

January 9, 2009

Dear Metropolitan Hardwood Floors customer,

Many of you have been asking how the recent amendments to the Lacey Act will affect our business. I hope the following will answer the most 'frequently asked questions'.

The Lacey Act, originally passed in 1900 to protect game animal and bird species, has been amended nearly a dozen times over the years, adding creatures such as non-game animals, fish and reptiles to the restricted list and better defining enforcement policies. It was amended again in 2008 to expand its protection to plants and plant products.

Under the amended Lacey Act, it is an offence for any company in the USA to own or trade in illegally-sourced wood products, regardless of the wood's country of origin. In addition, companies that import wood products into the United States must officially document the source of the wood products they import.

As a matter of company policy, Metropolitan has long promoted the use of responsibly harvested timber, and has worked closely with our suppliers to utilize legally and responsibly harvested material for all our products. Accordingly, we fully support the amended Lacey Act as it will help encourage legal and sustainable wood harvesting practices both in the US and the rest of the world.

Due to Metropolitan's long-standing efforts to use only responsibly harvested wood, and our experience as an FSC Certified Chain of Custody supplier, we do not anticipate any material change in either our business practices or our product offerings as a result of this legislation.

For more information on Metropolitan Hardwood Floors' sustainable forestry initiatives, please visit our website at www.metrofloors.com/usa/eco.php

And if you have any further questions regarding the Lacey Act, please don't hesitate to contact your Metropolitan Hardwood Floors representative.

Sincerely,
Metropolitan Hardwood Floors, Inc.

Elizabeth Baldwin
Environmental Compliance Officer



The FSC logo identifies products which contain wood from well managed forests certified in accordance with the rules of the Forest Stewardship Council.

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