

Newsletter

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London Build 2017

EARLIER this month, we exhibited in the Sustainability Zone at London Build 2017. Now in its third year, London Build is the UK's largest construction expo dedicated entirely to opportunities in London and the South of England. PEFC participated in the show to promote PEFC-certified timber to contractors, house builders, developers, architects and their clients.

PEFC UK's Executive Director Alun Watkins spoke at a Sustainability Summit workshop on the role of certified timber in Sustainable Construction. You can find his presentation on the PEFC website.

We also launched some new case studies at the show. These case studies aim to showcase projects where PEFC-certified timber had been used and to promote the benefits of timber as the sustainable construction material of choice. To obtain copies please e-mail info@pefc.co.uk



Main: Sky - Believe In Better Building

Inset: PEFC UK's Executive Director Alun Watkins

New CPD Module from TTF



THE Timber Trade Federation and Wood Campus have collaborated to create a CPD module focused on Sustainable Timber Procurement.

These free to use training sessions – available here <http://bit.ly/2zKvPTI> – cover all the important issues you need to be familiar with if you are to procure timber and wood-based products responsibly – Forest Legality and

Sustainability, Certification, Legal and UK Government Requirements and How to Specify Sustainable Timber.

Once all sections of the module have been completed successfully and your knowledge assessed, you will be able print your CPD certificate.

For further details click <http://bit.ly/2ib9ojC>

Government Commits to Timber



THE Government's Clean Growth Strategy <http://bit.ly/2xtSsLv> was published earlier this month. It set out government plans to help the UK meet its 2030 and 2050 emissions reductions targets – to ultimately reduce emissions by 80% on 1990 levels.

The document included draft plans – to be formalised within the scope of a new Agriculture Bill – to incentivise farmers and land managers to plant up to 130,000 hectares of new woodland. This would equate to 11 million new trees, to provide both carbon storage and timber for the UK's bioeconomy.

The strategy also included a pledge to set up a domestic carbon offset market to encourage businesses to invest in tree planting and to 'unlock private finance to invest in forestry' by establishing forestry investment zones, offering investors streamlined and faster decision making.

In addition to direct funding to support forest creation, the strategy also included a pledge

to increase the amount of UK timber used in construction. Further details were outlined with the publication of the Government's response to a report from the Commons Rural Affairs Committee

<http://bit.ly/2xv2dt1> on 17th

October. Drafted in July, this included a recommendation from Defra to incorporate a 'UK timber-first approach' into English housing procurement policy, in the context of the government's expansion of public sector housebuilding.

Defra also committed to work with the construction and forestry sectors to promote new product and market development for UK-produced timber (e.g. thermally modified wood, hardwood products for construction, and engineered timber products).

2018 Stakeholder Seminars

KEY personnel from certified companies such as Chain of Custody administrators, marketing and sales are invited to take part in one of two workshops we will be hosting in the New Year. The first will be held in London on 6 February 2018 and the second in Newcastle on 13 February 2018.

These half day seminars will cover a range of topics including Sustainable Forest Management, Chain of Custody certification, the use of the PEFC label and the market drivers for certified forest products. They are free to attend but places are strictly limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. To register your interest, please e-mail Julia Cobham at info@pefc.co.uk



Growth in Double Certification



EARLIER this year, PEFC and FSC agreed to jointly collect and publish data on double certification. More than 69 million hectares (16%) of the global certified forest area are currently dual certified to both PEFC and FSC. This is an increase of 30 million hectares since 2012. Removing double certification from the statistics shows that a total of 429 million hectares of forests are certified globally and 70% of these forests have a PEFC certificate.

One of the main reasons forest owners opt for double certification is to maintain market access. PEFC believes that the common goal should be to expand sustainable forest management and to increase the availability of certified forest products. Adding one label on top of another doesn't contribute to this objective.

End users such as retailers, brand owners and contractors have an important role to play in reducing demand for double certification. By developing inclusive procurement policies which accept both PEFC and FSC, they reduce the pressure on forest owners to double certify. This should enable precious financial resources to be focused on expanding certification to forests that are not yet certified to either the PEFC or FSC systems.

PEFC has prepared a short presentation on the differences and similarities between the PEFC and FSC sustainable forest management certification systems. It can be downloaded from the PEFC UK website: <http://bit.ly/2iFHiAM>

Abbey Wood Crossrail Station



THE new Crossrail station in Abbey Wood, South London has been topped off with a very distinctive roof design.

