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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.



FSC Trade Fair Brazil 2008
www.brasilcertificado.com.br

TEMBEC PLAN GETS COURT APPROVAL; RECAPITALIZATION GOING GREEN HELPED US SURVIVE: CEO

Being the right shade of environmentally correct green helped Tembec Inc. survive an industry-wide downturn long enough to be restructured and reborn, its chief executive officer said yesterday.

Customers, suppliers and employees stuck with the forestry giant for two tough years, despite continuing reports that the company was on its deathbed, James Lopez said during an interview in Montreal.

"We have saved the company" an ebullient Lopez said minutes after an Ontario court sanctioned a recapitalization plan recently embraced by Tembec debtholder and shareholders.

"We are very, very fortunate that we have a new beginning. We have a new balance sheet that is going to be extremely competitive with the rest of industry. We really have another shot at it," said Lopez, who succeeded Frank Dottori as Tembec CEO 25 months ago.

Under Dottori's leadership, Tembec decided to seek certification under the Forest Stewardship Council, a respected forest-management process widely considered to be the most stringent.

Other Canadian forestry companies opted for other certification programs.

As decreased product demand, rising costs and a soaring loonie walloped the forestry sector, Tembec was among the companies to close or idle assets. Tembec and its joint ventures now employ about 8,000 people. Three years ago, it employed 11,000.

But throughout the storm, Tembec paid into its FSC-certification programs and audits to become, as Lopez said, "the global giant" in FSC certification.

And did that help Tembec survive the storm?

"Absolutely," Lopez said.

Some of Tembec's best customers are married to FSC-certified products, he noted.

"We are the preferred supplier to Home Depot, the biggest buyer of lumber in North America, only because of our FSC certification," he said.

Other major pulp customers, "household names" that don't want to be identified, became customers and hung on because of the certification.

While bigger competitors - namely Abitibi-Consolidated, now AbitibiBowater - were the target of protests even though they have third-party certification programs, Tembec was feeling the love.

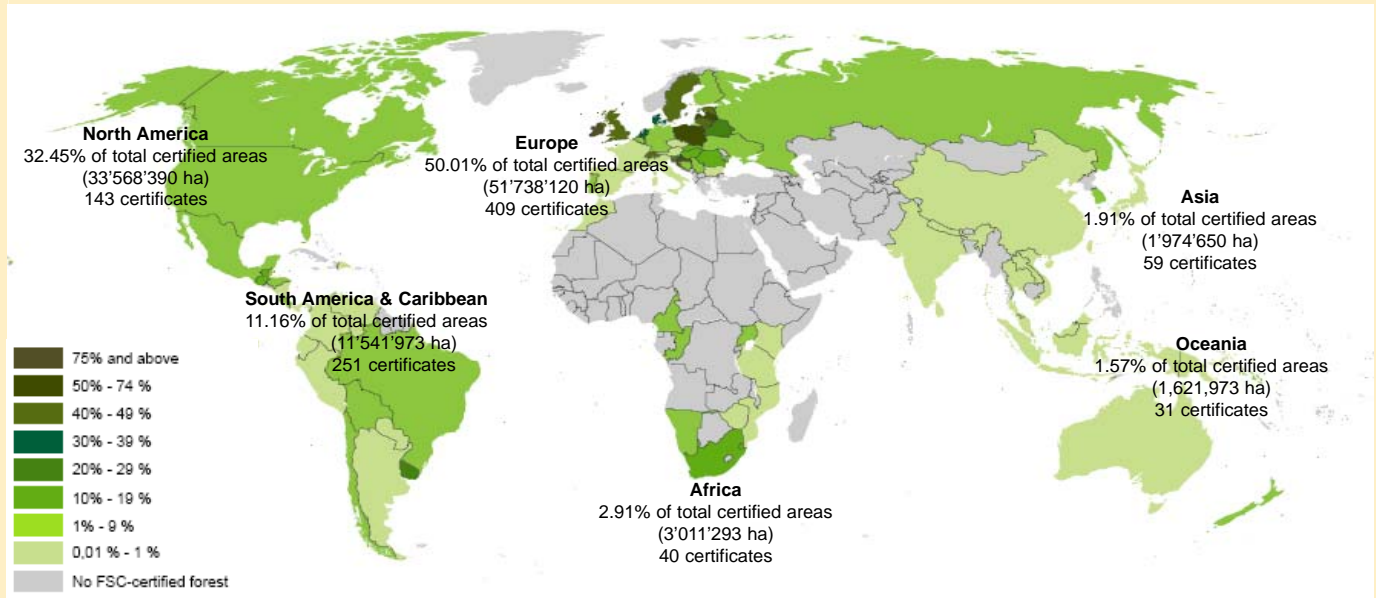
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FSC IN FIGURES

