

A joint commitment to sustainable development

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The Nordic wood products industry, sawmills and woodworking industries, comprises a very large number of companies, from the smallest producers to large Nordic companies trading internationally. Most companies are members of our three major national organisations: Wood Focus Oy (Finland), Swedish Wood Association (Sweden) and Norwegian Sawmill Industries Association (Norway).

Our ambition is to deepen industry and public understanding of the environmental benefits of wood and the rationale for making wood the 'material of choice' in a sustainable society. We are committed to explaining the operating methods of our industry and to strengthening the environmental improvements we continuously undertake.

This environmental position paper is an important step in the process of knowledge sharing with all relevant stakeholders about how wood can contribute to sustainability.

Environmental Position Paper

Reduction of green house gases

We respect the overall objectives of the Kyoto Protocol and we are convinced that wood products can make an important contribution to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. We will develop and promote wood-based solutions as a contribution to the European Union's collective commitment to decrease carbon dioxide emissions.

Commitment to sustainable forestry

Our commitment is that the wood products industry should only use raw materials from sustainable managed forests. We support initiatives in the forestry and the wood industry sectors to verify sustainable forest management practices through credible third party certification systems.

Use of renewable resources

We are promoting the enhanced use of renewable resources. We will inform all our stakeholders about how wood products can be used to minimise the use of finite resources and will also keep them informed about how wood products can be managed after the end of their service life, either for material recycling or energy recovery.

Develop energy efficient methods and systems

We will continuously support the development of energy efficient production and transportation systems for wood products. The objective is that the industry should mainly use renewable energy sources. We will also increase and share knowledge about wood products and solutions that fulfil energy use standards for buildings.

Increase Environmental research and development

We will strengthen the environmental aspects of research and development projects, in particular to improve building systems and environmentally friendly methods for coating and treating of wood products, with a view to minimising the use of harmful substances and maximising the recycling of such substances.

Wood Focus OY Swedish Wood Association Norwegian Sawmill Industries Association