

Dawning of New Age Material

The Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) has introduced a timber booth for architects to promote wood's amazing qualities as the preferred building material of the 21st century at the International Architecture, Interior Design and Building Exhibition (Archidex) at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre from July 19-22 2017.

MTC has engaged a prolific architect for Anwar Salleh, the Principal of Anwar Salleh Architects, to create the amazing timber booth, incorporating the "Chidori" technique where timber planks are connected through a joint system without the use of glue or nails to resemble the green surroundings of a forest. The council's exhibition booth with the theme "walk into the woods" will

be a cubical lattice structure. It will be made of seven commonly used timbers - Balau, Rengas, Kasai, Jelutong, Kembang Semangkok, Merbau and Keruing.

"Timber will be the new wonder material in architecture in this part of the world," said MTC Chief Executive Officer Datuk Dr Abdul Rahim Nik.

"It has taken its place in Europe, the US and Australia as climate change mitigation demands for materials with low energy consumption and reduced carbon footprint. The advent of engineered timber products are enabling architects around the world to build bigger and higher structures. We want our local architects and construction industry players to relook timbers' use as a building material,"

he said.

The annual exhibition is jointly organised by the Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM) and CIS Network Sdn Bhd. It serves as a platform for exhibitors to showcase the latest in architecture, interior design and the building industry. It also brings together local and international professionals from these areas to learn about the latest in the market.

MTC's presence at Archidex enables the council to establish contacts and network with specifiers and manufacturers while creating trade opportunities. There will be over 550 exhibitors at Archidex this year and is expected to attract some 36,000 visitors.