



NEWSLETTER

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PEFC Austria – Pan-European Forest Certification Austria – is a common initiative of family-owned forestry operations, wood processing companies, environmental groups and trade unions for the labeling of wood from sustainably and carefully managed forests. The PEFC certification scheme goes back to the Environmental Conference in Rio and is based upon the resolutions passed in the Ministerial Conferences on the Protection of Forests in Europe (Helsinki 1993; Lisbon 1998) by 37 nations in the course of the Pan-European Process. Independent, noted certification bodies ensure that forests are managed in an ecologically sustainable manner according to high PEFC standards. Currently, 52.3 million hectares of forest have been certified in Europe, around 3.96 million hectares of which are located in Austria. This makes PEFC the world's largest forest certification scheme that functions transparently and credibly on the basis of democratic principles.

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Austria

PEFC Shopping Guide Online!

Since Monday May 3rd, the virtual PEFC shopping guide for certified timber and wood products from Austria can be accessed online. Under www.pefc-einkaufsratgeber.at

environmentally conscious consumers can find out which PEFC-certified products are currently available on the Austrian market and where they can be purchased. The PEFC shopping guide facilitates contact between customers and business enterprises. It serves as a purchasing guide and is oriented towards B2B customers, in particular. The concept for the most recent project initiated by PEFC Austria came into being on account of the great demand for wood products that originated in domestic forests with environmentally compatible management. Currently, 273 business operations have a PEFC certificate in the branches of the pulp and paper industry, board manufacturing, the sawmill industry and timber trade.



Information: Daniela Steinbach,
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Adelsberger Counts on PEFC

For 50 years the company Adelsberger in Ramingtal has specialized in processing timber from domestic larch, spruce and fir trees. The logs, which originate in PEFC-certified forests, are sorted and cut in the sawmill. The air-dried timber is treated so that it maintains the required moisture content, and then further processed with planing machinery. This combination enables an individual and efficient manufacturing process for high quality wood products from piers for swimming pools to garden fences, and floorboards to roofing material. Herbert Adelsberger, business manager of the sawmill and wood finishing section, made the decision in favor of PEFC: "It's important to ensure that timber remains sustainable as our only renewable resource. If we manage our forests sustainably, we will be able to continue building with wood for centuries, even if many other resources have already disappeared."

Information: www.adelsberger-holz.at

Logs for Kindergarten in Vienna

The forestry operation belonging to the Abbey of Klosterneuburg, which is actively participating in PEFC certification, has provided a kindergarten in Vienna with free logs for a natural playground. For almost 900 years, the Augustine monks at the Abbey of Klosterneuburg have been involved in agriculture and forestry, as well as social and cultural affairs. The size of the forestry operation belonging to the Abby totals approximately 8000 hectares, divided amongst ten forest ranges (along the Danube River, in the Forest District, the Wine District and the Kalk Alps). The head of the kindergarten in Possingergasse thanked Forester Krisa for his generous support. The logs were received enthusiastically by the children upon their delivery.



Photo: Forester Bernard Krisa with the Kindergarten Team in Possingergasse

Information: Daniela Steinbach, presse@pefc.at

PEFC Wood Shavings for Horse Stalls



As the first Austrian company to offer wood shavings for horse stalls, Pferdestreu Vertriebs GmbH has created a high-quality product by the name of "Happy Horse." Numerous Austrian institutions are already profiting from the superb quality of the wood shavings for horse stalls. Amongst them are the Spanish Riding School, the Zoo in Hellbrunn, as well as the University of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna. This environmentally friendly product is also available in Italy. Wood shavings are recommended by veterinarians, because they prevent lung ailments, dust and fungal allergies. The "Happy Horse" product is PEFC certified. The sustainable management of natural resources in the Forest District is monitored and guaranteed by PEFC to the consumer. "PEFC conforms with our expectations for responsible management of flora and fauna," states Otto Hofer, founder of "Happy Horse" (see photo), regarding his cooperation with PEFC

