



30 August 2016

## **APRIL Welcomes FLEGT Licensing for Indonesian Forest Products**

APRIL Group is pleased to acknowledge the approval of the European Commission's proposal to extend European Union's (EU) Forestry Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (FLEGT) license to Indonesia's forest products.

Under a FLEGT license, SVLK-certified Indonesian forestry products now automatically meet EU timber regulations, with no further due diligence required. This delivers a competitive edge, making Indonesian exports to the EU more efficient and less costly for importers and exporters. APRIL holds SVLK certifications for its pulp and paper products, while the first FLEGT licences are expected to be issued by Indonesia before the end of 2016.

Indonesia is the first country to implement the FLEGT license, which represents a strong endorsement of its timber legality system while recognising strong trade relationship between the EU and Indonesia. This development is good news for the Indonesian forestry sector and its EU customers, removing administrative obstacles and providing further assurance as to verified timber legality.

The EU is a major importer of Indonesian forest products alongside China, Japan and the Republic of Korea. Paper, paper board, wooden furniture and plywood are the main commodities imported by member countries, accounting for US\$645 million worth of Indonesian forestry products in 2014. The Government of Indonesia expects this value to increase to US\$ 1.1 billion once all FLEGT licenses are issued as a result of the reduced complexity faced by importers and the consistent product quality of Indonesian forest products.

The EU is an important market for APRIL Group, where we have many long-standing, valued customer relationships. A FLEGT license will enable APRIL Group to quickly meet growth in demand and increase the speed to market for new, premium pulp and paper products.

If you have any questions about this topic or APRIL Group's commitment to timber legality and sustainable forestry, please get in touch with the contacts listed below, or you can read more about this initiative at <http://www.euflegt.efi.int/indonesia>.

For customer queries, please contact:

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