



DLH

USA

DLH & The Environment





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USA

Environmental Policy

DLH's long-term goal is:

"To trade and produce wood products, which originate from sustainable managed forests."

Wood is the raw material in which the activities of the DLH Group are based. We, therefore, have a commercial interest in ensuring that the world's forests are sustainable managed in order to produce wood for future generations. The forests also have a number of other values and services that should be safeguarded. This is not an easy task in all countries and several well-intentioned initiatives have failed, especially in the tropics. Therefore, there is a need for all involved parties to take responsibility, and DLH is ready to take our part of the responsibility.



DLH's short-term goal is to know the origin of all wood

In order to ensure that all wood originates from sustainable forest management, we need to know the origin of the wood. We have, therefore, set up the following target:

"To have a well-working supply chain management system ensuring that all wood is of known origin by 2007."

We will use our Good Supplier Project - GSP as the main tool for cooperating with our suppliers on our short-term goal. The next step towards sustainable forestry is to verify the legality of the wood, normally by an independent third party, but it is still too soon to set up goals and deadlines regarding this. Nevertheless, DLH is already involved in such activities in cooperation with selected suppliers and these activities will be expanded.



Another goal is to increase the yearly sales of certified wood

DLH will actively procure certified wood at all places where DLH is buying wood and, therefore, we have set the following target:

"The percentage of certified wood in DLH turnover should at a minimum, reflect the percentage of certified forests in each region, for the species that DLH is marketing."

In order to fulfil our long-term goal, we will increase the turnover of wood from certified forests. Some of our suppliers already provide us with wood originating from forests that are independently certified for sustainable management and other suppliers are almost ready to do so. In some parts of the world, especially in the tropics, only a limited number - or none at all - of forests are certified. This makes it a challenge to increase the turnover of certified wood, since DLH is only a trading company and, therefore, normally has no direct influence on the forest management.

Other environmental commitments:

A number of activities are needed to fulfil our goals. Some are already being implemented and others are in the pipeline. Below you will find some of them listed:

- DLH will support legislative measures to combat illegal wood
- DLH will cooperate with EU, governments, timber federations and NGOs on eliminating illegal wood and promoting verification and certification schemes
- DLH does not trade in species listed on CITES appendix I and we only trade in species listed on CITES appendix II and III if the wood is approved by the authorities
- DLH supports protection of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) and will discuss this issue with our suppliers in regions where mapping of such areas has taken place and is generally accepted by the stakeholders
- DLH will promote use of lesser known timber species, including plantation timbers
- DLH respects UN and EU recommendations on trade measures with regard to controversial countries
- DLH addresses questions regarding human rights through our Good Supplier Project (GSP)
- DLH will commence an independent verification of the Good Supplier Project (GSP) in 2004
- DLH will support suppliers financially regarding verification and certification when feasible
- DLH will train and motivate our staff to work with environmental issues
- DLH will ensure a good working environment for DLH's employees worldwide in accordance with our Basic Values
- DLH will maintain a high level of information about our environmental activities and will have dialogues with major stakeholders on this
- DLH will revise this policy in 2008 at the latest



FSC accredited certification shows that the forest meets the FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship.

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Questions regarding the environmental policy of the DLH Group can be directed to DLH Forest and Environmental department.

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