



Message from the Coordinator

This newsletter will provide regular updates on developments in forest certification and the supply, specification and use of certified forest products. Please feel free to pass this newsletter onto interested parties.

In this issue...

- AFTN news
- AFTN Participant News
- News from the GFTN
- Background and Facts

Jana Blair
Coordinator,

*Australia Forest & Trade
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The Global Forest and Trade Network

The Global Forest & Trade Network or GFTN is WWF's initiative to eliminate illegal logging, improve the management of the world's valuable and threatened forests, and promote credible forest certification. By providing support to and facilitating trade links between progressive forest industry companies, the GFTN seeks to create market conditions that will help conserve the world's forests while providing economic and social benefits for the businesses and people that depend on them.

The AFTN is the Australian arm of the GFTN (see page 5 for more information).

Events

ANZIF 2007 – GROWING FOREST VALUES

June 3 - 7, 2007 - Opal Cove, Coffs Harbour NSW - Australia

<http://www.forestry.org.au/ifa/i/anzif.asp>

ASIAN PULP AND PAPER OUTLOOK CONFERENCE

June 4-6, 2007 - Shanghai, China

In partnership with China Paper Industry Chamber of Commerce

www.risiinfo.com/events/asia_conf/index.html

THE 2007 FOREST AND NATURAL RESOURCES CERTIFICATION SUMMER TRAINING PROGRAMME

July 16 - 20, 2007 - Oxford, UK

The ProForest Summer Training Programme for 2007 is now open for registration. Following the very successful 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006 events, we have even more courses available. The Programme provides a range of courses dealing with current issues for those involved in forest management, certification and sustainable natural resources.

www.proforest.net/the-2007-forest-and-natural-resource-certification-summer-training-programme

IDENTIFYING AND MANAGING HIGH CONSERVATION VALUES

July 19-20, 2007 - Oxford, UK

2-day training course designed to provide an introduction to the concept of HCVs and their identification, management and monitoring.

<http://hcvnetwork.org/library/training-courses-workshops>

POVERTY REDUCTION AND FORESTS: TENURE, MARKET AND POLICY REFORMS

September 3 - 7, 2007 - Bangkok, Thailand

World experts on the use of forest resources to benefit the poor, while sustaining those same forests, are being invited to Bangkok in September for an international conference. The



conference will examine current efforts to reduce poverty through sustainable uses and management of forests, and discuss issues involving Asia's threatened forests and 300 million rural poor who live in and around and depend on the resources for livelihoods.

<http://www.recoftc.org/site/index.php?id=445>

For more forestry and timber trade events in our region go to

www.forestandtradeasia.org

AFTN News

New participant – WWF-Australia welcomes the Bunnings Group to the forest and trade network as recognition of their commitment and work in ensuring the timber products they handle are from legal and ultimately sustainable sources.

In 2003 Bunnings adopted a responsible timber and timber product purchasing policy and in 2006 reiterated that they would be focusing on ensuring that timber from high-risk countries was verifiably legal.

The AFTN looks forward to working with Bunnings as they continue their work in mapping supply chains and improving the credentials of the timber products they stock.

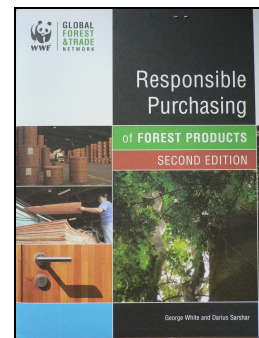
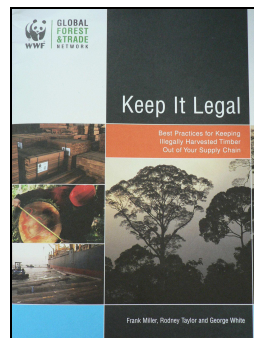
For more information go to www.bunnings.com.au

Responsible Purchasing Seminars – Commencing in March and concluding in early May, the AFTN Coordinator held a series of breakfast seminars across Australia.

The 5 seminars, held in Melbourne, Sydney, Perth, Canberra and Brisbane were aimed at organisations who were interested in “How to develop and implement a responsible purchasing policy for timber and timber products”.

The seminar consisted of a 45 minute powerpoint presentation summarising the steps in the Responsible Purchasing Guide followed by an opportunity for questions.

Attendees were given hard copies of both the Responsible Purchasing and Keep It Legal Guides as well a CD that contained soft copies of both documents along with sample policies; sample action plans and an application for the AFTN.



