Sustainable Management of Canada’s Forests

Canada has nearly 400 million hectares of forest, wooded land and tree cover – representing 10% of the world’s total forest cover and 30% of the world’s boreal forest*. In addition, more than 90% of these forests and woodlots are located on publicly-owned lands. As a result, sustainable management of this important resource requires the combined input of a diverse group of stakeholders to ensure all interests and perspectives are represented.

Global Experience, National Requirements, Local Involvement

Few countries can match Canada’s commitment to sustainable forest management (SFM), and few organizations can match our extensive experience in developing relevant, widely-accepted sustainability standards, including CAN/CSA Z809: the world’s first national sustainable forest management standard.

CSA Group has more than fifty years of experience contributing to and participating in the development of important global sustainability standards, including our management of the international committees that oversee the ISO 14000 series of environmental management standards. We have extensive experience in assembling broad groups of stakeholders to develop balanced, relevant standards that address the needs of industry, regulators, users, NGOs and the public at large.

Our unique development process ensures that our technical committees are balanced to capitalize on the combined strengths and expertise of our members to arrive at consensus - with no single group influencing the final content within a standard.
CAN/CSA Z809: Uniquely Canadian, International Best Practices

First published in 1996, CAN/CSA Z809 is Canada’s National Standard for sustainable forest management (SFM), helping address the unique needs of Canada’s forestry sector, its unique public ownership structure, and its various stakeholder communities: consumers, environmental groups, government, industry, First Nations and academia. CSA Z809 was developed according to the internationally recognized Helsinki and Montreal processes and has been recognized as a National Standard of Canada by Standards Council of Canada (SCC). It incorporates Canada’s own national SFM criteria, developed by the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers, as well as locally-adapted indicators developed through public consultation. The standard links adaptive forest management to forest certification through performance, public participation and system requirements.

As of 2012 year end, nearly 30% of more than 148 million hectares of certified forests in Canada had been registered using the CSA Z809 standard.

Global Recognition

CSA Z809 is endorsed by the world’s largest forest certification organization, the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). PEFC recognizes national and regional forest certification standards meeting rigorous assessment requirements based on international criteria. Wood or paper products sourced from forests certified to CSA Z809 can display the internationally-recognized PEFC on-product label to communicate their certified content, helping customers make informed choices around the products they buy.

Products from forest certified to CSA Z809 are accepted by customers around the world, including the governments of France, Germany, Japan, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. CSA Z809 meets the strict requirements of the United Kingdom’s Central Point of Expertise on Timber Procurement for legality and sustainability.

Download a free copy of CAN/CSA Z809: http:\shop.csa.ca
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About CSA Group

CSA Group is an independent, not-for-profit member-based association dedicated to advancing safety, sustainability and social good. We are an internationally-accredited standards development and testing & certification organization. We also provide consumer product evaluation and education & training services. Our broad range of knowledge and expertise includes: industrial equipment, plumbing & construction, electro-medical & healthcare, appliances & gas, alternative energy, lighting and sustainability. The CSA mark appears on billions of products around the world.
For more information about CSA Group visit www.csagroup.org

** www.certificationcanada.org as of Dec 31/12