

From the laminated plywood to the complete furniture kits



After widening their range with different laminating technologies and panel types, Filippi Legnami, in collaboration with Giorgio Levoni srl, inaugurates the new department for cabinet making, while continuing the R&D of innovative materials: it is the case of VittEr, which will dominate their booth at the Caravan Salon.

Words Andrea Cattaneo



Giorgio Levoni and
Francesca Filippi

The ability of a company to look to the future in a positive way can be seen by the investments made and by the search of new products: it is what Filippi Legnami is doing, continuing their growth trend with a truly surprising dynamism.

Those who have the chance to visit their booth at the Caravan Salon in Düsseldorf will not only realize how wide the range of laminated products offered to the recreational vehicle manufacturers is, yet will be able to have a close look at their new product called VittEr (see box at the side): significant changes in the look and functionality of many surfaces in the vans, caravans and motorhomes would be introduced from the next seasons. But it is perhaps the birth of the interior carpentry that attracts more attention, as it has come unexpectedly and clearly shows that Filippi Legnami & Giorgio Levoni are, now more than ever, able to operate in a complete and efficient way in the field of furniture for recreational vehicles.

"The RV sector had already positively answered

to our expanded array of products over the last few years," explains Francesca Filippi, Export Sales manager at Filippi Legnami – and we are no longer engaged solely in the laminating of wood-based panels. From 2013 to today we have been intensifying our range of action, for example with the digital printing and melamine surfaces, so we felt it was time for us to take a step further. Backed by the high volumes of the market, at the end of 2016 we made the decision to start our activity in the RV joinery: in a few weeks we found the appropriate space and set up a machining department." A record start, one could say, yet without forgetting the precision and accuracy of the workmanship which Filippi Legnami is remarkable for: so, after consolidating their position as lightweight panel laminating company in the RV market at a global level, Filippi

Legnami & Giorgio Levoni have gone the extra mile and have opened a unit for the production of furniture kits. Just coordinating with OEMs, they can offer the whole range of furnishing elements to be fitted in the RV. The building that houses the new carpentry plant has an area of 2.000 sqm, which is added to the 6,000 sqm of the existing factory including the laminating lines, the melamine press and the VittEr production plant. Cutting-edge machineries were installed thanks to the active co-operation of Giorgio Levoni srl, and highly skilled and specialized personnel were recruited and hired: as a matter of fact, Berbenno is in a region with a strong tradition in woodworking, hosting an excellent school of carpentry training professional staff able to operate autonomously. Another essential part of the job was the purchase of a software to elaborate



VittEr opens to new design scenarios

At their stand at the Caravan Salon 2017, Filippi Legnami and Giorgio Levoni will introduce a totally new furniture concept based on VittEr, a compact laminate of new generation highly customizable: the surface, core and edge colours can be chosen from a wide range of sample collection while the design pattern can be drawn using the digital printing. The high mechanical strength of the compact laminate makes it possible to use the VittEr boards in thin thicknesses.

The main feature of VittEr is that it is a 0% formaldehyde emission product, thus suitable for the contact with food, for which it has been certified. Ideally used in the kitchen area thanks also to its waterproof

characteristics, it can be designed to fit in the bathroom too, as a basin top, a shower duckboard and also as shower walls. Not only is it resistant to scratches, but to heat, too: this last feature was exploited by Filippi Legnami to develop a kitchen with an integrated hob in collaboration with the world leader cooktop company Dometic. VittEr is also becoming a popular material replacing the traditional glass lid of the cookers.

Officially presented at the Caravan Salon 2017, VittEr has already been chosen by some OEMs and will be the right solution for all designers looking for a captivating new product to be introduced in the next new seasons.



3D projects, which delivers a complete kit by inserting the drawings of every individual furnishing element chosen by the customer." We have an internal management software that adapts to the needs of the customer – explains Salvatore Filippi, General Manager of Filippi Legnami – for the development of the furniture kits. We are able to configure the packaging of the finished product according to the management and logistic needs of the OEMs. Our new carpentry becomes a kind of satellite department of the customer's plant and we are engaged to respect the day and time of delivery agreed, so that our customer does not have to keep goods in stock and just flows in the kits in the assembly line as soon as they are delivered.» A system of modern production and service,

an integrated outsourcing that only a well-run company that stays on top of what's current can offer: "We need to coordinate to perfection with the customer in order to scrupulously adhere to the timing, and to do this we rely on our good organization and sense of responsibility", adds Giorgio Levoni. The new carpentry by Filippi Legnami has several CNCs with different tools to carry out any type of work. There are also smaller machines, even manuals, for more detailed and accurate finishings. Through a special program called "nesting", the drawings data of the pieces are entered and the machine is ordered to work the panel in an optimal way, with the smallest amount of waste. In addition to cutting the panel, the machining centres can make holes, engravings and grooves

of all kinds. The final step is carried out through edge banding machines which can use different types of edges, with linear or shaped surfaces. Each individual piece is then labelled with a barcode, which allows integration with the customer's management system.

"Although the production unit is already well-equipped and fully operational – continues Francesca Filippi – we will soon have a further implementation: by the end of 2017 we will offer our customers curved doors too, which will definitely complete our product range, already among the most comprehensive in Europe. From the simple laminated panel to the complete furniture kits, we are now also ready to approach the American market. "



Company Profile

Founded over forty years ago and active in the woodworking ever since, Filippi Legnami firmly fits into the recreational vehicle industry in 2000, starting a laminating line, recently doubled, for the supply of laminated lightweight panels to be used in the motorhome and caravan interiors as well as in the mobile homes around the world. In 2013, the partnership with the entrepreneur Giorgio Levoni opens to a new phase of consolidation and expansion that sees, among other initiatives, the launch of a new production line using the digital printing for the personalized panels decoration. In addition to it, a melamine pressing line completes

the company's product range with laminated panels that combine an innovative tactile experience with high resistance to wear, abrasion, light and scratches. Filippi Legnami and Giorgio Levoni, where the tailored panels are made.

