

KEY ENVIRONMENTAL REPUTATION FACTS CANADA'S FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

The Canadian forest products industry is committed to doing its part as the world continues to address climate change. In October 2007, the Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) announced its commitment to carbon neutrality by 2015 without the purchase of offsets.

With virtually zero deforestation and more original forest, protected forest, and third-party certified forest than any other country, as well as some of the toughest forestry regulations in the world, Canada is an environmental leader. Its forest products industry has an excellent track record in recycling and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The Boreal Forest

Canada is the steward of about 30% of the world's Boreal Forest. Most of Canada's Boreal Forest has never been accessed or subject to economic development, but it is a valued resource. Consequently, Boreal conservation is a key benchmark of the industry's commitment to sustainability.

- 80% of Canada's forest lands are in the boreal region; 70% are not accessed.
- FPAC and the Canadian Boreal Initiative signed a joint conservation planning agreement — the first ever of its kind — in 2006 committing both organizations to comprehensive planning prior to development.
- FPAC has mapped 20% of all Canadian tenured lands and 25% of all Boreal tenured lands to assess their conservation status (i.e., determine how much is not suitable for harvesting or is managed with special consideration for conservation purposes).

FPAC member companies are committed to the following five principles of sustainability:

- I. Harvest legally
- II. Regenerate promptly
- III. Reduce waste, and support recovery and recycling
- IV. Reduce greenhouse gases and help fight climate change
- V. Welcome independent scrutiny of how they manage forests

Harvest Legally

- Canada's rate of deforestation is less than 0.02% and is mostly due to agriculture, urban development, transportation, recreation, and hydroelectricity.
- By law, all forests harvested in Canada's public land must be successfully regenerated.
- At 40 million hectares, Canada has the most protected forest area in the world.

Regenerate promptly

- Net deforestation is zero.
- Canada has 90% of its original forest cover. (Most of what has been lost has been to agriculture.)
- Canada's silviculture ratio of trees planted to trees harvested is 3 to 1.
- Around 650 million seedlings are planted each year in Canada.

Reduce waste, and support recovery and recycling

- Water-use intensity at FPAC member pulp and paper mills dropped almost 6% between 2005 and 2007, for a total reduction of nearly 20% since 1999.
- In 2003, FPAC members committed to increasing Canada's paper recovery rate to 55% by 2012. In 2008, 65% of all the paper and paper-based packaging consumed in Canada was recycled, exceeding the targeted recovery rate by 10%.
- Between 1999 and 2007, releases of total particulate matter per tonne of output decreased by 65%.
- Between 1999 and 2007, the amount of total reduced sulphur (TRS) released per tonne of output decreased by 60%.
- The percentage of harvested fibre that is converted into useful products increased from 61% in 1970 to almost 90% in 2006. The remaining 10% (bark and wood-waste residue from solid wood processing and pulping processes) is to a large extent being used as biomass fuel.
- Using process residuals for energy has decreased the material being sent to landfill by 40%.

Reduce greenhouse gases and help fight climate change

FPAC members will be **carbon neutral** through the supply chain without the purchase of offset credits by 2015.

- Forest biomass now constitutes 60% of the energy needs of Canada's pulp and paper industry. Our goal is 100%.
- Bioenergy now constitutes more than 55% of the total energy used by the forest industry.
- From 1980 to 2002, production of pulp and paper increased by 30%, energy use increased by 23%, but greenhouse gas emissions were unchanged.
- The reduction in GHG emissions since 1990 in pulp and paper facilities equates to 57%, or 10 times Kyoto targets.

Welcome independent scrutiny of how they manage forests

Certification provides objective evidence of sustainable forest management planning and practices at the forest level. Certification is designed to assure consumers that the products they purchase are derived from forests that go beyond regulatory compliance and are managed to higher environmental and social standards.

- Canada is home to over 40% of the world's certified forests, at almost 150 million hectares. Its area of certified Boreal Forest is three times larger than any other country's area of certified total forest.
- Canada has almost 150 million hectares certified to the three sustainable forest management certification programs used in Canada: the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), or the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI). Of that area, 66% is attributable to FPAC members.
- Canada accounts for more than half of the certifications recognized by the global Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC) and a quarter of the FSC certifications worldwide.
- Only 10% of the world's forests are certified.