

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 29/04/2008 – For Immediate Release

A3P congratulates member companies Wilmott Forests and Forests NSW on new wood supply agreement for \$60 million timber processing facility

A3P, the industry council representing the plantation products and paper industry, today congratulates its member companies Wilmott Forests and Forests NSW for the signed wood supply agreement for a long-term sawlog parcel of 250,000 cubic metres a year.

The new \$60 million timber processing facility will be built in Bombala by Wilmott Forests wholly owned subsidiary Willmott Timbers Pty Ltd in conjunction with Dongwha Australia Holdings Pty Ltd to utilise this wood supply agreement.

Representing Australia's plantation products and paper industry, A3P CEO Mr Neil Fisher welcomed the announcement as a strategic investment in Australia's sustainable plantation processing industry with benefits for the local region.

"A3P congratulates Willmott Forests and Forests NSW.

"Willmott Forests' new processing facility will provide a major economic boost to the Bombala region and the platform for continued investment in value-adding to Australia's sustainable softwood plantation resource.

"Forests NSW will also achieve a sustainable and commercial return for their investment in long rotation plantation timber.

"Australia's plantation products and paper industry provides \$1.2 billion to the South West Slopes economy, 1,700 local jobs and indirectly a further 3,250 jobs.

"A3P supports the sustainable growth of Australia's plantation products and paper industry, an industry which operates under world class environmental standards, through the commitments outlined in our Sustainability Action Plan", he said.

Production from the new facility is expected to commence during 2010.

To view A3P's Sustainability Action plan – revised March 2008 please visit
<http://www.a3p.asn.au/admin/assets/pdf/Submissions%20and%20Reports/2008%20Report%20-%20A3P%20SAP.pdf>

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Further information

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