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NHLA Presents the 2009 Forest Stewardship Award to Industrial Timber & Lumber Company

MEMPHIS, TENN. – The National Hardwood Lumber Association has named Industrial Timber & Lumber Company the winner of the 2009 Forest Stewardship Award. ITL was presented the award during the 2009 NHLA Annual Convention & Exhibit Showcase in Boston on October 2, 2009.

For 13 years, NHLA has honored those members who exemplify excellence in forest stewardship through the Forest Stewardship Award. Winners are recognized for their distinguished efforts in five areas of forest stewardship: public education, political involvement, promotion to private forestland owners, land management practices and mill/business activities.

“ITL’s commitment to ‘take personal responsibility for sustaining the timberlands, wildlife habitat and ecosystems in which we work’ is evident in every aspect of the company,” said Dave Redmond, First Vice President upon presenting the award. “It is my sincere honor to present this award to ITL – a great asset to NHLA and the entire hardwood industry.”

ITL is committed to high standards and education, two priorities that shape the foundation of the company’s business structure. ITL believes that today’s youth are key to the forests’ future and therefore is actively involved in educating young people about sustainable forestry through efforts with area schools, after school clubs and by providing college internships.

ITL’s commitment to education isn’t confined to students. The company hosts “Logger Appreciation” events that incorporate silvacultural, operational and safety training, encouraging logging contractors to participate in the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) training and providing additional compensation to loggers who complete and maintain SFI training. ITL also promotes and supports the activities of the Society of American Foresters, of which all ITL foresters are members.

Through its affiliate, Chagrin Land Limited Partnership, ITL owns and manages approximately 35,000 acres of prime hardwood forestland in northwest Pennsylvania and southwest New York. According to ITL President, Larry Evans, “ITL believes the forest should provide what it can and does not allow sawmills to dictate what is harvested from the forest.”

ITL is not only committed to good forest stewardship but is also highly committed to the people who manage the resource and to those who mill, process, package and sell the lumber it produces. It is due to this commitment to the development of the human capital needed to manage the forest resources of North America and its dedication to excellence that Industrial Timber & Lumber Company has been awarded the 2009 Forest Stewardship Award by the National Hardwood Lumber Association.

The world’s largest and oldest hardwood industry association, NHLA represents 1,400 companies and individuals that produce, use and sell North American hardwood lumber, or provide equipment, supplies or services to the hardwood industry. It was founded in 1898 to establish a uniform system of grading rules for the measurement and inspection of hardwood lumber. Since 1980, its headquarters have been in Memphis. To learn more about NHLA, please visit www.nhla.com.

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