



News+Notes

An Information Service of the Forest Stewardship Council

FSC International Center Bonn, Germany

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT FSC

There are a number of job openings at FSC.

If you would like to join our multi-cultural team in Bonn, visit www.fsc.org/jobs.html

Dear FSC supporters, partners and teams around the world,

Following my decision late last year to move on from FSC and after a most intensive search process and consultation with the professional team here in Bonn, the FSC Board of Directors decided in early May 2008 to appoint Andre Giacini de Freitas as the new Executive Director of the FSC. After managing Imaflora, the SmartWood affiliate certification body in Latin America, and after developing the social and environmental policy for Rabobank in Brazil, Andre Giacini de Freitas has been leading the FSC Standards & Policy and Communications programs since 2006. His experience in working with FSC for many years and his strategic thinking and management skill make him a perfect candidate to lead FSC and the FSC Global Network through the next phase of strategic growth and outreach.

After transferring the director's office of FSC to Andre Giacini de Freitas over the past few weeks, I will leave the FSC at the end of May 2008. I would like to use this opportunity to thank the FSC's professional team who maneuvered FSC through various challenges and many rigorous changes to become the leading forest certification scheme worldwide for their untiring commitment, their uncompromised loyalty and their outstanding work.

My sincerest gratitude goes to the FSC members, certification bodies, national initiatives, donors, and project partners for their patience with and confidence in FSC, and for their hard work and support to FSC.

Last but not least, my deepest respects and appreciations go to the FSC certified forest management operations, forest products industries, traders, manufacturers and market partners around the world who brought a brilliant idea to life and made it work in mainstream business. Your commitment and support were the fuel which made FSC into the leading model for socially beneficial, environmentally responsible and economically viable management of natural resources far beyond the forestry sector.

It was never boring, often a challenge, and always a great honor and pleasure for me to have been working with all of you for almost 7 years. I am leaving FSC, knowing that its management is in the best hands possible and most confident that Andre Giacini de Freitas will continue FSC's successful development.

With my best wishes to the FSC and all of you in and around FSC, thank you for your untiring commitment, and outstanding support.

