FOREST CERTIFICATION IN CANADA

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The Canadian Context

- Canada has one of the **world's strongest regulatory framework**s for forestry, and enforces it

- Against that backdrop of high standards, **voluntary certification** provides an extra layer of assurance of well-managed forests

- Canadian governments **recognize CSA, FSC, and SFI** certification systems

- Within those systems there are really **2 types of certification**

Certification of Forest Management

Assurance that forests are sustainably managed

www.bcforestinformation.com

Certification of Chain of Custody

A Chain of Custody:

- Provides a measure of the portion of a forest product that has been sourced **from a certified forest**
- Provides assurance that any **uncertified portion is from legal and non-controversial sources.**
- Provides the ability to use **product labels** and make promotional claims

Standards Recognized

CSA (Canadian Standards Association)

- Canada's National Standard, next iteration currently out for public review
- New standard for woodlots (March 2008)

FSC (Forest Stewardship Council)

- 4 regional standards in Canada (one is under development)
- Revised Chain of Custody standard (Nov 2007)

SFI (Sustainable Forestry Initiative)

- Growing in forests certified & chain of custody certificates, improving customer acceptance
- Development for next version (2010-2014) starts June 2008 with a 60 day open comment period

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Mutual Recognition of Forest Certification Programs

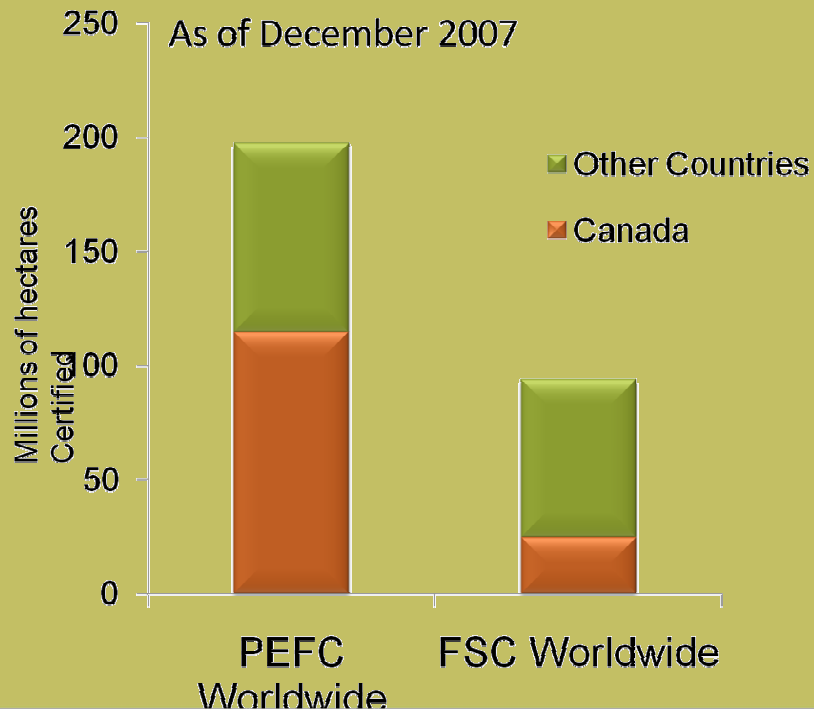FSC International

GLOBAL "UMBRELLA' PROGRAMS"

STANDARDS ENDORSED IN CANADA

4 Standards in Canada
(includes one under development)

PEFC & FSC Certification - Globally

As of December 2007

Chart showing millions of hectares certified, comparing PEFC Worldwide and FSC Worldwide, broken down by Canada (orange) and Other Countries (green).

Y-axis: Millions of hectares Certified (0 to 250)

- PEFC Worldwide: Canada ~115, Other Countries up to ~197
- FSC Worldwide: Canada ~23, Other Countries up to ~93

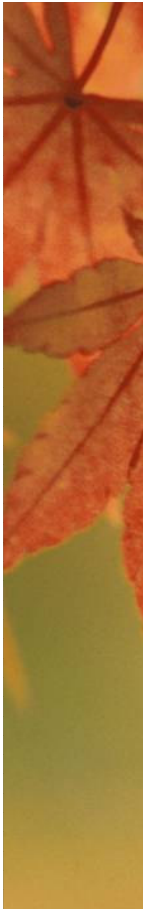Legend:
- Other Countries
- Canada

Key Common Elements

Performance:

