

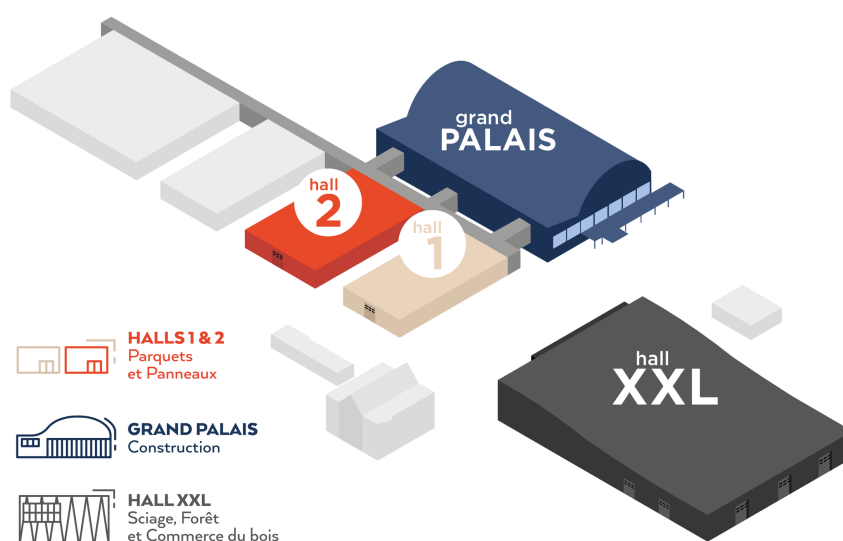
CARREFOUR  
INTERNATIONAL DU  
**BOIS** 28 | 29 | 30 MAI  
2024 NANTES  
FRANCE  
AU CŒUR DES MARCHÉS

## Carrefour International du Bois

### Opening of pre-registrations for visitors: the perfect event with its new sectoral structure

The Carrefour International du Bois, the event not to be missed for all the timber industry, is back for 2024. Registration for visitors has been open for a few weeks now. People can now create their badges and those of their colleagues and customers to come and meet all the professionals in the sector (sawmilling, panels, parquet, specialist trade, wood construction solutions) who will be present on 28, 29 and 30 May in Nantes.

For over 30 years, the Carrefour International du Bois has been an unmissable business meeting for the timber industry. Launched in 1992 by Pierre Piveteau, originally created as a tool to allow the timber industry to showcase its know-how, today it's a show that's unique in its scope; the only event that brings together all the international players in the sector. In 2022, the Carrefour International du Bois put on a record-breaking event (607 exhibitors and 14,000 visitors, + 10% internationally).



The upcoming event is already marked by a new development, since trade exhibitors will be present in 4 exhibition halls organised into major sectors:

- Parquet in Hall 1
- Panels in Hall 2
- Construction & services in the Grand Palais and Mezzanine
- Sawmilling, Forestry and Wood Trade in the XXL hall

### A SECTOR-BASED APPROACH TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CARREFOUR INTERNATIONAL DU BOIS

"The Carrefour International du Bois is designed for the trade, both exhibitors and visitors. The change of the opening days to Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will help improve logistics (particularly in terms of dismantling), as well as travel. Optimising the visitor journey and experience is a key point to confirm the strong growth and the international reach of the show. The sector-based approach will therefore provide an additional bonus to improve product visibility and facilitate interaction." **Géraldine Cesbron, Manager of Carrefour International du Bois**

This new arrangement will shake up the way exhibitors normally do things, although they agree that the visitor experience will be improved as a result: **"This wasn't what we were expecting as exhibitors, but we think that splitting the event into sectors will help people better structure their visit and find their way around the different halls more easily"**, explained Décospan Wood Solutions, a Belgian manufacturer of panels and parquets.

**"Visitors spend less and less time at trade shows because their schedules don't allow it. This sectoral approach helps simplify the visitor's journey and target the exhibitors they wish to meet according to the type of activity they are involved in"**, explained Malvaux, a French manufacturer of decorative and technical wooden panels.

## DESPITE A CONSTRUCTION MARKET UNDER PRESSURE, THE WOOD INDUSTRY IS DOING WELL

With the post-pandemic euphoria now over, the markets are very different today and companies need to adapt to this new business climate. Construction has suffered in recent months, leading to a decline in activity in certain sectors.

**“Markets differ depending on the products they sell. Some sell well, while other products suffer with a lot of stock among customers, who are therefore less inclined to purchase”**, explains the Rougier Group, which supplies sawn timber across the world.

According to FFB forecasts, construction starts are expected to decline by 16% year-on-year next year, while building permits issued will decrease by 12%. But professionals like Malvaux are still seeing encouraging signs of recovery, as is the Rose group, attending with the Norsilk and Protac subsidiaries. **“Our sector is less affected than structural work, thanks to house renovations and extensions. We notice plenty of interest in exterior design, particularly thanks to the ease and versatility of using wood.”**



During the Carrefour International du Bois there will be two trade events related to the timber pellet industry :

- The 28th May : the European Pellet Forum an international event for the industry.
- The 29th May : the Propellet Event concerning the french pellet industry.



## INCREASINGLY CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

**“CSR policies are becoming increasingly ambitious; prescriptive pressure impacts our offer and supply choices. The RDUE (regulation against deforestation and forest degradation) aims to establish total traceability of wood, and its introduction raises a number of difficulties”**, according to Drouin, one of the leading French companies in the production of poplar panels, which has attended the show for 20 years.

The Carrefour International du Bois will therefore be an opportunity to address current issues within the sector: Mobilising and renewing resources, applying RDUE and REP, CSR issues in companies. So many concerns and topics of discussion on the agenda at conferences and in the alleys.

Finally, for Rigawood, the French subsidiary of the Latvijas Finieris group - the second-biggest European producer of birch plywood - which has attended the show since 2004:

**“Beyond providing a showcase for our know-how and new products, it's a major corporate gathering with all our partners, as well as the group's foreign subsidiaries. It's an essential opportunity to get a better perception of market trends.”**

All wood applications and solutions, whose use is a sustainable alternative to non-renewable materials, will be presented during these 3 days dedicated to the material, bringing together all stakeholders in the sector. An event that takes you to the heart of the market !



### CONTACT PRESSE

**Martha RP, agence B17 Communication**

Calypso Goulet - [calypso.goulet@b17.fr](mailto:calypso.goulet@b17.fr) - 06 43 05 56 39  
Astrid Largement - [astrid.largement@b17.fr](mailto:astrid.largement@b17.fr) - 02 40 89 49 23