. The price difference is so nominal that it is still cheaper than plywood. For an affordable price, durable kitchen cabinets can be made from Melamine faced V313 particle boards, available in both 2440mm x 1220mm and 2440mm x 1830mm sizes and on order for projects as well as OEM.

Nitin Vaze, CEO, Sleek Boards (India) LLP says, "HeveaBoard has several short cycle laminating partners to cater to Pan India requirement for E1 and E0 low thickness swelling particle boards for fabrication of kitchen and other machine made furniture in many textures and designs. The melamine faced low swelling low emission particleboards still work out more than 50% economical than the plywood + laminate combination with better finishing, speedy project execution and a higher ecofriendly content."



Silvan Innovation Labs, Mr. Tilak Thomas, Thomas Associates (Architect), Mr. Nirmal Ram, National President ISHRAE, Mr. Ramakrishnan, Sobha Developers 2

necessity in India and with proper measures and extended support of the manufactures, architects, consultants and developers, Smart homes have a bright and promising future in the rapidly expanding Indian market.