Development of the Evaluation Method for Domestic Hardwood as Musical Instruments (Kyoto Prefecture)
Laboratory of Biomaterials Design, Division of Forest and Biomaterials Science, Graduate School of Agriculture, Kyoto University / Technology and Research
This method enables to visualize the acoustic characteristics of domestic hardwood in comparison to those of imported hardwood for making musical instruments. This method is expected to add more values to lower-priced domestic hardwood species, and, ultimately, to lead to a high-profit forestry management.

Public Disaster Restoration Houses for the Great East Japan Earthquake
"Shisō-nergy Housing Complex" (Fukushima Prefecture)
Fukushima Prefecture, Akitawa Architectural Design Office Co. Ltd., Aizu Doken Co., Ltd., Hikari Densetsu Co., Ltd., Yatsushira Setsukō Co., Ltd. / Architecture and Space
Dismantled materials of emergency relief houses are temporarily stored and reused in building the public disaster restoration houses to secure the living of refugees in Fukushima prefecture. The disaster restoration houses are designed to enable reuse of building materials through the application of the "Shisō-nergy" method which applies detachable screws instead of nails.

Renovation of Wooden Houses for Healthy and Comfortable Life
"Shisō-nergy house" - ecological building system for the Harima region (Hyogo Prefecture)
Yamahiro wood builder Co., Ltd., Shisō-no-morinoki Co., Ltd. / Communication
Yamahiro wood builder Co. uses the Shisō-nergy for approximately 95% of wood for the construction of this type of houses, and practically connects regional knowledge of the culture and environment of the Harima region. Yamahiro hopes that the Shisō-nergy house would develop a new landscape and promotes the exchange among residents in the city.

Technology and Research
Kyoto University
Biomaterials Science, Graduate School of Agriculture, Kyoto University / Technology and Research

Overview of Wood Design Award 2017
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.

Award Categories
Lifestyle Design: Promote the quality of life through wood use
- Construction, space, wood products, projects, or technology and research which improve the functionality or convenience by wood use, explore the new domain of wood use, or propose better life with wood use to consumers.

Health Care Design: Improve mental and physical well-being through wood use
- Construction, space, wood products, projects, or technology and research which appeal to human senses, provide relaxation, improve mental and physical health, or communicate background stories of producers through wood use.

Social Design: Revitalize community through wood use
- Construction, space, wood products, projects, or technology and research which contribute to the revitalization of forestry and community, develop sustainable systems of wood use, advocate the importance of wood use, or develop human resources.
**EXCELLENCE AWARD** (Forestry Agency Director-General Award)

**Sukumo Shigem Credit Association Main Office** (Kochi Prefecture)
Sou Architectural Factory, Sukumo Shigem, Ltd., Sanokah Kensestu / Architecture & Space

This is the first wooden bank building which used CLT for the structural members. Its impressive appearance with the wooden half-timbered roof draws attention in the rural landscape. The balance between the post-and-beam structure and the panel structure of CLT appeals the potential and functionality of wood use to the visitors. In particular, the ceiling composed of CLT and stretching strings realized the large space with the span of 11.4 meters without post in the lobby and office room on the ground floor. This wooden space showcases the creative design of CLT, while serving for daily lives of local people as a banking facility.

**Exposition of Wood and Housing** (Kagawa Prefecture)
Nice Corporation, Wood & Housing Research Association, Institute for Wooden Building Structure / Communication

A comprehensive exhibition to communicate the latest information and brand-new proposals on houses, construction, and lifestyles with wood, presented through the cooperation among enterprises, organizations, local governments, and research institutes. The expositions were held in five locations in Japan, attracting as many as 150,000 visitors in total, ranging from general people to professional wood users. The exposition presents various uses of wood in the housing and construction sector. Visitors can learn and enjoy the uses of wood through first-hand experiences. The scale of the exposition is huge, with the participation of wide range of stakeholders.

**G-Building** (Igura-oka ota 018) (Japan Retail Fund Investment Corporation, Klein Dytham Architecture, Fujiji Corporation, Shelter Co., Ltd., Architecture & Technology

A one-hour fire resistant commercial building with the wooden fire-resistant material, “COOL WOOD.” This three-story comfortable building warmly welcomes visitors with the concept of “Home.” Wood is used for the exteriors as well as the structural members of the building to compose an excellent design, which provides a charming and pleasant wooden space with impressive appearances. The wood use augments the value of the space, where visitors can enjoy the woody surroundings, and the tenants can gain synergy effects of the attractive space and their products.

