

## Summary of the verification scheme

<b>Name of the system</b>	Quebec Wood Export Bureau (Q-WEB) auditing and traceability system
<b>Related Area</b>	Region /Country : Province of Quebec / Canada
<b>Overview of verification</b>	<b>Party overseeing verification</b>
	Name : Quebec Wood Export Bureau (Q-WEB) Location : Quebec City, Province of Quebec, Canada Communication :
	<b>Outline of verification process</b>
	On an annual basis, Q-WEB will audit members through a third party (auditor) to make sure that all members' suppliers have signed the Policy on Wood Origin and Legality (Appendix B) of the Q-WEB Code of Conduct. A certificate will then be issued to members certifying that it complies with the Q-WEB's Auditing and Traceability System.
	<b>The system shall verify legality only/or both sustainability</b> At this time, the system solely monitors legality.
<b>Scheme to check for legality at the time of logging</b>	<b>Definition of legality</b>
	In Canada <b>illegal logging</b> can be defined as : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theft of timber or logs;</li> <li>• Deliberate harvesting without express or implied authority to do so, or in unauthorized areas or where authority has been revoked for deficient harvesting practices, or after government approvals are obtained by corrupt practices;</li> <li>• Where there is a deliberate failure to pay stumpage and/or royalties to forest owners.</li> </ul>
	<b>Relevant laws</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many laws related to logging and harvesting exist at the municipal, regional, provincial and national level.</li> <li>• On a provincial level for public lands (Crown Lands) : Quebec's <i>Forest Act</i> and <i>Best Management Practices on Crown Lands</i>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Details regarding presumed illegal activities</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Canada and in all its provinces, governance, or the lack of ability to enforce laws, is not an issue. No presumed illegal activities.</li> </ul>
	<b>Procedures for retaining and verifying the evidence</b>
	<b>Scheme implemented by the third party and so on to ensure reliability</b>
<b>Scheme to check for sustainability</b>	<b>Definition of sustainability</b>
	<b>Procedures for retaining and verifying the evidence</b>
<b>Scheme of separative custody management</b>	<b>Real picture of the dealings, from logging to export</b>
	<b>Procedure for ensuring separative custody management</b>
<b>Future Task and Perspectives</b>	<b>Scheme implemented by the third party and so on to ensure reliability</b>
	<b>Criticisms against the system and recognition of problems</b>
	At this moment, members are only requested to have their immediate suppliers provide the evidence of legality. For North American wood species, suppliers are requested to submit all documents described in the <i>Q-WEB Policy on Wood Origin and Legality (Appendix B of Code of Conduct)</i> only if the Q-WEB members request them.
	<b>Remediation procedure</b>
	Members could eventually ask their suppliers to submit all documents described in the <i>Q-WEB Policy on Wood Origin and Legality (Appendix B of Code of Conduct)</i> .
<b>Reference Author</b>	<b>Future perspectives</b>
	By introducing its auditing and traceability system, Q-WEB has taken a major step to demonstrate its commitment to counter illegal logging and illegal trade. Based on market demands (customers and public administrations) members could eventually decided to trace their wood all the way back to the forest of origin.
	<b>Web site</b>
	www.quebecwoodexport.com
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