

TBM's "LIMEX Sheet", made mainly from limestone, adopted as table menu of WDI Group's Tim Ho Wan restaurant

A lamination-free table menu that protects natural resources, made with 100% renewable energy

Tokyo, January 27, 2022 – TBM Co., Ltd. ("TBM") today announces that "LIMEX Sheet", which is mainly made of limestone, has been adopted for the table menu of Michelin-starred Hong Kong dim sum restaurant "Tim Ho Wan" in Japan, owned by WDI Group.

Compared to paper, LIMEX Sheet can significantly reduce the amount of water required for manufacturing, and since wood pulp is not used as a raw material for the product, it can also contribute to the conservation of forest resources. LIMEX Sheet does not require lamination as it is water-resistant and tear-proof and can be recycled just like products designed with a single material. Multiple major chain restaurants have already adopted table menus printed on LIMEX Sheet. TBM collaborates with business partners and customers to accelerate material recycling of LIMEX Sheet utilizing existing recycling facilities.

In the future, TBM will strengthen the sales of LIMEX Sheet as an environmentally friendly product and accelerate the collection and material recycling of LIMEX products with partnering companies.

About LIMEX Sheet : <https://tb-m.com/limex/products/>

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Excellent Durability and Water Resistance



■ Background

Currently, paper production requires water and wood pulp as raw materials. However, it is expected that 51% of the world's population will fall into high water risk by 2050^{*1}, and approximately 100,000 square kilometers^{*2} of natural forest has been lost every year since 2015. At COP26 (The 26th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) held in November 2021, the "Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use" was announced, and in more than 100 countries, including Japan (86% of the world's forest area) agreed on the goal of ending deforestation by 2030.

^{*1} WWF "Water Risk Scenarios" (2020)

^{*2} FAO "Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020" (2020)

■ About LIMEX Sheet

LIMEX sheet is manufactured by T-die sheet extrusion of the molten composite and stretching process controlling a porous structure to create whiteness and lightness. It is manufactured at Shiroishi and Tagajo Factory, using 100 percent renewable energy with no CO₂ emission factor.

1. Save water, forest, and petroleum resource

Compared to paper, LIMEX Sheet uses almost no water required during manufacturing and does not use wood pulp, which leads to the conservation of forest resources. Due to its excellent durability and water resistance, it does not require lamination and reduces the use of petroleum-based plastics.

2. Save time and cost

LIMEX Sheet does not need to be laminated because of its water resistance and durability. This reduces the time required for lamination and reduces costs compared with menus printed on paper and laminated with plastic films.

3. Clear printing and high-quality texture

Its luxurious matte and high-quality texture characterize LIMEX Sheet. Its excellent color reproducibility makes it suitable for use in restaurants table menus.

■ About LIMEX

LIMEX is a composite material consisting of over 50% inorganic substances. It is patented in over 40 countries and used in over 6000 companies and organizations. It has been introduced in global conferences such as COP and G20. It is registered in the sustainable technology dissemination platform "STePP" by UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) as a recyclable material. When used as an alternative to paper or plastic, it can contribute to the conservation of resources with a high risk of depletion, such as oil, water, and forest resources, and the reduction of greenhouse gases.

Recycling LIMEX

LIMEX can be recycled without separating the inorganic and thermoplastic resin. The possibility of recycling is guaranteed with products designed with a single material. TBM has implemented multiple LIMEX recycling initiatives utilizing existing recycling equipment in collaboration with companies, consumers, and local governments.

Why limestone?

Limestone, which is the main raw material of LIMEX, is a resource that is abundant across the world. Compared to petroleum-based plastics, limestones can reduce CO₂ emissions during the raw material procurement stage by about 1/50 and reduce CO₂ emissions during combustion by about 58%.

PRESS RELEASE



■ About TBM Co., Ltd.

TBM is based in Japan, specializing in developing, manufacturing, and distributing LIMEX[®], an innovative new material mainly made from limestone and inorganic materials. The basic patents of LIMEX have been registered in 40 countries and introduced to over 6,000 companies in Japan. LIMEX is registered in the sustainable technology dissemination platform "STePP" by UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) as a recyclable material that can be an alternative to paper and plastic. By supplying LIMEX worldwide, TBM aims to solve plastic waste issues, resource depletion, and various environmental issues. In 2020, TBM was evaluated as the third-largest unicorn company in Japan.

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