

Sunds Fibertech expands with sustainability as a driving force

Panelboard production is an energy-intensive process that also requires large amounts of resin, steam, and raw materials. It is an industry facing stricter legal requirements, tougher sustainability goals, and a global raw material shortage. Among these challenges, Sunds Fibertech finds business opportunities.

There are approximately 2,500 companies worldwide that manufacture panelboards, but only five companies supply the industry with key process equipment and machinery. 'Four of them are full-scope providers with multi-billion turnovers. We are the agile and niche challenger,' says Lars Eklund, CEO of Sunds Fibertech.



CEO Lars Eklund and ESG Manager Emma Eklund.

Sunds Fibertech enhances its customers' production facilities with both new machinery and services, as well as upgrades of existing equipment. The goal is to help customers increase their profitability while reducing their environmental impact.

Panelboards are produced by refining wood chips into fibres, which are then blended with resin, dried, and compressed under high heat and pressure into solid boards. After pressing, the boards are cooled, sanded, and often given a surface treatment. As the process demands significant energy and large quantities of resin, technical innovations that minimise hazardous substances, reduce emissions, and recover energy are valuable.

'Our innovations help customers achieve their sustainability goals, meet new legal requirements, and at the same time make their facilities more profitable and efficient,' Lars continues.

Pioneering the recycling of laminate-coated boards

Sunds Fibertech has offices in five countries and customers across the globe. Product development is led from the headquarters in Timrå, with sustainability high on the agenda. Beyond reducing the use of hazardous substances and raw materials, as well as helping customers lower their climate impact, recycling of raw materials is seen as a key future challenge. At present, laminate-coated boards cannot be recycled due to the lack of effective solutions for removing the tough surface layer that protects them from moisture and wear.

'While demand for panelboards continues to grow, wood is becoming increasingly scarce in some markets. That's why we've developed a groundbreaking method to separate laminate from MDF boards and make them recyclable,' says Lars.

Building for growth, guided by sustainability

Sunds Fibertech has grown rapidly since its foundation and reached a turnover of just under SEK 400 million in 2024. Through organic growth and strategic acquisitions, the company aims to surpass one billion within a few years.

'We need to grow in order to ensure stability, become a fully integrated supplier within our niche, and sustain a high pace of development,' says Lars.

For Sunds Fibertech, sustainability has always been an integral part of the business model, and they systematically measure how much energy, emissions, and resources are saved when their technology is used. The clear link between product performance and environmental benefit provides customers with a practical tool for advancing their own sustainability efforts.

'Since each machine is tied to measurable reductions in, for instance, CO₂ emissions, energy use, and material consumption, customers can easily incorporate the results into their ESG reporting. This helps them track their own targets and comply with regulatory requirements.'

says Emma Eklund, ESG Manager at Sunds Fibertech.

In addition to its environmental focus, Sunds Fibertech's sustainability work places strong emphasis on social responsibility as well as effective corporate leadership and governance.

'We follow a code of conduct that defines clear standards for our behaviour, and all employees receive dedicated training on it. Given that we work with suppliers and customers in many different countries, it is essential to have shared guidelines for ethics, accountability, and respect,' Emma continues.

Sunds Fibertech also supports social initiatives that make a difference both globally and locally. Through Hand in Hand, they contribute to combating poverty through entrepreneurship, while local initiatives support the well-being of the communities where Sunds operates.

'A more sustainable panelboard industry is a key driving force for both us and our customers. At the same time, as a large company, we aim to make a broader contribution. That's why we engage with sustainability in a wide-ranging and inclusive way,' concludes Emma.



Sunds Fibertech wins the Priveq ESG Award 2025

Sunds Fibertech has been awarded Priveq's ESG Award 2025 in recognition of its dedicated and systematic approach to sustainability. By embedding sustainability into its product portfolio, the company has introduced innovations that help customers reduce their energy consumption, minimise the use of raw materials, and enable the recycling of MDF boards. These forward-thinking innovations illustrate how technological progress and sustainability can go hand in hand. Sunds Fibertech stands out as a frontrunner in its field and a compelling example of sustainable business development.

About Sunds Fibertech

Sunds Fibertech is a Swedish technology company specialising in the development and delivery of machinery, spare parts, and service solutions for the production of panelboards such as MDF, OSB, and particleboard. Founded in 2016, the company has approximately 70 employees

and offices in Sweden, Germany, Chile, China, and Malaysia. Through innovative technology and a strong focus on sustainability, Sunds Fibertech supports its customers in enhancing profitability by reducing energy consumption, CO₂ emissions, and waste.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Each machine provides measurable benefits for both the environment and the customer's profitability.

- > **EVOfuge 360** is a steam recovery system that significantly reduces energy consumption. A single installation can save as much CO₂ as thousands of flights each year.
- > **Internal Resin Injection System** is a resin injection technology that lowers resin consumption and enables the use of bio-based adhesives instead of fossil-based alternatives. One installation can reduce resin use equivalent to hundreds of tanker trucks.
- > **EcoCleanZifter** cleans recycled fibres so they can be reused in the production of new panelboards. This enables the recycling of MDF boards that would otherwise be sent for energy recovery.