Information: Otto Hofer, office@happy-horse.at

Hasslacher Drauland – Strong Partner for the Timber Industry



Hasslacher Drauland Holzindustrie GmbH counts amongst the largest sawmills in Austria, and it is a prime example for the performance capacity of the Carinthian wood processing industry. Two years ago Christoph Kulterer

(see photo) took over the management of the 250 company workers and employees from his father. Their main buyer is Italy, although certification is also becoming an important sales factor in Japan. Hasslacher has been a reliable partner over the past ten years. House builders and carpenters have been profiting from their timber market, which offers a wide range of products at reasonable wholesale prices. Hasslacher Drauland Holzindustrie is certified according to PEFC criteria. "In order to remain competitive in our fast-changing time and age, we also made the conscious decision to integrate the international standards of PEFC certification into our business operation," says Stefan Kulterer, purchasing manager of the company. "Since we introduced PEFC standards for our production sites in the year 2001, we have been able to convince practically all of our suppliers and customers about the importance of sustainable utilization of wood as a renewable resource. Now, three years after we introduced these internationally recognized standards, we can claim with a clear conscience that we have done everything we could to provide our customers with high-quality products which also guarantee that the present ecosystems will continue functioning in the future."

Information: Stefan Kulterer, kulste@hasslacher.at

Moser-Holz: Quality from the Innviertel

The company Moser-Holz (www.moser-holz.at) was founded in 1850, and is one of the most well-known and experienced sawmills and wood finishing factories in the Innviertel. In April 2002, Moser-Holz had already received a PEFC certificate as the first sawmill in the Innviertel. Before Moser-Holz

introduced the PEFC standards, it had already been confronted with a demand for certified timber. As a practical solution, PEFC certification was completed as fast as possible, and this was viewed very positively by their customers. The company, which is specialized in milling timber for building construction, purchases its roundwood from certified forests in Austria and southern Germany. Great emphasis is given to roundwood that has been felled during the winter. In addition to its own manufacturing products, the company also carries a wide range of products available in wood product retailing. From wooden floorboards to parquet flooring, cork, linoleum, boards, wooden paneling, ceiling panels, wooden molding and protective wood varnishes, everything is available for the do-it-yourself enthusiast and the professional.

Information: Ursula Moser, office@moser-holz.at

Forest, Wood & Rock 'n Roll

On May 10th, 2004, the Austrian Association of Agricultural and Forestry Operations held a press conference with Chuck Leavell in the Bösendorfer piano salon. The world-famous solo pianist has performed with the Rolling Stones over the past 20 years. At the same time, he is a highly involved and active forest owner in Georgia, USA, and has already been awarded the title of "Tree Farmer of the Year" several times. In the scope of the press conference, Chuck Leavell spoke about his life as a musician, as well as the significance of forests and wood. Environmental problems and economic pressure present great challenges to family forestry operations around the world. The advantages of international alliances were pointed out by Chuck Leavell together with Stefan Schenker, president of the Austrian Association of Agricultural and Forestry Operations. "The International Family Forest Owners Alliance (IFFA) is a good platform for exchanging experience and learning from each other." This worldwide network was established by the existing organizations. The American Tree Farmer Association and Austrian forestry operations both call for wood products from sustainable forest management. The PEFC logo serves as a label of origin in this respect.

Information: Kristin Dawes, dawes@hvfl.at

International

Germany: Stendal Receives PEFC Certificate

A few weeks before beginning production, the Stendal Pulp and Paper Factory in Arneburg received its PEFC certificate. Zellstoff Stendal GmbH and Zellstoff Stendal Holz GmbH & Co KG have introduced a system according to PEFC guidelines, which traces and documents the percentage of PEFC-certified timber. As a result, a major part of the final products of Zellstoff Stendal GmbH can be marketed as PEFC certified. With an annual purchasing volume of more than three million cubic meters of timber, Zellstoff Stendal Holz GmbH & Co KG is one of the largest buyers of small-dimension logs and sawmill by-products in central Europe. The certificates were presented by Sören Scholz, Product Manager of DIN CERTCO Ges. f. Konformitätsbewertung mbH, which conducted the certification and will be continually monitoring the material flows. Sören Scholz welcomed the decision in favor of PEFC certification, meaning that Zellstoff Stendal and Stendal Holz are amongst the over 400 business operations which have a PEFC Chain-of-Custody certificate.

