

SME 1: “DEKA – D. Karaoulanis”

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General Activities of the company

DEKA is a construction-sector SME specializing in the wood-related industrial products and equipment. Their specialization sector is in drying (de-hydration) of wood and wood products. Their major activities are:

- 1) Commercial:
 - a) DEKA is distributor of leading companies manufacturing equipment for the cutting, shaping, treatment, etc., of wood products. Among the companies DEKA represents are the Weinig Group (exclusive representation), KUPER (exclusive representation), ALTENDORF, GANN, KOLLE, ELKOM, etc.
 - b) DEKA performs complete studies concerning selection, installation and operation of complete wood drying facilities (“turn-key” projects).
- 2) Research and Innovation
 - a) DEKA is very actively involved in research concerning drying of wood. DEKA participates in the Action E15 (Advances in Wood Drying) of the COST European Project (European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research) and is a member of the organizing committee of the International Scientific and Technological Conference entitled “Wood Drying for Added Value Products” that will be held in Athens in October 2003.
 - b) DEKA has performed an analytical study concerning wood drying process in Greece with the participation of more than 80 companies, “Drying problems of softwood lumber in Greece”, by Th. Karaoulanis (DEKA) and Dr. M. Skarvelis (Athenian Institute of Forest Research), VTT/COST, Helsinki, 2001.
 - c) DEKA is researching along with the National Institute of Agricultural Research, possible industrial applications of the “sun drier” technology.
 - d) DEKA acts as a facilitator of transfer of innovative solutions related to industrial equipment, by providing state-of-the-art knowledge and advice to their clients. Dissemination in the form of articles in related magazines is performed.
 - e) Finally, Mr Th. Karaoulanis from DEKA is a member of the support team “industrial production and μεταποίηση” of the Programme “Technology Foresight in Greece” of the General Secretariat of Research and Technology (GSRT) of Greece.

Due to the very active involvement in research and innovation transfer concerning wood drying processes, DEKA was selected to be one of the study cases in Greece. The successful activities of the Company will be followed throughout the CONSTRINNONET Project.