Wood Design Award

The "Wood Design Award" acknowledges outstanding wood products and related activities which contribute to the promotion of comfortable life, human health, and social prosperity from the perspective of consumers.

Overview of Wood Design Award 2016

- Management Body: Wood Design Award Steering Committee
- Program supported by Forestry Agency
- Application Period: June 20 - July 27, 2016
- Works and activities eligible for consideration:
  1) Architecture, Space, Building Material: Retail stores, public institutions/facilities, offices, houses, and building materials
  2) Wood Products: Furniture, interior goods, tableware and kitchenware, daily goods, stationeries, and toys
  3) Communication: Workshops, promotional activities, capacity building, business model
  4) Technology and Research: Technology, research and development, and trial work

Award Categories

- Lifestyle Design: Promote the quality of life through wood use
- Health Care Design: Improve mental and physical well-being through wood use
- Social Design: Revitalize community through wood use

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JAPAN WOOD DESIGN AWARD 2016
Cutting-edge Wood Products in Japan

BEST AWARD (Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Award)
the Setsuna concept (Aichi Prefecture)/Toyota Motor Corporation

ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD (Review Committee Chair Award)

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"Kumundah": Wooden Jungle-gym (Shiga Prefecture)
Katsumi Kawamura / Wood Products

Children feel the warmth of wood and communicate with each other while playing with wood, even if they are first met.

Wood Products Manufactured in Sheltered Workshops (Hokkaido Prefecture)
Forest Products Research Institute of Hokkaido Research Organization, Sapporo City University, Katarube-no-mori of Tomak/Technology and Research
Development of wood products with an excellent design, which handicapped people can produce at sheltered workshops, through the cooperation among university, sheltered workshop, and public research institute.

Kumamoto Earthquake Relief Support through “Kudeju”
(Kumamoto Prefecture)
Shinohara Shoten Co., Ltd./Architecture and Space

Wood components for self-assembling furniture, called “Kudeju,” were supplied to emergency shelters for the Kumamoto Earthquake in April 2016 to install self-assembling partitions or shelves for those shelters.

Yabukuguri (Oita Prefecture)
Yabukuguri, Takara-ya, TRYWOOD Co., Ltd., Marugen Inc./Communication

Community platform of experts in forestry and wood products, as well as designers, carpenters, and editors with the interest in wood use. It proposes multiple use of local resources, such as development of wooden lunchbox and its menu at the same time.

Kumundah: Wooden Jungle-gym
(Aichi Prefecture)
Toyota Motor Corporation

Environments for Housing and Life (Shiga Prefecture)
AQURAHOME CO., LTD., Holzstr Inc., Taiji Kawano Architects, Shinohara Shoten Co., Ltd./Architecture and Space

Japan’s first medium-sized three-story wooden building constructed with generic lumber and generic processing/construction technologies.
EXCELLENCE AWARD (Forestry Agency Director-General Award)

**Earthquake-resistant Reinforcement System: T-Forest (Osaka Prefecture)**
Takanaka Corporation /Technology and Research

"T-Forest" is an earthquake-resistant re-enforcement system for large-scale reinforced concrete (RC) buildings by means of engineered wood products including CLT (laminated timber), LVL, and LV with good performance in strength, processing, and transportation. CIT and LV are installed with adhesive, while braces of laminated timber with cold springs. This system causes little vibration or noise during installation, and can shorten the construction period. Although there are a number of reinforcement systems using wood for wooden buildings, such system for RC buildings is expected to become more attractive in Japan because of its image and functionality. This system is a superior initiative that contributes to both resilience of buildings and promotion of domestic wood use.

**Confer with wood, including sugi (Japanese cedar), has been considered improper for furniture production due to its softness. TENDO MOKKO pioneered a new processing technology for confer wood to laminate a number of roller-pressed softwood veneers into interior components with beautiful curved shapes. Since this system continuously presses sheets of veneer with rollers, the color of wood can be maintained during its short heating time. The system also enables mass production of such furniture components with its continuous processing. This system adds new values to confer softwood in Japan by providing durability and weather resistance. This technology contributes to the promotion of wood use by broadening opportunities for diverse design and functionality.

