



BFM Update

The Association for British Furniture Manufacturers

www.bfm.org.uk/

www.greatbritishfurniture.co.uk/

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BFM Links

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Mandatory labeling - imports to Switzerland

From the 1st July 2010, the Swiss government is introducing a mandatory labelling regulation on wood and wood product relating to species and origin aimed at the consumer. It includes furniture. If this affect your company please see the [Regulations](#)

Training - a new funding system

A new system for allocating government funding to further education and training in England came into effect in April 2010, following a transition period over recent months.

The [Skills Funding Agency](#) will now fund and regulate adult further education and skills in England.

There will be four direct routes into training for employers and learners – Train to Gain, the National Apprenticeship Service and the Adult Advancement and Careers Service, as well as further education colleges and training organisations.

For more specific details and opportunities relating to furniture please contact: Paul Preston, Tel: 01235 437914
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<http://www.proskills.co.uk/furniture>

Commodity prices sore

Almost every item you can mention is now rising in price, some at alarming rates - as the table below shows - in just the few months from January to the end of March. This is a worrying trend and not welcome in what is still a fragile

Business Links

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- Procurement - Supply2.gov
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- Financial support for business

trading environment. These figures do not tell the whole story of course, as during the recession prices fell in many instances and often quite sharply. It is inevitable perhaps that rises will now occur as the recovery begins but few would have predicted how sharp they would be. Currency fluctuations have also influenced prices.

If presented with an increase it is worth going to the BFM commodity section in the members' area of the web site to look at price levels and trends. While prices may be rising now, they may still be below levels recorded for most of last year. For example – take foam, although prices have risen since January, the average prices of these chemicals in the first quarter of 2010 are still less than they were in the 4th quarter of 2009 (when the last increase was sought) - Polyol flexible is 2.7% less and TDI 1.0% less.

The price of shipping containers has also increased by nearly 11% since January this year.

The average increase in price over the first quarter of 2010 for all the commodities listed below is 9.0%.



Commodity Item	Price - January 2010 £ per	Price - March 2010 £ per	% change
Abrasives alumina fused	526 M/T	563 M/T	+ 7.0%
OSB panels 10mm IT	2.61 Sq/M	2.93 Sq/M	+ 12.3%
Chipboard panels std 4mm IT	1.63 Sq/M	1.67 Sq/M	+ 2.5%
Chipboard panels std 18mm IT	2.78 Sq/M	3.11 Sq/M	+ 11.9%
Chipboard 15mm - Bra	222 Cu/M	232 Cu/M	+ 4.5%
Fibreboard MDF panels 4mm IT	1.50 Sq/M	1.53 Sq/M	+ 2.0%
Fibreboard MDF 12-18 exp ID lo	153.79 Cu/M	165.70 Cu/M	+ 7.7%
Fibreboard MDF 12-18 exp ID hi	161.84 Cu/M	174.32 Cu/M	+ 7.7%
Fibreboard MDF 15-19 exp MY hi	191.85 Cu/M	206.13 Cu/M	+ 7.4%
Fibreboard MDF 15-19 exp MY lo	172.67 Cu/M	185.58 Cu/M	+ 7.5%
Fibreboard MDF panels 19mm IT	5.08 Sq/M	5.18 Sq/M	+ 2.0%
Fibreboard MDF panls 19mm lgt IT	5.52 Sq/M	5.63 Sq/M	+ 2.0%
Cotton yarn weaving 40S CN	1903.61 M/T	2126.30 M/T	+ 11.7%
Cotton yarn weaving 0E10S CN	1137.63 M/T	1292.29 M/T	+ 13.6%
Polyester DTY 75D/36F CN	1275.87 M/T	1399.09 M/T	+ 9.7%
Polyester DTY 150D/48F CN	1101.37 M/T	1206.85 M/T	+ 9.6%
Polyester DTY 300D/96F CN	1032.25 M/T	1135.0 M/T	+ 9.9%
Viscose VSF 1.5D*38mm CN	1697.38 M/T	1953.48 M/T	+ 15.1%
Polyols flexible Eur	1250.05 M/T	1306.42 M/T	+ 4.5%
Polyols rigid Eur	1413.49 M/T	1455.08 M/T	+ 2.9%
TDI isocyanate W Eur	1877.29 M/T	1968.64 M/T	+ 4.9%
Polyol/TDI blend price	1463.30 M/T	1531.6 M/T	+ 4.7%
Bull/heifer hide 21-23kg IT	1.510 kg	1.750 kg	+ 15.9%
Bull/heifer hide 27-32kg IT	1.250 kg	1.480 kg	+ 18.4%
Bull/heifer hide 33-40kg IT	1.160 kg	1.300 kg	+ 12.1%
Bull/heifer hide >41kg IT	1.070 kg	1.250 kg	+ 16.8%
Calf hide 17-20kg IT	2.23 kg	2.43 kg	+ 9.0%
Calf hide <16kg IT	2.32 kg	2.52 kg	+ 8.6%
Cow hide <32kg IT	0.870 kg	1.140 kg	+ 31.0%
Cow hide >32kg IT	0.780 kg	1.050 kg	+ 34.6%
Cow dairy hide 22.5/23.5 kg - GE	1.090 kg	1.220 kg	+ 11.9%

