

ITC Timber



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This letter introduces GoodWood and ITC Timber as a potential source of timber for you to use. ITC Timber is a division of ITC Limited (ITC), one of Australia's leading forestry and forest products companies.

WWF believes that responsible forest management means that timber, as a renewable resource, should be harvested in such a way that it does not threaten the range of associated goods and services the forest provides, such as non-timber forest products, environmental services, spiritual values and recreational uses.

Forest certification is widely seen as the most important initiative of the last decade to promote better forest management. It has led to greater recognition of the importance of an environmentally and socially sound timber industry, whilst also strengthening a global debate on the future of forestry.

Forest certification is a system of forest inspection plus a means of tracking timber and paper through a "chain of custody" – following the raw material through to the finished product. This is all to ensure that the products have come from forests that are well managed – meaning that they are managed taking into account environmental, social and economic principles and criteria.

Currently, WWF considers the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification system to be the only credible system to ensure environmentally responsible, socially beneficial and economically viable management of forests. WWF therefore recommends the FSC system to forest managers, policy makers, business and consumers.

In the event that FSC-certified timber is unavailable for your needs, WWF recommends that timber come from known and uncontroversial sources.

ITC has successfully secured FSC certification of hardwood plantations under its management. WWF and ITC are collaborating with the aim of FSC certification of other sources of timber that ITC process. Whilst that effort has not been successful thus far, WWF can assure you that this is not due to any inaction on the part of ITC.

As a consequence, WWF-Australia supports the use of timber from ITC as being from known and uncontroversial sources.

Building on ITC's commitment to securing FSC certification, in December 2005 WWF and ITC launched a partnership to encourage Australian business to support responsible forest and plantation management through the choice of timber and paper that they buy. All businesses can take practical steps to reduce their forest footprint. Through the partnership, WWF will be assisting businesses to develop and implement policies and practices that will contribute to better management for forests and plantations.

Kindest regards,

Greg Bourne
Chief Executive Officer

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