



PEFC news

IN THIS ISSUE

- European Toy Producers Treat PEFC and FSC equally
- PEFC praised for its social criteria
- Shopper's Guides recommend PEFC
- PEFC grows in Asian markets
- PEFC Marketing Initiative in Belgium, France, Luxembourg
- PEFC promotions in the paper sector
- ENGOs join PEFC
- Danish State Forest to be 100% PEFC certified
- Danish Minister recommends PEFC
- PEFC Council Statistics
- Reports from the PEFC National Member Countries

European Toy Producers Treat PEFC and FSC equally



The Federation of the European Play Industry FEPI has confirmed its commitment to certification of Sustainable Forest Management. In a recent open letter FEPI President, Mr Thomas Berfenfeldt, emphasised the importance of certified wood for the production of toys and announced that "*FEPI officially and formally declares that the hereafter both certifications meet in an equal manner the basic requirements and should therefore receive identical treatment on a non-discriminatory basis:*

FSC: Forest Stewardship Council

PEFC: Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes.

In fact, they are both systems that ensure environmentally responsible, socially beneficial and economically viable management of forests. FEPI therefore strongly recommends the utilisation of both systems to consumers, forest managers, policy makers, businesses and the public on a non-discriminatory basis." For details on FEPI see www.fepi-play.org.

PEFC praised for its social criteria

The *Stiftung Soziale Gesellschaft – Nachhaltige Entwicklung*, a Foundation for Social Society - Sustainable Development of the German trade union IG BAU, has praised PEFC for its social criteria.

The foundation tested ten different eco-labels in Germany in the areas of food, cut flowers as well as timber and construction materials. PEFC and FSC both received the same overall ratings and rated as "good" regarding social issues.

However PEFC was especially praised for its high social criteria, namely its demand to offer places to train in companies, which, according to the foundation is only specifically required by PEFC. The focus of the assessment was issues of social sustainability. The results of the study will be published in due course.

For details on the foundation see www.stiftung-soziale-gesellschaft.de.

Governmental Shopper's Guides recommend PEFC

Two new Shopper's Guides by the Belgian government give equal preference to PEFC and FSC certification.

The governmental guide for consumers states that *"if you choose sustainable timber, you basically have the choice between two labels in Belgium, FSC and PEFC. Both are a guarantee of timber coming from sustainably managed forests."*



The governmental Guide for Public Procurement Makers states that *"the following systems have been judged as complying with the criteria: FSC and PEFC, two systems which are also present in the Belgian market."*

The two shoppers guides are available in French.

At the end of last year the UK Government published the DEFRA *Shopper's Guide to Green Labels* equally listing PEFC and FSC certification. The UK governmental shopper's guide is available at www.defra.gov.uk/environment/consumerprod/shopguide/index.htm



PEFC grows in Asian markets

PEFC is registering a growing demand for PEFC certification in Asian markets. The first PEFC Chain of Custody certificate in Malaysia has now been awarded to Taann Plywood SDN BHD.



PEFC promotions in the paper sector

Due to the continued strong interest in PEFC certification, PEFC's seminar series for printers, paper merchants, publishers, paper producers and other companies in the paper sector is

ongoing and continuing to prove popular. A seminar for Belgian and Dutch companies in the paper sector, held in Brussels at the end of September 2006, was very well received by the participants.



Companies from the paper sector at the PEFC seminar

Similar events will take place in Tokyo and in co-operation with the Japanese Green Purchase Network GNP, on 12 October 2006 (in Japanese) and in London on 17 October 2006 (in English).

For more details and registrations please contact Mr Haruyoshi Takeuchi at +8 13 6202 7645, h.takeuchi@pefcasia.org (for Japan) and Mrs Hilary Khawam at +44 1689 819902, hilary.khawam@pefc.co.uk (for the UK).

Belgium, France and Luxembourg cooperate in PEFC marketing activities

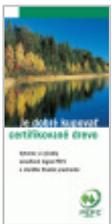
PEFC organisations in Belgium, Northern France and Luxembourg have launched a joint initiative to inform timber and paper companies about the benefits of becoming PEFC certified. A new information sheet was developed for French speaking regions, titled *"PEFC, la marque qui donne l'avantage à mon entreprise!"* (PEFC, the brand, which gives the advantage to my business). A Flemish version of the sheet is currently being prepared. An electronic version of the brochure is available at www.pefc.org > [Documentation](#) > [PEFC Brochures](#).