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Cow dairy hide 27.5/28.5 kg GE	1.020 kg	1.190 kg	+ 16.7%
Cow dairy hide 33.5/35.5kg -GE	0.920 kg	1.060 kg	+ 15.2%
Logs Birch - Finland	35.66 Cu/M	36.58 Cu/M	+ 2.6%
Logs Spruce - Finland	43.45 Cu/M	46.30 Cu/M	+ 6.6%
Logs Pine - Finland	44.69 Cu/M	46.36 Cu/M	+ 3.7%
Nickel cash LME	11388 M/T	15087 M/T	+ 32.5%
Nickel forward 15m LME	11512 M/T	15003 M/T	+ 30.3%
Nickel forward 3m LME	11433 M/T	15117 M/T	+ 32.2%
Nickel forward 27m LME	11453 M/T	14639 M/T	+ 27.8%
Fluting av Free del UK - waste	314.9 M/T	324.8 M/T	+ 3.1%
Fluting av Free del UK – Semi ch	365.3 M/T	359.5 M/T	- 1.6%
Waste Testliner 2 Av Free de UK	335.3 M/T	329.8 M/T	- 1.6%
Waste Testliner 3 Ac Free de UK	314.9 M/T	309.9 M/T	- 1.6%
Ethylene glycol Av spot NW Eu	627.2 M/T	729.8 M/T	+ 16.4%
Polythene(Polyethylene)Film Av	976.2 M/T	1115.8 M/T	+ 14.3%
Chipboard unlined del Av GE	388.7 M/T	386.4 M/T	- 0.6%
Corrugated wellenstoff Av GE	289.3 M/T	337.9 M/T	+ 16.8%
Exp polystyrene packaging WE	1038.32 M/T	1171.27 M/T	+ 12.8%
20 ft Cont Shangai to Antwerp	1153.97 unit	1276.70 unit	+ 10.6%
40 ft Cont Shangai to Antwerp	2245.58 unit	2490.50 unit	+ 10.9%
S'less steel HR sheet 304 E Asia	1675.6 M/T	1951.9 M/T	+ 16.5%
S'less steel CR sheet 304 N Eur	1387.8 M/T	1827.9 M/T	+ 31.7%
S'less steel CR 304 2mm base EU	927.6 M/T	1003.7 M/T	+ 8.2%
S'less steel CR 304 2mm sur EU	906.8 M/T	1089.3 M/T	+ 20.2%
S'less steel CR coil 304 E Asia	1778.5 M/T	2058.0 M/T	+ 15.7%
Steel wire rod exw E CN - mesh	346.5 M/T	389.4 M/T	+ 12.4%
Plywood Poplar multilay 10mm IT	4.81 Sq/M	5.36 Sq/M	+ 11.4%
Plywood Birch multilay 12mm IT	4.99 Sq/M	5.27 Sq/M	+ 5.6%
Plywood Poplar multilay 18mm IT	9.94 Sq/M	10.14 Sq/M	+ 2.0%
Plywood Poplar multilay 20mm IT	8.17 Sq/M	8.78 Sq/M	+ 7.5%
Ash plank assort IT	649.32 Cu/M	662.22 Cu/M	+ 2.0%
Ash plank planed 27mm IT	410.80 Cu/M	436.97 Cu/M	+ 6.4%
Ash plank planed 52mm IT	631.65 Cu/M	662.22 Cu/M	+ 4.8%
Beech panels finger-jnt 32mm IT	45.94 Sq/M	46.85 Sq/M	+ 2.0%
Beech plank seasoned assort IT	671.41 Cu/M	684.74 Cu/M	+ 2.0%
Oak choice IT	706.74 Cu/M	720.78 Cu/M	+ 2.0%
Oak seal sheet components IT	1386.99 Cu/M	1414.54 Cu/M	+ 2.0%
Oak plank assort IT	832.63 Cu/M	849.17 Cu/M	+ 2.0%
Oak plank US red/wht 27mm IT	631.65 Cu/M	662.22 Cu/M	+ 4.8%
Oak plank US red/wht 52mm IT	388.71 Cu/M	396.43 Cu/M	+ 2.0%
Walnut choice IT	2561.95 Cu/M	2612.84 Cu/M	+ 2.0%
Walnut plank polished 52mm IT	388.71 Cu/M	396.43 Cu/M	+ 2.0%
Mahogany plank assorted IT	795.09 Cu/M	810.88 Cu/M	+ 2.0%
American Cherry planks 27m IT	962.94 Cu/M	995.58 Cu/M	+ 3.4%
American Cherry planks 52m IT	1294.23 Cu/M	1319.93 Cu/M	+ 2.0%
Wood waste PRN UK	23 M/T	25 M/T	+ 8.7%
Paper waste old cardboard - Mer	13.5 M/T	19.0 M/T	+ 40.7%