



Press Release

EFPI Supports EC Timber Initiative

Brussels, 12 October 2010 – The European Federation of Parquet Importers (EFPI), warmly welcomes the decision of the Competitiveness Council to adopt the regulation laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market.

The new regulation provides that the placing on the internal market of illegally harvested timber or timber products derived from such timber should be prohibited. In addition, operators who place timber or timber products on the internal market for the first time should exercise due diligence through a system including three elements inherent to risk management: access to information, risk assessment and mitigation of the risk identified.

After being signed by the President of the European Parliament and the President of the Council, the legislative act will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union. It shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal and shall apply 27 months later.

The EFPI considers this regulation as a major step forward to protect the forests against illegal logging and illegal trading. EFPI is convinced that the regulation will benefit all that live from the forests and forest products.

Note to the Editor:

The European Federation of Parquet Importers (EFPI) is a Brussels-based association of leading European importers of engineered and solid wood floorings. EFPI was founded in June 2005 and aims to facilitate the discussion of ideas among importers about the promotion of wood flooring in Europe, to share information about EU legislation, standardisation and issues concerning international trade for the parquet industry.

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