



STA dan Rakan2



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Issue 121

This monthly news bulletin is produced by Sarawak Timber Association (STA) to disseminate information to our counterparts on training, research and other relevant areas.

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BRIEFING BY MTCC ON THE MALAYSIAN TIMBER CERTIFICATION SCHEME



Picture (left): Dr Lee Hua Seng, CEO of STA introducing MTCC officers and (Below) Group photo of the participants



To further enhance the acceptance of its scheme in the international market, the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) has been making preparations towards implementing a new institutional arrangement for its certification scheme, the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) for the endorsement of the

MTCS by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC) Council. With this new institutional arrangement, MTCC continues to play the role of the National Governing Body (NGB), while the independent assessors become the Certification Bodies (CBs) which have to be accredited with the Department of Standards Malaysia (Standards

Malaysia), the national Accreditation Body.

MTCC has branded its scheme as the MTCS in order to distinguish between the scheme and the organization (MTCC) which operates it. The new institutional arrangement for the MTCS has taken effect

(Continue on page 2)

Did you know that...

The world's oldest recorded tree is a 9,550 year old spruce in the Dalarna province of Sweden. The spruce tree is a tenacious survivor that has endured by growing between erect trees and smaller bushes in pace with the dramatic climate changes over time. Swedish Scientists found four "generations" of spruce remains in the form of cones and wood produced from the highest grounds. The discovery showed trees of 375, 5,660, 9,000 and 9,550 years old and everything displayed clear signs that they have the same genetic makeup as the trees above them.

Source:
Issue Number 18
UNECE/FAO Timber
Section

(continued from page 1)

from 1 July 2008.

A briefing session on this matter was organised for STA Members on 8 July 2008 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The briefing was attended by 27 representatives from STA Member Companies. On hand to conduct the briefing were Mr. Chew Lye Teng, Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Harnarinder Singh and Mr. Yong Teng Koon, from MTCC.

The topics covered in the briefing were:

- Accreditation Programmes for Forest Management Certification and Chain-of-Custody (CoC) Certification which covered the criteria, process and maintenance of the

accreditation and transfer of accredited certification of management systems.

- Overview of New Institutional Arrangement for MTCS for the National Governing Body and the Certification Bodies covering the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes, recognition of PEFC, the current and new institutional arrangement for MTCS, roles of MTCC, the accreditation body and certification body.
- Use of International Chain-of-Custody Standard (PEFC Annex 4) where CoC standard will be

based on Annex 4 of PEFC Council Technical Document: Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products – Requirements used by the majority of PEFC endorsed schemes.

- Accreditation Programmes for Forest Management System Certification and Chain-of-Custody System Certification
- Use of MTCC and PEFC Logos under the New Institutional Arrangement
- Transition and Implications of Implementation of New Institutional Arrangement for Forest Management Certification and Chain-of-Custody Certification.

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FIELD TEST FOR MC&I (FOREST PLANTATIONS)

The draft Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Forest Plantations) or in short MC&I (Forest Plantations) was finalised during the Tenth Meeting of the National Steering Committee (NSC) held on 27 March 2007. It had then been subjected to public consultation over a 60-day period from 30 April to 30 June 2007. As a result of the public consultation, a total of six comments were received from the

stakeholders. These comments received were deliberated by the fourth Meeting of the Technical Working Group (TWG) held on 21 August 2007. As a result from the deliberation, the TWG had revised the draft. During that Meeting, the TWG had agreed to conduct the field test of the draft MC&I (Forest plantations) in the three regions of Malaysia.

For Sarawak, the field test MC&I (Forest Plantations) was carried out from 21 to 25 July

2008 in 2 sites i.e Samarakan Nursery and Camp C of Grand Perfect Sdn Bhd, Bintulu. 23 representatives from the Sarawak Planted Forests Sdn Bhd, Grand Perfect Sdn Bhd, the Malaysian Timber Certification Council, SGS (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd, Forest Department Sarawak (Planted Forests Unit), the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Orang Ulu National Association and STA participated this field

(Continue on page 4)

STA IN SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP



Picture: (Top) Handing over Toyota Hilux to Zedtee Sdn Bhd by STA office bearers and (right) communities and company representatives at the opening of AMC account at international bank.



Sarawak Timber Association's role to promote Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in Sarawak is significantly enhanced as it became the latest partner for SFM with the communities of the Anap-Muput Forest Management Unit (FMU) in the Tatau District of Bintulu Division through the contribution of RM200,000.00 towards the Anap-Muput Community (AMC) Enterprise Development project. The fund included allocations for the development of the

eco-tourism infrastructure of the "Sarawak Rainforest and SFM Discovery Centre - Bukit Kana" and the purchase of a pick-up truck to provide transportation service as a community enterprise.

A brand new Toyota Hilux 4x4 double cab pickup truck was handed over to Zedtee Sdn Bhd as manager of Anap - Muput FMU in a simple ceremony at Wisma STA on 9 July 2008 by STA Chairman Datuk Wong Kie Yik witnessed by the Honorary Secretary

Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong, Honorary Treasurer Mr. Philip Choo Kwong Hui and staff of the STA Secretariat.

The fund also provides venture capital for small enterprises initiated by the community with the opening of an AMC account at an international bank in Bintulu on 14 July 2008.

The pickup truck will complete its chain-of-custody to the Anap Muput Community at Bukit Kana in August 2008.

Did you also know that...

Malaysia has the potential to register 18 million Certified Emissions Reductions (CERs) in 2010, with a potential to register up to 100 million tons of CO2 during the period 2006-2012.

The CERs are generated mostly from biomass plants under Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects. In total, Malaysia has 22 registered CDM projects.

Source:
Volume 13 Number 14,
Tropical Timber Market
Report

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The Association was informed by Royal Customs Malaysia that with effect from 1 August 2008, the new operational hours of their offices at Senari and Bintulu Port will be as follows:-

| <u>Day</u> | <u>Senari Port</u> | <u>Bintulu Port</u> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Monday - Friday | 8.00 am - 8.00 pm | 8.00 am - 8.00 pm |
| Saturday | 8.00 am - 5.00 pm | 8.00 am - 1.00 pm |
| Sunday, Public Holidays | Closed | Closed |

Printed Matter



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July 2008

STA dan Rakan2

Issue 121

(Continued from page 2)

testing.

A series of briefings and presentations were made by staff of Grand Perfect Sdn Bhd on various topics, i.e. Planted Forest Project, Training, Research and Development, Conservation, Community Development Project and Nursery at their head office.

During the field test, participants visited the Samarakan Nursery where they were briefed on the set-up of the nursery and training provided by Grand Perfect Sdn Bhd. The group toured the



Picture: Group photo with all the stakeholders

Research and Development site where they inspected experimental plots of *Acacia* species from different provenances. A visit was also made to a local community project on bee-keeping in Tatau.

The evenings were occupied with assessors

and various stakeholders scrutinising and streamlining the draft MC&I (Forest Plantations). The auditors will take what had been discussed and debated into consideration and they will come out with a report within a month of the field test.