

Modern Careers

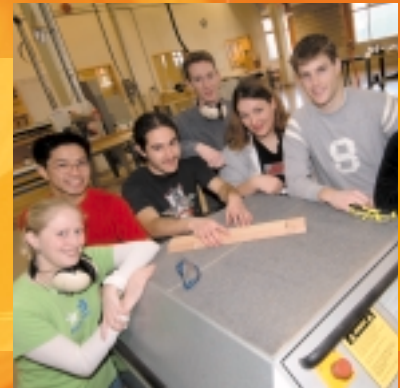
engineered in wood



Are you planning
your future?

We invite you to consider opportunities in the Advanced Wood Manufacturing sector in Canada.

You might be surprised to know that there are far more jobs today than qualified people to fill them. The industry is looking for young people from apprenticeship programs, as well as college and university graduates. You can have a modern career engineered in wood!



 www.wmc-cfb.ca

An apprenticeship

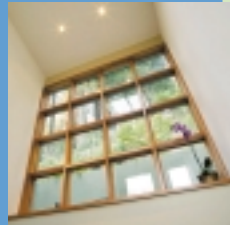
combines class study with on-the-job training, which gives you valuable work experience. On the job, you learn from a qualified tradesperson and you are paid based on your level of skill. Classes are often offered at community colleges; some are offered in high schools. You graduate as a Certified Journeyman when you finish your program and meet the industry standards. To become an apprentice, you apply to an employer, union, or local apprenticeship committee.

Joel Delaurier

Student, Woodworking Technician program, St. Clair College Windsor, Ontario

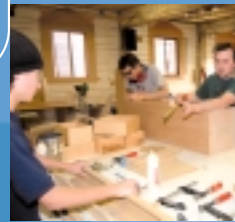
Joel Delaurier enjoyed working in wood during high school in Iroquois Falls, Ontario. After graduation, he enrolled in the Woodworking Technician program at St. Clair College in Windsor, Ontario. "You're really trained for the manufacturing environment," he says.

The program provides both theory and hands-on experience; last year, Joel's class built new computer labs for the college. "If you really like getting your hands dirty and creating new stuff, this is the program for you."



EARN WHILE YOU LEARN

Don't wait until you're out of school to make money. Apprenticeship and co-op programs at colleges and universities let you work in the industry, earning money and gaining valuable work experience while you complete your studies.



Ian Carmichael

Apprentice, Beckville Woodcrafts Ltd. Maple Ridge, British Columbia

Ian Carmichael has no doubts: "Apprenticeship is a great way to start your career." He has worked at Beckville Woodcrafts since he was in high school. As an apprentice he worked while developing his skills in the shop and taking classes at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT).

You can't quarrel with the results. Ian recently bested 15 other entrants in an apprenticeship contest sponsored by the Architectural Woodwork Manufacturers Association of BC. "They give you plans for a cabinet and you build it. The best quality, time and accuracy wins."



Job opportunities just keep growing

Jobs in wood processing are available around the corner and around the world. The fast-paced growth and increasing sophistication of wood manufacturing means an ever-increasing demand for trained craftspeople, technicians, and manufacturing specialists.

There's a need for people like you

Wood products processing is one of the fastest growing manufacturing sectors in Canada. The industry needs skilled and educated people for careers in furniture and cabinet-making, product design, quality control, plant layout, computer applications, equipment sales and service, and international trade and marketing.



Exciting, modern, sophisticated – wood!

Advanced wood products processing is exciting, modern and sophisticated. It uses high technology to transform lumber, wood chips, and panel products into a wide range of manufactured products, including:

- furniture and cabinetry
- windows and doors
- solid and laminated flooring
- engineered wood products such as LVL, I-Joists, and structural composite lumber
- structural panels, fibreboard, and particleboard
- pre-fabricated buildings (factory-built homes)
- millwork – including mouldings, turned posts and rails, and other architectural finishing products.



Elizabeth Stotts

Owner, Architectural Cadd Elements Vancouver, British Columbia

Not all apprentices come straight out of high school. Elizabeth Stotts had a career in the fashion industry in Toronto before she apprenticed in woodworking. But the garment industry was in decline and Elizabeth says she "wanted out."

When she moved to Vancouver and was unable to find furniture she wanted to buy, she decided to turn a hobby into a career. She set up a shop in her basement and was soon studying joinery. An apprenticeship was the logical next step.

While studying at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT), Elizabeth worked at a custom millwork shop and became skilled with computer drafting. "I started doing drawings manually," she says, "but within a year I was doing CAD drawings."

Drafting is still a key part of her work. Elizabeth provides CAD services for various clients and also works as a Project Manager for her client E.A. Fisher Architectural Woodwork. In this role, she oversees jobs from design to installation, creating interiors for stores, restaurants, offices and homes.

