

NEWSLETTER

HOME/FURNITURE/DESIGN

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IKEA Parent Ingka Group Lists Six City Store Assets for Sale in China

Six former IKEA self-owned store properties across six Chinese cities, including Tianjin and Harbin were publicly listed for sale with a combined floor area exceeding 360,000 square meters. The move signals a further retreat from IKEA's heavy-asset, large-store model in China. **(Sina.cn)**

Guangdong Ceramics Hit by Energy Cost Surge, Kiln Rates Fall Below 50%

Guangdong's ceramics industry, China's largest production hub, faces severe headwinds as natural gas prices surged to 4.65–4.8 yuan/m³ and coal briefly exceeded 1,200 yuan/ton in the first half of 2026. The soaring energy costs have forced widespread kiln closures, with the province's overall operating rate dropping below 50%, the lowest among major domestic production regions. **(www.taocixinxi.com)**

China Furniture Sector Profits Plunge 58.4% as Industrial Divergence Widens

China's furniture manufacturing sector saw profits plunge 58.4% year-on-year to 3.26 billion yuan in Jan-May 2026, deepening from a 54.4% drop in Jan-Apr. The sharp decline stands in stark contrast to the overall industrial sector, where profits rose 18.8% nationally, highlighting widening structural divergence within China's manufacturing base. **(National Bureau of Statistics)**

China Ceramic Exports Edged Up in May After April Plunge

China's ceramic product exports edged up 3.2% month on month to 1.77 million tonnes in May 2026, with export value rising 1.36% to 14.91 billion yuan (\$2.19 billion). For Jan-May 2026, total ceramic exports reached 75.72 million tonnes, up 2.6% year on year, but export value fell 5.6% to 63.85 billion yuan (\$9.39 billion), reflecting persistent price pressure. **(GACC)**

Zhejiang Furniture Sector Gains Momentum in First Five Months

Zhejiang, a major hub for China's furniture production and exports, saw its industrial sales output reach 46.57 billion yuan from January to May. The figure marks a 4.5% year-on-year increase, according to data from the province's above-scale furniture enterprises. In May alone, sales output hit 9.28 billion yuan, surging 6.6% compared to the same period last year. **(Zhejiang Furniture Association)**