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Wood & Structure

Granville Bois sarl
 SARL au capital de 12000.00€

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Lifecycle of an oak tree

Typical lead times

To get a mature oak	80 to 200yr
From cutting to sawing	3 months to 1 year
Beams order to delivery	3 weeks
Drying 1 inch boards	2 months

Summary

- Oak is a renewable resource and store carbon.
- It is cut according to the forest management schemes.
- Its energetic extraction cost is marginal.
- It is available in many woodlands, and can be processed in local mills, thus minimizing transport impact.
- It doesn't generate any dangerous waste.
- Recycling is easy and can be done locally.

Where do my beams and my flooring come from?

It's a long journey from the forest to your dining room or your roof. We present the steps we have to go through to get the expected product.

The journey begins in the woodlands, where trees have been selected according to the forest management scheme and marked for cutting.



The forester will assess the parcel and will bid against other buyers to get it. Then, the cutters will chop down the trees (in winter, when leaves are off and sap low) The logs will be pulled out of the forest ground and

laid roadside for sorting and selection per grade. (vener, planking, beam, sleepers, firewood)



They will eventually go to the mill, and be sawn into slabs, beams and planks.

The sawmiller will produce a cutting list for a roof or a house. He will have the tricky task to get the logs best suited to the sections and



lengths he has to produce, so that he could minimize the waste. Every log is debarked and sawn to size.



The boards taken out around the beam will be rip sawn and sorted per quality to make floorboards or components for furniture.

They will be kiln dried before being machined so that their moisture content matches with a modern house's hygrometry.

From one log, in average, 1/3 will be converted into beam, 1/3 into boards and 1/3 will be bark, sawdust and chips for fuel wood or the panel industry.

Is it sustainable?

That's today's question and the answer has sometimes to be dug out...

Sustainability may sometimes be presented partially, voluntarily forgetting the extraction or the recycling costs of the material.

The trees we use are all harvested in North West France, in both public and private woodlands, sharing a same management scheme which implies that the trees when cut, are replaced either by natural regeneration or by replanting an equivalent

surface. The French forest annual growth rate is 0,5% in surface and 0,25% net in volume. It covers today 16 M Ha, nearly 30% of the French territory.

The resource is sustainable in itself, and the extraction has got a low environmental impact, as two men with a chainsaw and a tractor can easily pull roadside up to 1000cbm per month.

The trees are processed locally, minimizing the

transport .

The energy used to saw timber is nothing compared to the energy needed to make steel, bricks or cement.

The CO2 stored during tree growth is far more than the CO2 generated to convert it into a building material.

Last, the recycling cost is marginal, the timber can be used for firewood and even re used as a fashionable reclaimed flooring...