Yours sincerely,

Heiko Liedeker
Executive Director

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FSC IN FIGURES

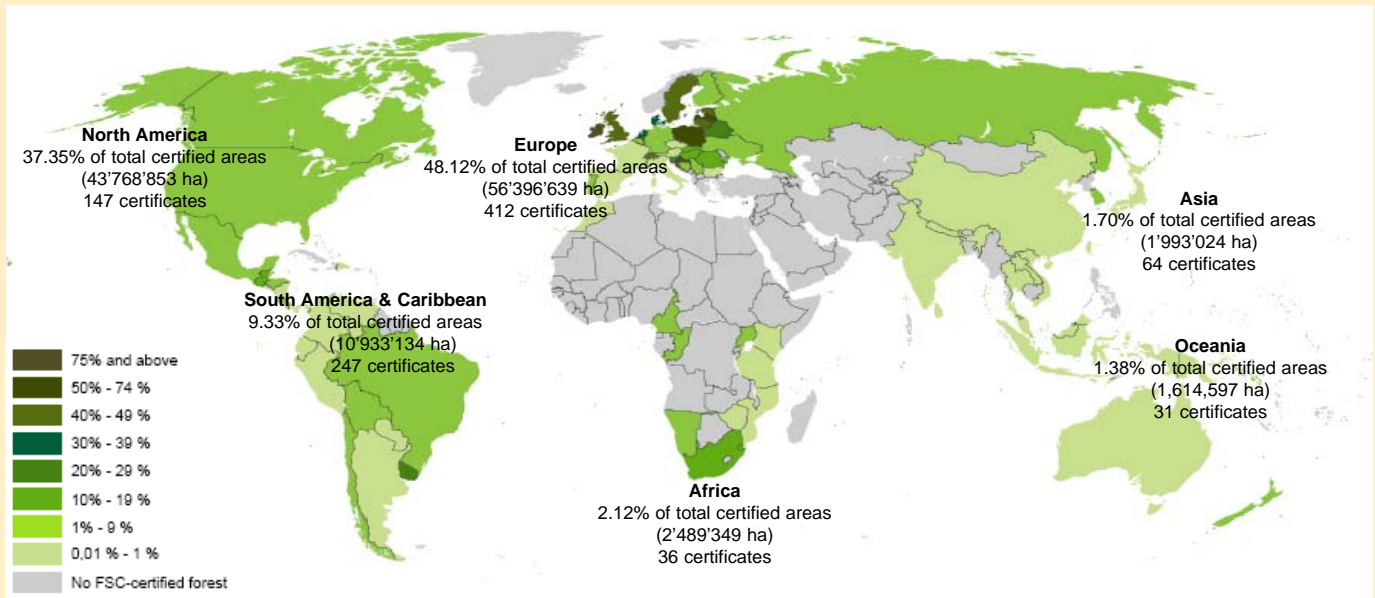
Information as of May 29th 2008

Total certified area: 117'195'578 ha

Total Forest Management certificates: 937

Total Chain of Custody certificates: 9'402

Currently FSC has Forest Management and Chain of Custody certificates in 78 countries



Source: Map FSC Denmark 01/01/08

For quarterly updates on FSC charts and figures and for the FSC market information pack, visit www.fsc.org/facts-figures.html

NEW FSC MEMBERS

Total FSC Members as of May 29th 2008: 745

Economic - North 163
Environmental - North 121
Social - North 57

Economic - South 134
Environmental - South 191
Social - South 79

Name/Company/Org.	Representative	Country	Chamber	Subchamber
Mr. Elie Olivier Yakam Ngoa		Cameroun	ENVIRONMENTAL	SOUTH
Pulp & Circumstance	Ms. Yoko Chapman	Canada	ECONOMIC	NORTH
Mr. Fausto Lazo Castillo		Honduras	ENVIRONMENTAL	SOUTH
Mr. George Te Waaka Asher		New Zealand	SOCIAL	NORTH
Society of Threatened Peoples	Mr. Christoph Wiedmer	Switzerland	SOCIAL	NORTH
Mondi plc	Mr. Peter Gardiner	United Kingdom	ECONOMIC	NORTH
Mr. Daniel Hall		United States	ENVIRONMENTAL	NORTH
Mr. Marco Bijl		The Netherlands	ENVIRONMENTAL	NORTH

For information on how to become an FSC member visit www.fsc.org/become-member.html

CURRENT FSC PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0 D1-0 FSC Principles and Criteria

The FSC Principles and Criteria is the core document for FSC forest management certification and can only be changed by a vote of the FSC membership. The 10 Principles and 56 Criteria form the basis for all FSC forest management policies and standards. They describe how forests have to be managed to meet the social, economic, ecological, cultural and spiritual needs of present and future generations. They include managerial aspects as well as environmental and social requirements.

FSC has never consistently reviewed the FSC Principles and Criteria since their adoption almost 15 years ago. Though over the years some changes have been made to it at different FSC General Assemblies, the current document only has very few differences with the document that was originally adopted. FSC members meet every three years at the FSC General Assembly, FSC's highest decision-making body.

This first draft was developed by the FSC Board of Directors with the support of the FSC International Center. It is based on several motions from the 2005 FSC General Assembly and on the recommendations by the Policy Working Group and subsequent Expert Teams of the FSC Plantations Review.

All interested parties are invited to comment on this draft by July 12th, 2008. For more information visit www.fsc.org/pcreview.html

FSC-STD-60-006 D4-5 Process Requirements for the Development of Forest Stewardship Standards

How can FSC increase the certified area covered by national and regional Forest Stewardship Standards and so increase local stakeholder support where currently we rely on certification body interim standards?

The draft standard builds in mechanisms such as allowing regional approaches; prior approval of the national or regional processes; and the opportunity for bodies other than accredited FSC National Working Groups to develop standards.

The proposed mechanisms and prioritization of regions and staff dedicated to this task will mean a more efficient processes and approval for FSC Forest Stewardship Standards and increased stakeholder support.

