

## Home Hardware Stores Limited

### Wood Procurement Policy August, 2011

The environment and ethical procurement has always been a priority at Home Hardware Stores Limited and we are proud of our commitments. We are active members of our industry and know we have an important role to play in our country's future.

Over the years, we have taken significant steps to minimize our company's environmental footprint, foster a green culture and provide our customers with environmentally friendly products.

Home Hardware Stores Limited is committed to building partnerships with vendors who share our commitment to responsible forest management practices. Our responsible wood purchasing policy dictates that we only do business with vendors who value the environment and human rights and can demonstrate that their products are from sustainable forests.

We are committed to working with certified wood suppliers. A minimum 90%, and in most cases 100%, of the softwood (spruce, pine, fir) we purchase is through certified forests and we strongly encourage our independent Dealers to do likewise.

Home Hardware Stores Limited gives priority to vendors who:

- Provide credible third party certification or demonstrate they are working towards certification
- Harvest their product in a way that preserves the habitat of forest-dependent species
- Exceed air and water quality regulations in their operations
- Use resources such as wood fibre, fossil fuels, and water efficiently
- Legally source and/or harvest wood products (Home Hardware Stores Limited will not purchase from vendors who are proven to do otherwise)
- Work to establish respectful relationships with Canada's Aboriginal people and other communities affected by the vendor's operations
- Do not harvest wood forest products from designated High Conservation Value Forests, unless the product is certified by a credible third party

We recognize the significant role that wood products play in the sustainability of our business and the livelihoods of many Canadians. The long-term sustainability of Canada's forests requires that this renewable resource be well-managed to meet the future needs of all Canadians.

For this reason Home Hardware Stores Limited is proud to be a sponsor of Tree Canada. For more than 11 years, our donations have supported the planting and maintenance of trees in urban and rural areas for non-commercial use. Trees help moderate the climate, improve air quality, create homes for wildlife and conserve water. To date, Home Hardware Stores Limited in partnership with Tree Canada Foundation has donated almost half a million dollars to Tree Canada and planted 16,000 trees across Canada.