Information as of March 31st 2008
Total certified area: 103'456'399 ha

Total Forest Management certificates: 933
Total Chain of Custody certificates: 8'678

Currently FSC has Forest Management and Chain of Custody certificates in 79 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/figures and www.fsc.org/charts.

NEW FSC MEMBERS

Total FSC Members as of Mar 28th 2008: 740

Economic - North	161	Economic - South	135
Environmental - North	119	Environmental - South	189
Social - North	55	Social - South	81

Name/Company/Org.	Representative	Country	Chamber	Subchamber
Forestadora Tapebicuá SA	Sra. Mirta Noemi-Baez	Argentina	ECONOMIC	SOUTH
Mr. Amara Dosso		Cote D' Ivoire	ECONOMIC	SOUTH
Federación de Centros AWA del Ecuador (FCAE)	Sr. Olindo Nastacuaz	Ecuador	SOCIAL	SOUTH
Fiji Nature Conservation Trust (Nature Fiji MareqetiViti)	Mr. Robin Yarrow	Fiji, Island	ENVIRONMENTAL	SOUTH
Berkem Developpement	Mr. Olivier Fahy	France	ECONOMIC	NORTH
Mrs. Chathuri Dilanika Geeganage		Sri Lanka	ENVIRONMENTAL	SOUTH
Mr. Thosapala Hewage		Sri Lanka	ECONOMIC	SOUTH
Mr. Sarath Kulatunga		Sri Lanka	ECONOMIC	SOUTH
Dekker Hout Groep B.V.	Mr. R.J. Dekker	The Netherlands	ECONOMIC	NORTH
Mohawk Fine Papers Inc.	Mr. Joe O'Connor	United States	ECONOMIC	NORTH

For information on how to become an FSC member visit www.fsc.org/en/getting_involved/become_member.

CURRENT FSC PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

No documents under public consultation.

TEMBEC PLAN GETS COURT APPROVAL...

"We had a lot of fans out there and a lot of people cheering for us out there because we maintained our environmental profile as we were going through (hard time) and they wanted to see us succeed," Lopez said.

Not a "single significant customer" deserted the company and only a few suppliers insisted on cash-on-delivery, he said. Employee turnover was extremely low, he said.

A key union also supported Tembec's recapitalization plan, which should close and be implemented tomorrow.

The plan converts \$1.2 billion U.S. of debt into new equity and implements a new four-year term loan of up to \$300 million to provide further liquidity.

It also massively dilutes existing shareholders' stake in the company.

They will initially have about five per cent of the new shares while debtholders would acquire about 95 per cent.

The debtholders have also nominated five people to sit on Tembec's board, joining four existing board members, including Lopez. A board chairman will be named during the first board meeting, sometime in March, Lopez said.

Before the fall, Tembec's operations should be generating cash, he said. Then Tembec will "pursue opportunities to grow once again."

LYNN MOORE

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FSC PREPARES FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY FUNDING SOUGHT

FSC is seeking sponsorship support for its fifth FSC General Assembly. The General Assembly meets every three years and is FSC's highest decision-making body.

FSC members from all over the world representing social, environmental and economic interests gather to define FSC's future in Cape Town, South Africa from November 3-7, 2008. Business leaders, environmental organisations and local communities will discuss and decide on key issues including:

- Expanding FSC certification for small-scale forest owners worldwide
- The role of FSC certification in combating climate change
- Review of the FSC Principles and Criteria

The General Assembly is a high profile international event providing a unique opportunity for partners to visibly communicate, promote and market their commitment to and partnership with FSC.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can support the upcoming FSC General Assembly or would like further details about the event, please email ga2008@fsc.org. More information will also be available on-line at: www.fsc.org.



