



Certification and Testing Division

5650 Terra Court, Sun Prairie, WI 53590 USA

Phone: 608/837-2790
Fax: 608/837-2830
www.tecotested.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
Ron Musolino
Vice President, Marketing
Address and Contact Information Above
ron.musolino@tecotested.com

TECO First in North America to Achieve ROCB Recognition in Japan

Sun Prairie, WI, June 9, 2006 — TECO of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin proudly announces that it is the first certification agency in North America, and just the fifth in the world, to become accredited as a Registered Overseas Certifying Body (ROCB) by the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). TECO was officially registered on May 19, 2006, becoming the first ROCB recognized to certify both plywood and OSB under the new Japanese Agricultural Standards (JAS) Law that became effective March 1st earlier this year.

In March, representatives from MAFF audited TECO's corporate office and Eugene (Oregon) laboratory as part of TECO's ROCB application. TECO's JAS certification effort was led by Scott Drake, Operations Manager, and Steve Verhey, PhD, Quality Manager, with the assistance of TECO's Japanese representatives. The change in the JAS Law was the result of the Japanese Diet requiring a transition to a true international standard—ISO Guide 65—for its certification system. Certification agencies and their JAS-approved manufacturing clients must change to the new system in order to continue to certify and produce products for the Japanese construction market.

TECO has been approved to certify wood products for the Japanese market since 1993. With this new accreditation, TECO will continue to provide JAS certification for OSB, plywood, LVL, and glulam manufacturers wanting to export their products to Japan, one of the largest wood-consuming markets in the world.

TECO is North America's independent third-party certification agency for engineered wood products, with its corporate office in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, and laboratories in Oregon and Louisiana. TECO is also accredited in the U.S. through the International Accreditation Service and in Canada through the Standards Council of Canada. Additional information is available at www.tecotested.com or obtained by calling toll-free at (866) 837-2790.