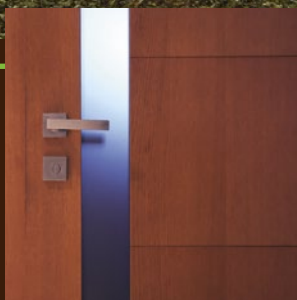
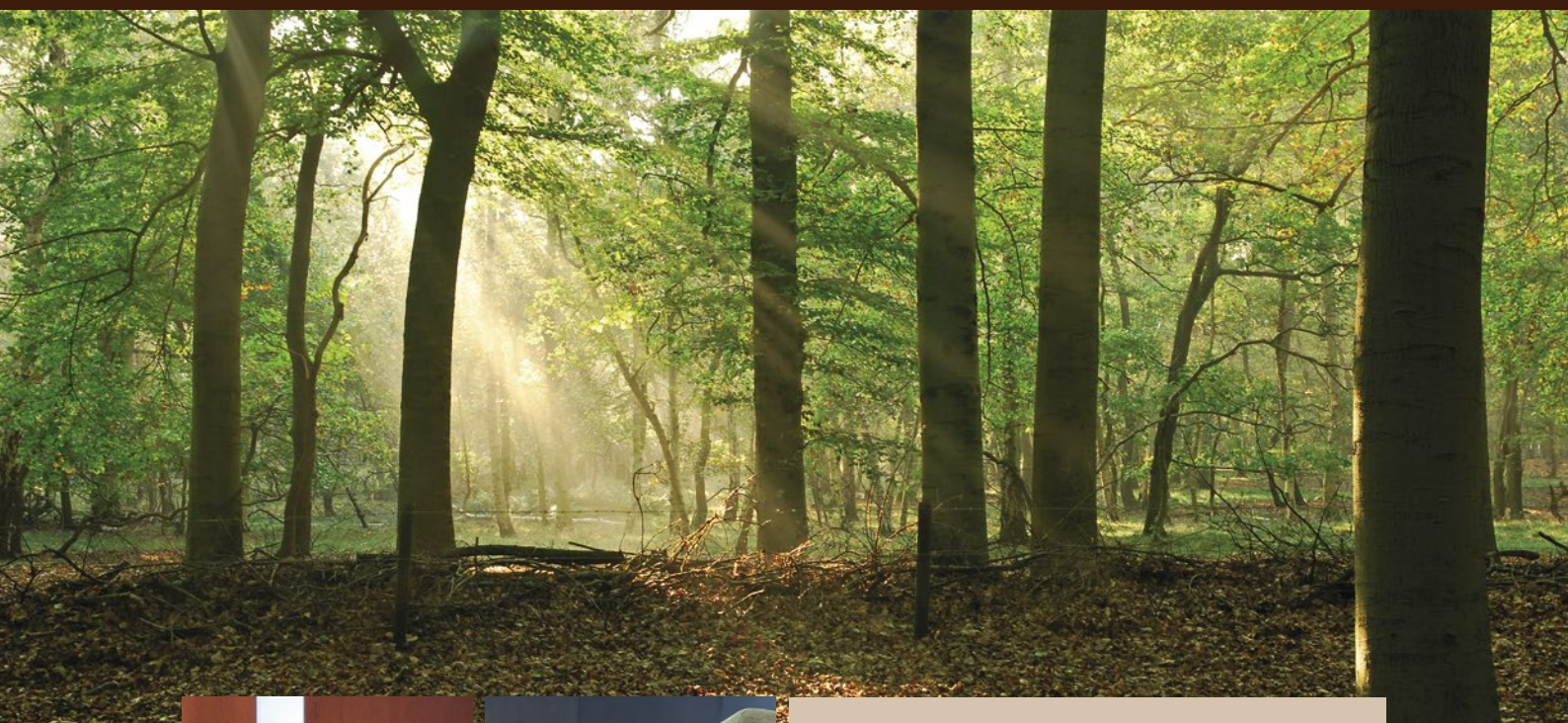