Austrian timber construction specialists, Wiehag, have installed engineered glulam panels made from PEFC-certified timber to form the iconic shape of the station's roof structure. The main

contractor on the project was Balfour Beatty Rail Projects Ltd and the architect was Fereday Pollard.

The specification of PEFC-certified timber for exciting projects such as this offers assurances of responsible procurement and provides a natural and renewable alternative to steel and concrete.

Royal Forestry Society 2017 Awards

THE winner of this year's RFS Excellence in Forestry Education and Learning Award was Hill Holt Wood, Lincolnshire, for The Study Programme. The award seeks to recognise schools, colleges and universities who increase awareness, understanding and skills related to the environmental, social and economic potential of trees, woodlands and forests, and demonstrate the link between trees and wood products.

Hill Holt Wood introduces young people to the positive role woodlands can play in our lives. They offer two pathways – a land based course and a Heritage wood craft course which offer qualifications at Levels 1 and 2. A recent Ofsted report said of the programme; "Learners develop a good range of employment related skills by working in woodlands and the local community".

PEFC UK was proud to sponsor this award for the seventh consecutive year. The Royal

Forestry Society is the UK's largest forestry education charity. It was founded in 1882 and now has almost 4,000 members.



PEFC's Alun Watkins congratulates Ben Wilson and Samantha Marshall from Hill Holt Wood on their award.

PEFC Annual Review of 2016

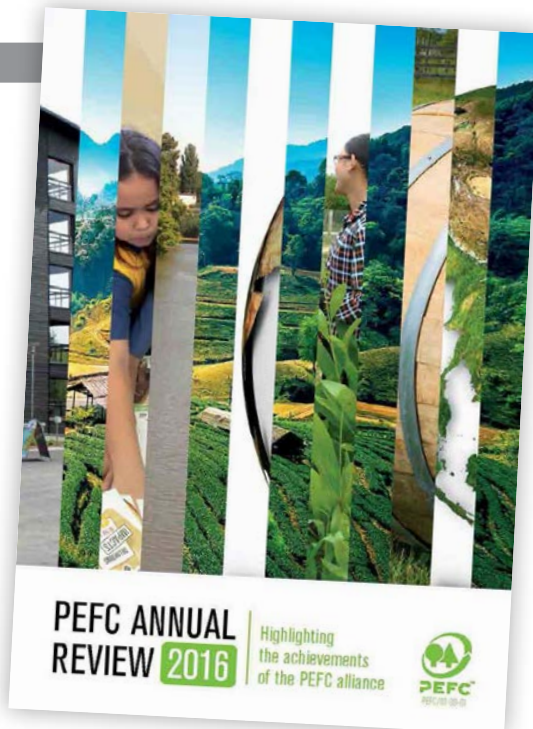
THE PEFC Annual Review showcases the work undertaken by PEFC members and the growth of the alliance around the globe. In 2016 PEFC welcomed new national members from Ghana, Hungary, Macedonia, Republic of Korea, Romania and Thailand. These new members join a fantastic network of organisations, and many of their activities are featured in the Review.

Last year saw the start of the revision process of our Sustainability Benchmarks – the standards that form the basis for nearly

all our activities. The world changes, best practice and knowledge evolve and society's expectations grow. So, PEFC must ensure our standards reflect such changes. This process will take more than two years, affect the majority of our standards, and involve hundreds of experts and thousands of stakeholders.

To find out more about PEFC's work in 2016 visit:

<http://bit.ly/2gK4CsM>



PEFC UK COMPANY SPOTLIGHT Community Playthings

EAST Sussex based company Community Playthings, designs and manufactures a range of furniture and play equipment for primary schools and nurseries. They started making children's building bricks out of solid wood back in 1947 and have never looked back.

The company has committed to responsible sourcing. All of the wood used to make their products is Chain of Custody certified. The company invested in certification to ensure that they weren't contributing to deforestation. This is just one of the measures the company has committed to in order to safeguard the



environment for the benefit of present and future generations.

www.communityplaythings.co.uk

Meet PEFC UK

PEFC International Stakeholder Dialogue

16-17 November 2017

Helsinki, Finland

www.pefc.co.uk

PEFC UK Stakeholder Seminar

6 February 2018

London

www.pefc.co.uk

PEFC UK Stakeholder Seminar

13 February 2018

Newcastle

www.pefc.co.uk

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Please call Alun for all general enquiries and queries about Chain of Custody and use of the PEFC logo.

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