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**The Collins Companies' Collins Hardwood Mill Receives Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certification for Eco-Friendly Practices**

*Richwood, WV, Mill Recognized as Ninth Collins Site to Receive this Distinction for Responsible, Sustainable Forestry*

**PORTLAND, OR**—December 14, 2011—This month, The Collins Companies, long recognized for their commitment to land and resource conservation, received Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) Chain of Custody certification of their West Virginia-based Collins Hardwood mill, located in Richwood, WV (FSC-C107861).

A 29-acre mill site purchased by The Collins Companies in 2005, Collins Hardwood mills Red and White Oak, Poplar, Hard and Soft Maple, Ash, Basswood, Birch and Cherry. Annually, the facility mills 33 million board feet of wood, producing domestic and export rough and surfaced lumber, as well as veneer logs. Collins Hardwood joins a collection of Collins forestry and milling sites and products that are certified to FSC standards.

The FSC, a nonprofit, governmental organization, grants FSC certification to forestry and manufacturing organizations that implement outstanding environmental and social standards. FSC certification is based upon stringent analysis of multiple facets of an operation, including economic, cultural, social and environmental impacts on current and future generations. FSC certification ensures that a recipient complies with applicable laws/treaties, respects the rights of indigenous peoples', enhances the wellbeing of workers and their communities, routinely assesses site conditions and reduces environmental impact, among other activities, according to the FSC website.

“In 1940, long before words like ‘sustainability’ were at the forefront of discussions within the forestry industry, The Collins Companies implemented practices to protect the biodiversity of our forests’ ecosystems and to create long term and stable manufacturing facilities,” said Paul Harlan, vice president of resources. “Our continued recognition by the FSC, a credible and well-respected group, validates the direction and culture that the Collins family legacy put in place at the company’s inception.”

For more information about The Collins Companies or to schedule an interview with Mr. Harlan, please contact Cameron Waner at 800.329.1219, ext. 2212.

*The Collins Companies produces high quality wood products including, softwoods, hardwoods, particleboard and engineered wood siding and trim, all available FSC certified. It is based in*

Portland, Oregon and has been family-owned since 1855. Learn more at 800.329.1219 or visit [www.CollinsWood.com](http://www.CollinsWood.com).

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