



Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification
Your Assurance of Responsible Sourcing

Newsletter

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Notification Fees Held for 2017

AT its final meeting in 2016, the PEFC UK Board recognised that for many certified companies, trading conditions remain challenging. It was therefore unanimously agreed that the annual notification fees levied by PEFC UK, would remain at their current rates.

There will therefore be no increase in notification fees for either UK Chain of Custody or Forest Management certificate holders in 2017.

We wish all our members a happy and prosperous New Year.

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KEEP up to date with the latest news from PEFC UK and PEFC International by liking us on Facebook and following us on Twitter.



New Chairman for PEFC International

PETER Latham was elected Chairman of PEFC International at the organisation's General Assembly which was held in Bali last November.

Peter, who was awarded an OBE in the 2012 New Years Honours List for services to the UK wood industry, is Chairman of one of Britain's oldest timber companies, James Latham PLC. He is also a former Chairman PEFC UK and the Forests Forever Committee of the Timber Trade Federation and a member of the Council of the Commonwealth Forestry Association.

Commenting on his appointment, Peter acknowledged that PEFC had made remarkable progress in recent years, with significant growth in certified forest area, a growing number of new members and increasing acceptance in public sector and corporate procurement policies around the world. However, he acknowledged that the organisation still faced some important challenges but expressed confidence that the global PEFC family was well equipped to meet them.

Global PEFC Family Gathers in Bali



IN November, a delegation from PEFC UK travelled to Bali, Indonesian for PEFC Week. This was the second time that PEFC Week was held in Asia, following a PEFC General Assembly in Malaysia in 2013. PEFC has been gaining momentum in developing and supporting certification in Asia. Across the region, countries are striving towards sustainable forest management with a view to becoming certified. PEFC has now endorsed schemes in Indonesia, Malaysia, China and Japan. Additionally, India is currently developing a national forest management standard with a view to future endorsement by PEFC.

The General Assembly saw PEFC welcome three new member countries – Thailand,

Macedonia and Romania – to its ranks, bringing the number of national members to 46. Also worth celebrating this year was news that the area certified to PEFC-endorsed scheme had risen by 35 million hectares, making PEFC the fastest growing global forest certification programme. In Australia alone, more than 16 million hectares of forest became PEFC-certified – an achievement that won Australian Forestry Standard (AFS) the top prize for growth during our PEFC Forest Certification Week awards ceremony. PEFC's North American member, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and PEFC Russia added 8.2 million and 8.1 million hectares of certified forest, respectively. This brings PEFC's global certified area to 300 million hectares.

Demand for PEFC Chain of Custody continued to grow as well with PEFC Germany, adding the highest number of certificates closely followed by PEFC Spain in second place and China Forest Certification Council (CFCC) in third.

This year the Stakeholder Dialogue explored the role of forest certification and sustainable supply chains in promoting sustainable landscapes for sustainable livelihoods. Through a range of interesting and thought-provoking sessions, there were discussions on how sustainable forestry and forest certification can contribute over and above its current remit to sustainable development.

New Director for PEFC UK

PEFC has appointed a new director to its UK Board. Elisabeth Piveteau, UK & Ireland Export Manager at PiveteauBois, brings a fresh voice to PEFC UK in addition to invaluable knowledge of the European timber supply chain and issues surrounding sustainable forestry.

PiveteauBois is a leading French softwood sawmiller and manufacturer of timber products for the construction, landscaping and energy sectors and is France's number one supplier of wood pellets. It is a family-run business with a deep passion for wood and more than sixty five years expertise

of selecting the best quality softwood from certified forests in France and Poland.

Elisabeth joined the family company after twenty years' experience in sales and business development in the intellectual property and scientific information markets. She has previously worked at industry leaders Thomson Reuters, Lexis Nexis and Macmillan. Her mission at PiveteauBois is to develop and grow a customer base for its value-added



products in the UK and Ireland in addition to raising awareness of France as Europe's joint fourth largest softwood producer alongside Austria.

Alun Watkins, who heads up PEFC in the UK, welcomed Elisabeth's appointment saying "we will benefit enormously from her knowledge of the French timber sector which will better enable us to meet the expectations of one of our key stakeholder groups, those exporting to the UK market."

