

# CONSTRUCTION & PEFC-CERTIFIED TIMBER



# THE COMPLETE BUILDING MATERIAL

Timber is a material that sits at the heart of the construction industry. As well as having the lowest embodied CO<sub>2</sub> of any commercially available building material, it is increasingly seen as the simple and straightforward way for contractors and clients to achieve a high-performance building solution. With species offering dimensional stability and durability, certified timber has unique sustainability credentials as a renewable building material compared to concrete, steel, brick and block or aluminium.

PEFC-certified timber plays an enormous part in many building projects from structural applications such as timber frame, engineered woods such as glulam, xlam, laminated veneer lumber (LVL) and structural insulated panels (SIPs) to key components such as engineered floor cassettes, attic trusses, staircases, windows and doorsets, plywood, MDF, skirting, orientated strand board (OSB), decking and cladding plus a wide range of sawn timber including innovative modified wood products such as Accoya®.



Jalils/Dreamstime/PEFC

# SENSE &

# SUSTAINABILITY



Jay Bailler/Dreamstime

It is critical to prove that the timber used on your project is sustainably sourced and certified. Chain of Custody documentation proves that each step of the supply chain has been monitored closely with independent auditing and is the key mechanism for tracing certified material from the forest to the building site. This unbroken link is transparent proof that the timber used is sourced from a legally managed and certified forest. PEFC has over 230 million hectares of certified forests in 28 countries, making it the world's largest forest certification system.

## DID YOU KNOW?

***Using wood instead of other building materials saves on average 0.9 tonnes of carbon dioxide per cubic metre.***

*Source: Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Management*

# PERFORMANCE

## MATTERS

Timber has amazing appearance, durability and performance values. It is flexible, reliable and fast to work with. It absorbs carbon while growing, uses low energy in conversion, stores carbon in use and is a renewable crop. Timber is also a major part of the offsite construction methodology and is a fully understood way of achieving greater consistency and quality of design.

With many timber components created in a factory-controlled environment, the building sector can deliver vastly improved levels of project efficiency with low levels of construction waste and faster, safer onsite working practices. This reliability translates into a more stable cost model and predictable timescales, meaning timber can provide smoother project delivery and a quicker return on investment. PEFC-certified timber is widely used across all construction sectors from houses, schools and hotels to restaurants, theatres and supermarkets.

For complete confidence in creating a sustainable building project, PEFC offers project certification. This is based on the total input of PEFC-certified raw material to the whole project and enables businesses to make a single claim regarding the timber products or group of products used.



Dmitry Kalmovsky/Dreamstime

Using PEFC-certified timber directly helps achieve Levels 3 to 6 of the Code for Sustainable Homes and plays a pivotal role in satisfying the acoustic and thermal requirements of Part L and Part E of the Building Regulations.

Using timber is also a huge motivation in achieving Excellent BREEAM ratings and demonstrates a high commitment to environmental best practice and industry approval.

