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Media Release

1st December 2008

THE LAMINEX GROUP CELEBRATES AS WINNER OF THE FSC AUSTRALIA LARGE CHAIN OF CUSTODY OPERATION OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR 2008

The Laminex Group is thrilled to announce that its acclaimed Laminex® FSC™ Timber Veneer Panels range has beaten tough competition to win a prestigious award from **Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Australia**. The award for '**Large Chain of Custody Operation of the Year 2008**' recognises the commitment which The Laminex Group has demonstrated in producing the FSC Timber Veneer Panels range, which complies with all FSC Australia environmental standards across their entire chain of custody.

This accolade clearly highlights the Laminex® FSC™ Timber Veneer Panel range as an innovative, valuable and market-leading product for the building industry.

The objective of the award was to recognise and reward those companies that exemplify the spirit and intent of the FSC system through their management practices, adherence to FSC requirements, contribution and promotion of FSC certification and the efforts promoted to minimise 'poor' forest management.

The Laminex Group outshone the competition in all areas, with judges and FSC auditors commenting on how impressed they were with the calibre of the Documented Control System from The Laminex Group. In addition, FSC members and organisations voted for the winner, clearly demonstrating that its peers, competitors and industry partners fully acknowledge The Laminex Group as a leader in this category.

Originally developed for use in the prestigious **Melbourne Convention Centre** project to comply with the achievement of the recently awarded 6-Star Green Star rating from the Green Building Council of Australia, this award has ensured that the Laminex FSC™ Timber Veneers range receives the industry recognition which it truly deserves. Simeon Lloyd from Multiplex who worked on the Melbourne Convention Centre said, "Of all the suppliers we engaged; The Laminex Group was the only organisation able to develop and deliver an FSC certified Timber Veneer panel, to meet our specifications."

The recognition from FSC Australia combined with the Industry Capability Network Award in 2007 highlights The Laminex Group's continuous focus on the environment and its commitment towards better building practices and as a dedicated member of FSC Australia. The Laminex Group sees the development of the FSC system in Australia as a significant opportunity to raise awareness of environmentally conscious design with trade customers and consumers alike.

The Laminex Group launched the Laminex® FSC™ Timber Veneer Panel range in November 2007 with a selection of six options in the Harmony Range and six species in the Classic Range. As a result of significant demand, in August 2008 the range was expanded to twelve options in the Harmony Range and eight species in the Classic Range. Essentially, these environmentally conscious veneers ensure that being environmentally responsible, no longer means limiting design freedom.

All Laminex FSC veneers form part of The Laminex Group's market leading environmental initiative – *Greenfirst*. For further information, please go to www.laminex.com.au or call 132 136.

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Editors Notes

- The Laminex Group was awarded the prestigious award for FSC Australia Large Chain of Custody Operation of the Year Award for 2008 on 11th November 2008 at FSC Australia's Inaugural annual dinner and awards night 2008.
- The full list of nominees in the same category: **Finsbury Green, Griffin Press, Gunnersens, Paperlinx Merchating, PMP Limited and Vega Press.**
- The Laminex Group, FSC Chain of Custody Registration Number SCS-COC-001000.
- Laminex FSC™ Timber Veneer Panels deliver intriguing textures, beautifully designed colours and the allure of wood grain, together with the assurance that the materials carry the Good Environmental Choice mark and FSC certification. In addition, Laminex FSC™ Timber Veneer Panels contribute to Sustainable Timber Credits in the Green Star Rating tool from the Green Building Council of Australia.
- Laminex FSC™ Timber Veneers are available in a 2400m x 1200mm and 2700 x 1200 panel size in a standard thickness of 16mm, 18mm, 25mm and 32mm options.
- The Greenfirst Initiative is The Laminex Group's response to the growing awareness of the impact that building materials have on the environment. All Greenfirst products can contribute directly to Green Star Credits.

Laminex FSC™ Timber Veneer Panel range offers the following advantages:

- Independent environmental certification by Good Environmental Choice Australia
- FSC Certified Veneer Leaf and Edging
- FSC Certified E0 Low Emission MDF Panel, manufactured from wood fibre sourced from renewable plantation timber or wood waste products
- FSC Chain of Custody Certification from Veneer Pressing Facility to all Australian distribution sites of The Laminex Group
- Contributes to credits according to the Green Building Councils Rating Tools Green Star , specifically Office Interiors
 - EQ - 11 Volatile Organic Compounds
 - IEQ - 12 Formaldehyde Minimisation
 - Mat - 7 Joinery
 - Mat - 11 Sustainable Timber