Royal Forestry Society 2017 Awards



ENTRIES are now invited for the RFS Excellence in Forestry Education and Learning Award 2017. PEFC UK is proud to sponsor this award for the seventh year in succession. The Royal Forestry Society is the UK's largest forestry education charity. It was founded in 1882 and now has almost 4,000 members.

This Award seeks to encourage and reward schools, colleges, universities and other recognised training providers who increase awareness, understanding and skills related to the environmental, social and economic potential of trees, woodlands and forests, and who may also demonstrate the link between trees and wood products.

Entries are invited from across Eastern England and the Midlands (Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Northamptonshire, Warwickshire and the West Midlands).

Details of how to enter can be found at <http://bit.ly/2iLiR2u>. The deadline for entries is 7 March 2017



PEFC UK COMPANY SPOTLIGHT Whittle Flooring Company Ltd

2000th Logo License Holder



WHITTLE FLOORING COMPANY LTD

WE warmly congratulate Whittle Flooring on becoming PEFC UK's 2000th logo licence holder. The company, based in Leyland, Lancashire, specialises in the manufacture of quality vehicle flooring systems. The precision flooring and interior panels it produces are supplied to the UK's leading bus and train manufacturers.

The company takes its environmental responsibilities seriously. The birch used in the manufacture of its plywood floor panels, comes from sustainably-managed forests in Finland and PEFC Chain of Custody certified suppliers.

Certified companies are strongly encouraged to apply for a logo license to provide access to the PEFC label. Past studies have shown that environmental labels such as PEFC's communicate trust by enabling companies to visibly communicate a commitment to responsible sourcing.

PEFC's on-line logo generator makes light work of creating PEFC labels. For more information e-mail info@pefc.co.uk

Leading Mail Order Invests in PEFC Certification

IN October, leading French mail order company, La Redoute announced that it had achieved PEFC Chain of Custody certification. As a result, all its catalogues now carry the PEFC label to provide customers with assurances of responsible paper sourcing. The company, which has more than 10 million customers, operates in 26 countries including the UK.

Commenting on the new initiative, CSR Coordinator at La Redoute, Camille Caron said that "We chose PEFC as it is a recognised label with a reputation as a world leader in forest certification with a reliable, independent third party certification system. We are also considering expanding PEFC certification

to the wood and wood products we manufacture".



Meet PEFC UK

Surface Design Show Awards
Thursday 9th February 2017
Business Design Centre, London
<http://bit.ly/16v3Atg>

Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 4th July 2017
NCVO Offices, London

Annual Stakeholder Day
Tuesday 4th July 2017
NCVO Offices, London

New Addition to the PEFC UK Team

WE are delighted to announce that Julia Cobham joined the PEFC UK team in Sheffield earlier this month. Before taking up her administrative role at PEFC, Julia worked as a legal secretary and has also held a variety of administrative posts including serving as a Committee Clerk for Pembrokeshire County Council and as a Customer Services Advisor at M&S Bank.



New Publications from PEFC UK

TWO new publications have recently been added to the PEFC library. *PEFC Group Certification – Cost Effective and Inclusive Chain of Custody for Smaller Companies* seeks to explain how this kind of certification can enable smaller companies to gain Chain of Custody at an affordable cost.

The second is an information sheet designed to help certified companies demonstrate compliance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015. Section 54 of the Act entitled *Transparency in Supply Chains* is relevant to companies with a global turnover of over £36 million and which conduct business or part of a business in the United Kingdom. All businesses which meet these criteria must publish a Slavery and Human Trafficking statement on their website with a prominent link to it from its home page. The statement should show the steps it has taken during the

past financial year to ensure that slavery and human trafficking has not taken place either in the company's operations or its supply chain, both in the UK and abroad.

The information sheet shows how PEFC-certified companies and users of PEFC certified products (who may also have to comply with the legislation) can refer to PEFC's certification standards to help demonstrate that forced labour has not been used in their certified products supply chain.



ALUN WATKINS

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Please call Alun for all general enquiries and queries about Chain of Custody and use of the PEFC logo.

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