**Roll Press Wood (Yamagata Prefecture)**
TENDO CO., LTD. /Technology and Research

The concepts of this two-story wooden house "Hokkio-ike" are "regional production and incorporation to Tokyo consumption," "solid basis of technology and performance," and "durability and easy maintenance." This wooden house realized wooden structure with earthquake- and fire-resistant performance in quasi fire prevention districts through careful considerations in planning. This project provides all the solutions to challenges in planning wooden buildings in urban area. The appearance of wood surface also provides warm atmosphere in urban communities.

**Wooden Emergency Relief Houses for 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake (Kumamoto Prefecture)**
Japan Federation of Architects & Building Engineers Associations, Wood & Housing Research Association /Architecture and Space

In the event of Kumamoto Earthquake in April 2016, construction of emergency relief houses with domestic wood was proposed to Kumamoto Prefecture to relieve earthquake refugees. In response, local builders cooperatively procured wooden materials to construct 60 emergency houses in Uki City. For the emergency relief function, the houses use generally and domestically-distributed lumber, and can be constructed within as short as three weeks. This project realized both the relief from natural disasters and the promotion of use in local resources at the same time.

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**ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD (Review Committee Chair Award)**

**Hi-to-kure (Life with Wood)**
HIKOKI Corporation /Architecture and Space

Through the cooperation among industry, academia, and government, a "WOOD INFLUX" system of the wooden hospital room unit was developed for the regional hospital in regional wood in hospital rooms. Effects of virus, bacteria, and disinfection with alcohol on wood were also studied for the expansion of regional wooden wood demand, increase of added value, and branding of domestic wood. Since the healing and relaxation effects of wood use is beneficial for medical institutions, demand for such use is expected to increase, especially in the "aging society" of Japan. This unit has a potential to become popular in general hospital, since it can be easily installed without renovation of buildings. With the use of this system, further evidences on medical effects from wood use are also expected.

**Kinos Personal Organizer (Aichi Prefecture)**
Nagano Lumber Co., Ltd. /Wood Products

The wooden cover, light and easy to carry, offers a pleasant feeling with softness, texture and warmth. By proposing an innovative way of wood use for comfortable daily life.

**Light-transmitting Wood (Shizuoka Prefecture)**
Honlap! Sاغimoto (Shizuoka University) /Technology and Research

Wood processing technology to allow light to transmit at a specific point of wood by controlling wood compression to cause diffused reflection.

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**Best Award (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Award)**

The Settsuna concept (Aichi Prefecture) /Toyota Motor Corporation

The concept of "Settsuna" expresses the idea of "love grows as time passes," through the use of wood as material for vehicles. As the owner takes due care of the car with his/her love, the color and feel of wood changes, transforming the car into something unique to the owner's family, which will be passed on from generation to generation.

To represent its concept, the species of wood are carefully chosen for specific application, such as sugi (Japanese cedar) for exterior panels or kabu (Japanese birch) for structural frame, and due considerations are given to the size and order of each component. "Oliveria", a traditional joinery technique that joins wood without nails or screws, is applied to connecting parts, realising beautifully curved body shape like a boat. With “100-year meter” counting time over generations and drivers seats with leather, "Settsuna" will become more attractive as its design matures.

"Settsuna" is an excellent project born from collaboration of two different specialties; automobile manufacturing and wood use, satisfying the objective of the Award the promotion of use of wood in wide variety of products and fields from the perspective of consumers. This project is expected to broaden the use of wood in other products and fields, including medical and welfare products.

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**Best Award**
- **Best Award**

**Remote Control Furniture (Kumamoto Prefecture)**
Toyooka Homes /Wood Products

Integrating wood furniture with both strength and viscosity of hardwood and lightness and softness of softwood, the expertise of craftsmen realized sharp and warm appearances without inessentialness.

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**Revelation of My Home (in partnership with Carpenters (Aichi Prefecture) Simuwatari Co., Ltd.) (Birch Press)**

This project is an activity to renovate old houses with the support of experts in housing construction. The project provides a business model to renovate old wooden houses in a planned manner, through the combination of "Carpenters" with highly-developed skills, "local wood" with good performance, and "stable quality" with systematic processing and quality control. This project also has other social aspects, including restoration of old traditional wooden houses as local heritage, introduction of "carpenters’ expertise," and prevention of abandoned houses in urban areas. Further, such revitalization of old wooden houses as "social stock" could contribute to the improvement of quality of life and promotion of domestic wood use in the society.