

## P R E S S R E L E A S E

### **Danzer Group's North American subsidiaries granted certificates for environmental protection**

**Production, timber procurement and sales meet international ISO 14001:2004 standard**

DARLINGTON, Pa., September 5, 2006 – Danzer Group's North American subsidiaries have passed independent audits of their environmental management system and have been certified for compliance with the internationally recognized ISO standard 14001:2004.

All production facilities at North American subsidiaries David R. Webb, Interforest, Bradford Forest and Claremont Forest were certified for compliance with the international standard for environmental management. It comprises three sawmills, three veneer plants and two lumber facilities at eight locations in the United States and Canada. The entire supply chain – from the utilization of forests and the sourcing of timber to the storage and sales – has also been certified. Danzer Group subsidiaries in North America are therefore the only companies in the sector that have been granted such extensive ISO certification.

Danzer Group also owns 48,000 acres of forest in the northeastern United States.

Danzer Group's global Environmental and Safety Management System (ESMS) defines the environmental protection and safety standards for which each North American subsidiary has been certified. The ISO 14001-based ESMS contains an analysis of the environmental impact of the operations. BMPs (Best Management Practices), as well as annually set objectives and measures in combination with regular training and auditing,

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ensure that the ambitious environmental commitment of the Danzer Group is put into action. The ESMS applies at all company levels and to all business procedures.

The certificates, issued by the independent auditor SGS Systems & Services Certification, verify that the environmental and safety standards as defined by Danzer Group's ESMS are in compliance with ISO requirements. Certification also confirms that the North American subsidiaries adhere to all applicable environmental laws, and that they are continually improving environmental and safety-related measures as prescribed by ESMS. A prerequisite for certification is active support for sustainable forestry in Danzer Group's own forests as well as forests managed by the company's suppliers.

The certificates are valid for a three-year period. SGS will conduct annual follow-up audits.

All of Danzer Group's worldwide subsidiaries are scheduled to be certified by independent auditors for compliance with ISO standard 14001:2004 by end of 2007 (Danzer subsidiary SIFORCO in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is expected to be certified by 2009).

## **About the Danzer Group**

*Danzer Group operates six veneer factories and five sawmills in Europe, North America and Africa, making it the world's largest manufacturer of hardwood veneers. These facilities primarily process regional timber to produce high-quality veneers and lumber. A total of 31 sales outlets worldwide take care of customer needs. The Danzer Group employs a workforce of some 4,700 staff and posted a turnover of approximately 418 million euros in 2005.*

*[www.danzergroup.com](http://www.danzergroup.com)*

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