

PORTRAIT

Delavelle honnors the woodworking for 12 years



French specialist in high-end solid wood furniture, Delavelle is celebrating its twelfth anniversary this year and is investing in a new renovated and equipped workshop to match its ambitions after last year's fire destroyed its production. The Franc-Comté company has managed to get back on its feet and continue its development by imposing itself on the made-in-France design market through collaborations with internationally renowned designers and interior architects.

To ensure impeccable manufacturing quality, Delavelle creates all its collections in a short circuit: from the cutting of the wood planks to the finishing, the entire production process is carried out in Franche-Comté in a traditional manner.



A tireless ambition to become a custom editor and developer

After 11 years of renting small workshops, Delavelle has just invested in an area that matches his ambitions. He went from his parents' 30 m2 garage with a single old machine to a 700m2 room and now works in a workshop of more than 4000m2. In this large space, the Franc-Comté company will be able to double its production capacity, develop its design office and its cabinet making workshop, while an upholstery and tapestry workshop has just been set up. Soon, Hugo Delavelle wishes to set up a space dedicated to the first stages of wood transformation: sawing and drying.

Despite the fire of his last workshop in 2020 having destroyed his stock, Hugo Delavelle believes in it and reaches 750,000€ of turnover, doubling his 2018 turnover thus confirming the entrepreneur in his 100% French eco-design approach. This year, the entrepreneur is aiming for 850,000€ thanks to the development of new products and the conquest of new foreign markets. In September, 2 new employees will join the Delavelle adventure, which will thus count 12 woodworking enthusiasts.

The mastery of the traditional expertise of woodworking



Behind the brand is Hugo Delavelle.

After spending 6 years with the "Compagnons du Devoir" and two years in Aachen as a student in craft design, Hugo Delavelle began his cabinet making activity in 2009 with creations for local clients.

From now on, the creations of the Haute-Saône cabinetmaker travel to the United States and even to London in Hélène Darroze's restaurant or even to Moscow.

The commitment to produce durable furniture with impeccable finishes has been anchored in the company's DNA since its inception in 2009. Indeed, all Delavelle creations are handcrafted with local wood species in their workshop based in Franche-Comté.

Each cabinetmaker follows the manufacturing of a piece from A to Z and can customize each piece according to the desired dimensions and make custom creations. The manufacturing of a piece can take up to 400 hours of work.

At the end of the manufacturing process, the furniture is marked with a fire stamp: a signature that comes from an ancient tradition of master cabinetmakers who marked their creations in this way.

This handcrafted production does not exclude the use of machines and innovative processes.



Café Oelsner - Hambourg - Germany

The traditional skills of cabinet making, combined with a design and innovation approach, give birth to authentic and resolutely contemporary collections.

A commitment to Made in France : from raw materials to finishing touches

The Delavelle workshop is located in Saulnot, in Bourgogne-Franche-Comté, one of the most wooded regions in France, offering a remarkable diversity and quality of wood. It is therefore quite natural for the company to use this sustainable local resource present in the forests near the workshop.



The team creates and manufactures all its furniture - from the cutting of the wood planks to the finishing, including all the machining and assembly phases - to ensure an impeccable quality of manufacture and finish. The sawing and drying stages are carried out by regional partners. This year, Delavelle wishes to integrate a sawmill to control the manufacturing process from start to finish.

The packaging of the furniture is done by regional partners located nearby; a way for Delavelle to support the local economy.



Environmental commitments to match the quality

Delavelle applies an eco-design approach which minimizes the environmental impact of its products throughout their life cycle. The design is made in such a way as to save as much material as possible and the energy necessary for its transformation. Delavelle plans storage, packaging, transport and distribution from the design phase in order to minimize weight and volume, thus significantly reducing its carbon footprint and the nuisance caused by road traffic.



The wood used for its creations is PEFC certified since 2012. This certification guarantees that it comes from forests whose exploitation respects the fundamentals of sustainable development. It is also the assurance that these woods do not come from wild deforestation.

The wood is not chemically treated and retains all its excellent properties: it breathes, absorbs moisture and gradually releases it to the surrounding air, thus ensuring a healthy and pleasant environment. The wood glue used is free of formaldehyde, a harmful substance.



To take its eco-design approach to its logical conclusion, Delavelle applies a natural vegetable oil during the finishing process that does not emit any volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and that meets the Gold label for indoor air quality and the EN 71-3 toy standard.

A recognition from the French state

Since 2017, the Delavelle workshop has been awarded the "Entreprise du Patrimoine Vivant" (EPV) label, a mark of recognition from the French state set up to distinguish French companies with excellent craft and industrial know-how.



History : 12 years of constant evolution

• September 17, 2009 : creation of the workshop

In a room of about thirty square meters with a single old combined machine. All types of wooden work, from traditional furniture to fittings and joinery. Alongside this launching activity, Hugo Delavelle designed the first collections and manufactured the first prototypes. The first pieces of furniture are presented to the public at a regional trade show in January 2010.

• 2010 - 2011 : Expansion of the workshop and development of the machine park.

Continuous development of new collections and participation in various exhibitions.

• September 2011 : The workshop is larger and the machine park is modernized.

The orders are there : the first employee is hired. Other young cabinetmakers will soon join the company, notably in training and apprenticeship.

- 2011 2013 : Constant development of the production tool and collections.
- 2014 : Launch of the online sales site.
- 2018 : Development and creation of a second production workshop on lease.
- 2020 : Fire of the historical workshop in Malval, acquisition and development of a new workshop of 2000m2 in Saulnot.

About

French specialist in high-end PEFCcertified solid wood furniture, Delavelle has been offering contemporary and eco-designed creations since 2009. Traditional cabinetmaking skills, combined with a design and innovation approach, give rise to authentic and resolutely contemporary collections. To ensure impeccable manufacturing quality, Delavelle creates all its collections in its workshop in Franche-Comté. From the cutting of the wood planks to the finishing touches, the entire production process is carried out in France using traditional methods.

Press contacts

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