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**"WE ONLY USE THE NATURAL OIL FROM THE FLAX PLANT THAT'S HEATED IN THE ABSENCE OF OXYGEN. THE HEATING POLYMERIZES THE OIL AND LETS IT CURE FASTER."**

apwood's move towards sustainability affects the way that it treats the wood. "Most furniture manufacturers use petroleum-based finishes," Mich says. "The fumes are really dangerous for workers. Instead, we use natural linseed finishes and play off of the natural colors and hues of the wood. We only use the natural oil from the flax plant that's heated in the absence of oxygen. The heating polymerizes the oil and lets it cure faster."

Mich says that linseed finishes are ideal for hardwoods and indoor furniture as they produce a matte finish; if the wood chips or scratches, it's easy to sand it down and apply a small layer of linseed. "We also use natural cotton for the strapping that holds the bed slats together as well as for dresser drawers," Mich says. "While we understand that cotton production can often use high amounts of pesticides we still feel it is a better choice over petroleum-based plastics such as nylon and polyester. It's our goal to find suppliers of more environmentally friendly products such as hemp, jute or organic cotton."