ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT BUSINESS RECORDS CENTRE

KEIZER VENESTA LTD.

Ref. Code: B/KV Acc. No.: MMM.1991.299

Listed by David Le Mare Retyped by Sarah Starkey, Curator of Maritime Archives October 2008

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KEIZER VENESTA LTD.

INTRODUCTION

Keizer Venesta Ltd. started in St. Anne Street, Liverpool in 1817, where Joseph Chiesa traded as "Carver, Gilder and Glass Merchant". By 1839, A. Greener had joined him in partnership. In 1842 L. Keizer joined Chiesa and Leopold Rohrer in partnership, who were now trading as "Carvers & Gilders, Looking Glass & Clock Makers & Dealers in Plate Glass".

In 1902 on L. Keizer's death, the watchmaking business was sold off and the glass side, which continued trading as L. Keizer & Co., Ltd., developed rapidly. Larger premises on St. Anne Street were leased and the business was incorporated as a limited company. In 1967 the glass company was sold after 150 years in the business, but the name L. Keizer was retained. However, the woodworking side had expanded and concentrated on supplying plywood for the shipbuilding industry. They were so successful that by 1939 they claimed to have supplied plywood to the leading shipbuilders, for vessels such as the *Empress of Britain, Queen Mary* and *Queen Elizabeth*. In 1965 the company merged with Venesta Plywood, after many years of co-operation, and became known as Keizer Venesta Ltd.

The records were deposited with the Archives Department, National Museums Liverpool on 23 September 1988.

These records are available strictly by appointment only.

For related records see reference DX/501, bills and receipts of the Lumber Sales Co., Ltd.

Reference:

Wood, A.D. and Linn, T.G. *Plywoods their Development. Manufacture and Application*. Edinburgh and London 1942.

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KEIZER VENESTA LTD.	<u> 1903 - 1964</u>
Director's Minutes	<u> 1903 - 1950</u>
Director's minutes; note that before the minutes of 21 August 1934, a letter dated 6 June 1934 showed the Scottish & Baltic Trading Co., Ltd., in the title.	22 June 1903 - 8 May 1950
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