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**SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF
MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARDS IN
COLOMBO MARKET**

BY

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Abstract

This study was conducted to find the quality of MDF panels available in Sri Lankan market. MDF samples were collected from different dealers who import MDF from different countries. These samples were tested for thickness swelling and mass increment in 24 hr immersion in water and 30 minutes immersion in boiling water. Moisture content at 103 °C oven dry condition and density were also evaluated. A field survey was also carried out among dealers and importers of MDF in the market to find the current status of the market. Thickness swelling and mass increment are related to each other and was significantly different with different dealers and with the country of imports. Samples collected from South African countries are good in resistance of water. South African MDF are up to the British Standards and density is higher than the other panels comparatively. There are several dealers who imports MDF from Malaysia, had shown inferior qualities. It has indicated a single country is having several qualities of their production. As found in the survey almost every type of furniture items are produced except furniture legs. Furniture manufactures using MDF panels due to low labour cost incurred in manufacturing, easy handling and good finish. Therefore Sri Lankan MDF market comprise of high quality as well as inferior quality MDF. Also the study further has revealed that Sri Lankan MDF market is money oriented and not quality oriented.

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2.4.4: Temp...

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