

# The surface tailors

With a well-established presence in the RV market and strong from the investment made over the last period witnessing their will to expand their range of action, Filippi Legnami can now boast a very wide choice of surfaces: digital printing and melamine technology open new frontiers in the furnishing of recreational vehicles.

Words Antonio Mazzucchelli



Giorgio Levoni e  
Francesca Filippi

Going beyond the simple concept of laminating panels, Filippi Legnami can now offer their customers a fully comprehensive range of laminated products, result of the combination of many surface materials and different types of substrates. Laminating surfaces vary from industrially manufactured finish

papers to customized melamine "built" through digital printing upon customer's specifications. Between these two extremes there is everything from thin CPL to HPL with digital printing. Also the choice of the panels goes from the cheap chipboard (also made of poplar) to the poplar or birch plywood, passing through the wood fiber panels such as the MDF and HDF. Today Filippi Legnami is not just a traditional company specialized in laminating: thanks



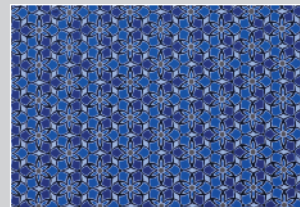
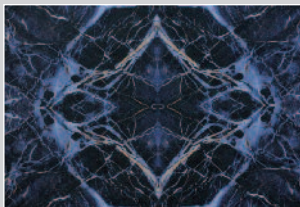
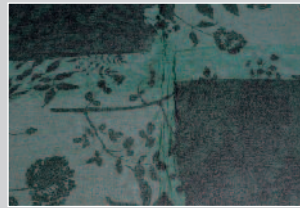
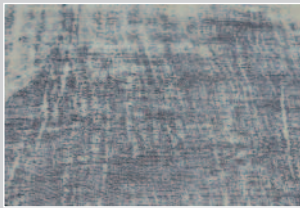
## Company Profile

Founded more than forty years ago and active in woodworking since ever, Filippi Legnami fits firmly in the field of recreational vehicles in 2000, launching a laminating line of lightweight poplar panels. The laminated panels made by Filippi Legnami immediately find a worldwide application in the cabinetry making of motor homes, caravans and mobile homes, as well as in internal walls and floorings. In 2013 the partnership with the entrepreneur Giorgio Levoni opens a new phase of consolidation and expansion that has seen, among other initiatives, the starting of a product line that uses digital printing for the personalized decoration of the panels. A pressing line for melamine-faced panels is the latest department that has been opened: using the latest technology, the company is able to laminate surfaces with three-dimensional effect, combining an innovative touch experience to outstanding resistance to wear, abrasion, light and scratches.



## 3D DIGITAL PRINTING

Filippi Legnami is able to offer a really wide range of serial finishes or limited edition ones, including a 3D process to recreate the wood grain or other effects. The Italian company has a catalogue with over two hundred embossed effects that can be easily applied during the manufacturing through the use of release papers. The range also includes "best seller" products: the company has set up a collection of their own molds in order to speed up the production process and reduce costs. But the customization offered by Filippi also starts from the choice of pattern, printed with digital technology on paper, melamine or laminate. Through two state-of-the-art plotters it is possible to print any design or picture: there are no limits to the imagination, drawing on the rich Filippi Legnami's catalogue or creating graphic patterns (wood, geometric patterns, stones, fabrics, etc.) ex novo. The digital resolution is very high and the definition is remarkable. In some cases, you can even "encapsulate" remnants of real fabric, with absolutely amazing results. Melamine technology allows a high level of customization of furniture, but its great potential is to coordinate with other elements made of different materials: for example the doors in melamine and the table and kitchen tops in a matching laminate, different applications but all with the same "tailored" design.



to their small to medium size, they can take full advantage of the flexibility of production and propose innovative products and solutions, while offering a personalized advice on the different types of laminated panels depending on the needs of the client OEM companies.

"We like the definition of "surface tailors" - says Francesca Filippi, sales manager at Filippi Legnami - Like a tailor manages to manufacture a tailored suit, so we can make an area of furniture according to the wishes of each client. If you have an idea, we can help you make it: it is in these terms that we offer our collaboration to the designers and cabinet makers of a camper or a caravan. Endless options of lamination applied to panels designed ad hoc. "

In this context, a key role is the technology of melamine. There is, in fact, a widespread demand for melamine and Filippi Legnami promptly seized this opportunity, acquiring

appropriate equipment and improving their extraordinary production flexibility, specific to their company size.

"The melamine is the product successfully used primarily in the home furnishings and common areas - explains Salvatore Filippi, technical director of Filippi Legnami - and we have transferred this technology to the campers furnishing, paying due attention to the choice of the boards, according to the agreed requirements of the manufacturers. The result attained after several tests is a new composite panel which is a good compromise between strength and lightness. "

The resistance mentioned by Salvatore Filippi is not small thing. If properly treated, the melamine may also replace the laminate and, with the choice of specific overlays, also unusual effects and features can be achieved like, for instance, the anti-touch (which prevents the doors to be marked by the user's fingerprints) or the anti-scratch

finish. This product breaks the limits of the choice options mostly "imposed" by the industrial production of RV suppliers so far and, whether cannot find a universal application, is nevertheless a strategic choice for the construction of all those parts of furniture (doors, headboards, benches) for which quality materials are essential. Not only can this new kinds of panels have a personalized pattern, but they are also built to be particularly resistant to impact, scratches, abrasions, etc..

"Sturdy and with extensive possibility of customization: this is the melamine - continues Francesca Filippi - With this technology we are able to offer special decorations that would not be possible in series with the traditional finish papers. We think about the high gloss finish, as well as logos printed directly onto the laminated panel or the inclusion of particular decorative elements."