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Lamtec Malaysia earns good reputation in Germany

BERLIN: Lamtec Malaysia, Malaysia's very own registered trademark for premium wooden laminated scantlings, has earned a good reputation in Germany with its product being used by window maker PADO Elementebau GmbH here.

The Braunschweig based PADO has been using between 50 and 60 per cent of Malaysian timber for its products besides local wood such as spruce.

Lamtec's window frame which has geometrical panels and grooves is very sturdy

and designed in such a way it enables the window to not only open but even tilt from the upside.

Besides Germany, these frames have found their way to markets in Austria and as far as the United States.

Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities Tan Sri Bernard Dompok who visited the factory was clearly impressed with the usage of a Malaysian product by a credible window maker, saying that people would pay a premium for quality. Improvement in

technology has also made the product durable, he said.

"The more sustainable the timber is, the more the market is restricted and people pay a premium for it," he added.

Dompok is leading a 20-member delegation on a working visit to Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium.

The brand Lamtec is the brainchild of a collaboration between four established timber organisations, namely, the Malaysian Wood Industries Association (MWIA), Forest Research Institute of Malaysia

(FRIM), Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) and Malaysian Timber Council.

Formed in 2004, the alliance aims to raise the standards of product quality by enhancing production processes and quality control and to this end, only certain mills are specially selected to work closely with the alliance in meeting the stringent quality demands of the German and European markets.

With a defect-free and uniform wood colour, Lamtec has superior wood density

and comes with a 10-year warranty. The timber is also obtained from legal and sustainable resources.

According to Goh Chee Yew, the honorary assistant secretary general of MWIA, the Lamtec project has been funded by the levy funds from the exports of timber.

He said there is a huge demand for Lamtec but the supply is inadequate.

Currently about four mills have been involved in producing the product while another eight companies have applied

to participate.

Goh said the product was only meant for export and they have a distributor in Europe. The types of timber used are the meranti, kasai, bintangor and gerutu.

Lamtec Malaysia was launched at a trade fair "Fernstenbau/Frontale" held in 2006 in Nuremberg.

To meet the expectation of window makers in Germany, the raw material used are subject to careful screenings, durability, workable and quality tests. - Bernama