



The winning idea

Beleaf rises from the intention of turning a problem into an opportunity

Not many people know that every growth of banana tree (technically called "follower") produces only one banana bunch during its life. In fact, once the bunch is harvested it must be cut and left to rot, in order to allow the next growth to mature and produce another bunch within the next 6 months. During this rotting procedure, it releases a lot of CO₂-e in the air in the form of methane gas, thus becoming a big pollution factor. **Beleaf (Biological Engineer Leaf) rises from the winning idea of turning a problem into an opportunity.** How? Producing panels and veneer from the banana waste, a new chance to build furniture in an ecological way.

Why is Beleaf environmentally friendly?

- Decreases CO₂ emissions.
- Utilizes a by-product from another industry.
- No extra land is required to supply the raw material.
- Consumers have an option to positively help the environment just using the product.
- No chemical glues are needed to produce panels, since banana fibers have a natural resin on their own
- The production is done in the same place where bananas are grown
- It is naturally water repellent, without adding chemicals
- Very little energy is required to complete the conversion process

Advantage on traditional woods

- The opening to a new world of colours and designs
- Flexibility to suit any need of size and shape.

Areas of use

- Furniture
- Cars
- Boats
- Flooring
- Design
- Accessories
- Paneling

Prototypes and first applications

The first applications of Beleaf veneer and panels have been the following: furniture, dashboards, parquet floorings, lamps and loudspeakers.

Awards and supporters

Even if Beleaf is young has already got great supporter as **WWF** and **Prince Albert II Foundation of Monaco**, and has won the **Interzum 'Best of the best' award 2011**.

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