

# Palm innovation without borders:

## IOI Palm Wood's OnCore in sustainable design

From Osaka and Kuala Lumpur to Guangxi, OnCore aims to redefine sustainable design with palm core panels.

As sustainability becomes a cornerstone of design innovation, OnCore has emerged as a material that aims to balance aesthetics with performance in architecture and interiors. With a natural grain, rich texture and a reduced environmental footprint, it combines visual appeal, safety and environmental responsibility, positioning it as a potential material for future spaces.

### MATERIAL INNOVATION MEETS SUSTAINABILITY

Designed for versatility, OnCore supports a broad spectrum of finishing options — including staining, laminates, veneers and textured surfaces — making it suitable for customised applications in residential, commercial and architectural projects.

Besides its visual appeal, OnCore also delivers on technical performance and sustainable credentials. The material meets no added formaldehyde (NAF) standards, offers fire retardancy, achieves a high sound transmission class (STC) rating for effective sound insulation, and has a swelling rate of less than 5% to ensure dimensional stability. It also has a carbon sequestration potential, contributing to climate mitigation efforts.



*OnCore supports a broad spectrum of finishing options, making it suitable for customised applications in residential, commercial and architectural projects*

From international exhibitions to local showrooms, OnCore aims to demonstrate that sustainable materials can

match and, in some cases, surpass the performance of conventional alternatives in both design and functionality.

## ARCHIDEX 2025

Held from 23 to 26 Jul 2025 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in Malaysia, Archidex – one of Asia's leading architecture and design events – featured OnCore within the award-winning organic grid booth, created by KIAN Design.

As a key material sponsor, IOI Palm Wood worked with KIAN Design to create a booth that balanced design with environmental integrity. OnCore materials were used throughout the space, including in coffee tables, cabinets, stools, countertops, adjustable work tables, flooring, wall panels and even the structural elements of the booth.

Panasonic's Palmholz also featured as a co-sponsor, highlighting the potential of sustainably sourced palm-based materials. IOI Palm Wood's team remained on site to handle inquiries, connect with designers and developers, and explore potential collaborations, reinforcing the company's position in the sustainable materials sector.

The refined use of materials and thoughtful presentation earned KIAN Design the curated booth design award at Archidex 2025, bringing both the design and its supporting materials to regional attention.

## CAEXPO 2025

Following its appearances at Expo 2025 in Osaka, Japan, and Archidex in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the company is set for its next international showcase.

IOI Palm Wood will participate in the 22nd China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) from 17 to 21 Sep 2025 at the Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Centre (NICEC) in Guangxi, China. Led by the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE), Malaysia's return to CAEXPO will highlight the country's most promising brands and innovations.



*IOI Palm Wood converts unused oil palm trunks into eco-friendly and sustainable wood panels for the furniture, building and construction industries*

The company's presence – facilitated by the Fibre and Biocomposite Centre (FIDEC) under the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) – marks a significant move toward entering regional markets and introducing OnCore's palm-based material innovation to a wider ASEAN and Chinese audience.

## THE ROAD AHEAD

From Osaka and Kuala Lumpur to Guangxi, IOI Palm Wood's journey reflects a growing demand for sustainable, bio-based design solutions. With OnCore, the company seeks to show that thoughtfully engineered renewable materials can help shape the next generation of responsible architecture and interiors. **P**

*Images courtesy of IOI Palm Wood.*



Inspiring the next "material revolution" by creating sustainable and high-performance materials from oil palm waste, **Peter Fitch**, together with IOI, have set up IOI Palm Wood to commercialise this untapped potential.