

Multipanel asks the industry to re-think MDF

Multipanel, the UK's leading bathroom wall panel brand, has asked the industry to re-think MDF with the recent change of its wall panel core.

Multipanel states that the exterior-grade MDF used for its best-selling bathroom wall panels is not only equally as high-performing but is also more sustainable than the birch plywood timber previously used.

Having upgraded the material in order to address supply chain issues caused by the ongoing war between Russia and the Ukraine, and to maintain a completely sustainable manufacturing process, the decision was made to transition to a high-quality, exterior grade MDF. This industry-leading decision means Multipanel is able to maintain its commitment to using only Forest Stewardship Council<sup>®</sup> (FSC<sup>®</sup>) certified materials and also combat supply chain issues as the panel core is now sourced locally from the Republic of Ireland.

John Mortimer, Sales Director, Multipanel, said:

"While the catalyst for changing the interior of our wall panels from birch plywood to an exterior MDF core was the illegal war in Ukraine, we have seen many benefits from making the change and we want the industry to understand the advantages of Exterior grade MDF over traditional birch plywood.

Exterior MDF is denser than plywood, offers excellent stability during installation and is easy to work with on site. It also has no added Formaldehyde, making it safer to cut than birch plywood. Exterior Grade MDF is more stable and consistently flatter than Plywood, making it perfect for our industry leading Hydrolock joint. This makes the installation process easy and displays the high-quality seamless finish installers expect from Multipanel. Since plywood is manufactured from wood veneers, it is susceptible to surface irregularities and twists in the wood, which means there is a higher scrap rate during the production process and a higher reject rate on site.

Making this switch also has incredible sustainability benefits. The new core is locally sourced from Medite in Ireland, drastically reducing the transit miles from tree to bathroom and is manufactured using recycled materials reducing its environmental impact. We are proud of the fact that you won't find a more sustainable wall panel on the market in the UK.'

Multipanel has partnered with Medite, the supplier of exterior MDF. Medite MDF is made from sustainable wood products. MDF consists of 40% wood chip and 60% by-product. Each range boasts some of the most environmentally efficient building materials on the market, with a product-specific Type 3 Environmental Product Declaration to support this.

With manufacturing sites in Ireland, it offers a dependable, local supply and reduces the carbon footprint for timber merchants and suppliers.

Multipanel is the UK's leading bathroom wall panel, offering a sustainable and modern alternative to traditional bathroom tiling. With Multipanel sustainability complements performance through an easy-to-install, high quality, grout-free product that lasts for years.

Multipanel bathroom wall panels are available in a range of surface designs, including marble, granite, wood and tile effect.

To find out more about Multipanel's sustainability commitments, head to: <u>https://www.multipanel.co.uk/about-multipanel/responsibility/</u>

## Note to editors

Manufactured in Edinburgh, Multipanel is the UK's best-selling bathroom wall panel, and a sustainable and modern alternative to bathroom tiling.

The fast, grout-free installation of Multipanel wall panels makes them a modern alternative to tiles and a favourite with homeowners, bathroom installers, and specifiers in the housing sector

Over 8,000 Multipanel wall panels are manufactured each week at the company's factory in Edinburgh, which are distributed throughout the UK and Northern Europe through merchants, bathroom showrooms and leading online retailers.

Multipanel's new Tile Collection is the only tile-effect wall panel collection in the UK to hold both Made In Britain and Forest Stewardship Council<sup>®</sup> (FSC<sup>®</sup> C128180) certification. Its bathroom wall panels, which come with a 30-year warranty, have a unique tongue and groove installation system, Hydrolock which allows profile-free installation.

To find out more about Multipanel please head to: https://www.Multipanel.co.uk