



## PRESS RELEASE

### **3A Composites further expands its balsa plantations to guarantee long-term availability of FSC certified balsa**

***Sins, January 10, 2013* – With its latest purchase of land, 3A Composites increases its balsa plantation base by 20% and now owns almost 10.000 hectares in Ecuador. This significant increase in plantation capacity, combined with investments in machinery, further strengthens 3A Composites’ global leadership in the balsa core materials business. The company’s global customers will profit from the unique guarantee that they will never run out of FSC®-certified balsa.**

With its unrivalled strength and stiffness, balsa is a core material of choice for many sandwich applications ranging from wind rotor blades to marine as well as construction applications. 3A Composites with its extensive plantations is perfectly positioned to offer a long-term and sustainable supply of this natural product. 3A Composites owns the entire product cycle from seedling to finished core material and can guarantee long term supply volumes as well as unrivalled process and quality controls, resulting in the BALTEK® SBC – the only FSC®-certified balsa world-wide.

3A Composites places a strong focus on innovation as well as continuous investment in additional industrialization and automation, combined with a clear commitment to sustainability. Roman Thomassin, CEO of 3A Composites Core Materials states: “Long-term availability guarantees for BALTEK® balsa, combined with tomorrow’s enhanced products, clearly deliver a higher value to our customers and their end products. Our global footprint also assures that we can offer a local supply chain to our customers – worldwide. This proves once more that we remain a reliable partner in a volatile market place.”



### **About 3A Composites Core Materials:**

3A Composites Core Materials is a global organizational unit within 3A Composites, with operations in Europe, North America, South America, India and China. The branded products AIREX® and BALTEK® have pioneered the sandwich technology for almost 70 years. Fabricators use these core materials to make innovative, lightweight sandwich structures for the wind energy, marine and transportation markets as well as other industrial applications. 3A Composites Core Materials is the global leader in answering the markets' and users' needs for sustainable, lightweight and resource-friendly materials to enable the production of lighter and thus more energy efficient end products. In the wind energy market, its core materials are a key factor for growth in the generation of renewable energy.

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