Some attendees expressed interest in organising a repeat of the presentation for internal staff or to explain the concept of responsible purchasing to existing and future suppliers. Should you be interested in hosting such a presentation for your own internal personnel or to explain the responsible purchasing journey please contact me on jblair@wwf.org.au

AFTN Participant News

29th March, 2007

Simmonds Lumber launch of “verified legal” timber – Simmonds Lumber held a launch event in Sydney to introduce the world’s first use of DNA to track and trace the trade in timber.

The technology has been developed by Certisource, a Singapore based timber auditing company, who have been working with Simmonds Lumber for the last 5 years.



“DNA Lumber” arrives at Simmonds Lumber

The DNA test, similar to human DNA testing, verifies the exact source of each tree used to produce timber products imported by Simmonds from Indonesia. Combined with an audit of more traditional paperwork, Certisource is able to verify that the timber being imported into Australia is legal.

To date Simmonds Lumber has imported approximately 5,000 cubic metres of DNA-tested Merbau products into Australia as part of a test program, but Simmonds and Certisource are committed to rolling this technology out across all timber species.

<http://www.certisource.net>

www.simmondslumber.com.au

13th May, 2007

Printer a “greenhouse friendly” success story – Another AFTN member, Complete Colour Printing featured on a television series “Your Business Success” on Channel Nine which aired on 13th May.

Each week the program links business mentors with a particular small or medium business with to provide practical business advice on an issue.

Complete Colour were chosen as one of four business mentors to give guidance to a sheet metal company on how they can become greener in their business practices.



Tim Michaelides (left) on set for “Your Business Success”

Complete Colour began to concentrate heavily on their waste procedures and energy and water usage about 5 years ago. Since then, their environmental initiatives have grown and evolved.

A few of these include:

- A rigorous waste management system (which even includes a worm farm)
- Clean production methods (including 100% vegetable based inks, CtP technology and water recirculation)
- FSC chain of custody certification
- A responsible paper purchasing policy
- An environmental committee which incorporates employees from every sector within the company
- An environmental induction for new employees

Tim Michaelides, Managing Director of Complete Colour Printing says, “being environmentally responsible makes

sense. I don’t understand why more businesses aren’t making the effort. The overall effect on the bottom line is positive and staff morale is lifted when they realise their actions are helping care for the environment”

Web page:

The AFTN now has its own web presence please click here

[AFTN home page](#)

(www.forestandtradeasia.org/country/Australia/English/) .

The AFTN welcomes feedback on both the content and layout of the website and if there are any extra features you think may be of interest.

General News

8 April 2007

Assessment of Forest Certification Schemes Operating in Indonesia - The assessment of certification under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the Indonesian Eco-labelling Institute (LEI) systems in Indonesia was conducted by WWF consultants in 2006 using the Forest Certification Assessment Guide.

The Guide was developed by the World Bank/WWF Alliance for Forest Conservation and Sustainable Use as a tool to assess a forest certification scheme and identify components of the scheme that could be strengthened to more effectively drive improvements in forest management and to enhance recognition of the scheme in the market place and by other stakeholders.

The assessment found that the LEI scheme met most of the FCAG requirements, however non-conformities were found with respect to its policy on the conversion of natural forests, transparency of the accreditation process, and public reporting. The FSC scheme in Indonesia complied with the FCAG requirements except for its reliance on interim standards. WWF is in dialogue with LEI and FSC to explore how the issues identified in the assessment can best be addressed.

To read the full assessment click here

[www.forestandtradeasia.org/files/Indonesia certification study Jan 07 Hinrichs Agung.pdf](http://www.forestandtradeasia.org/files/Indonesia%20certification%20study%20Jan%2007%20Hinrichs%20Agung.pdf)

GFTN News

Copies of the a full participants list can be downloaded from the GFTN website www.panda.org/gftn

Asia

In our region the Global Forest and Trade Network has chapters in China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia and Vietnam.

For more information on the Forest and Trade Networks in our region go to [/www.forestandtradeasia.org](http://www.forestandtradeasia.org)

February 2007

Indonesia FTN welcomes three new members -

PT. Trimitra Mebelindo manufacture large market umbrellas and garden furniture, for export mainly to North America, Europe, Australia and New Zealand, and have the capacity to deliver 100 containers per month (683.56m3). PT. Trimitra Mebelindo were awarded an FSC CoC certificate on July 2003.

PT. Redtroindo Nusantara manufacture fancy flooring & two layer (10,273 m3/month) and fancy blockboard (8,085m3/month). They mainly export their products to Europe and Korea (two layers); fancy floor to Europe, USA and Australia; and fancy blockboard to Middle East and USA..

