

Monday 23 November 2015

FORICO AWARDED FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL CERTIFICATION

Forico Pty Limited is proud to announce that it has been awarded Forest Stewardship Council Forest Management Certification covering almost 180,000 hectares of plantation and natural forests under Forico management control in Tasmania.

The FSC FM Certificate SA-FM/COC-004896 is effective November 20, 2015 for a 5 year period subject to successful annual surveillance audits. The certificate covers Forico's plantation management and harvesting as well as the company's management of 80,000 hectares of natural forest conservation reserves.

Forico CEO Bryan Hayes said, "This is a significant strategic achievement for our company, our staff and for stakeholders in our business. We particularly thank all the external stakeholders who contributed submissions directly to Forico and to our auditing and certifying body, Soil Association Woodmark."

"This certification has required more than a year of hard work, including updated forest management planning and improved operational practices, and is testament to our people and the very high standards of forest management we aspire to achieve as we build our plantation based wood fibre business in Tasmania".

"We consider FSC FM Certification to be the pinnacle in external third party accreditation of forest management standards and it is increasingly required by our customers in overseas markets."

Chair of the Forico Board and CEO of New Forests, Dr David Brand, commended Forico management and staff on the achievement and its importance to global investors. "Our investors include major superannuation and pension funds and they want assurance that their funds are invested responsibly. Independent third party certification of environmental and social performance is a key part of our investment approach," he said.

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About Forico

Forico Pty Limited (www.forico.com.au) is the management company established by New Forests to manage a 180,000 ha estate in Tasmania, comprising 100,000 ha of plantations and 80,000 ha of natural vegetation. The annual sustained yield of wood fibre from the plantations is 1.5 M gmt pa. The assets include 2 woodchip mills, a seedling nursery and a fibre technology laboratory. Forico is based in Launceston, Tasmania.

About New Forests

New Forests (www.newforests.com.au) is a sustainable real assets investment manager offering leading-edge strategies in forestry, land management, and conservation. Founded in 2005, the company offers institutional investors targeted opportunities in the Asia-Pacific region and the United States and has more than AUD 2.75 billion in assets under management. New Forests' clients include pension funds, superannuation funds, and other institutional investors. The company is headquartered in Sydney, Australia with offices in Singapore and San Francisco. For further information please contact MaryKate Bullen, mbullen@newforests.com.au, Direct: +61 (02) 9406 4100, Mobile: +65 9661 2799.