Pannon

Wood and Furniture

CLUSTER





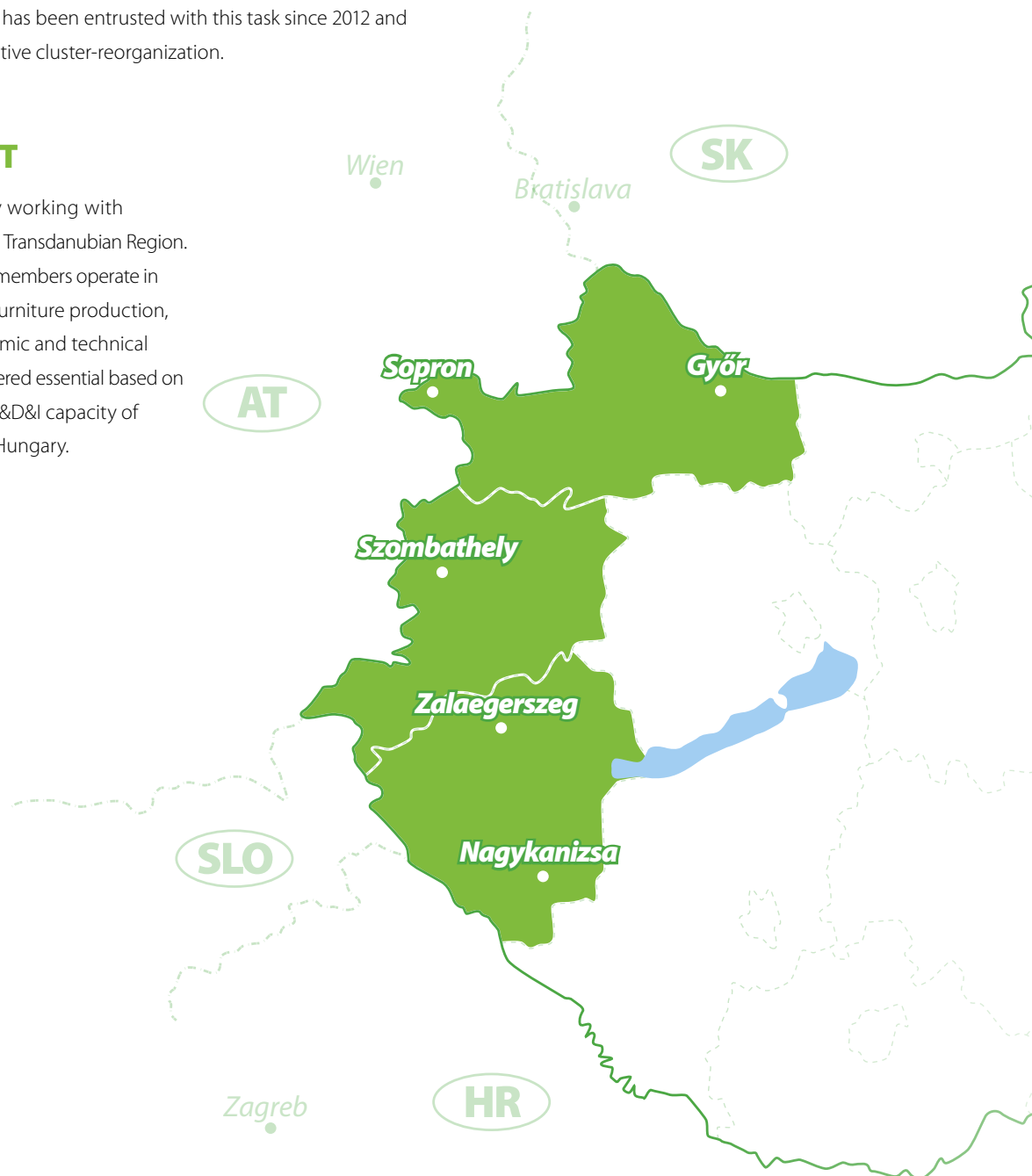
About the cluster

SHORT HISTORY

Pannon Wood and Furniture Industry Cluster (PANFA) was the second cluster to be founded in Hungary, in 2001, with 15 members. The primary purpose of the cooperation was to make the two key areas of the Hungarian wood industry (furniture and carpentry industry) capable of producing and selling competitive products. In the recent years, PANFA has reached several results, in summary: publications and catalogues, public exhibitions and fairs, joint field trips, joint development of education and co-operation in their work. During the years a lot of influences have affected the cluster and its members. Changes in the economic situation as well as the development of the whole cluster concept itself required the renewal of PANFA. It started with a new management organization: EFFIX-Marketing Group has been entrusted with this task since 2012 and they have started an active cluster-reorganization.

THE PRESENT

Our cluster is currently working with 38 members in the West Transdanubian Region. A significant part of the members operate in wood processing and furniture production, but professional, academic and technical activities are also considered essential based on the nationally unique R&D&I capacity of the University of West Hungary.



FOCUS AREAS

CREATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY-EFFICIENT TIMBER INDUSTRY

One of the objectives of the cluster is to increase energy-efficiency, both in wooden structure- and joinery product construction and during their production. On the other hand, the cluster aims at communicating this objective towards the inhabitants in order to encourage the use of wooden products, while extensively disseminating information about the role of wooden products in climate protection.

FURNITURE MANUFACTURING AND INNOVATION

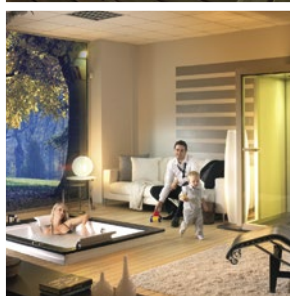
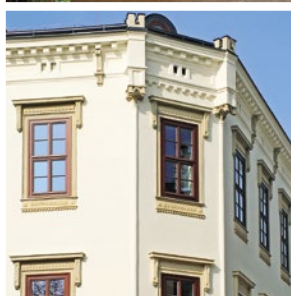
