

**DECCA SHIPPED OVER 30,000 ARCHITECTURAL
WOODWORKING COMPONENTS ACROSS THE PACIFIC
OCEAN TO COMPLETE THE KIMMEL CENTER FOR
PERFORMING ARTS, THE NEW HOME OF PHILADELPHIA
ORCHESTRA**

HONG KONG, 3 January 2002 Decca Holdings Limited (**Stock Code: 997**) in conjunction with its long-standing business partner Imperial Woodworking Company supplied all the architectural woodwork for The Kimmel Center For Performing Arts (<http://www.kimmelcenter.org/>) in Philadelphia, USA. The Center, a US\$268 million complex of halls designed by world acclaimed Italian architect, Rafeal Vinoly, is built under a glass dome and features wood paneling, fixtures and cladding, both for the interior and exterior. The complex had a four-day grand opening which feature world renown performers such as Elton John and Yo-Yo Ma.

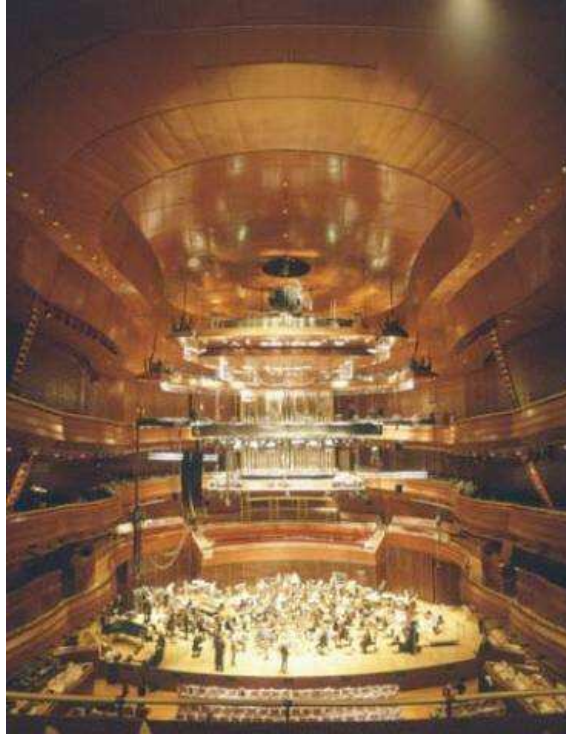
Expected to become as much an icon for Philadelphia as the opera house is to Sidney, the Kimmel Center include a concert hall, Verizon Hall, which can seat 2,543 patrons on four levels. Rave reviews have come from all who attended the inaugarted events: Former mayor of Philadelphia Mr. Edward G. Rendell said, "You can't have a world-class city without a world-class arts center." Christoph Eschenbach, the Philadelphia Orchestra's next music director, said, "Sometimes with these new modern halls you get something that's just functional. This one is functional but also beautiful."

Decca's Chairman, Mr. Tsang Chi Hung said, "Decca is indeed proud of being the supplier of all architectural woodwork for The Kimmel Center. We made over **30,000** wooden components including the reverberation chambers (71-feet high by 12- to 18-feet wide) that control the release of sound into the surrounding acoustic chambers, irregular shaped ceiling panels for the concert hall and all the external claddings. Bearing in mind the high level of acoustic quality demanded by the designer, it is not a project that is easily understood unless seen. However, with Decca's advanced computerized woodworking machines, we once again succeed to make the impossible possible. Richard Herbst, my fellow director in-charge of this project, smiled proudly when he read that international acclaimed cellist, Yo-Yo Ma said he felt a tremendous amount of clarity in all of the ranges after his first performance in Verizon Hall.

Mr. Tsang went on, "Technology plays a crucial part in today's business. Modern woodworking is no longer just hammer and nails. In fact, without having invested substantial amounts in modern computerized equipment over the last few years, Decca would not be

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able to win such large-scale, technology-demanding contracts. I think Decca is now in a very advantageous position. We have ample business opportunities following China's entry into **WTO**, supported by the most advanced production technology and a team of loyal and skilled labor."



THE KIMMEL CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS