**Mēbeļu galdnieku izglītības programma**

**Profesionālā angļu valoda**

**Mēbeļu industrijas attīstība kaimiņvalstīs**

**Skolotāja : Dace Cine**

**Furniture industry**

The Lithuanian furniture, wood processing and paper industry has long-standing traditions in producing high quality products. The industry is well-developed - modern production facilities are utilized, the workforce is highly skilled and the operating costs are relatively low. Lithuania is the fifth biggest IKEA supplier in the world.

At the beginning of 2012 there were 722 companies operating in the industry of furniture production employing 20,300  workers which is 2.5 percent of the overall labor force. 97.5 percent of operating companies are SME`s, 2.5 percent large companies. Despite decrease in number of companies furniture production, 2011 compared with 2010, grew by 35.5 percent.

Lithuanian companies produce a wide range of furniture and majority of production is exported:

* 2011 vs. 2010 the exports of Lithuanian produced furniture grew by 19.7 percent and reached EUR 786.6 mil.
* 93 percent of overall furniture exports are produced in Lithuania, about 7 percent goes to re-exports;
* The main export markets remain Scandinavian countries, Germany and the United Kingdom.

**Top 5 export markets**

Furniture industry

Investment of companies in tangible fixed assets rebounded strongly after the crisis. In 2010 and 2011 major furniture producing companies invested heavily into production expansion and new production lines, thus laying good foundations for future exports growth.

**Key products:**

* Kitchen furniture
* Living room furniture
* Bathroom furniture
* Furniture parts (components)
* Seats and seats convertible into beds
* Office furniture
* Other

**Industry's key competitive advantages**

* Efficient application of modern technologies and innovative business solutions
* Superior design, high quality standards, short delivery terms
* High flexibility to handle non-standard orders

For more details information please visit [here](http://www.verslilietuva.lt/uploads/file/LT_Furniture_2011.pdf)

For more information, please visit:

Lithuanian forest cluster <http://www.lietuvosmediena.lt/en/>

Lithuanian biomass energy association <http://www.litbioma.lt/en/about-us.html>

Lithuanian timber house producers association <http://www.timberhouses.lt/association_timber_houses_producers>

Directorate general of state forests <http://www.gmu.lt/lithuanian_state_forests/>