CSA, FSC and SFI standards all promote the principles, criteria and objectives that are viewed as the basis of sustainable forest management around the world:

– All laws are obeyed
– No wood from unauthorized or illegal sources
– Sustainable harvest levels are ensured
– Harvested areas are reforested

Key Common Elements

Performance:

- Conserve Biological Diversity
- Maintain Wildlife Habitat and Species Diversity
- Protect / Maintain Special Sites
- Maintain Soil and Water Resources
- Protect Forestlands from Deforestation and Conversion
- Aboriginal Rights and/or Involvement
- Protection of Worker Rights

Key Common Elements

Public Participation:

- Require public disclosure (of audit results and other documents)
- Public dialogue (public comments during review periods, and/or an ongoing basis)
- Involve, and are supported by, conservation groups

Systems / Processes

- Audit of Forest Planning and Practices
- Accredited Certification Bodies
- Social, economic & environmental representation in decision-making

Key Common Elements

Chain of Custody

– Certification of a Chain of Custody is available to complement Forest Certification.

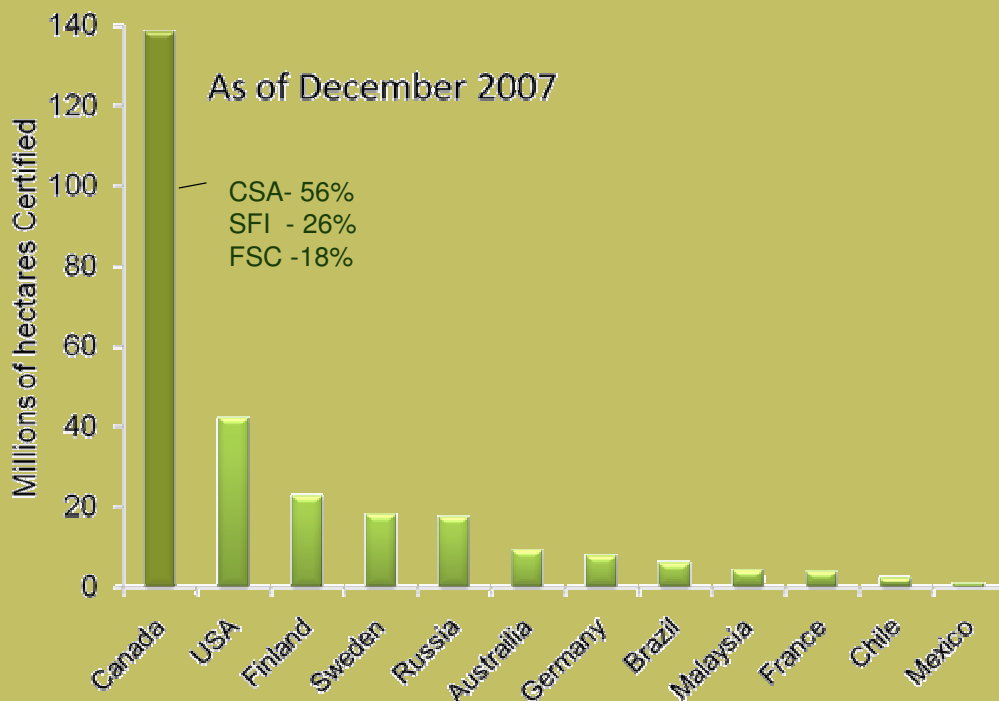 – Verifies the origins of wood products

Labels

– Labels available to mark products with that have a valid Chain of Custody certification and meet specific label use requirements.

Achievements

– The amount of land certified in Canada has grown rapidly

– Virtually every major forest company has now achieved certification…   and certification is becoming a priority for small forestry operators and private land owners

– The fact that there is a choice of standards makes certification more likely, and this strengthens forest management

– Certified forests now cover Canada from coast to coast

Forest Certification - Globally

Millions of hectares Certified

As of December 2007

CSA- 56%
SFI - 26%
FSC -18%

Countries (left to right): Canada, USA, Finland, Sweden, Russia, Australia, Germany, Brazil, Malaysia, France, Chile, Mexico

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Choosing Certified Products

In North America:

CSA, FSC and SFI are supported by governments, and recognized in the procurement strategies of retailers such as Centex Homes, BMHC, Hallmark Cards, Lowes, Office Depot, Staples, and Times/AOL

Globally:

