



Malaysian Timber Certification Council

News

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OVERSEAS-BASED ACCREDITED CBS RECOGNISED Overseas Timber Companies can now apply for CoC Certification

In line with its decision to use only Certification Bodies (CBs) accredited with the Department of Standards Malaysia (DSM) under the relevant ISO Guides such as Guides 62, 65 or 66 under other programmes [such as the ISO 9001 (quality management system) and ISO 14000 (environmental management system)] with effect from 1st April 2007, MTCC has also decided that overseas-based CBs that are accredited against a CoC certification programme endorsed by the PEFC Council can now apply to conduct assessments and surveillance visits against the *Requirements for Chain-of-Custody Certification (RCOC)* under the MTCC scheme.

For this purpose, interested overseas-based CBs are required to provide information of their existing accreditation with the relevant accreditation body under the endorsed PEFC scheme. Under this arrangement, two overseas-based CBs have been accepted into the list of recognised CBs. They are Control Union Certifications B.V. (CUC) based in Zwolle, The Netherlands, and Certification and Timber Grading Limited (CATG) based in Lancashire, United Kingdom.

Overseas timber companies which are interested in applying for MTCC CoC certification can be assessed by these recognised CBs.

Companies wishing to apply for CoC certification are required to complete the application form for "Chain-of-Custody Certification (for overseas company)" and submit it to MTCC. The application can be made online. Alternatively the application form can be downloaded from the MTCC's website.

Terengganu FMU Certificate for Forest Management extended

The validity of the *Certificate for Forest Management* awarded to the Terengganu FMU has been extended to 13 December 2007.

This decision was made at the Fortieth Meeting of the Certification Committee held on 18 October 2007, based on the Report of the Third Surveillance Visit of the Terengganu FMU against the requirements of the *MC&I* (2001). The surveillance visit was conducted by SGS (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.

With the extension of the validity of the Certificate, all timber sourced and transported out from the Permanent Reserved Forests (PRFs) in the Terengganu FMU bearing Removal Passes dated 18 October 2007 and later can now be recognized as MTCC-certified materials.



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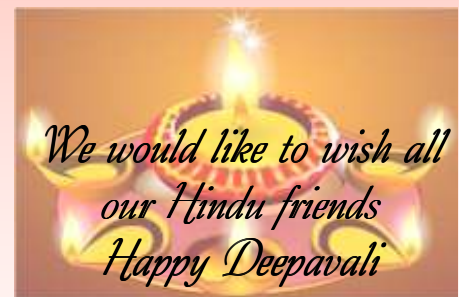
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Development on MC&I(Forest Plantations)

The draft *Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Forest Plantations) [MC&I(Forest Plantations)]* which was finalized during the Tenth Meeting of the National Steering Committee (NSC) held on 27 March 2007, had been subjected to public comment over a 60-day period from 30 April to 30 June 2007.

As a result of the public consultation, a total of six comments were received from some stakeholders, i.e. Sarawak Timber Association, Sarawak Forest Department, Department of Environment Protection Sabah, Department of Labour Sarawak, WWF Malaysia and Sabah Forest Industries Sdn. Bhd.

The Fourth Meeting of the Technical Working Group (TWG) held on 21 August 2007 reviewed the draft *MC&I(Forest Plantations)*, taking into consideration the various comments and feedback received from the stakeholders. The Meeting agreed to field test the draft standard in the three regions, i.e. Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak by end of 2007. The Meeting also agreed that a representative each from the four stakeholder groups be invited to participate as observers in the field test of the draft standard in the respective region.



Tenth Meeting of the NSC



Fourth Meeting of the TWG

Accreditation Programme for Forest Management Certification

In relation to the implementation of the new institutional arrangement for the MTCC scheme, we would like to inform all potential certification bodies (CBs) that the Department of Standards Malaysia (DSM) has finalized the accreditation programme for forest management certification.

This programme has been launched in October 2007 by DSM, inviting potential CBs for accreditation under this programme. The accreditation programme for CoC certification is in the process of being developed and will be expected to be ready by early next year.

For more information regarding the accreditation programme for forest management certification under the MTCC scheme, please visit the DSM website at www.standardsmalaysia.gov.my. Application forms and relevant documents can also be downloaded from this website.

You can also contact MTCC at Tel: 03-92005008 (Mr. Harnarinder Singh - email: harnarinder@mtcc.com.my) or DSM at 03-88858000 (En. Ridzwan Kasim / En. Roslee Saad).

Recognition of MTCC Scheme

MTCC scheme has been recognised and accepted by the following authorities and organizations:

- **Danish Ministry of the Environment** - MTCC scheme included as one of the accepted schemes in its document entitled *Purchasing Tropical Timber - Environmental Guidelines*



- **Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), United Kingdom** - MTCC certificate provides the assurance of legally harvested timber

* recognition extended from only products containing 100% certified raw materials, to all MTCC-certified timber products after first review in 2006



- **Royal Horticultural Society of UK** - MTCC scheme listed as one of the seven recognised certification schemes in its *Conservation and Environment Guidelines*

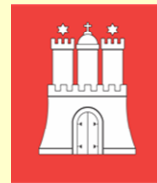


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Recognition of MTCC Scheme

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- **French Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs** - MTCC scheme listed as one of the accepted schemes in the *French Policy on Public Procurement of Timber and Wood Products*
- **Forestry Agency, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan** - MTCC scheme listed as one of the accepted schemes in the *Guideline for Verification on Legality and Sustainability of Wood and Wood Products*
- **Keurhout Protocol for Legal Origin in The Netherlands** - accepted seven MTCC certified FMUs and 26 Holders of the *Certificate for Chain-of-Custody*
- **The City of Hamburg, Germany** - MTCC scheme has been given a conditional recognition for a two-year period beginning June 2006



11th PEFC General Assembly



The 11th PEFC Council General Assembly hosted by PEFC Germany was held on 5 October 2007 in Munich, Germany. MTCC was represented by its CEO Mr. Chew Lye Teng.

