JEGATHESWARAN: Excited about the collaboration with the University of Applied Sciences in Rosenheim, Germany

A wood effort
Dr Jegatheswaran Ratnasingam's first English language wood sanding book in the world since a 1964 publication has generated rave reviews and attracted industry interest for collaborative efforts with Universiti Putra Malaysia. 

SUMITHA MARTIN reports.

Jegatheswaran's book has also drawn exacting reviews from The Woodworker, the leading woodworking magazine in the world. Its review states: "This is the most comprehensive book on wood sanding processes and will serve as an excellent reading and reference material for the woodworking, machine technology and academic fraternities worldwide."

Jegatheswaran is particularly excited about the collaboration with FHR because the German approach to wood technology education is to "view it as an engineering field" and to therefore place emphasis on efficient processing methods. This contrasts with wood technology education in Malaysia which assumes a material science approach, an inheritance from the Anglo-Saxon tradition.

The book also has two contributors — Professor Erwin Friedl, an expert in industrial robotics from FHR, and Dr Adrian Riegel, a lecturer at the University of Applied Sciences in Lemgo and who is currently a visiting lecturer at FHR.

Jegatheswaran bases his claims that his text is the first English one since Peter Koch's in 1964, on the result of searches at the British National Library, the library at the Technical University of Munich (which is touted to be one of the oldest wood science schools in the world) and Amazon.com. All searches confirm the non-existence of any other English text. Koch's publication is no longer in print.