

D A T A   S H E E T

The BCL  
Bamboo  
Cladding  
System



**BCL TIMBER PROJECTS LTD**

Design • Manufacture • Installation

# The BCL Bamboo Cladding System

## Overview:

There are several major advantages to bamboo over traditional woods. Whilst having the appearance of 'prime oak', one of the most luxurious building timbers, bamboo is also extremely cost effective. Furthermore, it is also one of the most sustainable 'timbers' on the planet.

Ideally suited for use in acoustic walls and ceilings, it has been combined with the unique BCL prefabricated panel system, making it easy and cost effective to install and the only product of this type available in the UK.

## Advantages:

- Beautifully consistent clear grain, 100% free of knots (similar to 'Prime Oak').
- Cost effective – cheaper than Western Red Cedar.
- High resistance to impact.
- Available in a range of natural colours.
- Environmentally friendly and highly sustainable.

## The Process:

Mature MOSO bamboo stems are cut to size and organically treated to reach a range of stable natural colours, before being kiln dried. The moisture content of the dried bamboo strips is controlled to within 6%-10%. The planed bamboo is then glued and, under high pressure, compressed to form panels, which are then cut to the desired size and profile. Only environmentally-friendly non-toxic adhesives are used, which contain less than 1.5mg/ltr of formaldehyde – well below European E1 standards.

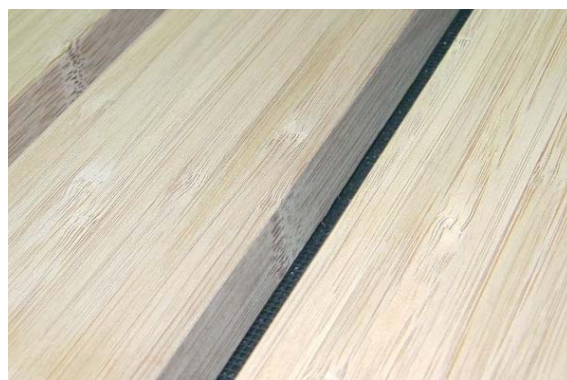
The cladding systems are manufactured in BCL's factory under a rigorous QA framework, which ensures that exact panel alignment is achieved easily, reducing installation costs and time spent on-site. Secret-fixings are also used as standard in all of BCL's systems, ensuring that a clean modern and consistent finish is achieved in every cladding application.

## Sustainability:

Bamboo is one of the Earth's fastest growing plants and the giant MOSO bamboo or 'Phyllostachys Pubescens' can reach heights of over 20m and grow at a staggering rate of around 120cm a day!



BCL bamboo cladding panel in-situ



Close up showing fine, knott free grain.

Once harvested, the stems of the parent tree re-grow to their initial height after only 5 years. In fact, the regular harvesting of these 'child' stems stimulates further growth of the plant and encourages the forest as a whole to grow. This makes for an incredibly sustainable and environmentally friendly alternative to traditional timbers.

Giant bamboo harvesting is also only carried out on large plants with foliage at a minimum of 5m from ground level and far away from the known Panda habitats, making BCL's panels 'Panda Friendly'.



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