All interested parties are invited to comment on this draft by July 15th, 2008. For more information visit www.fsc.org/consultation_standarddevelopment.html

SGS SUSPENDED IN POLAND

FSC accredited certification body SGS Qualifor is suspended for forest management and chain of custody certification in Poland.

As of April 15th, 2008, SGS Qualifor is not allowed to perform new FSC certification evaluations, issue or re-issue new FSC certificates in Poland.

For further information, please contact Accreditation Services International (ASI) who is managing the FSC accreditation program at info@accrediation-services.com.

IMO TERMINATED IN CHILE FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION

FSC has withdrawn the accreditation of the certification body Institut für Marktökologie (IMO) for forest management certification in Chile.

As of May 16th, 2008, IMO is not allowed to carry out forest management certification for FSC in Chile. Over the next three months, FSC will support the forest management units certified by IMO in Chile to move to an FSC accredited certification body.

For further information, please contact Accreditation Services International (ASI), the company managing the FSC accreditation program at info@accrediation-services.com

FSC LAUNCHES NEW AND IMPROVED WEBSITE

FSC is pleased to announce the launch of its new website with a fresh new look. We trust you will find this easy to use and informative. We would like to encourage you to browse through the site - visit www.fsc.org.

The new website has become the central point for information on FSC and introduces a number of new features. With

the inclusion of more information in the Resource Center and the introduction of a new search function, it is much easier for you to find standards and documents.

The website address remains the same and all the bookmarks you had set on the previous FSC website will be automatically redirected to www.fsc.org.



FSC RECOGNITION SOARS AMONG DENMARK MUNICIPALITIES

Knowledge on FSC has skyrocketed amongst the Danish municipality following a targeted campaign by FSC Denmark.

Following the campaign, FSC Denmark carried out a survey amongst Danish municipalities in May 2008. Of the 200 respondents, recognition of the FSC label and knowledge about FSC soared to 65% from just 5% in 2005.

Much of this growth can be attributed to the 'Strike a blow for FSC' campaign carried out in 2007. FSC Denmark visited a third of the municipalities in the country to inform its members about the benefits of FSC and responsible procurement. Mayors, purchasers, politicians and employees were presented with FSC certified hammers and toolkits containing a variety of FSC products and information.



Mayor presented with FSC certified Hammer, Denmark. FSC Denmark

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FSC RECYCLED PAPER BECOMES STANDARD OFFERING IN STAPLES

FSC certified recycled paper is now a standard offering for black and white high-speed copy and print jobs at all of Staples' 1'400 copy and print centers in the US.

With at least 50% post-consumer material, Staples now offers both 100% and 50% post-consumer waste recycled content providing greater choices for retail, delivery and contract customers, including copy and print projects placed through contract digital production facilities. By making FSC paper the standard offering in our Copy & Print Centers, we provide customers with the most environmentally preferable option available anywhere," said Mark Buckley, vice president of environmental affairs at Staples. "We'll continue to encourage our suppliers to move towards even more FSC certified fiber as Staples works to advance environmentally responsible attributes of our products across categories."

Staples set a goal of moving the majority of paper products it offers to FSC certified paper by the end of 2010.

"We are delighted by Staples' leadership in carrying the industry's widest selection of FSC certified paper," said Corey Brinkema, president of FSC US. "We applaud its

long-term paper goals to help ensure the vital health of the world's forests."

Staples has already increased the average amount of post-consumer recycled content across all the paper products it sells from less than 20% by weight in 2003 to 30% in 2006.

"Staples' decision to increase the volume and availability of FSC certified paper with post-consumer recycled content will help protect endangered forests and prevent native forests from being converted to tree plantations," said Debbie Hammel, senior resource specialist with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). "Paper products should incorporate the highest possible levels of post-consumer waste and other residues. For the virgin fiber component, FSC is the gold standard for sustainably managed forests. Staples' leadership sends a loud signal to other corporate consumers and paper producers that the market demands strong environmental performance standards."