French, German, Japanese, New Zealand, Swiss, United Kingdom, EU Parliament all consider FSC and PEFC certified wood legal and sustainable
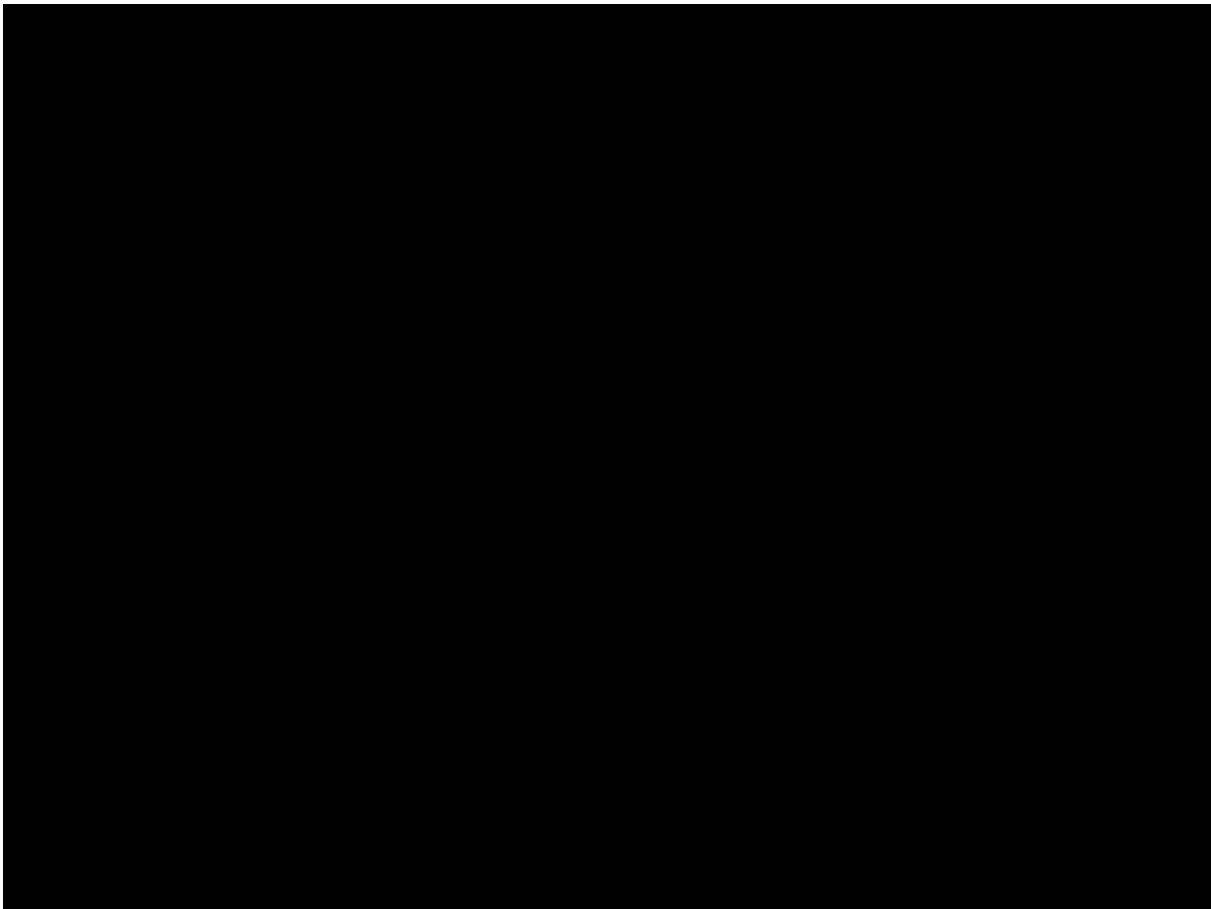
Supporting Sustainable Forest Management

