Sabah TLAS Audit Report Principles 5 & 6

Organisation	Es Eng Soon Trading Sdn. Bhd. 198501005915 (138357-D)		
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Person	Manager)		
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Reference #	GFSSBH 004-629
Audit Date	19/03/2024
Date close out	-
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Approved By	Dr. Kevin Grace

Statements				
Audit Statement #	GFS 278 WTP			
Issuance Date	25 March 2024	Expiration Date	24 March 2025	

Assessment Details		
Company Type	Importer	
Scope of Assessment	ent Sabah TLAS P5-6: FDS(KK)(I)048/2019	
Product Group	Plywood	
Source of Material	Vietnam	
Species	Acacia spp. (Acacia), Eucalyptus spp. (Eucalyptus), Styrax spp. (Kemenyan), Pine spp. (Pine), Other timber (OT)	
Lead Assessor	Vanessa Abin (Acting Lead)	
Assessor(s)	Glory Linggou	
FDS Staff	-	

Terms of Assessment

The scope of the evaluation is to verify compliance of Es Eng Soon Trading Sdn. Bhd. to the criteria within the Sabah Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS) Principle 5 - Mill Operations and Principle 6 - Trade and Customs standards. Compliance is defined when the organization demonstrates that there is no noncompliance to any applicable criteria. Non-compliance to the Sabah Legality Standard occurs when the organization does not comply with 1 or more criteria. Non-compliance must be formally addressed prior to certification or within 2 months following a surveillance assessment.

Limitations of Assessment

The information presented in this report is based on documentation and other information presented by the client and observations made during the field verification under the assessment. Auditor's reporting of information presented by the client are taken as accurate, unless evaluated differently through the observations made during the assessment. All information presented in the report is accurate and complete to the best of knowledge of GFS.

Background Information:

Es Eng Soon Trading was established in 1975 started as a family-owned business in hardware retailing for carpenter material supplies. Es Eng Soon Trading Sdn. Bhd. (Es Eng Soon Trading) is located in Selangor and registered with the SSM in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, with registration #: 198501005915 (138357-D).

Es Eng Soon Trading imports plywood from Vietnam. The imported plywood is directly shipped from Vietnam to local buyers.

The previous assessment was conducted in March 2023 that resulted in 2 gap(s) and 0 observation(s) (Report #: GFSSBH 004-481).

Associated Organizations & Subcontractors:

Es Eng Soon Trading is associated with Es Eng Soon (Johor) Sdn. Bhd., Es Eng Soon (Melaka) Sdn. Bhd., and Es Eng Soon (J) Sdn. Bhd.

Eng Soon Trading engages R.M Services Sdn. Bhd. as its agent to handle documentation for import activities.

Description of the Supply Chain:

From February 2023 to February 2024, Es Eng Soon Trading purchased raw materials from the suppliers as below:

Supplier	License	Raw Material	Location	GFS WTP # STCC #	Overall Risk *
Cong Ty Co Phan Xuat Nhap Khau	-	Plywood	Vietnam	-	High
H and G Import Export Co., Ltd	-	Plywood	Vietnam	-	High

Note: *GFS risk evaluation is based on the risk matrix for Sabah TLAS (VL) materials & products.

Summary Results:

(Major gap = 0, Minor gap = 0, Observation = 2)

GAPs: Year 2024				
GAP#	Type	Checklist	Status	Description
001/2022	minor	5.2.4	Closed	April 2022: The company has not established a documented chain of custody system in respect to TLAS compliance and imports of timber products. March 2023: Es Eng Soon Trading has not established and documented a Chain of Custody (COC) system for import and trading activities. March 2024: Es Eng Soon Trading established and maintained the CoC procedures.
002/2022	minor	6.2.4	Closed	April 2022: The company did not conduct a risk assessment for importing plywood from suppliers. March 2023: Es Eng Soon Trading has yet to conduct a risk assessment for imported plywood from suppliers. March 2024: Es Eng Soon Trading has conducted the risk assessment for imported plywood from suppliers.

^{*}Major = Non-Compliance

Observations: Year 2024			
Obs#	Checklist	Description	
001-2024	5.2.2	March 2024:	
		Removal passes were not stamped as "Used" by SFD.	
002-2024	6.3.3	March 2024:	
		The volume in removal pass is inconsistent with the import documents.	

Highlights of Close-Out Visit (if applicable)	Date: -
Not applicable	

Recommendations

Es Eng Soon Trading Sdn. Bhd. has demonstrated compliance with the Sabah Standard Principles 5-6 for Chain of Custody and is recommended to receive a GFS Statement of Compliance and Sabah Timber Legality Assurance System Compliance Certificate (TLAS-CC) from SFD.

Gap(s)/Observation(s) identified in this assessment should be addressed before the next surveillance visit. Action required to close the gap(s)/observation(s) include:

Observation 001-2024 - Checklist 5.2.2: SFD, Es Eng Soon and the agent shall ensure removal passes are stamped as "Used."

Observation 002-2024 – Checklist 6.3.3: SFD and Es Eng Soon Trading shall ensure that the volume in removal pass is consistent with the import documents.

The next surveillance visit is scheduled for March 2025.

End of Summary Report