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Jiangxi Province 江西省 Jiāngxī Shěng

SCS expands its FSC Certification into China

Hecheng Bamboo Forest in Jiangxi Province receives Certification

September 28, 2009 – Emeryville, CA – Scientific Certification Systems (SCS), a pioneer in third-party auditing and certification of forest management operations, has awarded Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification to Jiangxi Nanfang Linchang Co., Ltd. SCS, in partnership with Green Panel Consulting of China, conducted an FSC certification evaluation of the Hecheng Bamboo Forest in the Province of Jiangxi of the People's Republic of China. Jiangxi Province spans an area from the banks of the Yangtze River in the north to the hill region in the south.

In March 2009, an interdisciplinary team of forestry, natural resource and social scientists was empanelled by SCS to conduct the evaluation of the Hecheng project. The lead auditor for SCS, Dr. S. K. Yap, oversaw both desk and field-based assessment activities. The team assessed conformance to the 56 criteria required for FSC certification.

"Jiangxi Nanfang Linchang Company is the first FSC Forest Management certification that Scientific Certification Systems has issued in China," said Dr. Robert J. Hrubes, SCS Senior Vice President. "We are very pleased to be able to add to our international scope by providing services in this region."

The mixed forest area is managed by Jiangxi Nanfang Linchang Company to optimize production of the 2,103.9 hectares of monopedial bamboo species of *Phyllostachys pubescens*, which has been established over many decades. Since 2004, the company has been contracted by the government and local communities to conduct harvesting and reforestation activities. The harvesting of bamboo is done manually, causing minimal impact on the forest.

About Scientific Certification Systems

SCS is a third-party certification and assessment body headquartered in Emeryville, California. In 1991, SCS established one of the world's first independent certification programs to recognize responsible forest management practices, and later was one of the first certifiers to be accredited

under the newly formed FSC program. To date, SCS has certified more than 30 million acres of natural forests and plantations and has issued over 2,000 FSC-endorsed chain-of-custody certificates in the wood and paper products sector.

For more information, visit www.scs-certified.com/forestry or call 510-452-8000.

About Green Panel Consulting

Green Panel Consulting (GPC) founded in 2003. Based on numerous years of professional experience in the wood based panel industry, GPC has a comprehensive awareness of global market. GPC's professional consulting and certification services include European Certification CE marking, California Air Resources Board (CARB), Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Programme for the endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC) and China's Environmental Labeling Certification program services. GPC is committed to delivering services centering on sustainable practices.

For more information, please visit www.woodbasedpanel.com or call 86-10-84238148.

About FSC

FSC is a nonprofit organization devoted to encouraging the responsible management of the world's forests. Independent certification organizations are accredited by FSC to carry out assessments of forest management to determine if standards have been met. To date, over 29 million acres of forestland in the U.S. and over 254 million acres globally have been FSC certified.

For more information, please visit www.fscus.org.