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A3P stands alone in fight against illegal logging



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A3P, the peak industry body for the plantation products and paper industry stands alone as the only Australian national forest industry association to develop and implement member guidelines on illegal logging.

A3P CEO Mr Neil Fisher said "A3P is the only national industry organisation that currently has guidelines on stopping imports of illegally logged forest products into Australia.

Mr Fisher was responding to a report from the Australian Institute of Criminology which found that 9% of all timber imports to Australia are coming from illicit sources.

Mr Fisher said "Our guidelines recognise the problem of illegal logging and deforestation in many countries and provide a proactive response to bring these practices to an end.

"Furthermore our guidelines provide A3P member companies with a practical framework for demonstrating legality and control within their supply chains including importers, Australian forest managers and Australian processors", he said.

A3P member companies create and sell more than \$4 billion of product each year and employ more than 13,500 people.

A3P is also the only Australian association to have endorsed the International Council of Forest and Paper Associations' (ICFPA) global CEO Leadership Statement addressing illegal logging and other sustainability issues. The statement was signed by 56 industry leaders representing forest products companies and associations from 25 countries, meeting in Rome, 2006.

The statement commits ICFPA members to measures including only purchasing legally sourced wood and fibre and promoting forest certification as a tool to verify legality and demonstrate sustainability.

To view the A3P member guidelines please visit http://www.a3p.asn.au/keyissues/illegal_imports.html

To download the CEO Leadership Statement please visit http://www.a3p.asn.au/keyissues/illegal_imports.html

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Further information

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