

PRESS RELEASE

1 000 000 m³: Stora Enso produces record quantity of CLT in Austria

Stora Enso just recently broke the one million m³ mark of CLT (Cross Laminated Timber) produced at its two Austrian sites in Ybbs an der Donau and Bad St. Leonhard. As a construction material, wood is bang on trend at the moment, thanks to urbanization and growing environmental awareness. It is a significant contributor in the fight against climate change and to protect our environment.



Ybbs an der Donau/Bad St. Leonhard, in August 2019 – 1 million m³ CLT sounds like an awful lot, but what exactly does that mean? This amount is roughly the same volume as 1 000 four-storey buildings each containing 50 units – that's 50 000 apartments! Stora Enso's two Austrian plants in Ybbs an der Donau and Bad St. Leonhard have done the honors in producing this vast amount of CLT since they were set up in 2012 and 2008 respectively. Global demand for CLT is now so huge that Stora Enso Wood Products will be topping up its annual capacity of 100 000 cubic meters to 12 000 cubic meters at the Ybbs/Donau site.

Europe's largest supplier of timber products also opened a new CLT plant in Gruvön, Sweden, earlier this year. The new plant is Stora Enso's third CLT production site and has a capacity of approx. 100 000 m³ per year – that's equivalent to material for around 4 500 standard 75m² three-room apartments.

“The construction industry is currently experiencing a peak. Wood is extremely popular: it grows steadily, can be used in all sorts of applications, and helps to protect the climate – we are responsible for the generations that will come after us,” says Gernot Weiß, CLT business line manager at Stora Enso. Cities are facing plenty of challenges as a result of growing urbanization: for every floor in concrete, there could be three storeys added to the building.

Positive impact for all stakeholders

“CLT enables us to build more quickly than by using other construction materials; this has many advantages for building companies in terms of shortening funding periods and five times less transportation necessary. Plus, neighbors have something to be happy about as building with CLT means less noise and dust pollution. Of course, using wood is also good for the inhabitants themselves, as the indoor climate and room atmosphere is much healthier thanks to the use of this natural product,” Weiß goes on.



Building with wood reaching public consciousness

People in society are becoming more and more aware of the importance of saving resources. Alongside the latest state-of-the-art technological advances, the world's oldest building material is evolving into a material of the future. By upping their wood usage, towns and villages are saving masses amounts of carbon, easing the strain on the environment.

Wood is the No. 1 CO₂ storer

To produce one million cubic meters of the engineered wood product CLT, numerous trees were required as raw materials – which will regrow in Austrian forests in just four weeks. Another advantage of this renewable material is that it stores a hefty amount of CO₂: during the growth phase, 730 000 tons of CO₂ can be filtered; even the processed CLT can store 200 000 tons of carbon in the building.

Knowing the origin

Stora Enso is absolutely committed to sustainable forest management, and that is why it knows exactly where every single tree comes from. Being PEFC™ certified means that the entire processing chain is obliged to commit to ecologically, economically and socially sustainable forestry management. And for every tree harvested, it has to be ensured that new trees grow back. This enables the forest owner to maintain a healthy forest through continual reforestation.

Stora Enso is Europe's largest producer of wood products and to date has supplied CLT for over 15 000 projects all across the globe. Enhanced CLT production capacity, investment in new technologies, the development of new digital services and tools as well as building concepts for offices, residences and schools make Stora Enso a leading provider of innovative solutions for building with wood.

Further information:**Sabrina Bartl**

Press & Communications Manager Europe

Stora Enso Wood Products Division

Tel.: +43 664 6183907

sabrina.bartl@storaenso.com

About Stora Enso

Part of the bioeconomy, Stora Enso is a leading global provider of renewable solutions in packaging, biomaterials, wooden constructions and paper. We believe the future is wood-based and renewable. Stora Enso shares are traded on Nasdaq Helsinki Oy (STEAV, STERV) and Nasdaq Stockholm AB (STE A, STE R). www.storaenso.com

The Wood Products division is a leading supplier of innovative wood-based solutions. Our product range covers all areas of urban construction and encompasses, among other things, solid wood elements and wood components. This is completed by a series of sawn timber products and pellets for sustainable heat generation. A growing portfolio of biocomposites offers the opportunity to replace plastics in consumer goods, thus generating new potential for sophisticated and cost-efficient external applications.