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## **Catalyst Paper Corporation 2015 Public Summary Report Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) Standard [2010-2014 Edition]**

### **Project Scope and Objectives**

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC) completed a Maintenance Assessment of Catalyst Paper Corporation's (Catalyst) multi-site fibre procurement management system and activities to the SFI Standard [2010-2014 Edition]. The management system is managed by Catalyst from its corporate office in Richmond, BC for the facilities in Crofton, BC, Port Alberni, BC, Powell River, BC, Rumford, ME, and Biron, WS. The assessment included an office assessment in Richmond, BC and on-site assessments at Port Alberni, Rumford and a remote assessment of Biron. The Lead Assessor was Bruce Eaket, RPF, EMS (LA).

The primary objective of the assessment was to confirm the ongoing maintenance of Catalyst's multi-site SFI management system and to evaluate Catalyst's implementation of the SFI Standard. The Rumford and Biron sites were in the scope of their own SFI 2010-2014 certificate and a secondary objective of the 2015 assessment was to transfer these two sites into the scope of certificate with the other Catalyst sites, so that only one multi-site certificate is required.

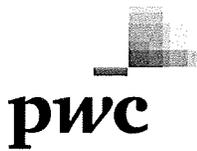
### **Indicators**

The scope of the assessment was Objectives 8-10, 14-17 and 19-20. Objectives 1-7 and 18 do not apply because Catalyst does not own or manage a material amount of forest land. Objectives 11-13 do not apply as Catalyst does not procure fibre from outside of the United States and Canada. There were no substitute indicators.

### **Assessment Process**

The maintenance assessment took place on December 17, 2014 at Port Alberni, BC, February 25, 2015 at Rumford, ME and a remote assessment at Biron, WI, and April 16 and 17, 2015 at the Central Office in Richmond. The assessment team conducted interviews and reviewed appropriate documentation to assess policies and procedures, and tested implementation of SFI program requirements. The report was dated October 22, 2015.

For multi-site certifications, PwC uses a rotational audit approach where the central office is audited annually and the sites are sampled on a rotating schedule that conforms to the International Accreditation Forum Inc.'s Mandatory Document 1.



Committee, sends sustainable forest management information to non-certified suppliers and contractually requires all suppliers to meet legal requirements. Catalyst also has an in-house health and safety system and annually produces a publicly available Sustainability Report that summarizes non-compliance issues. For their Best Management Practice monitoring program, Catalyst relies on forest practice monitoring information that is publicly available from various government organizations in British Columbia, Maine, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Specific Good management practices include:

At the Rumford Mill, the Director of Fiber Supply is an active member of the mill management team and works to remove variability in the fiber supply, which helps to improve wood and pulp yields.

The Fiber Supply group in Maine has developed a BMP Monitoring Form and procedure to audit their roundwood suppliers with a focus on wet season logging and non-trained loggers. The monitoring information, including recommendations and follow-up requirements, is shared with the logger and/or landowners, which is well received.

### **Summary of Findings**

There was one minor non-conformity identified during the assessment with regard to completing internal audits at all sites. Catalyst has subsequently completed the internal audits and provided the evidence to PwC

One Opportunity for Improvement was identified with regard to including broker's log suppliers in the Catalyst BMP program and ensuring that brokers include BMP compliance language in their agreements with their suppliers.

### **Conclusion**

Catalyst's procurement operations continue to conform to the SFI Standard. The certificate can be obtained by contacting Ms. Donna Banh, Manager, Financial Planning and Analysis at (604) 247-4046. More information on Catalyst's sustainable forestry program can be found at: <http://www.catalystpaper.com>.