PT. Hendratna Plywood are part of The Hendratna Group, owned by an Indonesia family, Hendra Muljanto. The Hendratna Plywood Mill, located at Banjarmasin is the key processing unit in Kalimantan, with several satellite mills providing semi-processed materials. The main markets for the Hendratna Plywood Mill are Europe and South East Asia, Products are generally designed by the group, according to requirements from buyer. To facilitate the progress towards responsible timber purchasing, Hendratna has initiated its own community based plantations in three areas: Balangan, Tabalong and Tanah Laut.

15 May 2007

Malaysia Forest & Trade Network Welcomes its First Forest Participant - The Malaysia Forest & Trade Network (Malaysia FTN) marked a major milestone when it welcomed its first forest participant, Sabah Forestry Department (SFD).

SFD manages the Tangkulap-Pinangah forest reserves, a concession of 65,385 hectares in Sandakan, Sabah.



Malaysia Forest and Trade Network's signing ceremony

Based on our nearly 20 years of 'hands on' experience in Deramakot, the first certified tropical rainforest in South East Asia, we are convinced that certification brings about enormous benefits and addresses the criterion of sustainability, i.e: the environment, economic viability and the social dimension. It also projects transparency which is vital in ensuring continuous improvement and credibility." Said Datuk Sam Mannan, Director of Sabah Forestry Department.

"The world's forests remain under threat from deforestation, illegal logging and poor forest management. Realizing these threats, Sabah Forestry Department (SFD) demonstrates an exemplary action to the industry and move towards sustainable forest management." said WWF- Malaysia's Chief Technical Officer, Ivy Wong.

To read the full release go to

<http://www.forestandtradeasia.org/posting.html?cnt=Malaysia&lang=English&nID=1641>

FSC News

Australia

FSC Australia now has a website up and running

www.fscaustralia.org

FSC Australia to launch the FSC PPP network - The PPP network brings together participants in the FSC system from the paper, printing and publishing industries.

The evening will include a presentation from Michael Spencer, CEO of FSC Australia who will talk about developments in the FSC system; an update on developments in Europe, the US and Asia, and; a panel session with FSC accredited certification body representatives who will talk about their work and answer questions on certification issues.

Date: 5 July

Venue: Dantes Upstairs

Address: Cnr Gertrude and Napier Streets, Fitzroy (Melbourne)

Time: 5.30-7.30pm

RSVP: 20 June to ppp@fscaustralia.org

5th March, 2007

FSC Australia held launch - A near capacity audience of almost 300 people packed one of Melbourne's most high profile venues, Zinc, for the official launch of the Forest Stewardship Council's (FSC) Australian national initiative.

At the launch, the Chair of FSC International, Grant Rosoman, announced that FSC Australia had now officially been accredited by FSC International as a national initiative; one of more than 35 national organisations that bring stakeholders together on forest issues.

To read the full press release go to
<http://www.fscaustralia.org/whats-new/fsc-news/106/>

6th March, 2007

The first Annual General Meeting of FSC Australia was held – Following the launch of FSC-Australia the first AGM was held.

At the meeting the following board members were elected to each chamber:

Economic Chamber

Kevin O'Grady - Timbercorp
Rohan Dean - Paperlinx
Bob Pearce – FIFWA

Environmental Chamber

Sean Cadman - TWS
Lindsay Hesketh - ACF
Jonathan La Nauze – FOE

Social

Frank Strie - Timber Workers for Forests
Tim Anderson - Individual
Jill Lewis - Timber Communities Australia

For more information or to become involved contact Michael Spencer on info@fscaustralia.org or Merrin Layden on merrin@fscaustralia.org

International

April, 2007

FSC Launches improved FSC certificate search – FSC has launched a new FSC Certificate Search, enabling users to verify the status of FSC registered certificates (www.fsc-info.org). It includes search functions that allows the search and sorting of certificates by issuing date, status, country and more.

The database also includes information on the status of certificates and lists suspended certificates with the date of suspension. The data in the FSC Certificate Search is managed directly by the FSC accredited Certification Bodies enabling availability of certificate information in near-real time.

Furthermore, it provides an interim search function for products and species, which will be upgrade with a new search platform schedule to go on-line later this year.

What is the AFTN?

The Australia Forest and Trade Network (AFTN) is the local arm of the Global Forest and Trade Network (GFTN) set up by WWF to assist and encourage Australian businesses to support responsible forestry.

