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Banana-waste products astound the Europeans

David Sexton

sextond@tcp.newsltd.com.au

A WALKAMIN property has become the production site for a South Australian company which is about to start exporting banana-waste products to Europe.

Papyrus Australia has developed technology enabling it to turn banana waste into valuable fibre and veneer products.

The product, called Beleaf, was recently displayed at the Monaco Yacht Show, a leading event for furniture, flooring and other home products.

It is said to be both water-resistant and a fire retardant.

“We are now assembling at Walkamin for delivery to Europe in the coming weeks,” Papyrus chairman Ted Byrt said.

“The company’s prototype production plant at Walkamin, on the Tableland, is already delivering a range of veneer and fibre products as a demonstration of the commercial viability of the technology.”

Mr Byrt said the response from professionals and public at Monaco was very encouraging.

“People attending the exhibition were astounded by Beleaf’s fire retard-

ant and water-resistant qualities,” he said.

“They were also impressed by the quality and variety of the Beleaf veneer products.”

Papyrus Australia also used its European launch to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

The aim of the agreement was to promote Papyrus’s environmentally sustainable technologies and products worldwide and work towards introducing these technologies in banana-growing countries.