

The **Wood Window** Alliance

PRESS RELEASE

Release date: 9 July 2009

WOOD WINDOWS: THE LOW CARBON LIFESTYLE CHOICE

New research from the internationally renowned construction consultants Davis Langdon shows that Wood Window Alliance (WWA) wood windows actually store more CO₂ than they emit over their lifetimes.

This is because all WWA windows are made from wood harvested from sustainably managed forests. In other words, more trees are planted than are harvested, meaning that CO₂ is absorbed from the atmosphere rather than being emitted. This absorption more than balances out WWA wood windows' share of CO₂ emissions – including transport, production, maintenance and disposal.

The results of the study mean that homeowners can now be sure that when they purchase WWA wood windows they are doing their bit for the planet. In fact, calculations carried out by WWA suggest that if all the seven million windows replaced in Britain in 2007 had been made from sustainably sourced timber, the country could have saved around 750,000 tonnes CO₂e³ over a 60-year building service life. So wood really could become the window to a sustainable future.

Since its launch in September 2007, the WWA has forged ahead with its plans to highlight the thermal efficiency, durability and beauty of 21st century wood windows, targeting professional, trade and consumer audiences. And because the WWA puts quality and sustainability at the heart of its campaign, all members must meet high standards to be able to display its heart and tree landmark².

[more/...](#)

For more information on the WWA visit www.woodwindowalliance.com or contact Barnaby Dickens on 0870 458 6939.

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Notes to Editors

¹ Notes on methodology

- The model for calculating the embodied carbon for wood products was derived from discussion and work within CECOP: an informal group of LCA practitioners and methodologists in the construction industry, a number of whom have contributed to the methodology and helped calibrate the data
- The methodology is broadly consistent with PAS 2050 and should be considered as work in progress
- The sources of data are documented in the model and use a wide mix of scientific papers and sources such as Ecoinvent, databases in SimaPro, DEFRA etc.

² To earn the right to become a member, WWA members must make windows which:

- Meet the minimum standards set out in BS 644, the main British Standard for wood windows, or equivalent standards from other countries
- Meet the performance standards for wind and weather resistance of BS 6375 Part 1
- Meet the minimum performance standards for operational aspects of BS 6375 Part 2, or equivalent standards from other countries
- Are accredited by an independent UK or European body to prove compliance with those standards
- Are manufactured from timber, sourced legally from sustainably managed forests, and have Chain of Custody certification through the manufacturing process.
- Have service life warranties for durability, paint life, ironmongery and insulated glass units
- Meet or better the UK Building Regulations recommendations for energy efficiency.

³CO₂e Definition

Carbon dioxide equivalency is a quantity that describes, for a given mixture and amount of greenhouse gas, the amount of CO₂ that would have the same global warming potential (GWP), when measured over a specified timescale (generally, 100 years)

Wood Window Alliance windows are the 'green' choice

- **Carbon negative:** they store more energy than is used in their manufacture
- **Energy efficient:** double or triple-glazed BFRC 'A' rated windows available
- **Low maintenance:** typically they carry an 8 year paint warranty
- **Durable:** typically they carry a 30 year frame warranty

For further information, please contact:

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