"Your success is directly related to how well the client is satisfied," she says. "It's very hands-on, emotional work."



College and university

programs in advanced wood manufacturing provide you with an in-depth knowledge of wood properties, manufacturing, industrial engineering, business and marketing. Canadian programs give you both theory and experience through co-op work programs.

Students in wood products processing programs are finding out that their degrees and diplomas are in high demand. Companies across Canada and around the world are actively pursuing graduates from these programs.

College Graduates

▶ Greenhouse gases?

Trees can help. Carbon dioxide contributes to the greenhouse effect but trees use it to make their own food – and as they grow, carbon is incorporated into the tree's wood. This is called carbon sequestering. Furniture, houses and other products made from wood continue to lock this carbon in place. In the meantime, sustainable forestry practices in Canada require that all trees harvested are regenerated, creating a new forest to continue this work.

Andy Burrows

*Sales Representative, MBI® Software
Burlington, Ontario*

After high school, Andy Burrows worked in a gold mine. When it closed, he decided to study wood processing and enrolled in Woodworking Technology at Conestoga College in Kitchener.

The software he sells for MBI® provides end-to-end solutions for organizing, controlling and optimizing business processes from point of sale through manufacturing, including distribution and workflow.

"I enjoy seeing the look on people's faces when they realize what we can do for them," he says.

▶ WOOD FOR THE PLANET:

Choosing wood over steel or concrete results in:

- lower greenhouse gas emissions
- lower air pollution
- lower water pollution
- fewer solid waste by-products.

Graig Robison

*Manager of R & D, Shermag
Edmundston, New Brunswick*

Graig Robison loves wood and has been making furniture for years. "It's very satisfying, because wood continues to change colour and shape. It's a living material."

A graduate of the Woodworking Centre of Excellence at the New Brunswick Community College in Campbellton, Graig works with woodworkers and designers on new furniture prototypes. Together, they find more cost-effective methods of production. "I can always improve, and I learn new things every day," he says.



WOOD FOR THE AGES:

Churches in Norway and temples in Japan have lasted over a thousand years. Even the foundation of the Empire State Building rests on wood piles! Wood is recyclable too. Beautiful aged wood is reclaimed from old bridges, barns, ships, even wine tanks – and reused in valuable new products such as furniture, beams, and flooring.



Christina Popiel

*Quality Assurance Technologist, Loewen Windows
Steinbach, Manitoba*

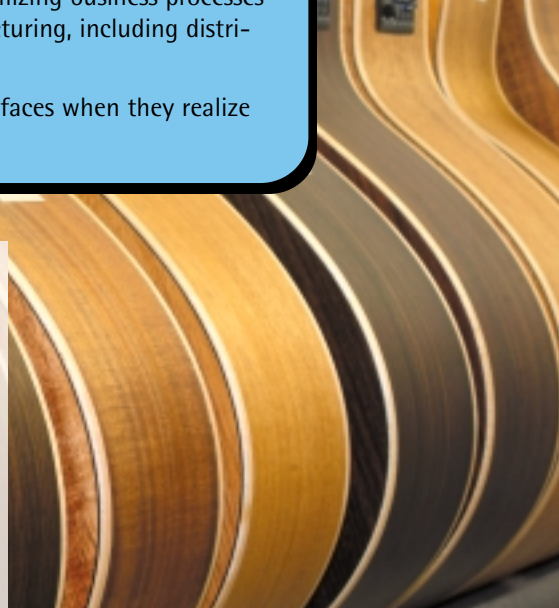
For Christina Popiel, furniture is art that serves a function. She's been building furniture since junior high and her dream is to own her own business. "I've always wanted an outlet for my artistic passion," she says.

While attending high school in Winnipeg, she took carpentry and academic courses. When she learned that taking extra carpentry classes could ensure advanced placement in the Wood Products Manufacturing Technology program at Red River College, she decided to count herself in.

The course gave her a solid grounding in manufacturing processes, plant layout, communications, computer skills and much more. Each year, she also had a chance to work in the industry – twice with millwork companies and once with a kitchen re-facing franchise.

Now working as a Quality Assurance Technologist with Loewen Windows in Steinbach, Manitoba, Christina writes standards and product specifications, analyzes trends in quality control, and trains inspectors. "I know the work I do will better our products," she says.

Perhaps thinking of the furniture she hopes to someday build in her own company, she adds, "Quality is essential for any high-end product."



University Graduates



Carla Kraljevic

*Manufacturing Analyst, DeFehr Furniture Limited
Winnipeg, Manitoba*

Good at science and math, Carla Kraljevic enrolled in engineering at university. But when she learned about the University of British Columbia's Wood Products Processing program, she decided to switch. "The work just seemed applicable to the real world," she says.

