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MEDIA RELEASE

WORLD CLASS CoC CERTIFICATION FOR AUSTRALIAN SOLAR <u>TIMBERS</u>

Kempsey based Australian Solar Timbers (AST) has become the first Australian mainland hardwood flooring manufacturer to be accredited under the Australian Forestry Standard Chain of Custody Certification Scheme.

AST's high quality Australian native timber flooring can now carry the certification mark that provides consumers with the assurance that they are buying wood from sustainably managed Australian forests.

"Certification combined with our use of solar energy to power our timber drying kilns shows AST's commitment to the environment and sustainability and makes AST one of Australia's most environmentally friendly timber companies." Commented David Head AST Marketing Manager.

Our product range includes 19 mm end matched strip flooring; TimberLay 12 mm overlay flooring and solid block parquetry.

AST produces 16 different species Northern NSW species timbers unique in their beauty and hardness and makes them deal for flooring.

Federal Forestry Minister Minister Senator Eric Abetz officially launched the accreditation of AST in Kempsey today, also attending was Geoff Gorrie Chair of The Australian Forestry Standard board.

AST employ's over 90 people at its purpose built state of the art mill at Kempsey. And distributes it's products nationally through a range of independent distributor's in each mainland state.

AST General Manager Tracy Goss said, "AST is proud of its Chain of Custody accreditation and to have the opportunity to promote sustainability in the hardwood forest industry in Australia.

AST is the first company to be Chain of Custody certified in NSW. It sources the majority of its timber from Forests NSW and has a wide range of species available under the independently audited Chain of Custody certification.

For more information please contact: David Head - Marketing Manager or Telephone: 0418 626 865.

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