



Compliance with Illegal Logging Prohibition Act – Expert Assistance

If you are importing any timber, pulp, paper or wood-based furniture products into Australia, it is very likely you have to comply with the Illegal Logging Prohibition Act. The Act requires you to exercise due diligence to minimise the risk that you are importing products that contain illegally harvested wood.

Stephen Mitchell Associates (SMA) offers a range of practical services to assist importers and others in the supply chain to comply. These services put you firmly on track to meeting all obligations and are based on a robust approach aligned with industry best practice.

Our services include:

- Training for director and staff explaining importers obligations under the Act and its Regulations
- Establishing and maintaining due diligence systems
- Gathering information from suppliers, assessing risk and preparing mitigation measures
- Tailoring tools, checklists and templates to suit your business
- Developing company due diligence procedures
- Provision of advice / help desk
- Evaluating a company due diligence system
- Preparing or reviewing a response to Request for Information from the Department of Agriculture.

The framework

SMA services and tools are based on a framework of:

- Australian Government compliance guidelines
- Australian Industry Timber Due Diligence (AITDD) tools and templates
- Australian Timber Importers Federation's (ATIF) legality compliance toolkit.

The industry tools were developed with the support of the Australian timber industry and the Commonwealth Government. They have been used by over 550 organisations in Australia and overseas.

We have one way of working. Your way.

Whether you need support for your internal team, or you need someone to “just do it”, we’ll work within your resourcing and budgetary framework. Talk to us about the options, from a one-off consultation or ad-hoc support, to an ongoing contract.

We work with clients across Australia – onsite, offsite and remotely. To find out more about what we do get in touch to arrange your first consultation.

About Stephen Mitchell Associates

Over the last nine years Principal Stephen Mitchell has assisted timber, pulp paper and wood furniture importers and Australian Government on mechanisms to minimise the risk of procuring illegally logged wood. He is the author and co-author of the industry toolkits both of which are based on the procurement practices of over 100 Australian timber, pulp, paper and wood furniture businesses. They have also been informed by research on the due diligence practices of industry in the United States and Europe to comply with US Lacey Act and Europe’s Timber Regulation which have been in place since 2008 and 2013 respectively.

In his previous position of Sustainability Programme Manager with the Timber Development Association, Stephen represented timber industry interests (importers and domestic processors) in consultations on the development of the Australian Illegal Logging Prohibition Act and Regulations.

SMA has been established to provide technical and education consulting services in the areas of:

- Due Diligence for Illegally Logged Wood
- Waste Reduction and Recycling
- Sustainable and Green Building.