PEFC leaflets available in more languages



The PEFC leaflets for companies, “PEFC - the responsible choice for Retailers, Printers, Manufacturers, Wholesalers, Traders, Stockists”, and for consumers, “It’s good to buy certified wood - Choose PEFC labelled products and protect the environment”, are now available in Slovak and Slovenian. A German version currently is under preparation and will be available soon. Electronic versions of the existing leaflets are available at www.pefc.org>Documentation > PEFC Brochures.



Assessment of Forest Certification Systems

Eight forest certification systems are currently undergoing the PEFC endorsement process.

Lithuania and **Gabon** have submitted their forest certification systems for PEFC endorsement and the public consultation period will start in due course.

Public consultation for the assessment for the endorsement of the systems from **Estonia**, **Slovenia** and **Poland** and the re-endorsement of the certification systems of **Austria** the **Czech Republic** and **France** has now ended. The assessment reports are being compiled and will be published on the PEFC Council website, after the PEFC Board of Directors has made its recommendation and PEFC members have considered them and voted on acceptance or otherwise.

Detailed information on all forest certification systems endorsed or in the process of being assessed is available at the PEFC Council website at www.pefc.org.

PEFC Council Statistics

PEFC / Countries	Endorsed certified forest area (ha)	Chain of Custody certificates
Australia	5 729 782	3
Austria	3 374 000	275
Belgium	248 764	67
Brazil	762 657	0
Canada	72 560 318	48
Chile	1 556 479	10
China	0	3
Czech Republic	1 957 051	250
Denmark	26 158	12
Finland	22 150 982	111
France	4 129 069	921
Germany	7 179 087	600
Hungary	0	2
Italy	608 234	36
Japan	0	17
Latvia	37 860	14
Luxembourg	19 671	3
Malaysia	0	1
Netherlands	0	20
Norway	9 231 700	6
Portugal	50 012	4
Slovak Republic	0	0
Spain	518 117	48
Sweden	6 707 314	56
Switzerland	327 201	1
United Kingdom	0	276
USA-Canada (SFI)	54 376 769	0
Total	191 551 228	2 784

The data above is updated regularly and is available on the [PEFC Statistics Interactive Database](http://www.pefc.org) at www.pefc.org (31 August 2006).

You can receive this Newsletter, further updates and current news by subscribing to the [PEFC mailing list](http://www.pefc.org) at www.pefc.org.

Further detailed information and news on PEFC member systems can be obtained directly from their websites whose links are available from the PEFC website: www.pefc.org.

Reports From The PEFC National Governing Bodies

In the following section PEFC member systems, both endorsed and those working towards endorsement, have the opportunity to present a brief report on the current state of play in their country. The views expressed here are the views of the members and do not necessarily reflect the views of the PEFC Council

BELGIUM



PEFC participates in fairs and sustainability exhibition

PEFC was present at the European Country Fair in the Château de Hex, in Limbourg (Belgium), organized by the ELO (European Landowner Organization) at the end of September.



PEFC Belgium at the ELO Country Fair in Limbourg. One of the major attractions was the building of nesting boxes made from PEFC certified wood.

Future activities of PEFC include the participation in the *Wood Weekend* and a stand at the "*Hout & Wonen*" fair (Wood and Living) in Antwerp from November 17 to 19, 2006. PEFC Belgium will also organise guided visits to PEFC certified forests during the *Weekend for Sustainable Development* in Sart-Bernard on 22 October. For further information contact:

Contact: Bertrand Auquière
Email: b.auquiere@woodnet.com

LUXEMBOURG



ENGOS join PEFC

NATURA joins PEFC Luxembourg

NATURA, the national association for environmental non-governmental organisations in Luxembourg, has recently become a member of PEFC Luxembourg. In March 2006 a new second stakeholder group, the "*Association des Forestiers Luxembourgeois*" joined PEFC. Mr Jos Crochet, chairman of PEFC Luxembourg: "*We were particularly pleased about the applications of these two associations. Although we have been working together for some time, their decision to officially join PEFC Luxembourg is an important step to ensure that our certification system is supported by all stakeholders*".

Courses for forest workers

The Luxembourg State Forest Administration recently organised courses for their forest workers. Currently, 85% of all PEFC certified forests in Luxembourg are communal or state forests and the State Forest Administration is responsible for the management of these forests. In order to train the large number of workers, six consecutive courses have been organized.

The forest workers learn about the purposes of forest certification and in excursions to the forests discuss the implementation of PEFC requirements in practice.



Luxembourgish forest workers attending PEFC training courses in the Luxembourg state forests

New banners for promotion activities

New PEFC Luxembourg promotion banners have been developed to be used at stands in fairs. The banners focus on the forest owners, the forest industry and the end consumers.