The major forest certification standards recognized in Canada **all promote sustainable forest management** and provide assurance of well-managed forests (CSA, FSC, SFI)
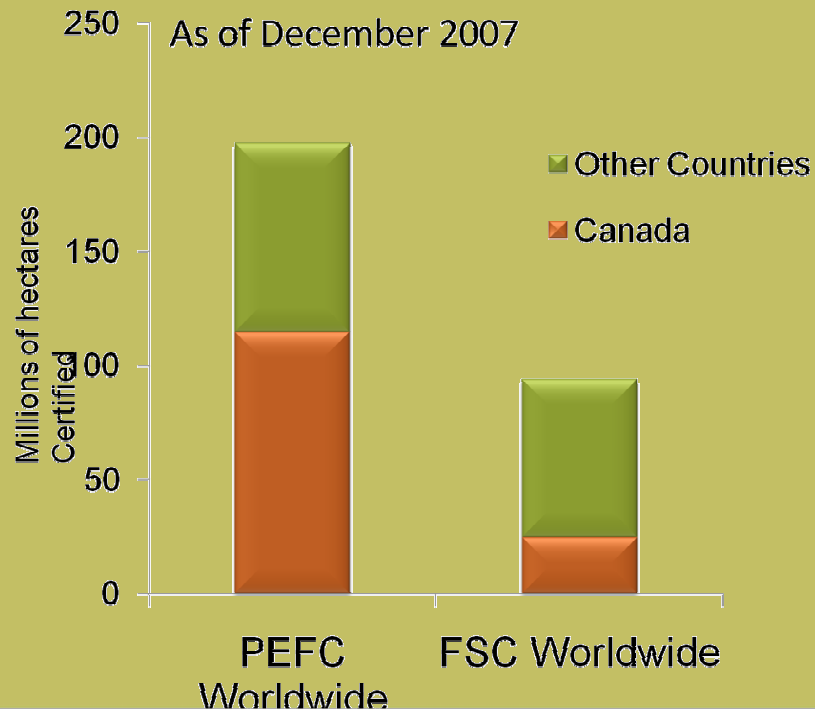
Maintaining a choice in certification standards and a **free market improves global forest management standards** (competition has been good)

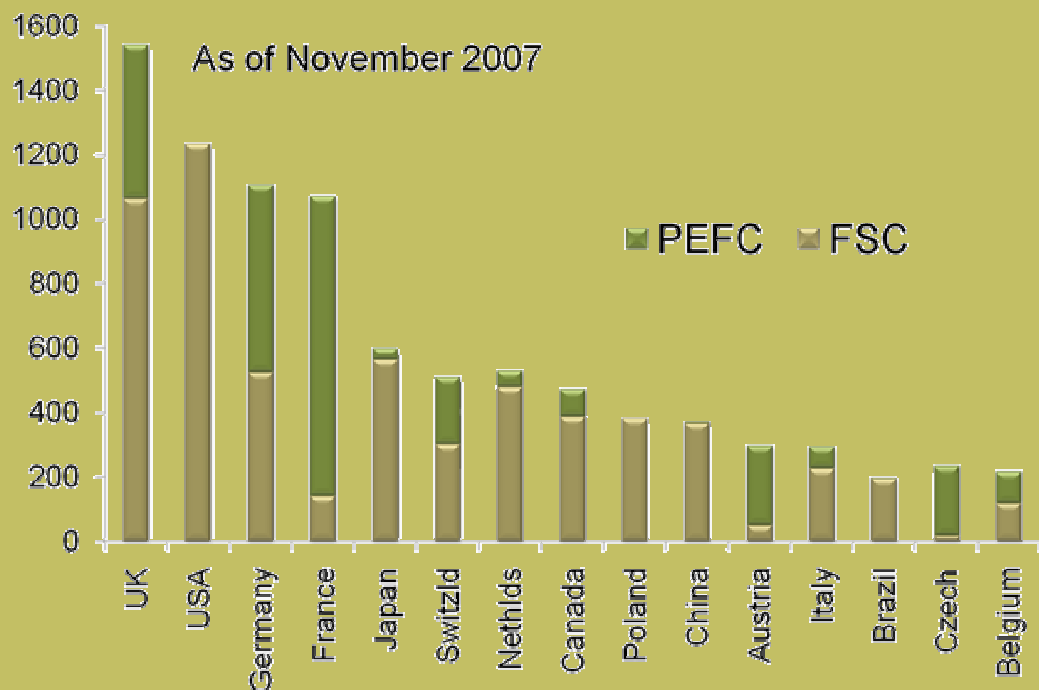Focus on the **90%** of the world's forests that are **not certified**

Recognize **Good Wood**

PEFC & FSC Certification - Globally

As of December 2007

Millions of hectares Certified

- Other Countries
- Canada

PEFC Worldwide

FSC Worldwide

FSC & PEFC Chain of Custody Certificates

As of November 2007

PEFC   FSC

UK, USA, Germany, France, Japan, Switzld, Nethlds, Canada, Poland, China, Austria, Italy, Brazil, Czech, Belgium