

## **Carrefour International du Bois: wood - towards a sustainable approach**

**A unique biennial event in Europe by virtue of its exclusive focus on wood, the Carrefour International du Bois will hold its next edition in Nantes on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The priority of this BtoB tradeshow includes timber and sustainable development. Examples of french timber construction, more innovative now than ever before, will bear witness to this approach.**

Some 500 international exhibitors (representing close to thirty countries) and close to 10,000 visitors from 60 countries are expected to attend this 11<sup>th</sup> edition held at La Beaujoire Exhibition Centre in Nantes. The Carrefour International du Bois will group all of the timber production channel's offers, excluding machining, with products on the one hand (sawing, joinery, parquets, packaging, panels, timber or timber-based technical solutions for the building trade, etc) and trading on the other (importers, dealers, distributors, services, logistics, etc).

This tradeshow is definitely a meeting place that no wood and timber professional should miss. Not only because it gathers Europe's largest product offer in a single place, but also because it helps worldwide professionals to meet within a relaxed, warm-hearted ambience.

Sharing knowledge, the Timber Techniques & Solutions area, the tradeshow's area for construction, will be focusing on information for timber-products users such as project managers and contractors, purchasing advisors, architects, design offices, economists and building trade professionals: exhibitions and high-level technical conference cycles about sustainable building will be gaining a higher profile here.

In order to be consistent with this 11<sup>th</sup> edition's central theme, the Carrefour International du Bois is committed to a pragmatic, eco-concept approach, so as to become an exemplary trade fair by minimising its own environmental impact (water and electricity use, waste, communications displays, etc.).

The Carrefour International du Bois is organised jointly by Atlanbois (an inter-trade association to promote timber in the Pays de la Loire Region) and the Nantes-Saint-Nazaire Port Authority. Tradeshow partners include the main French federations and agencies, which also take part in the steering committee.

The French forest and timber production channel has a turnover in excess of €40b. It employs 425,000 people, more than are employed by the motor industry, and close to one in twenty French nationals own a forest. With almost 130 species of wood, French forests boast substantial biodiversity. France has the largest hardwood forest in Europe and grows many varieties of softwoods: fir, spruce, Douglas-fir, maritime pine, etc. The forest surface area in France is increasing yearly by about 40,000 hectares.

The Carrefour International du Bois was also a partner of the 2009 TTJ Awards, rewarding the UK's greatest timber trade business success stories in terms of marketing, R&D, innovation or "small businesses". **For more information: [www.timbershow.com](http://www.timbershow.com)**

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