The most important requirement – beside cost realization - is to provide durable, high quality products. Our aim is to create a well-working cooperation among the members to help this process. In addition to that, strengthening the innovation propensity of the members is also of primary importance. Our focus areas in this field are the design and manufacturing of new products for niche markets. These products are planned to be developed for smaller market groups, such as disabled people, elderly people – according to the ageing society -, or even to young people who are about to start their independent life. We think that these markets are all ready for the so called "intelligent furniture", which is an example that demonstrates how a traditional industry can adapt to the needs of the digital era.

TECHNICAL RESEARCH-DEVELOPMENT

It is a fundamental goal that the cluster should represent an authentic approach characterized by naturalness, economy, proportionality, which can present sustainability issues compliant with the national cultural and economic situation in the region and in the country. The cluster aims at carrying out material scientific, technical and technological research to support cost-effective production as well as the design and development of marketable, environmentally-friendly products, which provide the R&D background of the other focus areas.

WOOD PR

The cluster can fulfil the task to be the representative of the wood PR in Hungary, with the aim of restoring the reputation of wooden products. The most effective way to reach this is the conscious branding and trademarking of wooden products and the cluster itself as well as the dissemination of information in various ways to different market groups.





About our members



The members of our cluster offer products and services for companies working in the same sector and also for individuals. As cluster our greatest strength is based on the manifold wood-industrial activities of our members. In order to demonstrate our competences, we can say: together we can design, build and furnish a complete building according to individual needs.

We can summarize the activities of our members as follows:

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN AND REALIZATION ACTIVITIES

The design and realization of wooden frame- and log houses, energy-saving finished houses, building complexes and outdoor structures (bridges, lookout towers, garden pavilions), roof structures, wall- and floor covering or fences.

