

Bavarians were only represented with a small information booth at the trade fair, refer to their exhibition in a hotel near the exhibition. Not on but close to the IWF: the decor specialist Interprint (Germany) presents its products on 22 and 23 August at Aloft Atlanta Downtown.

Bigger again

In 2016, the IWF was able to grow for the third time in a row. All together, the 1,079 exhibitors counted 17,125 visitors. Only 1,837 came from outside USA, of whom 259 from Europe.

Slowly, the fair seems to be recovering. For comparison, before the crisis in 2008, there were still 1,324 exhibitors and an area of 75,500 square meters and 35,000 visitors.

Many events

Once again this year, there will be a comprehensive range of fringe events at the trade fair. An exhibition will show the finalists for the "IWF Challengers Distinguished Achievement Award". The award,



which is known all over the world, honours companies that have "distinguished themselves by developing innovative technology in products, services, or manufacturing techniques that will advance the industry".

Challengers Award

A panel of 10 distinguished judges has tested and analysed each entry. The finalists will perform live demonstrations for the jury, which will then make the final decision about the most innovative product development. The finalists will be on exhibit in the Challengers Award Gallery for the entire duration of the

trade fair. The winners of the awards for 2018 will be announced on Wednesday, 22 August, at 11:00 in the overlook area on the second level in Building B. Among the winners of the last fair were: Bacci (CNC Router for Shaping & Sanding Cabinets Doors Outside Profile), Biesse (Viet Robotic sanding of cross grain scratching and Mdf, wood or painted doors), Holz-Her (L tronic) and Salice (Salice Air).

"Product Showcase"

The new Product Showcase is an area in which the visitors get an overview of the latest developments since the IWF 2016. It can

Again this year, the "IWF Challengers Distinguished Achievement Award" will be presented. Photos: IWF

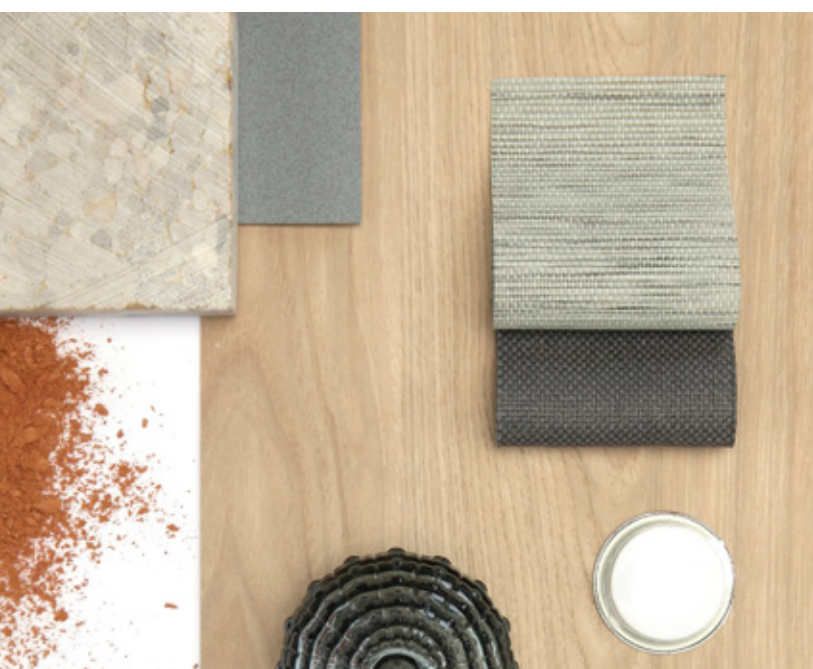
be found on the exhibition hall level in Building B.

IWF will be offering two pavilions that are industry and technology specific to help centrally locate certain points of interest. These pavilions will be located in the Building C Exhibit Hall: Cabinetry, Closets & Storage and Decorative Surfaces: Digital Print, Countertops, Flooring.

IWF Education Conference

The IWF Education Conference offers a broad range of industry-related topics during the trade fair. Eleven full-day symposiums on various topics (Closets, Powder Coating Wood, CNC, Lean, Countertops & Architectural Surfaces, Leadership Forum, Digital Printing, Engineering Surfacing Products, Expanding Your Business to the U.S., Wood Flooring, Finishing) will already take place a day before the trade fair begins, on 21 August. leo

Premiere at the IWF



The surface specialist Schattdecor (Germany) is celebrating its premiere at the IWF: The producer of printed decor paper, finished refined surfaces, and melamine films for the worldwide wood-based ma-

At the IWF, Schattdecor will introduce its latest decors and products. The main point of focus will be the trends predicted for 2019.

materials and furniture industry will present its decors and trends for 2019 in Atlanta.

In order to provide the right setting for the new products at the trade fair, the design team has put in a great deal of work. The new trade fair stand has an area of 110 m² and is a unique opportunity for team members to give their creativity free rein.

The main point of focus of the presentation is the trends predicted for 2019. The world is rapidly changing and we have to continue to de-

A view of the Schattdecor showroom at its headquarters in Germany: "Community Zone" is one of four trend areas.

Photos: Schattdecor

velop as well. New lifestyles are influencing the form and function of the rooms where we live and work – and how we furnish them. So visitors to the stand can experience directly how multidimensional lifestyles, changing living concepts and the mixing of leisure time and work are shaping the new trends and how they are reflected in the decors, colours and surfaces. leo

