



## THE CHOICE OF BUILDING MATERIALS HAS A HUGE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Wood's inherent properties – as a sustainable, natural, and renewable resource – make it an excellent environmental choice for any new construction or renovation. As the largest single forest certification standard in the world, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) program is well-positioned to meet the growing demand for certified products.

Many of wood's positive attributes depend in part on whether the forest resource is renewed. Third party-forest certification standards like the Sustainable Forestry Initiative offer a proof point that the forest has been managed for multiple environmental, social and economic values – today and into the future.

More and more buyers – including governments, businesses and individuals – are asking for wood products from responsible sources. Products certified to SFI are recognized by many leading green building rating programs around the world.

Architects and builders choose wood because it looks great, has numerous environmental characteristics – including renewability – and is easy to work with.

In addition, trees absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as they grow, sequestering and storing the carbon while producing oxygen – this reduces greenhouse gases and improves air quality. Forests provide many other benefits, including clean air and water, habitat for wildlife, commercially valuable products like wood, and employment for local communities.

### UNDERWRITERS LABORATORY (UL) ENVIRONMENT

Section 23.3.3 of the UL 880 standard – a sustainability standard for manufacturing organizations – recognized PEFC-endorsed standards such as SFI, as well as FSC standards when addressing the need for manufacturing organizations to have an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) program.

“...wood and wood products... shall be labeled in accordance with the SFI Standard, FSC Indicators of Sustainable Forestry, PEFC Council Technical Document or equivalent fiber procurement system.”<sup>1</sup>

**International Code Council**

## PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE FORESTRY THROUGH GREEN BUILDING PROGRAMS

There are many credible green building rating systems that recognize the value of multiple forest certification standards, and offer credits for products certified to these forest certification standards, including SFI.

	RATING SYSTEM	LOCATION	RECOGNIZES ALL CREDIBLE CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS (INCLUDING SFI)
	ANSI/GBI 01-2010: Green Building Assessment Protocol for Commercial Buildings		YES
	ANSI/ICC 700-2012: National Green Building Standard		YES
	ASHRAE - Standard 189.1		YES
	ASTM - D7612-10		YES
	BIFMA e3-2010: Furniture Sustainability Standard		YES
	BREEAM		YES
	Built Green Program		YES
	CASBEE		YES
	Composite Panel Association Log		YES
	Green Globes		YES
	Green Star Program		YES
	International Green Construction Code		YES

## ICC-700 NATIONAL GREEN BUILDING STANDARD

### 606.2

Wood-based products are certified to the requirements of one of the following recognized product programs

### 606.2(1)

Where a minimum of two certified wood-based products are used for minor elements of the building, such as all trim, cabinetry or millwork.

American Tree Farm System, Canadian Standards Association, Forest Stewardship, Council (FSC), Program for Endorsement of Forest Certification Systems, Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program (SFI), Other product programs recognized by PEFC.<sup>2</sup>

1. International Code Council: International Green Construction Code <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/IGCC/Pages/default.aspx>

2. National Green Building Program <http://www.nahbgreen.org/NGBS/default.aspx>

### Learn more:

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