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**Press Release**  
For immediate release

**Get On The Right Track With TTAP Support**

September 17<sup>th</sup> 2005: Are you daunted by the growing market demands to deliver verified legal timber? The Timber Trade Action Plan (TTAP) intends to alleviate some of the difficulties and cost incurred when attempting to implement a firm control over timber origin and the supply chain. It aims to provide practical solutions and support to timber importers, processors and forest concessions facing such problems. TTAP is a partnership of the UK, Dutch and Belgian Timber Trade Federations, the Tropical Forest Trust, the Malaysian Timber Council and Mulawarman University, Indonesia. Executive management of the project is vested in the Tropical Forest Trust.

**Project Quick Facts:**

- Developed for companies sourcing from Indonesia, Malaysia, Cameroon, Gabon and Congo Brazzaville and for companies selling from these countries to the EU.
- Offers practical advice and technical training, available for both importers and suppliers.
- A EUR3.5 million European Commission grant means that the TTAP is able to cover up to 72 percent of the cost of training and advice.

- Members of a participating timber trade federation or the Tropical Forest Trust will input into the project's development of self-regulation processes, helping suppliers to plan for legislation.
- Confirms participating companies' commitment to FLEGT (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade).
- Assures importers access to verified legal timber from suppliers, following a stepwise plan and helps suppliers strengthen their trading relations.

How the co-financing scheme works:

Initial assessments, training and end of implementation audits are all carried out by the TTAP team. Each supply chain is free to select their own timber tracking/Chain of Custody system, as long as it meets the basic project criteria. A number of factors effect the cost of delivery, but participating companies or federations can pay as little as 28 percent of the actual cost.

TTAP services include:

- An assessment of your supply chain.
- Identification of the weak spots where illegal timber is most likely to enter.
- An action plan that recommends ways to strengthen overall timber tracking proficiencies and verification.
- For selected supply chains, training and capital support to enable to implementation of chain of custody.

The aim is to devise a step-by-step process of implementing a Chain of Custody system, where the specific system is chosen by you and your supply chain.

This is where TracElite can help. TracElite:

- Allows timber to be tracked electronically.
- Offers complete traceability and transparency throughout the entire supply chain.
- Captures product data using a handheld device and barcode tagging procedure.
- Synchronizes data to a centralized online reporting and audit system.
- Uses a rules engine that makes checks and balances at all points in the supply chain.
- Creates automatic alerts when a non-compliance occurs.
- Also provides tools to optimize business operations.

Developed with the Tropical Forest Trust and Soil Association Woodmark, TracElite works alongside Chain of Custody certification, whose business rules are at the heart of the TracElite rules engine. TracElite can be used to aid the overall process of implementing CoC.

How to get involved in TTAP:

- Apply directly to your timber trade federation if they are a TTAP partner.
- If your federation is not involved, it is still worth contacting a TTAP partner to find out the best way to get involved.
- Contact the TTAP Manager, Emily Fripp, to find out more information. Email: [ttap@tropicalforesttrust.com](mailto:ttap@tropicalforesttrust.com). Tel: +44 (0) 1329 833443.

### **About TracElite**

TracElite ([www.tracelite.com](http://www.tracelite.com)) provides mapping, traceability and transparency for timber production and supply-chains 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. The Tropical Forest Trust provides 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 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](http://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:**

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