

Star Panel Boards Ltd awards contract for the supply of the “first ever” continuous particleboard production line in India to Dieffenbacher

After having bagged the first ever order for a continuous press system in India in the early part of 2008 for a MDF and HDF line, this is the second order for a continuous press in India and the first ever for a particleboard line. This is an important milestone in Dieffenbacher progress in India, once again demonstrating Dieffenbacher’s understanding of the customers’ needs and the capability to provide solutions to meet the same.

Star Panel Boards Ltd, a Joint Venture between Associate Group, Mumbai and Kingswood Suppliers, Bangalore will build the plant designed for a daily capacity of 1,100 m³ at Malur, KIADB Industrial Area, Kolar District in the state of Karnataka. Plant site is about 40 km from the city of Bangalore, the Indian IT Capital. This plant will boost the local availability of excellent quality particle board in the market which is estimated to have a demand supply gap of approximately 450,000 m³ per year.

Dieffenbacher will supply the entire equipment starting from the forming station based on the latest design with integrated metering scales and wind forming principle, the forming line with pre-press, along with the most technologically advanced continuous press, the raw board handling, the fully automated LUKKITM raw board storage system working in three dimensions (3D) and the sanding

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line equipment.

An integral part of the order from Star Panel is the engineering of the entire factory to ensure the highest possible quality of the finished product. The electrics and automation of the entire production line is part of the Dieffenbacher scope supply and services which include the erection supervision, commissioning and optimization. An important factor is the training of the Star Panel personnel at the premises of Dieffenbacher and at Dieffenbacher customer’s operating particleboard plants.

Delivery commences April 2010 and full commercial production is slated to be achieved by second quarter of 2011.

This second order in India showcases the complete integration of the latest acquisition of part of Metso in Sweden and Finland by Dieffenbacher. The drying and sifting system for the first MDF order is supplied by Sunds MDF Technology AB, and for both orders Dieffenbacher Panelboard Finland OY is responsible for the panel handling and the proven LUKKITM storage system as well as for the sanding lines.

Star Panel plans to achieve panel production of 1 million m³ annually by the year 2014 in India. This investment is one of the many steps towards accomplishment of that objective.