**Year-end summary of DREMA and DremaSilesia 2019**

2019 was a very intensive breakthrough year for the MTP Group. It has seen noticeable changes not only in the internal organisation of the institution (rebranding of the MTP Group), but also in the way in which events dedicated to the wood and furniture industry are organised - our main DREMA and DremaSilesia trade fairs.

It may be concluded that 2019 was, on one hand, a difficult year, but on the other hand, also an interesting and rewarding one. Despite a slowdown in the economy of Western countries and unfavorable domestic factors (rules of wood sales not adjusted to the realities of Polish entrepreneurs, growing costs of raw materials and electricity, environmental standards, staff shortages), the 2019 editions of DREMA and DremaSilesia were definitely successful.

77 exhibitors from the wood and furniture sector presented their offerings at the April Exhibition of Woodworking Machines and Tools - DremaSilesia 2019 in Sosnowiec. The impressive exhibition covered 2,000 m2 of the Expo Silesia exhibition hall and was visited by 1,457 professionals from the woodworking industry. The thirteenth edition of DremaSilesia turned out to be very fortunate. The exhibition, which started at the level of regional fairs dedicated to the Upper Silesia region, and then to the region of Southern Poland, is a nationwide event today visited by companies from the wood and furniture industry not only from Poland, but also from abroad. The 2019 edition was record-breaking in terms of exhibition space, number of exhibitors and accompanying events. For three days, a number of interesting workshops, shows and lectures were held, both for industry specialists and woodwork enthusiasts, and three technological lines where kitchen cupboards were being produced (live furniture factories) operated in the exhibition space.

DREMA is the most eagerly anticipated international meeting of the wood and furniture industry sector in Poland and Central and Eastern Europe. The know-how gained over the years means that today we are shaping the future together with market leaders and renowned brands, setting the directions of development of the entire sector.

The DREMA International Trade Fair of Machines, Tools and Components for the Wood and Furniture Industries is currently at the forefront of the world's largest exhibitions dedicated to the woodworking and wood processing industry. It is the only event in Poland that has received EUMABOIS recommendation! The first signs of crisis in the industry were not visible during DREMA 2019. One can even be tempted to say that this event is a pass to the world of innovation in the wood processing sector. In September, in the heart of Wielkopolska, nearly 600 exhibitors presented their flagship offerings. Impressive stands were arranged in a total of 28,700 m2, and the exhibition of modern machines, specialist equipment, tools and components attracted 15,450 professional visitors to Poznań. During the whole event of DREMA 2019, the visitors could learn about the latest trends in the furniture industry and the woodworking industry. Visitors could discover the potential of modern solutions and deepen their knowledge thanks to the impressive range of accompanying events. It is worth noting that DREMA trade fair is not only a business meeting and abundance of exhibitions of machines and tools for the woodworking and furniture industries. Our exhibitors are also close to the principles of corporate social responsibility and willing to engage in charity actions (DREMA for Kids and Premieres: Upholstery 4.0, Innovative Kitchen).

The year 2019 was exceptionally positive and successful for us. We managed to create and gradually introduce a new strategy for DREMA trade fair, which aims at a comprehensive presentation of solutions for the wood and furniture industry (from raw materials, materials and components to technologically advanced machines and equipment for furniture production) under one globally recognizable brand. New elements included live furniture factories - Upholstery 4.0 and Innovative Kitchen, where modern technologies, solutions and machines for woodworking were presented. At the same time, these became educational zones, which allowed visitors to familiarize themselves with the technological side of the furniture production process. One of the interesting projects was the women meeting held under the slogan "Women in the furniture industry - be an inspiration that changes the world". This was the first, but certainly not the last such project integrating women working in the furniture and wood industry. It is necessary to fight against stereotypes that are still present in our culture. Women do not lack the skills necessary to work in the so-called *male sectors*. Ladies have potential, which can be an impulse for the development of the entire sector. That is why we are taking action to support and help women build their careers in the woodworking and furniture industries. It is worth mentioning that DREMA 2019 was attended by many influencers and well-known Internet creators: Lidka and Jarka from the *Dom i Drewno* portal, Sławek and *Meble Twojego Pomysłu*, Przemek from *Kępa Marzeń*, Alicja Solarska - *Alicja w Krainie Drewna*, Aneta Bukowska - *Starych meble czar*, Helena Lipińska and Agnieszka Baraniok-Lipińska - *Helena Majsterkuje*, Adrian Hak - HK, Jacek Boborycki and Roman Szosler - *Milion Pomysłów na Minutę*, Filip Stanowski - *Galeria Sztuki Stara Praga & Pracownia Renowacji Mebli Dawnych*, Łukasz Giergasz - *Stolarnia 5m2*, Maciej Kupś and Waldemar Sokalski - *Rob in Wood*, Mariusz Lipniacki, Mariusz Siwy - *Gizmo Garaż*, Mateusz Ignacak - *Młody Stolarz*, Mateusz Wudecki, Paweł Żurowski - *Pan Fleks*, Rafał Olearczuk - *Olo76*, Robert Wyskiel, and Tomasz Magaj.

Of course we are not slowing down! We are working on a lot of innovations that correspond to the needs of the market. The agenda of the events will address all the problems faced by the woodworking and furniture industries, both in Poland and abroad:

* new technologies, increasing the comfort of work, increase the efficiency and flexibility of production
* keeping profitability and adjusting the company's strategy to market changes
* optimization of production processes and application of raw materials and energy-saving technologies
* sales channels, logistics, transport, white gloves delivery (transport and comprehensive service including furniture assembly and the removal of old equipment)
* Drema Design - modern design, manufacturing techniques and items made of wood and wood-based materials
* Trend Forum - the latest solutions in the sector of components, decors, upholstery fabrics and raw materials, inspiration for designers
* eco-design and sustainable production, promotion of timber

For 2020 DREMA and DremaSilesia we guarantee a great deal of information and positive emotions that will accompany the trade fairs! Feel invited!

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**DREMA & DremaSilesia**

**MTP Group**