



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **SCOTCH PLYWOOD COMPANY, INC SHOWS ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP WITH SFI® FIBER SOURCING CERTIFICATION**

**Fulton, AL** – As a part of a broad commitment to the corporate social responsibility, Scotch Plywood Company, Inc., a southern yellow pine plywood and veneer producer, announced today that it has achieved fiber sourcing certification to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI Inc.) at its Waynesboro, MS and Beatrice, AL veneer operations.

“Scotch Plywood has a very strong commitment to its employees, communities it operates in, and customers.” said Gray Skipper, Vice President. “SFI® fiber sourcing certification highly strengthens our environmental policy and therefore also our commitment in these three areas.”

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, Scotch Plywood Company joins a growing community of companies, landowners, and social and environmental organizations all committed to improving forest practices on a global scale.

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“Demand for products from responsibly-managed forests is increasing worldwide and with today’s announcement, Scotch Plywood Company 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 per cent of the world’s forests are independently certified, Scotch Plywood Company has taken a leadership role by supporting global efforts to improve forest practices.”

“Scotch Plywood’s 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” said Skipper.

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About Scotch Plywood Company, Inc.

Scotch Plywood Company, Inc. is a family owned business that strives to deliver quality products through excellent customer service. To achieve this goal Scotch strives to provide a safe work environment and actively promotes good forest stewardship through the American Tree Farm System, SFI Inc., Alabama Forestry Association as well as other entities that help promote our shared environmental goals.

For more information about Scotch please visit our website: [www.scotchplywood.com](http://www.scotchplywood.com)

About SFI Inc.

SFI Inc. is a 501c(3) non-profit organization and is solely responsible for maintaining, overseeing and improving the Sustainable Forestry Initiative program. SFI Inc. directs all elements of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative program including the SFI Standard, fiber sourcing requirements, chain-of-custody certification, labeling and marketing. SFI Inc. is overseen by a three-chamber Board of Directors representing social, environmental and economic sectors.

For more information about the SFI program, visit [www.sfiprogram.org](http://www.sfiprogram.org)