## UJOOD & Southern Africa May 2014 Vol. 39. No. 7

**TIMBER TIMES** 

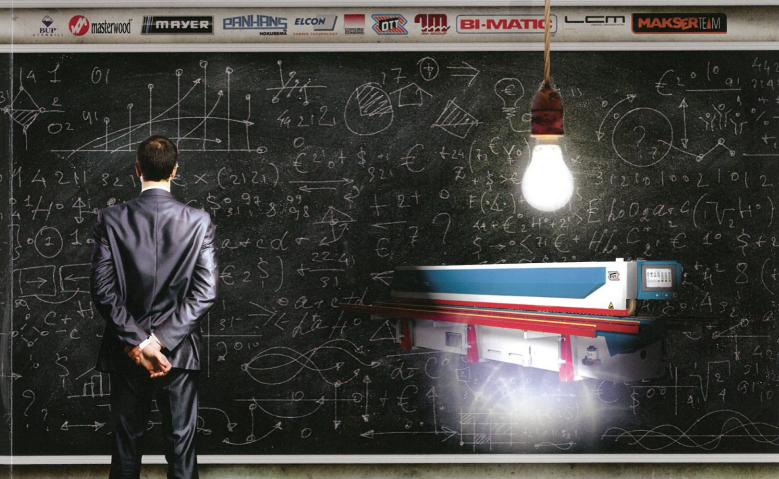
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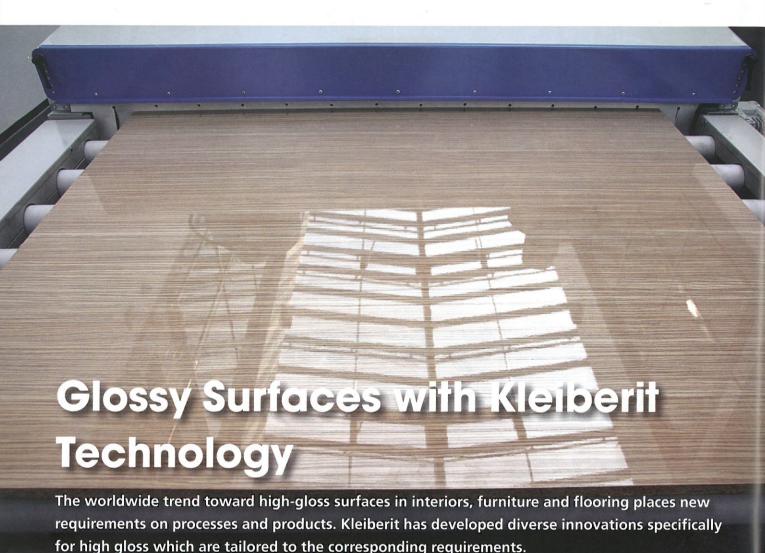
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Mirror image quality

he perfect high gloss surface is underpinned with cost effectiveness and technical feasibility.

The main factors are:

- Maximum gloss level
- Smooth surface
- · Depth effect
- · Resistance

- Costs
- Process technology
- Design variety

## HotCoating High Gloss

The more the market for high gloss surfaces grows, the more the request for cost effective solutions and a variety in design will become more apparent. As the high-gloss market was previously limited to high quality and highly precise applications, time consuming and complex processes could be used.

The application of several layers of lacquer (sometimes manually) which need intermediate sanding and polishing are typical.

Automotive interiors, yacht construction, piano lacquer and exclusive furniture construction are examples of this. Today

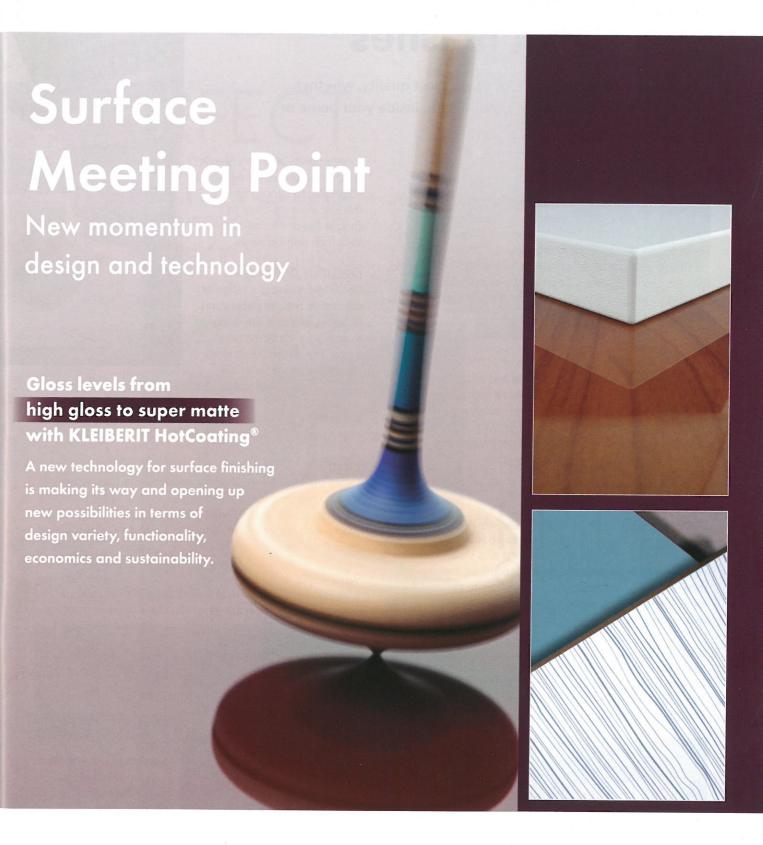
the market for take-away furniture demands high-gloss surfaces with acceptable quality and inexpensive prices.

Naturally there should also be market differentiation in the quality assessment of high gloss surfaces. However, the end user always has the ideal of a mirror or a glass plate and establishes criteria regarding surface smoothness and gloss level on their own. As the depth effect is heavily dependent on the layer thickness, manufacturers of, for example, furniture components are faced with the challenge of realising this quality with inexpensive materials.

One of the least expensive wood-based materials is melamine faced chipboard. The decorative layer is basically applied in the manufacturing process in chipboard production. In addition, the user has a wide variety of different designs to choose from.

With the Kleiberit HotCoating technology, even standard melamine faced panels can get a high quality high-gloss surface with an easy processing technology. The key is the very good adhesion of HotCoating to melamine surfaces and smoothing the surface with the Kleiberit HotCoating processing technology.





**Head Office:** 

KLEBCHEMIE M. G. Becker GmbH & Co. KG Max-Becker-Str. 4 • 76356 WEINGARTEN/GERMANY

Phone: +49 7244 62-0 • Fax: +49 7244 700-0 Email: info@kleiberit.com

## **KLEIBERIT Adhesives UK**

Max Becker Drive, Unit 3 Brunel Way

Stephenson Ind. Est., Coalville • Leicestershire LE67 3HF

Phone: +44 1530 836679 • Fax: +44 1530 836677

Ernail: sales.safrica@kleiherit.com

