

TIMBER QUEENSLAND MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

Queensland Chain of Custody Support Scheme proving popular

Peak industry body Timber Queensland says interest in the Queensland Government and Timber Queensland's Chain of Custody Support Scheme has been thick and fast.

The Scheme reimburses costs directly incurred in obtaining chain of custody certification under Australian Forestry Standard AS 4707 or the Forest Stewardship Council 40-004 (V2-1) EN, eligible businesses can claim 100% of the eligible costs to a cap of \$5000 (ex GST).

Rod McInnes, CEO Timber Queensland says 15 primary and secondary processors and wholesalers of timber products have already expressed an expression of interest in the scheme.

"We're pleased businesses are taking this opportunity to ensure their businesses can respond to consumer demand for clean, green timber products," said Rod McInnes.

"However these businesses now have some work to do to prove their credentials - registering intent to participate in the Scheme does not earmark funds for individual companies. Rebates will only be paid to businesses who submit a full and complete claim while funding is available i.e until all funding has been distributed or until 22 January 2014," he said.

Nick Capobianco, Regional Director Australia & NZ – SCS Global Services said increasingly Queensland businesses are recognising the benefits of Chain of Custody Certification.

"In Queensland, SCS has certified largest FSC certified Forest and a number of primary and secondary producers and wholesaler businesses," said Nick Capobianco.

Timber Queensland recently welcomed SCS Global Services, a leading certifier of Forests and Chain of Custody (CoC) operations to FSC and PEFC standards, as an associate member. SCS was awarded the Certification Body of the Year at FSC Australia Excellence Awards in 2012 and has been delivering sustainability solutions in Forestry for over 30 years.

"To better serve Queensland businesses SCS has appointed a lead auditor based in Brisbane and we are working with peak Industry bodies to provide our expertise in Forestry and supply chain certification," said Nick Capobianco.

"Membership of Timber Queensland enables SCS to access information, network and increase our involvement with the key players in the state's timber industry," he said.

For more information about SCS visit <http://www.scsglobalservices.com/australia-nz> or email NCapobianco@scsglobalservices.com

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For further information contact:

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