

Certiably sustainable: Decorative hardwood flooring from the native forests of NSW

Australian Solar Timbers of West Kempsey is the first sawmill and manufacturing facility in New South Wales to provide certified solid hardwood flooring under the Australian Forest Certification Scheme.

Decorative hardwood flooring, from sustainably managed native forests, which has had its primary and secondary processing monitored by a chain of custody certification, is now a reality.

Geoff Gorrie, Chair of Australian Forestry Standard Limited which owns and manages the Australian Forest Certification Scheme, spoke at the launch of the certified hardwood flooring in West Kempsey today.

“I would like to offer Australian Solar Timbers congratulations from Australian Forestry Standard Limited on achieving chain of custody certification under the Australian Forest Certification Scheme,” Mr Gorrie said.

“Companies like Australian Solar Timbers are adopting these standards for certification because they believe that it will add to the marketability of their products and improve the bottom line.

“Certification provides recognition as a highly respected corporate citizen and it also makes good business sense,” he said.

The hardwood flooring that is manufactured on site at the West Kempsey facility is sourced from Forests NSW who have been certified to AS 4708 *The Australian Forestry Standard* – the national standard for sustainable forest management for native forests and plantations.

Australian Solar Timbers have had their raw material procurement, the manufacturing processes and the company’s quality and management systems audited against AS 4707—2006 *Chain of custody for certified wood and forest products* by an independent, third-party certification body in order to receive the certificate under the Australian Standard®.

By achieving chain of custody certification under the Australian Forest Certification Scheme, Australian Solar Timbers can now market their products with the use of the AFS logo or, if to an international market, under the PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes) logo which provides immediate recognition in many global markets.

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