

ETHICAL SOURCING

Amid concerns of illegal logging, smuggling and corruption around the harvesting of exotic woods such as Merbau, Karelia continues to offer this wood to customers.

Much research has been conducted by Karelia with regard to this controversial exotic wood, and they wish to inform customers that they procure this raw material in good conscience:

- ❖ While 80% of merbau harvested is illegal, legal merbau is also readily available

Karelia requires a minimum of 2 Chain of Custody certificates from suppliers to ensure the origin of raw material.

- ❖ Certificate covering the delivery of logs from forests to sawmill.
- ❖ Certificate covering the delivery of strips from sawmills to shipping companies
- ❖ Both certificates are endorsed by the PEFC and FSC and are approved by Indonesia's BRIK Endorsement System based on mandatory process stipulated in Indonesian rules and regulations as:
 1. Ensuring timber supply from legal sources.
 2. Establishment of timber industries database
 3. Providing inputs to the government
 4. Implementation of ETPIK (Registered Forest Industry Products Exporters) to all forestry industries.
 5. Establishment of serving mechanism, monitoring, and evaluation of ETPIK
 6. Efficiency and product diversification

Through its Chain-of-Custody (COC) Program, PEFC certifies manufacturers and importers who handle wood from forests managed according to PEFC standards. To become COC certified, companies must maintain adequate inventory control systems to track the purchase; separation and identification of certified from non-certified product and submit to audits.

Sustainable forestry balances economic and ecological needs by providing an alternative to destructive forms of forest exploitation such as uncontrolled logging and/or conversion to agriculture/livestock. The FSC criteria aim to provide a continuous yield of quality forest products while preserving the essential biological and ecological integrity of a healthy, self-perpetuating forest. Some of the basic elements of Sustainable Forestry, in brief, include:

- Ecological Balance

Forest management must strive to maintain the habitats of all native plant and animal species.

- Long Term Forestry Management & Tenure

Forestry operations must have in place long-term management plans with clear sustainable objectives supported by long term land tenure.

Soil, Water, Critical Habitat Conservation

All operations must take into account and minimize negative soil and water / fishery / watershed impact as well as safeguard habitat sites / zones.

- Sustainable yield

The amount of timber removed from a given area must not exceed the amount that will grow in the interval between harvests.

- Social responsibility

Indigenous peoples, workers and local communities must benefit from the forest management practices.

Learn more, get involved.

www.pefc.org | www.fsc.org | www.realwood.eu