



The Skills Matching and Opportunities in Wood Manufacturing Project is funded by the Government of Canada's Future Skills Centre.







The Wood Manufacturing Council (WMC) is Canada's human resources sector council for the advanced wood manufacturing industry. The WMC brings together employers, employees, education, governments and other interested parties to develop the workforce for Canada's wood manufacturing industry, helping make it more competitive and ensuring long-term growth.

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Did you know?

There are well-paid, technically advanced career opportunities available today in the Wood Manufacturing Industry at every level.



Tired of the gig economy?



Do you want a sustainable job you can start now?

There are over ten thousand companies across Canada today that transform lumber, wood chips and panel products into a wide range of manufactured products. Consider the many opportunities in the advanced wood manufacturing sector:

- Kitchen cabinets
- Architectural millwork
- Furniture
- Windows and doors
- Solid and laminated flooring and moulding
- Pre-fabricated buildings
- Structural components (pre-fabricated walls, trusses)
- Engineered wood products
- Mass timber
- Industrial products (re-manufactured wood, formwork)

The industry is progressive and open for business, we are looking for all types of people at all levels. Indigenous youth, men and women, new Canadians or old, if you are willing to work and learn on the job, join us and we'll help you succeed. If you are bringing skills and experience with you or are completing a certification or training, even better

Job Opportunities for Good People

Emerging technologies and techniques are creating a need for new workers with higher levels of training and different perspectives. Our challenge is to build a modern work force with the skills and knowledge to meet these requirements.

There are many paths to join us:

College Graduates

College programs in advanced wood manufacturing range from one to three years and allow you to specialize in areas such as fine furniture construction, wood finishing, industrial design and management.

University Graduates

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

Apprentices

To become an apprentice you apply to an employer, union or local apprenticeship committee. On the job, you learn from a qualified tradesperson. As a Certified Journeyperson, you are then entitled to the wages and benefits associated with that trade. This certification proves you have experience in the workplace and it is recognized by employers across Canada.

Entry Level Workers

If you want to start your career in wood manufacturing right away, without certification, there are many entry level positions in the industry with real opportunities for advancement. Entry level workers are hired without specific training and acquire new skills on the job.

Earn While You Learn!

Paid co-op and apprenticeship programs at colleges and universities let you work in the industry, earning money and gaining valuable work experience while you complete your studies.

Doing More With Less

Market demand for a greener product continues to evolve and is pushing us to do better and work smarter. So the industry is evolving too, it is a place where the resource based sector and the knowledge economy come together. Today advanced engineering creates wood products from fast growing tree species and produces high-strength products from smaller trees. At the same time, we are able to use more of each log harvested which means more products with less waste – up to 97% of each tree harvested can be converted into usable wood products.

Cutting-edge knowledge is at a premium in wood processing

There are opportunities for you today in positions of greater responsibility. The industry is growing and as this sector becomes more technologically advanced and environmentally conscious, companies will be looking for dedicated, creative problem solvers from diverse backgrounds who have computer and manufacturing skills, technical and engineering training and an interest in modern environmental practices.

The industry needs skilled and educated people for careers in furniture and cabinetmaking, product design, quality control, plant layout, computer applications, equipment sales and service, and international trade and marketing.