

Swedspan OnBoard

Newsletter for the Swedspan Group



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Swedspan welcomes new colleagues from the particleboard plant Lure

April 16, 2010: the Swedspan family grows once more! Operating under the name of Swedspan France, the Lure particle board plant joins the Swedspan Group today – until now, the plant belonged to Isoroy, the French subsidiary of Sonae Industria. Christian G. Schwarz, CEO of Swedspan and new chairman of the Board of Directors of the new subsidiary, welcomes the new colleagues at Swedspan.

Over the past 18 months, Swedspan has intensively studied the purchasing needs of its customers and possible acquisition targets. Today, Swedspan has the pleasure of announcing that the Group will expand further and integrate another particle production site into the Group. Christian: "I would like to welcome all Lure co-workers to become a vital part of Swedspan and to support our ambitious goal of becoming a truly European leader in innovative wood based panels."

With the integration of the Lure plant, Swedspan has taken another step further in achieving its goal to build up important particle board capacities for IKEA's furniture suppliers and to further develop innovative wood based panels. "The integration of Lure fits perfectly into our overall strategy," says Christian. "The plant has the best facilities and a professional team."



Top view on Swedspan France (Lure)

A perfect fit

Located in eastern France – department Haute-Saône – the Lure plant is dedicated to catering to the needs of IKEA furniture suppliers in France and neighbouring countries. However, Swedspan France will also continue its sales to third-party customers within reasonable transport distance. In addition to a beneficial location, the production costs are also attractive at Lure – especially with regards to energy and wood.

Furthermore, the Lure plant was just rebuilt in 2001 and is thus, and thanks to the great job of the Lure co-workers, still in very good shape. “At Lure, we strive to achieve the highest standards in regards to particle board manufacturing,” says Dennis Poty, Director of the plant and new Managing Director of Swedspan France. “We are excited to be part of the Swedspan Group and are looking forward to contributing our knowledge to the ambitious growth story of Swedspan.”

In order to better align the production facilities to the needs of its customers, Swedspan is planning some investments, particularly to facilitate the production of lightweight and Low-Emission boards at Lure. Furthermore, Swedspan will also review the value-added production. As Swedspan has a very strong commitment to sustainability, there will also be investments in environmental technology.

About Swedspan France

The particle board production plant in Lure is located in the department Haute-Saône in eastern France. With some 145 full-time co-workers, the production is mainly focused on raw particle boards and melamine-faced particle boards. The overall capacity is around 470,000 m³ per year.



Lure management and members of the integration team supporting a seamless integration of the Lure plant into the Swedspan Group. From left to right: Werner Falk, Denis Poty, Luc Serdons, Andreas Weidenholzer, Jozef Praznak, Johan Nilsson, Jörgen Lindquist, Bo Söderberg, Annamarie Velic.