

## Summary of the verification scheme

<b>Name of the system</b>	Name in home language: Независимое Подтверждение Легальности Лесопroduкции Name in English: Validation of Legal Timber Programme (SGS VLTP)
<b>Related Area</b>	Region /Country: Far East / Russia
<b>General overview of verification</b>	<b>Party responsible for issuing verification</b>
	Name: SGS Société Générale de Surveillance Location: 1, place des Alpes, CH-1211 Geneva Switzerland Communication: antoine.delarochefordiere@sgs.com
	<b>Outline of issuing process</b>
	The verification process combines regular audits of a company's timber production and traceability system, continuous data monitoring, and unannounced inspections at production sites.
	<b>The system shall verify legality only /or both sustainability</b> SGS VLTP shall verify legality and some aspects of sustainability that related with sustainable usage of forest resources (trees), protected areas, impacts of logging activity to environment etc.
<b>Scheme to check for legality at the time of logging</b>	<b>Definition of legality</b>
	Definition of legality formed by regional Standard for the Verification of Legality in the forest sector under the SGS VLTP. This standard consist 9 principles, 26 criteria and 68 indicators.
	<b>Relevant laws</b>
	Federal and regional Forestry and Environment legislative acts consist of more than 30 documents.
	<b>Details of presumed illegal activities</b>
	Cuttings without permits; logged in excess of allowed amounts; logged beyond allotment borders; wood of a species forbidden from cutting or not permitted to be cut on a site; wood logged with a violation of cutting technology; Industrial wood logged over the fixed quota in the conduct of intermediate cuttings; evasion of royalties, taxes and other forest charges
	<b>Procedures for retaining and verifying the evidence</b>
	Verification/ auditing incl. documentary checks, field inspections; coordination with authorities for data collection and field verifications; continuous and systematic data management; computerised log/ timber tracking (optional); remote sensing (satellite imagery, aerial photography) in coordination with authorities
<b>Scheme of separative custody management</b>	<b>Scheme implemented by the third party and so on to ensure reliability</b>
	All verification procedures are managing and executing by the third party (SGS VLTP Agency) under SGS General Conditions of Services that ensure reliability and international creditability
	<b>Real picture of the dealings, from logging to export</b>
	The schemes of separative custody management in Khabarovsk region includes direct export shipment from producers (logging, logging&processing, processing) companies and importers and export through special timber trade companies. Each company is responsible for implementing a CoC system for its unique circumstances
	<b>Procedure for ensuring separative custody management</b>
	SGS VLTP Standard consist chain of custody (CoC) requirements (Principle 7) that are auditing during verification process by third party with issuing SGS VLTP/CoC Statements
<b>Future Task and Perspectives</b>	<b>Scheme implemented by the third party and so on to ensure reliability</b>
	All verification procedures are managing and executing by the third party (SGS VLTP Agency) under SGS General Conditions of Services that ensure reliability and international creditability
	<b>Criticisms against the system and recognition of problems</b>
	Some stakeholders are not happy with legal verification systems and prefer the much higher standard of sustainable certification instead.
	<b>Remediation procedure</b>
	Extensive stakeholder consultation and participation during verification process as observer can ease such criticisms
<b>Reference Author</b>	<b>Future perspectives</b>
	Implementing in the other regions of Russian Federation
	<b>Web site</b>
	<b>URL</b> <a href="http://www.forestry.sgs.com">www.forestry.sgs.com</a>
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