

Timber recycles carbon



TIMBER QUEENSLAND MEDIA RELEASE

3 September 2009

For immediate release

CONSUMERS HELP SOLVE ILLEGAL LOGGING

Finding a solution to stop the supply of illegally logged timber into Australia is a difficult task but not insurmountable says peak industry body Timber Queensland.

Timber Queensland CEO Rod McInnes said legal and sustainable forest management practices have significantly improved worldwide since the introduction of forest management certification schemes in the early 1990's.

“Clearly there is a long way to go and certification schemes alone can't stop illegal logging – government intervention is required,” he said.

“Industry is looking at introducing a code of conduct to exclude illegal timber from the supply chain, but Agriculture Minister Tony Burke needs to implement an official solution,” he said.

Rod McInnes said that consumers will play a major role in combating the importation of illegal timber

“The basic principles of demand and supply come into play here; the greater consumer demand for timber products that can be proven as coming from legal and sustainable forests, the less illegally logged timber will be sought out, imported and sold,” he said.

“Timber Queensland encourages all business involved in growing, processing and supplying timber to ensure they can prove their products are made from legally certified timber.”

To assist businesses and consumers understand exactly what certified timber is, how it gets certified and who certifies it as coming from legal and sustainable forests Timber Queensland has released fact sheets summarising the major issues involved in [Chain of Custody Certification](#) and [Forest Certification Schemes](#).

ENDS

For further information contact:

Rod McInnes CEO Timber Queensland: 07 3358 7902 / 0419 704 028

ATTACHED – The Facts: Chain of Custody Certification & The Facts: Forest Certification Schemes