



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 16, 2009

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SWANSON GROUP MFG. LLC. SHOWS ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP WITH SFI FIBER SOURCING CERTIFICATION

Glendale, Oregon – As part of a broad commitment to the corporate social responsibility, Swanson Group Mfg LLC. announced today that it has achieved certification to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative fiber sourcing standard across all of its manufacturing locations in Oregon.

“At Swanson Group we have a strong commitment to the environment, and so do our customers,” said Don Hardwick, Vice President of Timber Resources. “SFI® fiber sourcing certification plays a critical role in our environmental policy, and empowers our customers to make an educated environmental choice about the wood products they buy.”

With SFI fiber sourcing certification, Swanson Group Inc is strengthening our environmental commitment, and helping our customer’s source responsible forest products.”

With over 152 million acres certified across North America, the SFI sustainable forestry certification program is one of the largest in the world, with a standard based on principles and measures that promote responsible environmental behavior and sound forest management including measures to protect water quality, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, species at risk and forests of exceptional conservation value. Fiber sourcing certification means a company has verified that at least 66% of their supply comes from a SFI certified procurement operation.

The SFI program stands apart from other certification programs by addressing the fact that 90 percent of the world’s forests are not certified to a credible standard. Through the SFI Standard, program participants are required to track the uncertified content and promote responsible forestry by encouraging landowners to reforest areas that have been harvested, to use best management practices for protecting water quality and to identify and protect important habitat elements for wildlife, including imperiled and critically imperiled species and communities. For areas outside of North America without effective laws, SFI program participants must take measures to procure all fiber from known and legal sources. In these circumstances program participants also must complete a risk assessment to avoid illegal sources and promote conservation of biodiversity hotspots and major tropical wilderness areas as defined by Conservation International.

By achieving SFI certification, Swanson Group Inc. joins a growing community of companies, land-owners, and social and environmental organizations all committed to improving forest practices on a global scale.

“Demand for products from responsibly-managed forests is increasing worldwide and with today’s announcement, Swanson Group Inc. joins a growing number of companies that are demonstrating their environmental commitment through certification to the SFI program,” said SFI Inc. President and CEO Kathy Abusow. “At a time when just 10 percent of the world’s forests are independently certified, Swanson Group Inc. has taken a leadership role by supporting global efforts to improve forest practices.”



“Certification to the SFI Standard means we will be able to meet the increasing market demand for environmentally-friendly products which is good for our business and good for our forests,” added Hardwick.

Swanson Group Inc is a privately held forest products company operating five mills in Oregon and offering their products through Swanson Group Sales, the sales and marketing arm of the company. The company also owns Swanson Group Aviation which is involved in aerial logging and fire fighting among other projects.

About SFI Inc.

SFI Inc. is a 501c(3) non-profit charitable organization, and is solely responsible for maintaining, overseeing and improving the Sustainable Forestry Initiative program (www.sfiprogram.org), that is internationally recognized and among the largest in the world. It is one of the fast growing forest certification programs with over 150 million acres (60 million hectares) of SFI-certified forests across North America. The SFI Standard also includes unique fiber sourcing requirements that promote responsible forest management on all suppliers' lands and a chain-of-custody certification which is used to tell buyers how much certified fiber is in a specific product. The SFI forest standard is endorsed by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification, a global umbrella organization that has strict requirements for endorsement. SFI Inc. is governed by a three chamber board of directors representing environmental, social and economic sectors equally.

For more information about the SFI program, visit www.sfiprogram.org