



PRESS RELEASE – For immediate publication

**KRUGER, SCIERIE PARENT
OBTAINS ISO 14001 CERTIFICATION**

Montréal, August 23, 2001 The steps taken towards certification for sustainable forest management by the Kruger sawmill, Scierie Parent, in the Upper Mauricie region, has resulted in ISO 14001 certification for the mill's environmental management system (EMS) on July 6th. QMI, the certified external auditors presented the official certificate on August 8th 2001.

“This certification demonstrates Kruger’s commitment toward development of sustainable forest resources, maintenance of biological diversity, and the full cooperation of all who work in the forest”, said Mr. Roger Robitaille, Senior Vice President – Forest and Wood Products Division of Kruger. “It is also a recognition of the many years of hard work and commitment to the continuous improvement of our forest practices on the part of the whole team at Scierie Parent”, he proudly added.

ISO 14001 certification, which applies to the system for environmental management of forest planning and management activities, is not mandatory and is done on a completely voluntary basis. It primarily includes the construction and maintenance of roads, harvesting of wood fiber, silviculture, and management of forest camps, wood transport and weighing operations, while taking into account the needs of all other forest users.

“We received excellent marks; which is quite exceptional for a first external audit”, Mr. Robitaille stressed. During the last few years, Kruger has invested tens of millions of dollars in its forest territories and sawmills in order to better integrate the forest and mill operations and to provide clients with the highest quality products.

Implementation of an EMS ISO 14001 requires the development, implementation and rigorous maintenance of documented methods. The EMS also includes mechanisms for surveillance and verification in order to ensure efficient functioning and the identification and implementation of corrective measures at the right time.

Since Kruger acquired the mill in 1991, Scierie Parent has benefited from over 25 million dollars in modernization projects. The mill produces lumber from jack pine and black spruce. Today, it is one of the best performing sawmills in its category in North America. Annual production of some 140 million foot board measure is sold in Canada, the United States, Japan and the Middle East.

Kruger is sole owner of 5 sawmills: Scierie Parent, Scierie Manic, Scierie Beaulieu, Scierie HCN and Scierie Gallichan. It is also a partner in the prestigious Gérard Crête et Fils group whose Head Office is located in the Upper Mauricie. Kruger – Forest and Wood Products is the 5th largest lumber producer in Québec.

Kruger is a leader in sustainable forest ecosystems and recycling. The company is a major pulp and paper producer engaged in the manufacturing and sale of newsprint, supercalendered and coated grades, specialty publication paper, tissue (Scott Paper Limited – Canada), linerboard, packaging, lumber and other forest products. The company has operations in Québec, Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia and Newfoundland, the United States and the United Kingdom and employs over 10 500 people.

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INFORMATION:

Jean Majeau
General Manager
Corporate and Governmental Affairs
Tel: (514) 343-3213
Cell.: (514) 919-5222
E-mail: jmajeau@kruger.com
Website : www.kruger.com