



New Forests Strengthens Asian Presence with hire of Singapore-based Managing Director

SYDNEY and SINGAPORE, 22 June 2015 – New Forests, a forestry investment management business operating in the Asia-Pacific region and the United States, today announced the appointment of Geoffrey Seeto as Managing Director for the company’s Asian business, which is based in Singapore. New Forests Asia was established in 2008 and is the manager of the Tropical Asia Forest Fund (TAFF), a USD 170 million fund investing in sustainable timber plantations in Southeast Asia. Mr Seeto will be responsible for overseeing investment of TAFF.

“The appointment of Geoffrey Seeto to the new role of Managing Director of New Forests Asia reflects our company’s commitment to expanding our investment footprint in Asia,” said Sydney-based New Forests CEO David Brand. “We are confident that Mr Seeto’s experience across private markets and infrastructure investment in Southeast Asia will support the investment of TAFF in a portfolio of high-quality timber plantation assets.”

Mr Seeto will lead a Singapore-based investment team that includes seven investment professionals, with more than 100 years’ combined experience in timberland investment and forestry.

Mr Seeto will also be a member of the Investment Committee, Executive Committee, and New Forests’ Asian Management Committee. He brings more than 20 years of experience in private markets investment, particularly in infrastructure and Asian private equity. His experience includes diverse senior roles in private equity and the infrastructure, natural resources, and energy sectors.

“New Forests is at the forefront of institutional forestry investment in the Asia-Pacific region,” noted Mr Seeto. “I look forward to building the Tropical Asia Forest Fund portfolio with a diversified set of investments in countries like Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. For investors who can navigate these business environments, there is significant opportunity in sectors like forestry.”

“The investments New Forests is making today are among the first of their kind in this region. I’m pleased to be joining a company with a strong forward-looking vision of how private capital can finance a transition for the region’s forest resources to high-quality, responsible plantation management,” said Mr Seeto.

About New Forests

New Forests (www.newforests.com.au) is a sustainable real assets investment manager providing leading-edge strategies in forestry, land management, and conservation. Founded in 2005, the company offers institutional investors targeted opportunities in the Asia-Pacific region and the United States and has over AUD 2.5 billion in assets under management. New Forests’ clients include pension funds, superannuation funds, and other institutional investors. The company is headquartered in Sydney, Australia with offices in Singapore and San Francisco.

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