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ACE Response to Greenpeace Report¹ on Illegal Timber Trade with Russia

Combating illegal logging is a priority objective of ACE's beverage carton manufacturing companies – SIG Combibloc, Elopak and Tetra Pak - and their paper board suppliers - Korsnäs and Stora Enso.

Together, they take all practical steps to ensure the legality of the wood they use by means of a third party verified traceability system. This system, which traces all the wood used in beverage cartons back to its forest of origin, is applied in the EU and in other wood supplying regions including Russia.

Furthermore, ACE member companies rely on independent certification - by the FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) and the PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes) – to ensure that the wood they use comes from controlled and acceptable sources.

If evidence shows that illegal timber has been detected, ACE members will take appropriate action immediately.

Jorgen Haglund, the spokesman for Tetra Pak says “we share Greenpeace’s wish for sustainably managed forests, an objective towards which we have worked for many years. We ensure our products do not use illegal logging through traceability and certification schemes verified by third parties. Most recently, we have committed to the Tikhvin Project² which aims to improve social and responsible management and transparency in the wood supply chain in Russia, in particular in the Karelian region, where Transparency International is one of the Project’s observers”.

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For more information about ACE, our members and our initiatives please visit our website at www.ace.be.

¹ <http://www.greenpeace.org/forests/illegal-logging-finn-russia>

² <http://www.tikhvinproject.ru/>