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR FSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FSC is calling for nominations for three new board members to fill the vacancies from November 2008.

One Social-North and two Environmental-North seats are available. Candidates are requested to forward their nominations to the FSC Secretariat by May 2nd, 2008.

For further information, please contact Christina Endemann at c.endemann@fsc.org.

MORE THAN 100 MILLION HECTARES CERTIFIED TO FSC STANDARDS

More than 100 million ha of forest lands were managed according to FSC requirements in March 2008. The FSC standards for responsible forest management are widely regarded as the most rigorous social and environmental standards in the industry.

Currently, 103'456'399 ha of forest are globally FSC certified, distributed over 79 countries.

By forest type, more than half of global FSC certified forest area is natural forests, only around 7% is plantation forests. About half of all FSC certified forest are boreal around 12% is tropical or sub - tropical. 13 million ha of tropical forest are FSC certified. This is close to one in four of all forest management certificates issued by FSC.

More than one in six forest management certificates issued by FSC are to communities and small forest owners.

Globally, FSC certified forests represent the equivalent of 7% of production forests. The latest UN FAO report confirms FSC to be the fastest growing forest certification scheme in the world. In 2006 FSC certified acreage grew by 20 million ha - roughly 33%.

'FSC is about providing the highest social and environmental quality assurance in forest management - not about hectares certified. And yet we have reached the 100 million hectare mark earlier than anticipated. This shows a strong market interest in FSC and we are proud about this

achievement', commented Andre de Freitas, FSC Head of Operations.

'The larger the forest area certified to FSC standards, the larger the forest area that is managed socially and environmentally responsibly. Each additional hectare certified to FSC standards brings us closer to achieving our mission: to improve forest management world wide', continues Mr. de Freitas.

With the accelerated growth and associated expansion of FSC in new geographical areas over the past years, FSC is focusing particular attention on adapting and reinforcing its systems to new challenges in order to maintain and strengthen its credibility.

For quarterly updates on FSC figures and charts, visit www.fsc.org/figures and www.fsc.org/charts.

FSC CERTIFICATE SEARCH

The validity of FSC certificates can only be checked at the official FSC information website: www.fsc-info.org.

FSC WORKING GROUP ACCREDITED IN POLAND

The FSC Working Group in Poland is now accredited. With its 24 members, the Working Group represents a balance of social, environmental and economic interests.

The Working Group is developing national forest management standards for the country in line with the FSC Principles and Criteria. Forests cover roughly one third of the country.

FSC Poland is successfully building internal capacity to build FSC market linkages through its new fee for service activities. This is one major outcome from its involvement in the FSC Broker Project which aims to facilitate the flow of FSC certified products from Central and Eastern Europe to Western European markets.

FSC CERTIFICATION MORE EFFECTIVE THAN PROTECTION IN GUATEMALA

FSC forest management certification has proven to conserve the rainforest more effectively than strict protection in Guatemala's Maya Biosphere Reserve. These are the findings of a new Rainforest Alliance study.

The report shows dramatically less forest destruction and fire damage in FSC certified forest concessions compared with other areas within the Maya Biosphere Reserve - even lands designated for strict protection.

The Maya Biosphere Reserve is an area of tropical forest in Guatemala's northern Petén region. By late 2007, nearly 60 percent of the land where timber harvesting is allowed in the reserve was FSC certified. This equals nearly a quarter of the reserve's total area.

Fire incidences in the FSC certified forest concessions were down to 0.1% in 2007 from 6.5% in 1998 when the first FSC certificate was issued. During the same period, fires affected 7-20% of the rest of the Reserve.

The average annual deforestation rate in FSC certified forest concessions between 2002 and 2007 was 20 times lower than the deforestation rate within the protected areas where harvesting of wood and non-timber forest products is prohibited.

"These numbers show that certification is a real tool for the market and for conservation," said José Román Carrera, Central America coordinator for the Rainforest Alliance's TREES program, which works with communities in Petén. "In these communities, FSC certification has helped strengthen business structures, fire prevention measures and low-impact harvesting practices."

