



Press Release
For immediate release

**Helveta and Tropical Forest Trust announce Soil Association
Woodmark as an exclusive audit partner**

September 15th 2005: Chain of custody, traceability and online audit & reporting system for timber supply chains - Global chain of custody system for wood traceability

- Real time remote wood compliance checking and reporting
- Remote audit reporting and analysis
- Stakeholder reporting of traceability across the supply chain
- Online Group Certification
- Handheld based forestry management data acquisition

Oxford & Bristol, UK & Geneva, Switzerland - xxth June 2005 - Following the successful launch of TracElite-Always On, the online application service for analysis of forestry and chain of custody data to remotely verify and assure wood origin compliance, Helveta and the Tropical Forest Trust (TFT) have announced today that the Soil Association will be an exclusive auditor of TracElite.

Kevin Jones, Manager of the Soil Association Woodmark Global FSC certification programme said: "We see reliable tracking and tracing of timber as a key element

in the battle against uncontrolled logging, deforestation and the consequent damage that this can do to both the environment and forest dependent communities. The TracElite partnership provides a solution for managers seeking to make reliable claims about the origin of timber. TracElite is the ideal complement to the range of capacity building and verification services that we will be providing to forest managers to encourage progress towards full FSC certification of responsible forest management."

Scott Poynton, Executive Director of TFT, said "Being able to say, hand on heart, that you know exactly where your wood comes from is an increasingly important part of the wood products business. Document sets, good or otherwise, just aren't enough any more. This unique partnership means that TracElite users will know, at any point in time, exactly where their wood is and exactly where it came from. It's great news for everyone who wants to do good business and will really help in the fight against the global scourge of illegal logging."

Patrick Newton, CEO of Helveta, said: "We see this launch as a key element of our end users' plans for sustainable development. Our remote stakeholder reporting allows users to identify compliance across the whole of their supply chain and to demonstrate status at any point to their key stakeholders."

Helveta and Tropical Forest Trust are pleased to announce that the Soil Association will be undertaking audit of the system's chain of custody management to ensure that timber of verifiable origin reaches buyers across the world.

The Soil Association will also make full use of the system's remote audit functionality to help bring down costs when auditing those TracElite suppliers working towards FSC certification.

TracElite provides transparency on timber transactions across the globe and is a key resource, for buyers looking to secure timber of verifiable origin from suppliers who are either FSC certified or who are working towards certification.

Tropical Forest Trust provide chain of custody and compliance verification services as a core component of TracElite-Always On.

Helveta is the system manager of TracElite-Always On. TracElite is an application of Helveta Control Intelligence Systems (CIS) technology. CIS analyses forestry and chain of custody data to remotely verify and assure good wood compliance. In the event that a potential non-compliance is identified, TFT, stakeholders and auditors are automatically notified.

About The Soil Association

The Soil Association is a UK based environmental non-governmental organisation (NGO) founded in 1946. The Soil Association was created to 'research, develop, and promote sustainable relationships between the soil, plants, animals, people and the biosphere, while protecting and enhancing the environment'. Since its foundation the Soil Association has pioneered practical solutions to promote sustainable use of land and natural resources. The Soil Association's organic certification scheme for products and producers is now the largest in Britain.

Soil Association was one of the first Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) - accredited certification bodies and has a long track record of carrying out certification assessments of forest enterprises and the timber processing industry, as well as training and capacity building in certification. www.soilassociation.org/forestry.

About Tropical Forest Trust

The Tropical Forest Trust (TFT) is working to transform the international trade in tropical hardwood into an agent for forest conservation. The TFT was established with the specific purpose of fulfilling two prerequisites: (a) raised awareness of what forest certification involves and what its multiple advantages are, and (b) practical engagement in partnership with forest managers to help them progress step by step to FSC certification.

The TFT links the supply chain from producing members through supplying members - who manufacture and/or trade in wood products that are sold to buying members.

About Helveta Ltd

Helveta Limited (www.helveta.com) enables the prediction and prevention of environmental and production problems for Blue Chip and Fortune 1000 companies through analysis of real-time data from client physical assets anywhere in the world. The company's unique Control Intelligence System deploys a sophisticated library of analytics to asset data to predict and prevent business issues such as regulatory non-compliance, production outages and equipment failure. The company has customers in major corporate industrial markets including Energy, Utilities, Agriculture and Chain of Custody. Helveta is a privately held company with offices in the UK and the US.

For further information please contact:

Helen Hayward - t: 01235 838558 e: helen.hayward@helveta.com