

Press information



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Accoya® Wood Approved for Use in Prestigious RAL Mark of Quality Products

Accsys Technologies PLC ("Accsys" or the Company) announces that it has secured approval for the use of its Accoya® wood brand under Germany's prestigious RAL system. RAL, the German Institute for Quality Assurance and Specifications, now includes Accoya® wood in its Association of Window and Façade Manufacturers' approved materials list.

This approval provides users of Accoya® wood in Germany and many other European countries that recognise the mark, with assurance of the product's reliable quality and high performance. Approval is granted upon completion of long-term field tests similar to extensive work that has already been successfully completed by the Company.

RAL is an 'umbrella' organization, which includes about 150 RAL Quality Associations for different industries and product groups. Over the last 30 years, the RAL quality assurance association for windows and entrance doors has developed and imposed standards and criteria for materials and products as well as for manufacturing processes.

In Germany there are approximately 8,000 joinery manufacturers, only 600 of which have acquired the RAL Mark of Quality. These 600 hold over 60% of the German windows market and the components approved for use by these manufactures are also often specified by other manufactures, especially in Austria, Switzerland and Italy.

RAL has a keen focus on the importance of quality to the consumer and has developed rules and regulations including quality assurance systems, specifications and criteria for semi-products, products and manufacturing processes, as well as a mandatory production quality control system.

The approval process is stringent and great commitment is required of manufacturers to demonstrate that they comply with all the stated conditions and tests. In the case of Accoya® wood, this involved extensive independent tests on durability and other properties including strength, weather resistance and compatibility with a wide range of other manufacturing materials including coatings, adhesives, sealants, fasteners and fixtures.

This RAL certification is in addition to existing durability and application certifications for Accoya® wood, namely KOMO in the Netherlands together with the prestigious Hallmark level designation with the Window and Door Manufacturers Association in North America. Accoya® wood has also been recognised for its superior environmental credentials including being listed as a Gold level product in MBDC's widely recognised Cradle-to-Cradlectorial criteria that instigates sustainability at the manufacturing, use and retirement phases of life.

Paul Clegg, CEO of Accsys, comments: "We are very pleased that Accoya® wood has been recognised as a material that meets the exceptionally high standards of RAL. Final approval allows for the full use of Accoya® wood in products made by manufacturers with the RAL Mark of Quality. This has also opened up additional opportunities for Enno Roggemann and our other European distribution partners."



Press information



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For further information, to arrange an interview or high-resolution images please contact Sarah Allen at Fuel PR on 020 7498 8211 or sarah@fuelrefuel.com

Notes to Editors:

Accsys Technologies PLC (www.accsysplc.com) is an environmental science and technology company whose primary focus is on the production of Accoya® wood and technology licensing via its 100% owned subsidiary, Titan Wood Limited, which has manufacturing operations in Arnhem, the Netherlands, a European office in London and an Americas office in Dallas, Texas. Accsys Technologies PLC is listed on the London Stock Exchange AIM market, and on Euronext Amsterdam by NYSE Euronext, under the symbols 'AXS'. Accsys' operations comprise three principal business units: (i) the Accoya® wood production facility; (ii) technology development, focused on a programme of continuous improvements to the process engineering and operating protocols for the acetylation of wood which are currently under development and the development of technology for the acetylation of wood elements; and (iii) the licensing of technology for the production of Accoya® wood and Tricoya® wood elements across the globe.

Accoya® wood (www.accoya.com) is produced using a patented process that effectively converts sustainably grown softwoods and non-durable hardwoods into what is best described as a "high technology wood". Distinguished by its durability, dimensional stability and, perhaps most importantly of all, its reliability (in terms of consistency of both supply and quality), Accoya® wood is particularly suited to exterior applications where performance and appearance are valued. Unlike most tropical and European hardwoods, its colour does not degrade when exposed to ultraviolet light. Moreover, the Accoya® wood production process does not compromise the wood's strength or machinability. The combination of UV resistance, dimensional stability, durability and retained strength means that Accoya® wood offers a wealth of new opportunities to architects, designers and specifiers.

Cradle to CradleSM Design is a revolutionary approach to the redesign of human industry based on the conviction that rigorous science and design can move human industry beyond simple concerns for "sustainability" (often seen as a form of maintenance of current levels of performance while limiting destruction) toward a new positive paradigm where growth is good – science provides the physical laws and the data and design serves as the signal of human intention - Cradle to CradleSM Design mirrors the healthy, regenerative productivity of nature, and thereby creates industry that is continuously improving and sustaining life and growth.

Cradle to Cradle Certification (www.c2ccertified.com) provides a company with a means to tangibly, credibly measure achievement in environmentally-intelligent design and helps customers purchase and specify products that are pursuing a broader definition of quality. This means using environmentally safe and healthy materials; design for material reutilization, such as recycling or composting; the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency; efficient use of water, and maximum water quality associated with production; and instituting strategies for social responsibility.

MBDC (www.mbdc.com). Since 1995, McDonough Braungart Design Chemistry (MBDC) has been engaging with large and small companies with the challenge of industry to scientifically evaluate and design materials and products according to these principles. In response to industry demand, MBDC is now offering companies the chance to have their materials and products not only evaluated, but also certified according to the Cradle to CradleSM Principles.

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Cradle to Cradle Certified[™] is a certification mark of MBDC