ENVIRONMENTAL TIMBER POLICY

The Environmental Timber Policy defines the ethical and responsible conduct that brands should uphold and sets common operating rules.

This policy notably covers timber purchases and sales which could involve specific challenges and risks. It is within this context that the timber policy reflects the commitment of the Building Distribution Sector and its brands which purchase timber products from various countries, to be recognized as a group of responsible businesses.

It is in the Building Distribution Sector’s objective to bring positive contributions at various levels in the supply chain: protection of forest biodiversity and local populations upstream, develop more sustainable products for end-users in its own markets.

This policy is based on two principles:
• Responsible purchasing,
• Responsible selling.

RESPONSIBLE PURCHASING FOCUSES ON 3 AREAS

1. Protection of biodiversity and local populations
   • Analyzing the degree of species vulnerability leads us to adapt our purchasing policy accordingly,
   • Refuse to sell timber from countries in contravention of international conventions or good forestry practices.

2. Assurance of timber legality, in accordance with European Regulation FLEGT. Our product traceability commits us to:
   • Obtaining proof from suppliers that timber comes from legal operations,
   • Establish a due diligence system.

3. Promotion for certified or responsibly managed timber
   • This means each year promoting certified timber (FSC, PEFC...) as well as local timber sourcing.

RESPONSIBLE SELLING FOCUSES ON 3 AREAS

1. Training & involving our sales force in this process.

2. Certifying our sales outlets (FSC and PEFC).

3. Informing our customers and providing them with all necessary indications on products being offered.

The Environmental Timber Policy of the Building Distribution Sector of Saint-Gobain applied to its branches will be reviewed on a regular basis. This is an open-ended continuous improvement process, with planned and quantified commitments.

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Kåre O. MALO
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