

As responsible buyers of wood products and good stewards of our forests, we are thrilled to see that the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) has added Ipe and Cumaru to their Appendix II. Although they are not endangered species, this measure aims precisely at regulating and creating new tools to protect the species from illegal extraction practices, ensuring their longevity.

This is a big leap for our industry in pursuing the most stringent sustainable practices, but for Tropical Forest Products – we are already gone above and beyond – holding ourselves to even higher standards since we were founded. We are proud to follow the most rigorous sustainability measures from every country where we trade lumber – alongside the U.S. and Canada – and to have created several initiatives to protect our forests, including Legal Lumber, our proprietary Due Care compliance program. Using third party verification companies such as FSC and Unifloresta, we are pleased to guarantee our clients that every forest product we carry, including the ones that are not under the CITES recommendation, are treated as if they were.

Our continuous uncompromising efforts towards preserving tropical rainforests are also proven by the architectural community, which just made our Black Label brand the most awarded hardwood of 2022. As a leading company in sustainability initiatives, we are very excited that all players will now be expected to abide by the same rigorous standards.

In practical terms, this settlement will not change anything for us, our Black Label brand or our clients in supplying Ipe and Cumaru. As we have stated, our vast inventory of these species have been 100% harvested from sustainable forest management plans, which we firmly believe is the only way to maintain the forests standing forever. These procedures have been put in place long before CITES' precautionary measures.

We hope this resolution helps raise awareness toward the longevity of our forests matter, which is very dear to Tropical Forest Products since the day we set to start this thriving company.

Long live the Rainforest. Welcome CITES.

- Kris Kanagenthran CEO of Tropical Forest Products









