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Radoux Cooperage Receives Sustainable Certification

Santa Rosa, California (August 6, 2009) — Furthering its commitment to sustainable development and product integrity, Tonnellerie Radoux was officially recognized by the *Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)*.

PEFC, an international system of certification for sustainable forest management, guarantees that a specific quantity of French oak barrels bearing its label corresponds to a volume of wood harvested from sustainably managed French forests.

All companies associated with Radoux wood production require similar certification in order to guarantee 100% traceability. By committing to this program, Radoux has brought on board a large number of players (forest owners, forest traders, sawmills, etc) as it promotes sustainable development.

PEFC reinforces the traceability of Radoux wood supplies, something the cooperage has been actively monitoring for years.

As an internationally recognized producer of high-quality oak barrels, Radoux is fully aware of the importance of sustainably managing its raw materials in order to guarantee future supplies, and has committed itself over the years to the principle of environmental responsibility.

For example, its sawmill lies in Mézières en Brenne (center of France) near the middle of the Brenne Regional Nature Reserve. This close proximity to the forests means less transportation miles and translates to fewer carbon emissions.

In 1995, Radoux became the first European cooperage to qualify for ISO 9002 certification (developed by the International Organization for Standardization), and updated to the ISO 9001:2008 standards when those became available.

In addition, Radoux complies with other quality assurance standards such as HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point) and ICPE (a French regulation allowing a company to produce with a controlled impact on the environment that translates to “Installation Classified for the Environmental Protection” in English). The cooperage is recognized by the Bureau Veritas (an agency that underwrites the traceability of a French origin of wood), and also maintains ongoing waste-management, recycling and employee-safety programs, and has significantly reduced its consumption of raw materials.

About Tonnellerie Radoux

With its American subsidiary Tonnellerie Radoux USA (www.radouxcooperage.com), Tonnellerie Radoux (www.radoux.fr) is one of the World’s leading cooperages, manufacturing the finest French oak barrels, tanks, puncheons, casks, chips and insertable staves. The company also makes high-quality oak barrels from Eastern European forests as well as the United States from the three regions renowned for their white oak: Minnesota, Missouri and Appalachia. Established in 1947, Tonnellerie Radoux is certified by ISO 9001:2008 standards, and is recognized by the quality-assurance agency Bureau Veritas.

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