For immediate release

Titan Timber Ltd.

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timber.co.uk

Titan Timber highlights climate benefits of building with wood

CARDIFF, UK: Titan Timber, part of Economic Forestry Group (EFG), has planted a tree for each of its global contacts to highlight the climate benefits of building precision-engineered low energy homes with timber that is grown and harvested in sustainably managed forests.

EFG partnered with THG (more:trees), part of consumer brands group THG, to gift trees to its entire contact network. THG works with tree planting partners across the world to plant native trees that sequester carbon and support other UN sustainable development goals such as poverty alleviation, life on land and below water, and health and wellbeing.

Each recipient of an EFG tree now holds a certificate confirming the location of the tree, and in whose name it was planted.

“This went globally to all our contacts” said group director Ian Campbell. “Each one of those trees saves 0.3 tonnes of CO2 from the atmosphere which equates to driving a car for 743 miles. This is sending a bigger message than just planting a tree, as trees stand out as a way to solve at least 40% of climate change issues if we can get it right.”

EFG’s initiative also seeks to highlight the threat of a timber shortage at a time when demand for timber frame houses that cut energy consumption, reduce carbon emissions and can be cost-effectively fabricated off-site, is increasing. This is due in part to a further tightening of UK Building Regulations Part L from June 15, 2023, when all new homes will be required to produce 31% less carbon emissions.

“The UK Government plans to ease planning restrictions and remove barriers to purchasing land for forestry use, and is aware that the UK faces an imminent shortage of trees, which means the sawmilling industry will struggle and continue to reduce capacity unless it gets some investment,” Campbell said.

Timber is the only building element that absorbs CO2 from the environment and has a positive environmental impact on its end of life[1]. Materials in timber frame construction produce about 40% less carbon per m² than masonry construction materials[2].

EFG is the umbrella group of three companies, EFG (Forestry), Titan Timber, and Eco Homes Direct. Between them, the three firms cover a tree’s journey from sustainably managed and certified forests to a low-energy and low-carbon timber frame home.

“Responsible forestry is a key and much-needed strategy for mitigating climate change,” said Campbell. “By helping to attract private investment into replanting and encouraging homebuilders to adopt closed timber panel offsite construction which locks up carbon, we can deliver low energy houses that reduce carbon emissions and provide healthier living concepts for families.”

[1] *Life Cycle Environmental Sustainability and Energy Assessment of Timber Wall Construction: A Comprehensive Overview, MDPI, 2022*

[2] *Study of the Embodied Carbon in Traditional Masonry Construction vs Timber Frame Construction in Housing, J Walsh & B McAulliffe, September 2020.*

About Economic Forestry Group Ltd. (EFG)

Economic Forestry Group (EFG) Ltd., the umbrella organisation of Titan Timber Ltd. and Eco Homes Direct Ltd., spans the entire timber supply chain from forest to family home. Through its timber sourcing company Titan Timber, EFG supplies structural timber and wood products from well-managed, sustainable forests that adhere to strict environmental governance and are certified to Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) standards. ecohomesdirect.co.uk.

About Eco Homes Direct

Eco Homes Direct Ltd. designs, supplies and builds eco-friendly precision-engineered low energy timber framed homes for self-build and property developers. Prefabricating most of the house in factory conditions ensures accuracy, reduces labour and waste on site and improves efficiency to keep costs low without compromising on quality. The system's unique fully integrated closed panel timber engineered wall system exceeds UK building regulation specifications, yet an Eco Home can be erected in just one day, offering an affordable passive house solution to all. Eco Homes Direct is the UK's gateway to the Canadian Super E® build concept, incorporating a sound approach to 'fabric first' principles and an integrated focus on insulation, airtightness and controlled ventilation to deliver truly affordable, low energy, healthier homes for all. Since the first passive house was built in Saskatchewan in 1977, the technology and build concept has been adopted worldwide, and hundreds of Super-E homes have been built in the UK.

About THG (More:Trees)

THG (more:trees), part of e-commerce group THG, is one of the world's first green ecommerce platforms and part of THG's sustainability action plan THG (eco). The more:trees platform works with tree planting projects across the world with various co-benefits such as poverty alleviation, biodiversity and community support. Current projects include biodiversity conservation in Madagascar, forest planting to channel water in Kenya and forestry projects in Haiti that protect watersheds and improve food security. moretrees.eco

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