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

**Hatte "NAMAN"** (Fukuoka Prefecture)
Moguji-no-Mori / Wood Products

This company promotes the proposal-based project “Houses with Firewood Stove” beyond the use of firewood stoves, the project as establishing firewood hacking group and clients to experience local forests and wood, such as living in wooden houses. This project realized the functionality as furniture at the same time. In the city center around the JR Akita Station, the station building, corridor, and waiting lounge have been renovated with a uniform design of wooden surface. Both products are produced by a unique molding technology. The unique beautiful of wood grains of maple and the touch of hand experiences. The scale of the exposition is huge, with the participation of wide range of stakeholders.

**New Tree Procurement System with Drone (UAV)** (Okayama Prefecture)
Inokuma Forestry Co., Ltd. / Technology and Research

This system enables to identify the boundary of a specific land area and the species of trees standing there, with the use of GIS and 3D photos taken by drones (UAVs), at the time of procurement of standing trees. The system also enables an accurate value estimate of standing trees for a short period of time, and solves the problem of information shortage on forest land due to change of hands and aging of forest owners. Efficiency and accuracy of procurement of standing trees would contribute to the realization of stable supply of wood.

**Wooden Indoor Playground "Kansei-no-mori"** (Miyagi Prefecture)
Nishiki Estate Inc., Progetto Corporation, Akagawa Design Office, Hokusia Co., Ltd. / Architecture and Space

In this wooden indoor playground for children, there is no such toy as plastic or mechanical. All of the space is composed of wood, including a pool containing 300,000 pieces of wooden balls and various types of wooden building blocks, allowing children to play with wood and feel the touch of wood through their “five senses.” This playground provides a unique opportunity for visitors to learn the charm of wood through first-hand experiences.

This mousepad enables comfortable and stress-free operations of computers with the bendable palm rest, assisting ups and downs of the wrist of users as well as the smooth finish of wooden surface. The fourteen-case is light-weighted but tough with a minimal and beautiful design, presenting the beauty of wood grains of maple and the touch of wooden surface. Both products are produced by a unique technology of wood-bending, realizing both beauty and functionality at the same time.

**Mousseled and Fountainpinned Case of Curved Wood** (Nagano Prefecture)
Storio Corporation / Wood Products

This building was designed for Jr East Design Corporation. The wooden space showcases the creative design of CLT, while serving for daily lives of local people as a banking facility.

**Mosaic and Fountainpinned Case of Curved Wood** (Nagano Prefecture)
Storio Corporation / Wood Products

In the city center around the JR Akita Station, the station building, corridor, and waiting lounge have been renovated with a uniform design of wooden surface. Both products are produced by a unique molding technology. The unique beautiful of wood grains of maple and the touch of hand experiences. The scale of the exposition is huge, with the participation of wide range of stakeholders.

**Wooden Soundproof System "Mute"** (Tokyo)
Mitsui Home Co., Ltd. / Technology and Research

Wood has a weak point of sound-proof performance due to its lightweight. Market research results show that there is a great need for high sound-proof performance in buildings. The company developed the new sound floor system “Mute,” which enables builders to explore the new frontier of wood use, while providing home owners with comfortable living environment. Sound-proof performance is very important for people living in collective housing, especially for family with small children. This sound floor system would promote use of wood for interior and flooring by mitigating the noise problems.

**Yusuiyadai Elementary School** (Okayama Prefecture)
Ako Seibai Co., Ltd. / Architecture & Space

This school building is composed in a “half-open” structure, which allows light, wind, and activities pass through, while blocking sounds and views by triangular walls.

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**COVER : BEST AWARD** (Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Award)

**Northern Station Gate Akita Project** (Akita Prefecture)
East Japan Railway Company, Akita University of Art, Hagawa Furniture MFG. Co., Ltd., JR East Design Corporation, Dalichi Kensestu Co., Ltd., Tekken Corporation / Architecture and Space

The project aims to create the place for sightseers to experience the touch of local Akita wood, as well as for the local residents to feel comfortable. Through the cooperation of a wide range of stakeholders related to wood use, the project realized the place surrounded by wood, where people can experience the touch of wood and be healed by the comfort of wood, while contributing to increasing the number of visitors.

**Design Lab Talkeshi (Tokyo)**
Kotaro Talkeshi / Architecture & Space

A laboratory for designers to “make,” “try,” and “show” their products in a single space. The space uses untreated wood products includinganyak wood for floors, walls, and furniture. The space stimulates the spirit of “challenging,” and encourages communications among different fields.

**Babylath "Iku-Yukae"** (Nagano Prefecture)
Youkoudai Elementary School, Ibaraki Prefecture
"Babylath" is a laboratory made from birch, cypress, and maple. The instrument is made of raw wood, providing smooth surface. The instrument starts playing by just closing the tub, the tub can be used as footbath or storage in a daily life.