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Interactive Forest Certification Database launched on Web

PEFC Council – the leading umbrella for independent forest certification schemes today launched its interactive forest certification database on the Web. This new resource will provide customers and specifiers of wood based products from certified forests, the opportunity of having valuable background information available at their fingertips.

Ben Gunneberg, PEFC Council Secretary General, said “This is great news for customers and anyone else wishing to find out more about the status of the timber products they are buying or specifying. Whenever you want to check on a certificate, logo licence number or any other detail, all you need to do is log onto our web site, type in the details and get the results. The PEFC logo already provides customers with the assurance that they are promoting sustainable forest management. In addition this new tool provides quick access to all the information behind licence and certificate numbers that a customer may require.”

To try out the new database log on to www.pefc.org .See also the news special demonstrating how to use it <http://www.pefc.org/news.htm>)

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Editors Notes:

The Pan European Forest Certification (PEFC) Council, an international, non-profit, non-governmental organisation, promotes the independent third party certification, of environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable management of forests.

This is achieved through nationally or regionally multi stakeholder developed , independent third party forest certification schemes, based on the criteria, indicators and operational level guidelines developed by the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, an ongoing process.

In addition PEFC provides a framework and umbrella for the mutual recognition of national, independent forest certification schemes so developed. PEFC is the world's largest certification system with 9 independent national forest certification schemes endorsed covering more than 41 million hectares and this area is increasing rapidly. It provides a logo for timber products from such schemes, allowing customers and the general public to make a positive choice for sustainable forest management.

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