Participants in the AFTN support responsible forestry by implementing a timber and paper purchasing policy and time-bound action plan that identifies and, as quickly as possible, ends the purchase of forest products from illegal or controversial sources and continuously increases the amount of product sourced from “known”, “legal”, “verified legal”, “progressing toward certification” and “certified” sources.

The AFTN is open to all Australian businesses that produce, supply or use timber and paper and who are seeking to support responsible forest management.

The benefits of participation are:

- Assistance in developing and implementing a practical, responsible timber and paper purchasing policy;
- Access to a global network of like-minded businesses and organisations, including producers and suppliers, that are committed to supporting responsible forestry;
- Guidance in assessing the value and credibility of different forest and chain of custody certification schemes;
- Improved risk management on a major environmental issue for many businesses; and
- Demonstrate to shareholders, employees, regulators and other stakeholders an enhanced corporate reputation.

AFTN Assistance

Certification Assistance

Contact Jana Blair, Australia Forest and Trade Network Coordinator. jblair@wwf.org.au

To find accredited FSC certifiers search on www.fsc.org

Group Certification: **Group Certification for Forests (2002)**
www.proforest.net/publications

How to find FSC Certified Timber

Lodge a “Market enquiry” with your AFTN Coordinator. These enquires are forwarded to all members of the GFTN on a quarterly basis.

Global search for FSC certified timber and products:

www.certifiedwood.org. This database allows you to search by type of timber and timber species, by product type and supply chain position and country.

On www.fsc-info.org you can search for FSC certified species all over the world. Search mechanisms include species, tenure and country.

Global search for FSC Forest management and Chain of Custody certificate holders: www.fsc-info.org

On www.certifiedwood.org you can confirm the certification status of a company.

Global search for FSC certified forests:

www.certifiedwood.org The advantage of this certified forest list is the contact details like telephone numbers are included.

The most up to date information on which forests and companies are certified can be found on the main FSC International website www.fsc.org, however this information is mainly aimed at providing an overview rather than to establish contact.

A new website www.whyFSC.com is now officially online. The website is an initiative by a number of European companies to promote FSC. The site features support testimonials and results of independent research about FSC. The information includes documents by scientists, societal interest groups, legal authorities and governments.

Publications

The AFTN has the following publications available in both hard and soft copy:

- AFTN Fact Sheet
- Responsible Purchasing Guide – Version II
- Keep it Legal – Guide on how to keep illegally harvested timber out of your supply chain.
- FSC Certification – An Introductory Guide
- FSC Principles and Criteria – A Framework for Forest Management
- FSC Certification: Chain of Custody – A Technical Guide for Manufacturers and Suppliers
- Controlled Wood – A Guide for Avoiding Environmentally and Socially Damaging Wood

Background and Facts

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is currently the only credible, globally applicable timber certification system supported by WWF. The FSC label makes it possible for buyers to choose forest products that come from forests managed to the highest environmental and social standards and from legal sources. As a global system FSC offers market incentives for improving forest management around the world.

Further details on

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) www.fsc.org

Global Forest and Trade Network www.panda.org/gftn

Forest For Life Programme, WWF www.panda.org

NGO Positions on Certification systems

Footprints in the Forest (2004) –

In depth report on Canadian Standard's Association (CSA), Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), Australian Forestry Standard (AFS), Sistema Brasileiro de Certificacao Florestal (CERFLOR), Certificacion Forestal (Certfor) and the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC). www.fern.org

Make your own judgement about Certification Schemes

Assessing Forest Certification: A Practical Guide (2002)

<http://www.proforest.net/publications>

WWF Forest Position Statements

WWF works on forest conservation through a multiplicity of approaches and strategies. WWF Position Statements on the following issues are available on WWF's web-site

www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/publications/position_papers/index.cfm

- Forest Protected Areas
- High Conservation Value Forests
- Forest Certification
- Certification Schemes (FSC and PEFC)
- Forest Plantations
- Climate Change and Forest Carbon Sequestration
- Forest Conversion
- Illegal Logging and Crime
- Forest Fires

WWF World Bank Alliance

The World Bank/WWF Alliance was formed in 1998 and draws on the comparative institutional strengths of the partner institutions:

- The Banks' access to policy dialogue, convening power, analytical capacity and financing operations;
- WWF's strong field presence, private sector partnerships, public trust and forest conservation experience.

For more information on the World Bank/WWF Alliance go to www.forest-alliance.org

For Further Information

For more information and to be sent an AFTN application form please contact: Jana Blair on jblair@wwf.org.au

The AFTN welcomes your response to information published in the Bulletin, write to jblair@wwf.org.au.

For more information on the work of WWF-Australia please go to: www.wwf.org.au