

Ugandan President Museveni gives The New Forests Company “Investor of the Year” award

18th January 2008

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni today presented NFC Uganda with an award as “Investor of the Year” in recognition of the company’s investment track record and its commitment to agro-industry, rural job creation, community development and corporate social responsibility.



Mr Julian Ozanne, NFC Chief Executive, received the Silver Award from the President at the 14th Investor of Year awards ceremony at the Africana Hotel in Kampala attended by government ministers, members of parliament and senior private sector businessmen.

“This award belongs to the entire team of New Forests who have worked so hard over the past three years to establish the company as the biggest player in the Ugandan Forestry Industry,” said Mr Ozanne. “This award is a wonderful tribute to the company’s efforts and a recognition by His Excellency the President of the importance of the forestry sector to Uganda’s economy.”

Mr Patric Bitature, Chairman of the Uganda Investment Authority, said: “You have shown such commitment, energy and determination and been a role model for community development and we wish every investor could be like you”

The company recently announced that it had completed its 2007 planting year with a planted area of pine and eucalyptus of 5,157 acres bringing the company’s total planted area to date to 7,250 acres or 4.3 million trees. The company plans to double its planted area in 2008 to almost 15,000 acres (6,000 hectares).

Mr Ozanne also paid tribute to the critical support the company had received from the Uganda Investment Authority and the National Forestry Authority.

Sabena Airlines, a corporate sponsor of the ceremony, presented the company with a round trip business class ticket to Europe.

Mr Lee Cunningham, NFC Chief of Operations, Mr Don Alborough, NFC Uganda General Manager, Mr Pieter du Plessis, Namwasa Plantation Manager, Mr Carl Clur, Kirinya Plantation Manager and Ms Meredith Bates, NFC Social Responsibility Manager, also attended the awards ceremony.