Based on Staples, Inc. Press Release 10/03/2008



FSC Global Paper Forum 2008
www.writingthefuture.org

US MANUFACTURER OFFERS ONLY FSC FOR MDF AND PARTICLEBOARD

A company in the United States is now offering all of their MDF and particleboard products with the FSC Mixed label. SierraPine is promoting responsible forest management by using wood fiber from FSC certified forests and sourcing recycled material to produce composite panel products. Green building projects throughout North America are specifying FSC certified products, a key driver for FSC certification of SierraPine.

According to Chris Leffel, Vice-President of sales and marketing, "We have made a substantial investment to utilize post-consumer recycled wood fiber, which is diverting hundreds of thousands of tons of wood waste from the landfill. This material was a critical element in our ability to meet the rigorous FSC certification requirements."

The incoming raw materials at SierraPine's MDF and particleboard manufacturing facilities are a combination of post-consumer material and wood fiber from FSC certified forests. The material is then tracked through the processing procedure, as verified by FSC accredited certification body Scientific Certification Systems (SCS). Using recycled material helps to take some of the pressure off the world's forests.

FSC certification expanded the company's existing niche market it accessed by offering no-added formaldehyde products. Timber products carrying FSC label gain additional points under the LEED system U.S. Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) program.

Based on SierraPine Press Release 03/03/2008

FSC CERTIFIED COMPANY BRINGS NEW LIFE TO OLD RAFT LOGS

A newly FSC certified company in the United States is recycling old raft logs - so called boomsticks – into a host of fine lumber products. The company expects to sell much of its product line to developers and builders involved in the environmentally sensitive U.S. construction industry.

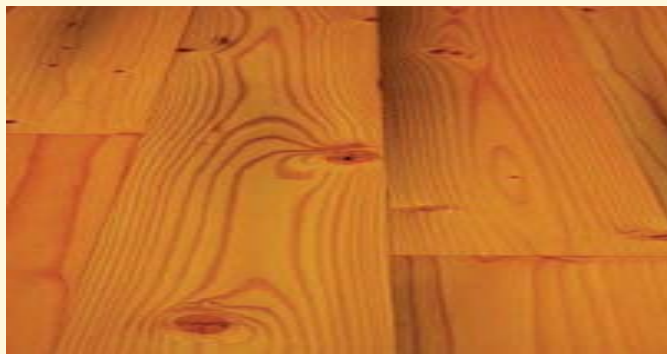
Columbia Riverwood received FSC chain of custody certification in April 2008. The company's FSC recycled products will maximize building material points under the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) program.

The Oregon based company acquired over 1 million board feet of floating boomsticks. Over 50 years ago, boomsticks were selected from some of the highest quality logs in order to tow huge log rafts up and down powerful rivers. For decades the river has been covering all but the tops of these logs, preserving the wood.



Reclaimed boomsticks, Oregon, U.S. Columbia Riverwood

Each boomstick is lifted out of the river, loaded onto a log truck and transported to an FSC certified sawmill in Mehama, Oregon. Years of accumulated grit in the outer inch of each log requires the use of a large circular saw blade. Once that outer grit layer is removed, the beauty of old growth timber is reclaimed into flooring, window and door stock, beams, molding and one-of-a-kind blocks for woodturners.



FSC recycled lumber from reclaimed boomsticks. Columbia Riverwood

"Based on diameter and ring count, our boomsticks range in age from 150 to 350 years old and stood over 200 feet tall before being felled 50 to 70 years ago. Some of the ring counts (more than 30 to the inch) simply can't be found on the market today," said Erick Haglund, Columbia Riverwood's president. "It's a real thrill to generate an old growth product through recycling."

Based on Columbia Riverwood Press Release 22/04/2008

RESOURCE SECTION

Quarterly updates on FSC figures and charts - FSC maps and data: www.fsc.org/facts-figures.html

FSC membership list: www.fsc.org/become-member.html

FSC Certificate Search: info.fsc.org

Upcoming Events:

FSC General Assembly (November 2008):
www.fsc.org/ga2008

FSC Global Paper Forum (June 2008):
www.writingthefuture.org

Publications:

Global forests statistics: UN FAO State of the World's forests 2007: www.fao.org

WWF Paper Buying Guide:
www.panda.org/paper/toolbox

Initiatives:

FSC Broker Project - linking European FSC markets:
www.fscbroker.com