Contact: Michèle Thinnes
Email: info_pefc@gsi.lu

SLOVAK REPUBLIC



PEFC at *Lignumexpo Forest 2006* fair

The Slovak Forest Certification Association (SFCA) exhibited at the international forestry and wood fair *Lignumexpo - Forest 2006* held in Nitra, Slovak Republic from September 26 to 29, 2006. PEFC's presence at the traditional Slovak fair successfully contributed to promote forest certification and raise awareness of PEFC among decision makers in the forestry and wood processing sector as well as among the fair visitors. SFCA's presentation was part of the stand of the National Forestry Centre Zvolen, one of the SFCA members. Promotion posters introduced SFCA and its Slovak Forest Certification System (SFCS) endorsed by PEFC.

SFCS and PEFC certification systems were also presented at a recent seminar on "*Criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management and Forest Certification*" organised by the National Forest Centre.

Contact: Hubert Palus
E-mail: info@pefc.sk

DENMARK



Danish State Forests to be 100% PEFC certified

PEFC certification of the Danish state forests has started, further increasing the availability of certified timber for Danish timber and paper trading and processing companies. The national state forest service currently manages over 100,000 hectares of forests in Denmark.

The promotion of forest certification and green procurement is a central element of the Danish Environment Minister, Mrs Connie Hedegaard's 9-point plan for the purchase of legal and sustainable timber, published earlier this year.

A part of the 9-point plan is to expand the existing procurement policy for tropical timber to all kinds of timber. The process will include a review of criteria for legality and sustainability as well as alternative means of documentation.

Danish Minister recommends PEFC and FSC

As the development work is ongoing and the current Danish Timber Procurement Policy only covers tropical timber, the Danish Minister of the Environment published a temporary guidance, announcing that the following certification schemes are rated as evidence of the legality for all kinds of timber:

CSA (Canadian Standards Association)

FSC (Forest Stewardship Council)

MTCC (Malaysian Timber Certification Council)
 (100 % certified material)

PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes)

SFI (Sustainable Forestry Initiative)

The Danish Ministry's guidance note is available at: www.skovognatur.dk/Nyheder/LovligtTrae.htm (in Danish). An English version will be published in due course.

Contact: Tanja Olsen
Email: to@skovforeningen.dk

FINLAND



PEFC attestations on PEFC certified paper

In August 2006 the Finnish Forest Certification Council sent attestations printed on PEFC certified paper to the participants of all regional group certifications under the Finnish Forest Certification System (FFCS).

A batch of 6000 kg of PEFC certified paper from M-real Oyj's Äänekoski Paper Mill (PEFC/02-31-84) was used for the production of the attestations and the covering letter. M-real Oyj's chain of custody information sheet showed that the paper rolls with the PEFC logo included 86% of PEFC-certified fibres.



The attestation and covering letter were printed together and individual details of the forest owners were added at a later stage of the process. The attestation carried a claim in Finnish stating that the document is printed on paper, which includes wood from PEFC certified forests.



For the mailing of the documents a specially designed envelope with the PEFC logo on it was used. This nation-wide delivery covered more than 270,000 forest owners. An additional 50,000 attestations will be produced by the regional organisations themselves. The distribution of the documents is part of the FFCS's communication on the revised FFCS standards.



(Photos: Pertti Hourunranta)

Contact: Auvo Kaivola
Email: auvo.kaivola@ffcs-finland.org

AUSTRALIA



PEFC labelled flooring at North American trade show

Australian certified flooring in the USA

Both the AFS logo and the PEFC logo were prominently displayed at a US flooring show in April 2006 held in Baltimore, Maryland on the booth exhibition material of the Australian Forest Certification Scheme (AFCS) certified company, Moxon Timbers Inc. of Yeronga, Queensland.

The National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA) Convention/EXPO 2006 is a major annual exhibition for the flooring sector of the US market and Moxon Timbers Inc. displayed its wide range of flooring based on White Cypress Pine (*Callitris glaucophylla*), sourced from the AFCS certified forests of the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Water (NRMW) and milled at the company's sawmill in Chinchilla.

Mr Tony Moxon, joint Managing Director of Moxon Timbers Inc. said: "American awareness of the PEFC isn't large at present but it's a first step and we anticipate an increase in our participation rate from bi-annual to annual. It's a "ticket to play" by having the PEFC logo and it does have resonance in particular market sectors in the USA."



Moxon Timber Inc. booth at NWFA featuring White Cypress Pine and Australian hardwood flooring

Contact: Mark Edwards
Email: afs@forestrystandard.org.au