Information: Dirk Teegelbeekers, info@pefc.de



Photo: (left to right) Wolfram Riddler of Zellstoff Stendal, Marian Freiherr v. Grafenreuth of PEFC Germany, Michael Funk of Zellstoff Stendal Holz, and Sören Scholz of DIN CERTCO GmbH at the presentation of the certificates.

Globus-Baumarkt Advertising with PEFC Logo

A building construction material market in Germany is now advertising with a PEFC logo for the first time. In a pilot project, the company Globus has been labeling products on its shelves and in its brochures which are being delivered to thousands of households each week. Although this was only limited to the spruce-wood products of the main supplier, who buys all his timber from German forests,

it should now be expanded to include further product lines and sites in the future. Currently there are 48 Globus construction material chain stores all over Germany. The business enterprise was founded in 1828 in Saarland, and it is still in family ownership.



Information: Dirk Teegelbeekers, info@pefc.de

PEFC Council: Member of IAF

Since March 2004, the PEFC Council has become a member of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF). This underlines PEFC's claim of conforming with internationally valid accreditation standards as the only global forest certification scheme. PEFC will be actively participating in the harmonization of the accreditation processes.

Information: Ben Gunneberg, pefc@pt.lu

Meeting of the General Secretaries in Rome

This year the annual meeting of the general secretaries took place in Rome from the 20th - 21st May, 2004. In addition to the general exchange of experience, information was presented on the newest developments in the area of international chain-of-custody standards, accreditation and Internet applications.

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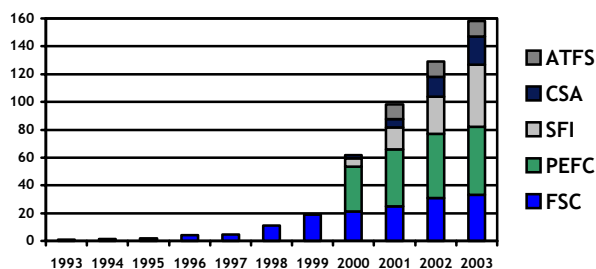
Italy: Successful Certification Process

With the admission of the National Commission on Popular Trees and the certification company "Suolo e Salute," the number of members in PEFC Italy has increased to 41. The four regional and group certification pilot projects will be finished by the end of this summer. 600,000 hectares of forestlands will be able to be certified as a result. A trend towards PEFC has been noted in the chain of custody. Currently, six companies have decided in favor of PEFC. Over the past months, four business operations were certified, and five more operations will follow.

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Facts & Figures (Updated June 2004)

PEFC – A dynamic development



FSC Forest Stewardship Council
SFI Sustainable Forestry Initiative
ATFS American Tree Farm System
CSA Canadian Standards Association

Anmerkung: Kanada und die USA streben die gegenseitige Anerkennung ihrer Zertifizierungssysteme (CSA, SFI und ATFS) mit PEFC International an.

PEFC – Certification in the individual countries

	Forest area in hectares	CoC Certificates
Austria	3,924,000	273
Belgium	164,450	8
Czech Republic	1,913,601	89
Denmark	7,444	0
Finland	22,298,165	78
France	3,119,501	425
Germany	6,854,496	378
Italy	0	6
Latvia	27,698	13
Netherlands	0	2
Norway	9,149,100	5
Sweden	3,756,624	46
Spain	188,289	4
Switzerland	253,698	82
UK	9,125	26
Total	51,666,191	1,436

The national organizations of 27 countries are currently members of the PEFC Council:

In Europe: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

Non-European Members: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Malaysia and the USA.

13 Certification Schemes have been recognized and are in operation:

Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Latvia, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Spain.

Imprint

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