FURNISHING LIVING SPACES – HOMES AND WORKPLACES

Unique and mass-produced furniture for offices and homes in various styles. Solid-wood furniture made from noble wood using artisan techniques, design products, upholstered furniture, corpora, saunas and whirlpools.

KITCHEN FURNITURE

The design, production and installation of unique and mass-produced kitchen furniture using personalized solutions.

INTERIOR DESIGN, TECHNICAL CONSULTING

Interior design, furnishing-, wood-protection and energetic counselling.

FLOOR BOARDS, PARQUETS

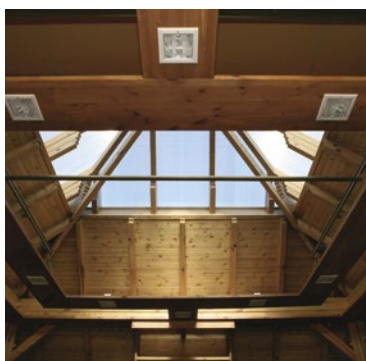
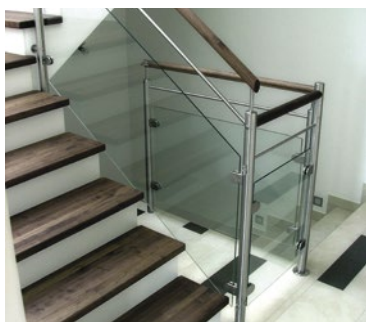
A wide choice of solid wood floor boards, parquet boards, terrace covering and skirting boards with counselling.

STAIRCASES AND RAILINGS

Designing, producing and installing unique indoor and outdoor staircases, railings assisted by personal counselling.

DOORS AND WINDOWS

Producing a wide range of entrance- and interior doors, windows and shutters using personalized techniques.





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Cluster Management Organization: EFFIX-MARKETING KFT. www.effix.hu



R&D activities

As a member of the Cluster, the University of West Hungary, Simonyi Karoly Faculty of Engineering, Wood Sciences and Applied Arts is a major base for R&D&I activities. The Natural Resources Research Center (NRRC) and the ERFARET Non-profit Ltd are the two most important institutes of the university to raise and support the innovation power of PANFA. They are constantly working together with the cluster members, showing a great example for cooperation between R&D&I and production.

NRRC

The Natural Resources Research Center (NRRC) is the research center of two faculties of the University of West Hungary (The Simonyi Karoly Faculty of Engineering, Wood Sciences and Applied Arts and the Faculty of Forestry). About 80 new or modernized laboratories are located in this building of nearly 4000 m², in addition to a completely refurbished wood training workshop. The large number of state-of-the-art instruments and research tools acquired with grant help to raise the quality of education, open new opportunities for research and services, and expand the relationships with the industry, the cluster members and other actors of the economy.

Some of the important research fields include nanotechnology, special material testing, wood modification, alternative energetics, robot-technology, polymer processing, environment protection, air and plant chemistry.



The result of the collaboration:

Ligneum



One of the greatest achievements of the last years was the design and construction of the Visitor Center of the University of West Hungary, the so called Ligneum. There were five PANFA members among the contributors, as well as one of the university faculties, which is also a PANFA member. They worked together to give life to a three-storey building in the middle of the botanical garden of the university.

As a result of this cooperation, visitors can learn about trees and wood in an interactive environment. The whole interior, all the devices and objects in the building are designed to show the special nature of wood, its versatile application possibilities, for example its use as a source of renewable energy. Visitors can also see mock-ups of various kinds of architectural styles, special wood products but they can also get a lot of information about the animals living in the woods of Hungary. Moreover, the Ligneum functions as a conference venue but there are many wood- and forest themed children's programs, too. From the point of the cluster it is important to popularize timber industry related professions and the Ligneum can fulfil this function, too.





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