Communities are seeing their businesses grow and livelihoods improve as demand for certified wood and non-timber forest products grows. In 2007, the forest products sector in the reserve supported about 2,500 jobs and sales of FSC certified timber surpassed \$5 million. Gibson Musical Instruments, for example, buys certified wood from communities within the reserve to build their guitars.

The study also shows a number of other changes forestry communities and companies made to meet FSC certification standards. Amongst these, they have created fire control and prevention plans, improved living and working conditions for workers, increased the use of safety equipment, decreased social conflict as a result of better land-use mapping, and created committees to manage land-use.

The government of Guatemala created the reserve in 1990 to conserve its unique natural and cultural value. With some 2 million ha, the reserve is rich in biodiversity and home to hundreds of species of animals including jaguars, brocket deer and scarlet macaws.

Some environmentalists called for a complete logging ban in the entire reserve. The government classified about 40% of land as protected and logging prohibited. The remaining 60% under forest management were required to earn FSC certification.



FSC certified forest deep within the Maya Biosphere Reserve. The Carmelita community managing the land harvest less than 2% of the forest a year. This access road was created two years ago - it demonstrates low impact logging practices. © Rainforest Alliance/ David Dudenhoefer.



Laguna del Tigre National Park under strict protection - logging is prohibited. Slash-and-burn farmers and illegal loggers already destroyed about half of the park's forests. © Rainforest Alliance/ David Dudenhoefer.

Besides responsible forest management as defined by FSC standards, the study identifies a number of other enabling circumstances leading to the successful maintenance of forest cover in the FSC concession area. Continued donor support and the activities of numerous government and non-government organisations promoting environmental awareness, community vigilance programs, and responsible economic activities have been the most important.

To read the full report, 'Impact of FSC Certification on Deforestation and the Incidence of Wildfires', visit www.rainforest-alliance.org/resources.cfm?id=research_analyses. For further information contact Gretchen Ruethling at gruethling@ra.org.

Based on Rainforest Alliance Press Release 24/03/08

SWEDISH COMPANY RAISES PREMIUM ON FSC TIMBER

Sveaskog is to pay more to Swedish forest managers for their wood if it comes from a well-managed forest certified to FSC standards. At SEK 25 extra per cubic meter, it is the highest premium in the industry in Sweden.

Sveaskog is the largest forest owner in Sweden and has all its forests certified to FSC standards. This amounts to 3.4 million ha. The company also buys timber from individual forest owners to ensure a steady supply that meets national and international demands.

"Demand for FSC certified timber is outstripping supply" says Claes Mellstrom who is responsible for Sveaskog's purchases of forest raw material.

To boost their supply of FSC certified timber, Sveaskog is raising the premium from SEK 10 to SEK 25 per cubic meter. The company buys timber from 8'000 small forest owners, accounting for around 60% of their supplies.

"With our new environmental premium to forests owners in Sweden who sell us FSC certified timber, we're topping the eco-timber market," he adds.

Additionally, where Sveaskog buys logging rights from forest owners whose holdings are not FSC certified, the company also applies the FSC standards. Despite the timber not carrying the FSC claim, these owners receive an extra premium of SEK 10 per m3.

"Since the forest owners are contributing to responsible forest management, we are offering them an extra premium for their timber. As we see it, this strengthens trust and confidence in the forest industry and will boost demand and the value of forest products as well," says Claes Mellstrom.

Individual forest owners are invited to join Sveaskog's FSC group certificate scheme this Spring.

Based on Sveaskog Press Release 17/03/08



Writing the future ...
markets for responsible paper!
4th FSC Global Paper Forum
9 – 10 June 2008 on drupa08 in Düsseldorf
www.writingthefuture.org



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FSC Global Paper Forum 2008
www.writingthefuture.org

RESOURCE SECTION

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

FSC membership list: www.fsc.org/en/about/documents/Docs_cent/3

FSC Certificate Search: www.fsc-info.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

Upcoming Events::

FSC General Assembly (November 2008):

FSC Brazil Trade Fair (April 2008): www.brasilcertificado.com.br

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

Developing Certified Forests, Forest Products and Markets (April 2008): www.rainforest-alliance.org/news.cfm?id=china_certified