The future of furniture industry: creativity and inn vation

Levente Dénes Phd.





Is it worth to develop new products?

NOT:

- Means extra work, extra costs
- It is risky
- We don't believe in
- We don't trust in ourselves



Is it worth to develop new products?

YES:

- Time changes, needs change
- Continuous improvement
- Higher value
- Assures competitiveness



Support for forest based products' development:

The new EU Forest Strategy: for forests and the forestbased sector

- contributing to <u>balancing</u> various forest functions, meeting demands, and delivering vital ecosystem services;
- providing a basis for forestry and the whole forestbased value chain to be <u>competitive and viable</u> contributors to the <u>bio-based economy</u>

Furniture industry in EU:

- 1 million workers;
- 130.000 companies
- annual turnover of around 96 billion Euro
- labour-intensive and dynamic industry
- dominated by SMEs and micro firms
- creative capacity for new designs
- ability to combine new technologies and innovation with cultural heritage and style
- highly skilled employees and performing production

Furniture industry in EU:

Challenges:

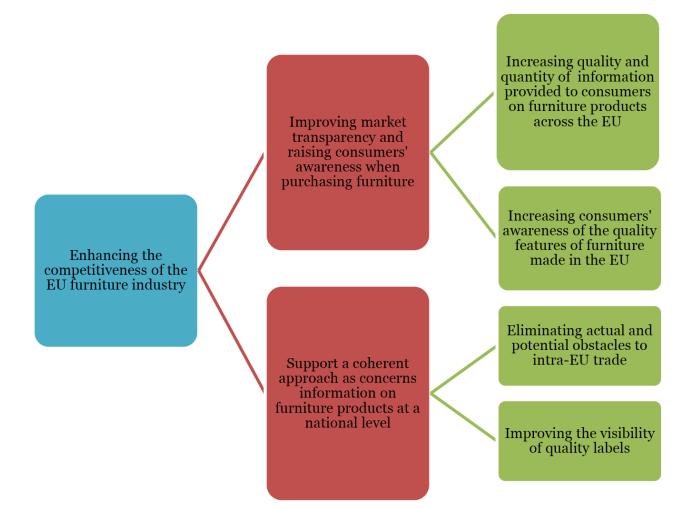
- enormous competition from foreign countries
- vulnerable to weak protection of intellectual property rights
- structural problems (ageing workforce)
- Research and innovations costs are high, the finance for SMEs is difficult
- protectionist measures on other international markets

Furniture industry in EU:

Opportunities:

- restructuring, technological advances and business model innovations
- upgrading quality, design and innovation
- investment in skills, <u>design</u>, <u>creativity</u>, <u>research</u>, <u>innovation</u> and new technologies
- creation of high technology and knowledge intensive jobs
- seize other markets, in particular in the high-end segments and emerging

Objectives of a possible furniture products initiative :

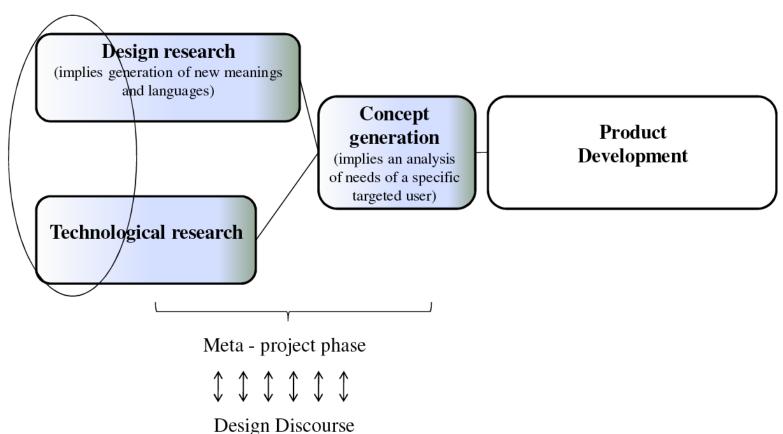


Design driven innovation strategies in furniture industry:

- External / Internal designers
- Radical / Incremental innovation
- Proactive approach / User-centered approach
- Design research / Concept generation

The design-innovation process in the Italian furniture industry (Verganti, Dell'Era, 2010):

Designer selection



9 persons:





rudy case. I diffiture design at I Alvios SA



15 product concepts:



15 product concepts:









The rise of telecommuting is driving the demand for home office furniture.





