

SUSTAINABILITY VERIFICATION CERTIFICATE



THE NATIONAL HARDWOOD LUMBER ASSOCIATION AND ITS MEMBERS ARE COMMITTED TO THE SUSTAINABILITY, EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY OF NORTH AMERICAN HARDWOODS. SUSTAINABILITY IS DEFINED BY ENSURING THAT NORTH AMERICAN HARDWOODS ARE ABLE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF TODAY WHILE CONSERVING THE RESOURCES THAT WILL BE NEEDED TOMORROW. THE SUSTAINABILITY OF NORTH AMERICAN HARDWOODS CAN BE SUPPORTED BY THE FOLLOWING EVIDENCE:

U.S. Facts & Findings

- Hardwood trees grown in the United States are an abundant, sustainable and legal resource.¹
- The volume of U.S. hardwoods has increased by more than 90 percent in the last half-century while forest acreage has increased by 18 percent.²
- Hardwood procured from anywhere in the hardwood states could be considered Low Risk in all five Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) controlled wood risk categories (with only minor and occasional instances contrary to this finding identified).³
- There exists a low risk that U.S. hardwoods are produced from controversial sources as defined in the Chain of Custody standard of the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).³
- U.S. hardwoods have been awarded the highest conservation crop rating available.⁴
- The United States Senate - (1) recognizes that United States hardwoods are abundant, sustainable, and legal resource under United States law; and (2) urges the United States hardwoods be given full consideration in any program to promote construction of environmentally preferable commercial, public or private buildings.⁵
- August 6, 2014 the U.S. Department of Agriculture eliminates the restrictions on including mature market wood products in the BioPreferred program, implemented by changes included in the 2014 Farm Bill.⁶

Canadian Facts & Findings

- Less than 0.2% of Canada's forests are harvested annually.⁷
- By law, all forests harvested on Canada's public land must be successfully regenerated.⁷
- As of December 2011, Canada had 150.6 million hectares of forests certified as being sustainably managed under one or more of three globally recognized certification systems.⁷

NHLA CERTIFIES THAT THE COMPANY IS A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING.

USA Woods International, Inc.

National Hardwood Lumber Association Member

Lorna D. Christie

Lorna D. Christie
CEO, NHLA

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NHLA Member No.

December 31, 2020

Valid Through

¹Forest Inventory and Analysis Program of the Forest Service / ²U.S. Forest Service / ³"Assessment of Lawful Harvesting and Sustainability of U.S. Hardwood Exports" Research Study

³Forest Inventory and Analysis Program of the Forest Service / ⁴U.S. Department of Agriculture Environmental Benefits Index / ⁵Senate Resolution (S. RES.) 411 / ⁶The Agricultural Act of 2014

⁷Natural Resources Canada



STRONG ROOTS. GLOBAL REACH.