



West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd

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NEWS RELEASE

WEST FRASER TIMBER CO. LTD.

(“WFT”)

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

WEST FRASER REACHES AGREEMENT WITH CANADIAN COMPETITION COMMISSIONER EXPECTS TO COMPLETE WELDWOOD ACQUISITION BY YEAR END

Vancouver, December 7, 2004 - West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd. (“West Fraser”) announced today that it has entered into a Consent Agreement with Canada’s Competition Commissioner on terms that will permit West Fraser to complete its acquisition of Weldwood of Canada Limited from International Paper Company.

Under the Agreement West Fraser has agreed to divest a 90% interest in each of a sawmill located in Burns Lake, a small sawmill and treating plant located at Decker Lake, B.C. and their related timber harvesting rights. The remaining 10% interest in the mills and rights is held by the Burns Lake Native Development Corporation. West Fraser will also agree to a temporary reduction of its annual allowable cut in the Williams Lake area for a 10-year period by 75,000 cubic metres which is expected to permit the Province of B.C. to offer for sale, in combination with certain unallocated Crown timber, a non-replaceable 10-year forest licence in the region in order to promote the expansion or establishment of log processing capacity.

Hank Ketcham, West Fraser’s Chairman, President and CEO, commented: “We believe that the agreement that we have reached with the Commissioner is a step that is in the best interests of our Company, its current and future employees and our shareholders. Having satisfied this requirement, we are turning our full attention towards the exciting job of bringing these two great companies together. We are more convinced than ever that this combination will ensure our global competitiveness and create value for our shareholders, our communities and Canada.”

Based on West Fraser’s ongoing review of the Weldwood operations over the past months, the Company is confident that its original synergies target of \$80 million is attainable.

The transaction still requires the consent of the Minister responsible for the Investment Canada Act which is expected to be granted shortly. Completion of the transaction is now anticipated to occur on or before December 31, 2004.

West Fraser is an integrated forest products company that produces lumber, wood chips, MDF, plywood, pulp, linerboard, kraft paper and newsprint. The Company has manufacturing operations in British Columbia, Alberta and the southern United States. West Fraser is headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia. Currently, the Company has approximately 4,000 employees.

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West Fraser shares trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol: WFT

Further Information may be obtained from:

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