# INFLUENCE

## YOUR INDUSTRY

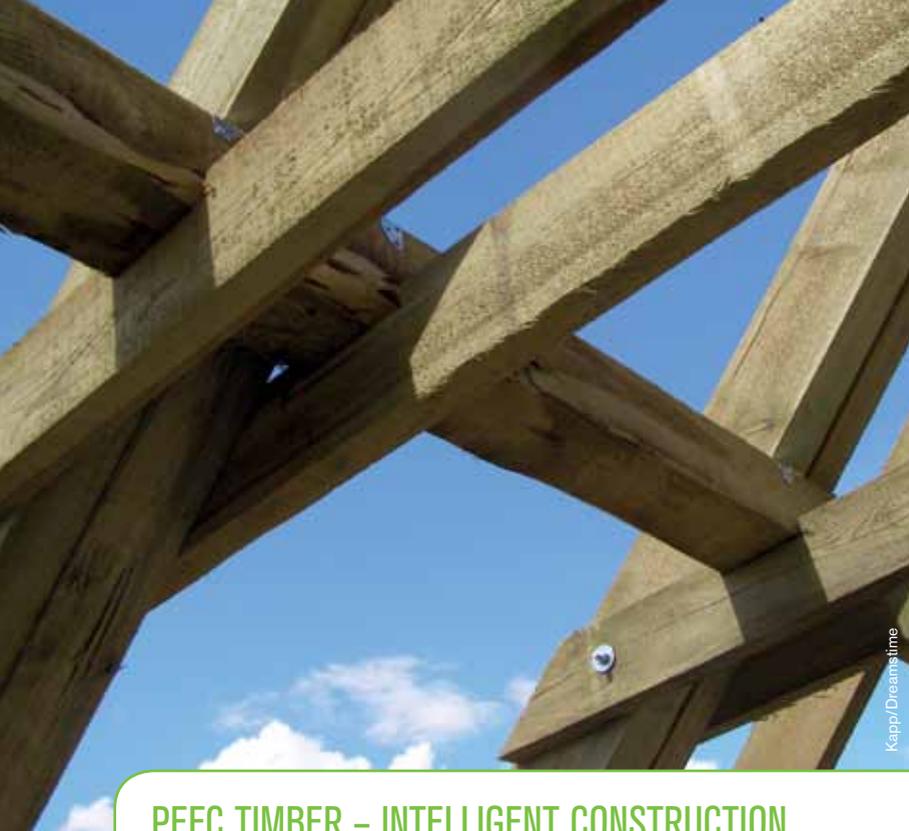


Mark Humphreys/Dreamstime

The construction industry is the largest buyer of timber products – this means the sector has a huge influence on the type of timber in demand. The construction industry can help increase the level of sustainable products by demanding PEFC-certified timber at all times. This gives a clear market signal that only timber from legal and sustainably managed sources is acceptable. To comply with public sector procurement policy, the use of certified timber is mandatory and PEFC-certified materials are accepted by national public procurement policies worldwide – an essential requirement for public sector projects. This includes the 2012 London Olympics, which bases its timber procurement policy on the national UK policy.

Leading green building standards, codes and regulations globally specify the use of certified timber in construction and award higher levels or ratings if PEFC-certified raw material or products are used.

Further incentives for the construction sector and contractors to choose PEFC-certified timber (and carefully analyse their supply chains) include legislative measures such as the Lacey Act in the United States and the impending EU legislation banning illegally harvested timber and timber products from the EU market in 2012.



## PEFC TIMBER – INTELLIGENT CONSTRUCTION

**Fabric First** – the timber frame approach to low energy building design that allows you to confidently meet energy rating targets, green building standard requirements and deliver high thermal performance without the need for additional renewable energy extras.

**Prefabrication** – mass-customised timber components can deliver high levels of onsite efficiency, less waste and more reliable factory-controlled precision.

**Cutting CO<sub>2</sub>** – a renewable and green building material with low embodied energy that can be easily recycled or reused. Timber also acts as a carbon sink meaning that when the harvested timber is converted into wood products, they continue to store carbon and reduce overall carbon emissions.

**Corporate Social Responsibility** – clearly demonstrate to clients that you and your supply chain are committed to responsible forest management by sourcing PEFC-certified timber for your projects.



Dmitry Kalmovsky/Dreamstime

## QUALITY & CONFIDENCE

Certified timber is an ideal material for a multitude of building applications and construction sectors. It is helping industry professionals find more innovative ways to secure practical and cost-effective solutions with high levels of sustainability.

PEFC-certified timber is widely available in construction-grade strengths from an extensive network of merchants and suppliers with a huge variety of softwoods and hardwoods available.

PEFC-certified timber offers the widest choice of sustainable timber available to the construction sector, including Western Red Cedar, European Larch, Douglas

Fir, European Redwood, Beech, Cherry, European Oak, American White Oak, American White Ash, Finnish Spruce and Birch with Dark Red Meranti, Majau, Mersawa, Merawan and Gerutu for windows and Balau, Red Balau, Kempas and Keruing for decking.

PEFC is a unique global certification system. Its distinctive and easily-recognised logo transcends language barriers making it a truly global brand.

For further information on the PEFC programme visit: [www.pefc.org](http://www.pefc.org)



Front cover: Mats Tooming (main), Mark Humphreys, Dmitry Kalinovsky/all Dreamstime.  
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