



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 28, 2009

Contact: Jason Metnick, Director
Market Access and Product Labeling
(602) 374-6539

**TIMBER PRODUCTS INSPECTION INC. ACCREDITED
FOR SFI CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY CERTIFICATION**

WASHINGTON – Timber Products Inspection Inc. has been accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) for chain-of-custody certifications to Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Inc. (SFI®) and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certifications schemes (PEFC), as well as ISO/IEC Guide 65.

Timber Products Inspection (www.tpinspection.com), with offices in Conyers, Georgia, and Vancouver, Washington, began as a two-person operation in 1969, and now is the largest independent wood products inspection and testing agency in the United States. It began exploring SFI chain-of-custody certification when clients reported they were being asked to provide SFI-certified products.

“SFI chain-of-custody certification is a good fit for us, and a good fit for our customers,” Jeremy Williams, Green Inspection Program Manager with Timber Products Inspection, said today. “Educated consumers are no longer satisfied with a stamp or eco-label saying a product is green. They want proof that there is a credible system and standard in place to back the claim.”

“As a third-party accreditor, ANSI is pleased to participate in the accreditation of certification bodies that are found to be competent and capable of assessing to SFI and PEFC standards,” said ANSI Vice President of Accreditation Services Lane Hallenbeck. “ANSI salutes the certification body that achieved this accreditation.”

Non-profit, independent SFI Inc. is one of the largest and fastest-growing forest certification programs in the world, with more than 160 million acres (65 million hectares) of SFI-certified forests across North America. Chain-of-custody certification is a tool used to track wood fiber from a certified forest, providing a link between certified forestlands and certified products. Through SFI chain-of-custody certification, a company can accurately identify the percent certified and/or recycled content in a product. The SFI program also includes fiber sourcing requirements that promote responsible forest management on all suppliers’ lands.

“As a third-party forest certification program, SFI Inc. relies on independent, objective and accredited certification bodies like Timber Products Inspection to evaluate and ensure that an organization’s planning, procedures and practices conform to the requirements set out in the SFI Standard,” said SFI President and CEO Kathy Abusow.

- more -

... 2/2

Depending on the scope of the certification audit, certification bodies are approved to perform certification audits to SFI standards only after completing a rigorous accreditation program through one of the following independent, international accreditation bodies: ANSI, ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) or Standards Council of Canada (SCC). A list of certification bodies accredited to conduct audits to the SFI standards is posted at www.sfiprogram.org/files/pdf/Certification%20bodies.pdf

-30-

About Timber Products Inspection Inc.

Timber Products Inspection Inc. (TP) is an independent, third-party wood products inspection, testing, and consulting company with field representation throughout the United States. Since its inception in 1969, TP has grown to provide auditing services to meet the needs of most of wood products industry. Today it provides the highest quality assurance services to grade stamping facilities, pressure treating facilities, heat treating facilities, panel manufacturing facilities, pallet manufacturing facilities, log/timber frame manufacturing facilities, truss manufacturing facilities, utility product manufacturing facilities, green building programs, and engineered products manufacturing facilities. It also maintains state-of-the-art chemical analysis and physical property laboratories. For more information, visit www.tpinspection.com.

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 fastest-growing forest certification programs with more than 160 million acres (65 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 can communicate to 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 schemes, 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.

About ANSI

ANSI (www.ansi.org) is a private non-profit organization whose mission is to enhance U.S. global competitiveness and the American quality of life by promoting, facilitating and safeguarding the integrity of the voluntary standardization and conformity assessment system. Its membership comprises businesses, professional societies and trade associations, standards developers, government agencies, and consumer and labor organizations. The Institute represents the diverse interests of more than 125,000 companies and organizations and 3.5 million professionals worldwide.

The Institute is the official U.S. representative to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and, via the U.S. National Committee, the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), and is a U.S. representative to the International Accreditation Forum (IAF).