Multi-functional, versatile furniture

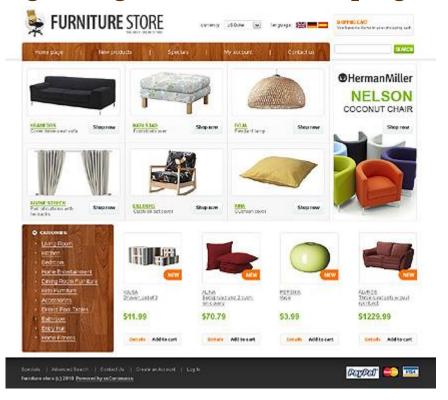




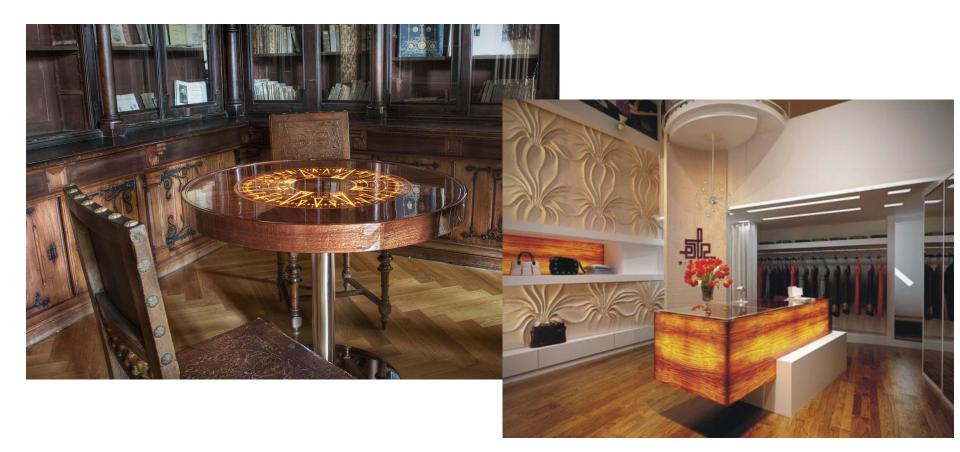




Online is the fastest-growing channel in developing markets



The demand for luxury furniture is increasing



More furniture vendors are choosing to go green







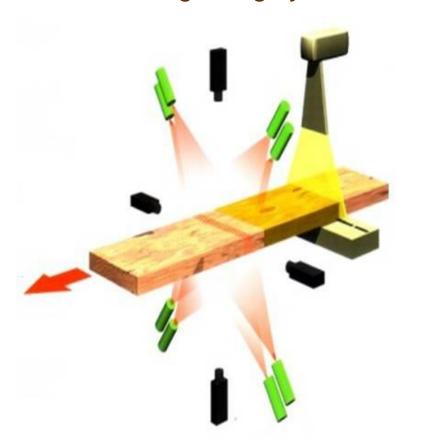
Smart furniture, intelligent furniture, intelligent manufacturing



NYUGAT-MAGYARORSZÁGI EGYETEM SIMONYI KÁROLY MŰSZAKI, FAANYAGTUDOMÁNYI ÉS MŰVÉSZETI KAR

Intelligent products in wood industry: Optimization of wood utilization:

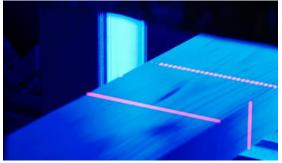
Lumber grading by GOLDENEYE 506-al (Microtec):



- color and laser scanners
- X-Ray
- strength grading
- ViSCAN technology
- high resolution, precision
- for secondary processing (furniture, joinery)

Intelligent products in wood industry: Determining the wood quality





Functions:

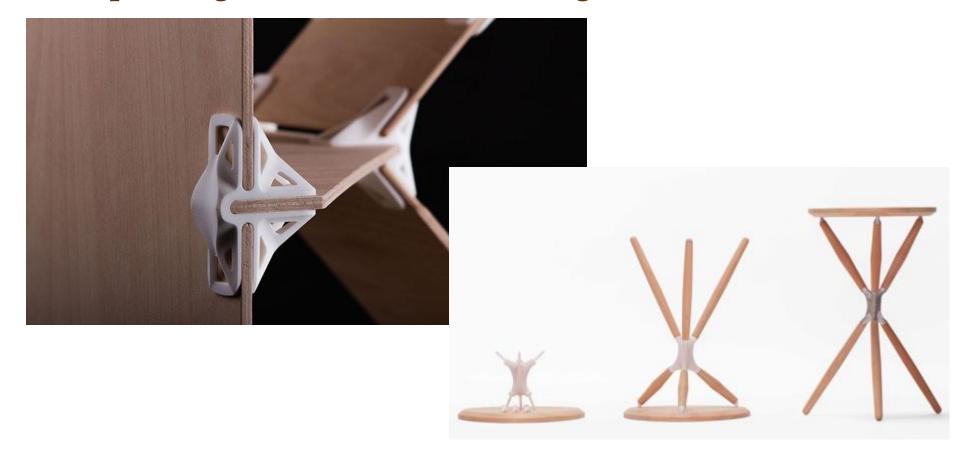
- Revealing the wood interior
- lumber modelling, dimensions
- knot detection
- density
- form defects (cupping, twisting, bowing)
- pith recognition
- color recognition (red heartwood, bark, brown decay)
- reaction wood
- in-line integrity

3D printing, additive manufacturing





3D printing, additive manufacturing



Case study: Inflatable window sealing

Dr. Balázs Bencsik, Dr. Levente Dénes



- intelligent sealing
- climate comfort assured by sensors
- fit in actual profiles
- developed in the mainframe of a large project
- took 2 years
- the control system not developed yet
- patent registration no.: P150007
- looking for producers

Case study: Sally chair – Máté Horváth industrial designer



- made of black locust (Robinia pseudoacacia)
- started as a diploma thesis (Sept., 2015)
- student advised by 3 professionals
- at this time 3 versions were made
- last prototypes exhibited at Made in Hungary
- hopefully will be in serial production this year

We offer our competencies for cooperation:

1. Furniture design, development

2. Advanced manufacturing managment systems

3. Wood structures, construction

4. Furniture marketing



What the interested parties link together:



Thank you for your attention!

Good luck!