Carla helps facilitate process improvements and assess new equipment. She also acts as colour development coordinator and liaison with coating suppliers, and prepares for community environmental meetings. "The work is dynamic," she says, "and you feel like you can make a difference."



Tom Sweatman

*Technical Sales Representative, Nascor Incorporated
Calgary, Alberta*

Tom Sweatman landed a "dream job" right after graduating from the University of British Columbia's Wood Products Processing program. Palliser Furniture hired him to source suppliers and help build a factory in Southeast Asia. "It was awesome. I was involved in factory design and travelled throughout Asia."

That experience prepared him for his current job, licensing Nascor technology to companies around the world from the company's office in Calgary. Why Calgary? "I wanted to work near the ski slopes," he explains.



Shaun St. Amour

*Process Engineer, Viceroy Homes
Richmond, British Columbia*

When Shaun St. Amour says "cutting edge" he's not talking about a saw blade. His passion is sharpening up manufacturing processes to make the most of people's time and the materials they use. That passion was stirred when he worked at an aging sawmill while he was taking the Wood Products Processing course at the University of British Columbia.

"It was amazing," he says, "just a cluster of illogical conveyors. It really made me want to help do things right." His degree put him on the path to doing just that. Today as a Process Engineer at Viceroy Homes in Richmond, BC, Shaun's focus is on planning manufacturing processes to cut down on the waste of materials and time.

Shaun knows from experience that cutting-edge knowledge is at a premium in wood processing. His company had to hire lean manufacturing experts from the automotive sector to help streamline its processes. "With a degree like mine, you can work anywhere in Canada," he says. "The industry requires our skill set. It's just blossoming and, as people become more environmentally conscious, the industry will grow."

▶ DOING MORE WITH LESS:

Advanced engineering creates wood products from fast growing species and produces high strength products from smaller trees. Advances in science and technology have made this possible. At the same time, we are able to use more of each log harvested, which means more products with less waste.



Our forests are forever:

Trees harvested in Canadian forests are replanted or regenerated within a short period of time. It's the law. We practice sustainable forestry. Canada's forests will produce trees, wildlife habitat, clean air and water, and jobs ... forever.

▶ Wood in your life:

Over 5,000 products are made from trees including furniture, houses, paper, rayon, tires, shoe polish ... even explosives. Did you know that toothpaste, ice cream, and salad dressings all have wood products in them? They do! Hemi-cellulose, a component of wood, makes these products creamier!

What have you used today that was made from wood ...

- Hockey sticks?
- Chopsticks?
- Furniture?
- Paper products?
- Clothing (rayon comes from wood)?
- Turpentine?

Energy efficient wood:

Wood manufacturing takes a fraction of the energy used in competing materials.

BUILDING MATERIAL	KILOWATTS (PER TONNE)
Aluminum	73,080
Steel	13,920
Cement	2,900
Brick	2,320
Wood	580



The Wood Manufacturing Council

is here to help you find the best post-secondary program to fit your needs. We have information on different careers in the advanced wood manufacturing sector and can link you up with potential employers so that you can talk to people working in the industry and explore your options.

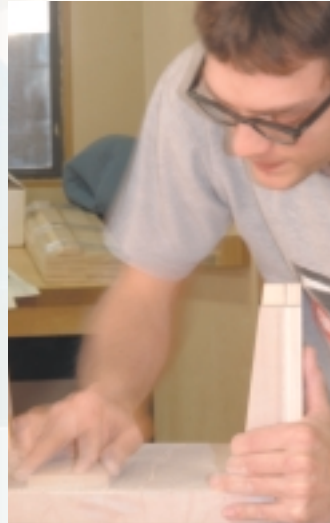
▶ **Check out our Web site** to learn more about educational opportunities in advanced wood manufacturing, and find direct links to Canadian schools, colleges and universities. Visit us today and start your Modern Career – engineered in wood.

www.wmc-cfb.ca

▶ **Wood Manufacturing Council**

130 Albert Street, Suite 514
Ottawa ON K1P 5G4
Phone: (613) 567-5511
Fax: (613) 567-5411
E-mail: wmc@wmc-cfb.ca

The Wood Manufacturing Council is Canada's human resources sector council for the advanced wood products processing industry. It works with governments, industry, educational institutions and other interested parties to develop the workforce for Canada's wood manufacturing industry, helping make it competitive and ensuring its long-term growth.



The Careers in Wood Promotions Program is funded by the Government of Canada's Sector Council Program.

Canada

WMC/CFB
Wood Manufacturing Council / Conseil Canadien des Industries du Bois