



## Forest Product Reporting 2010

As a member of WWF's Global Forest and Trade Network in the UK since 1995, Boots UK is committed to progressively sourcing forest products from well managed sources. To monitor our progress, we collect as much information on our supply chain sources as possible, and categorise this to enable us to identify where any risks of poor sourcing may lie, and to eliminate them systematically from our supply chain into the UK market.

The new EU Regulation to limit the trade in illegal timber, which comes into full effect on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2013 provides a baseline of legality as a minimum for forest goods entering the European market and reaching consumers. Our business wants to make sure that we are playing our part in reducing the UK footprint on global forest resources, and increase the level of sustainable sourcing.

To highlight the change we have achieved so far, to draw attention to the challenges that remain in order to meet the EU regulation, and to exceed the requirements of the regulation by sourcing sustainably and identify our priorities in doing so, we are publishing the status of our supply chain for forest goods as we have established it so far, according to the WWF Global Forest and Trade Network categorisation of forest goods.

We hope our decision to be transparent about our performance on forest sourcing will prompt others in the sector to do the same, and initiate discussion about how business can overcome the remaining challenges in partnership with other stakeholders, including government.

We encourage all forest certification systems to continuously improve their performance in delivering responsible forest management. At present, WWF and GFTN participants believe FSC represents the gold standard and a credible benchmark for other forest certification schemes to match, and it remains our preference to increasingly source from credibly certified forests or verified recycled sources.

Our status for the forest products reported for the 2010 calendar year is as follows;

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| 0.06%  | No information on origin   |
| 6.81%  | Known origin but no legality verification possible                                       |
| 29.81% | Legal origin confirmed (including e.g. PEFC purchased with Chain of Custody)             |
| 0%     | In the process of becoming credibly certified  |
| 61.74% | Credibly Certified with Full Chain of Custody (e.g. FSC purchased with Chain of Custody) |
| 1.06%  | Pre-consumer Recycled  |
| 0.51%  | Post-consumer Recycled   |

### Link to Responsible Sourcing Policy

[http://www.boots-uk.com/App\\_Portal/BootsUK/Media/PDFs/CSR%202010/Policy%20on%20Wood%20Paper%20and%20Pulp%20Sourcing%20Is5.pdf](http://www.boots-uk.com/App_Portal/BootsUK/Media/PDFs/CSR%202010/Policy%20on%20Wood%20Paper%20and%20Pulp%20Sourcing%20Is5.pdf)

### Scope of reporting

- All Boots branded or exclusive forest products for resale, and those for internal use, excluding packaging materials

### Challenges

- 1) Boots UK sources a wide range of products and materials using a broad cross section of suppliers from large multi-national organisations to small family run businesses. Many suppliers are based in foreign countries, particularly in the Far East. We need to ensure that our suppliers understand and can meet our requirements for traceability and legality of supply of forest products.
- 2) Availability and continuity for supply of certified forest products can be challenging as market conditions change and demand grows in anticipation of the EU Illegal Timber Regulation in 2013.
- 3) Ensuring that our global supplier base is aware of and are able to comply with the EU Illegal Timber Regulation in 2013.

### Priorities:

- 1) Implementing our overarching sustainable sourcing strategy which will consolidate our existing materials strategies such as those for forest products, palm oil, and animal welfare. This will cover all raw materials and packaging for Boots branded or exclusive products, and goods for internal use.
- 2) Deliver annual targets to increase the proportion of materials from certified sources in line with WWF GFTN expectations and meet our agreed WWF target to increase the percentage of FSC certified material to 70% by end 2011/12.
- 3) Ensuring that all natural materials used in Boots branded or exclusive products and goods for internal use are traceable back to primary sources by 2012/13.