



## Press Release

### **Wood flooring import sales in Europe increased by 33% in 2005** **The European Federation of Parquet Importers (EFPI) reveals import data for 2004 and 2005**

Brussels, 14 June 2006 – The European Federation of Parquet Importers (EFPI), a European group of major importers of engineered and solid wood floorings, today released its statistics on sales of wood flooring in Europe for 2004 and 2005. The data compiled, expressed in volume/m<sup>2</sup> refers to the sales made in 2004 and 2005, not taking into account intra-EFPI sales.

The overall outcome of the compilation of data gathered among the eight founding EFPI members (Amorim Wood Supplies GmbH, Ekowood S.A., Euro Covering S.L., Fetim BV, Houtwerf Zoeterwoude BV, Listor Lda., Oscar Peschardt & Co, Plyquet GmbH) shows a 33% increase in the sales of imported parquet between 2004 and 2005, which means a rise of total volume from 7,940,057 to 10,579,535 m<sup>2</sup> of imported wood flooring.

When analysing specific parquet products most categories of engineered wood floorings register an increase: Imports of solid flooring have increased by 44% and imports of engineered parquet floorings have grown by 33%.

EFPI will periodically issue statistics, which in the future will include data from its two recently joined members: The Union of Parquet Importers, Euparal, and the Danish import company, Everfloor, which became part of EFPI earlier this year.

Mr Jürgen Früchtenicht, the President of EFPI, commented: *“The figures presented in the report demonstrate the growing importance that parquet importers and EFPI in particular have for the European engineered wood floors market. We are delighted to see that the growth trend registered in the past few years is continuing and we are confident that the parquet business will continue to flourish in the future”. “EFPI’s members will be working closely together to ensure that the timber flooring import industry is effectively represented at EU level and that the benefits of the use of parquet are promoted and widely recognised. The addition of Euparal to our association, with its 14 member companies from various European countries, strengthens the voice of our business in the EU scene”,* concluded Mr Früchtenicht.

#### **Note to the Editor:**

Please see enclosed presentation with statistics.

*The European Federation of Parquet Importers (EFPI) is a Brussels-based association of leading European importers of engineered and solid wood floorings. EFPI was founded in June 2005 and aims to facilitate the discussion of ideas among importers about the promotion of wood flooring in Europe, to share information about EU legislation, standardisation and issues concerning international trade for the parquet industry.*

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