During the General Assembly, the delegates were informed that PEFC certified forests have reached the 200 million hectares milestone, which is a growth of more than 50%. The number of PEFC members has also increased from 31 to 33 with the admittance of Uruguay and Cameroon.

The *Sociedad de Productores Forestales del Uruguay* was unanimously accepted as a new national member of the PEFC during the General Assembly. The membership of the Pan African Forestry Certification (PAFC Cameroon) has also been confirmed by the PEFC Council after it submitted all the required documents.

More timber companies in a number of new countries i.e. Morocco, India and Ireland have also been awarded PEFC certificates for chain-of-custody. It was also noted that public procurement policies in Germany, the UK as well as regional and local authorities in Italy, have given recognition to PEFC certified products.

The delegates were also informed of the setting up of the new PEFC Promotion Office in Beijing, China complementing the existing initiatives in Japan and the UK. One of the main agenda items during the General Assembly was the document on the PEFC Strategic Plan. With the adoption of the Plan during the Assembly, PEFC will be focusing on three inter-related operating strategies, i.e. (i) growth, (ii) market access and communications, and (iii) governance and operations. This Plan has been developed together with all the PEFC Council Members over an intensive one year process and has been unanimously agreed by all PEFC Council Members during the assembly. The next General Assembly will be held in Australia in October 2008. For a full report of the PEFC General Assembly, please visit www.pefc.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MTCC has recently appointed two new staff to its chain-of-custody (CoC) certification unit to replace Encik Ismail Ibrahim and Puan Mariana Zainudin who have resigned. *MTCC News* extends a warm welcome to:

Sabrina Hj. Mawasi, Executive (Product) - email: sabrina.mawasi@mtcc.com.my

Azharizan Mohd Norizan, Executive (Product) - email: azharizan@mtcc.com.my

MTCC News also thanks Encik Ismail and Puan Mariana for their contribution to MTCC and wishes them all the best in their future undertakings.



Sabrina Hj. Mawasi



Azharizan Mohamad Norizan

MTCC-certified timber products have recently been exported to Japan, bringing the total to 17 countries that import MTCC-certified timber products: The Netherlands, United Kingdom, Belgium, France, Germany, Australia, Greece, Denmark, Poland, Italy, Norway, Indonesia South Korea, Mauritius, South Africa, United States of America and Japan.

By Product (August 2007)

Product	Volume (cu.m)
Plywood	2,355.05
Sawn timber	2,308.90
Solid wood moulding	234.36
Finger-jointed timber	36.54
Total	4,934.85

By Destination (August 2007)

Destination	Volume (cu.m)
United Kingdom	2,450.46
The Netherlands	1,804.96
Denmark	510.64
France	99.90
Germany	34.46
Australia	34.43
Total	4,934.85

By Product (in September 2007)

Product	Volume (cu.m)
Plywood	3,879.64
Sawn timber	2,289.99
Solid wood moulding	74.23
Total	6,243.86

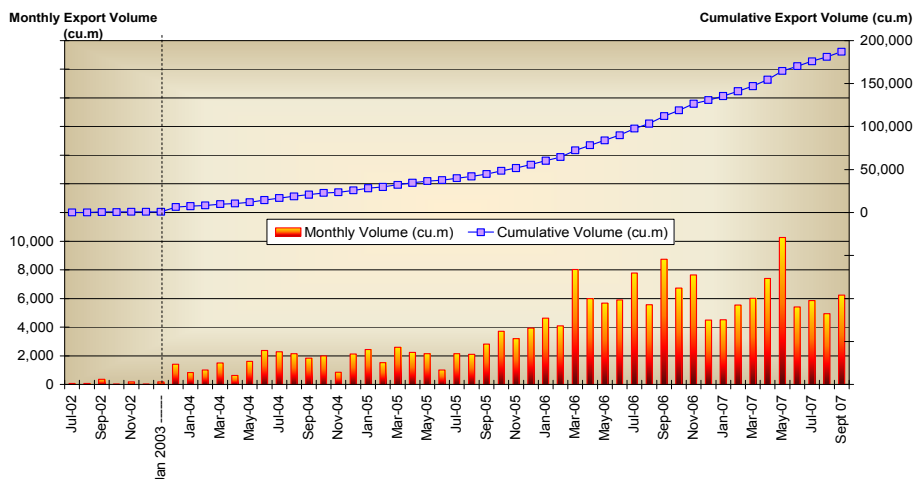
By Destination (September 2007)

Destination	Volume (cu.m)
United Kingdom	3,786.64
The Netherlands	1,373.05
Denmark	632.29
Belgium	150.43
France	123.48
Japan	108.00
Italy	36.95
Germany	33.02
Total	6,243.86

Export of MTCC-Certified Timber Products

Monthly & Cumulative Exports

Source : MTIB / MTCC



Volume exported in August 2007: 4,934.85 cu.m

Volume exported in September 2007: 6243.86 cu.m

Cumulative volume exported since July 2002: 187,118.52 cu.m

Holders of Certificate for Forest Management: 9 Forest Management Units

Holders of Certificate for Chain-of-Custody: 107 Timber Companies (100 valid)

Further details on the validity, size and location of the Forest Management Units and contact information on MTCC certificate holders can be obtained at: www.mtcc.com.my