- 157. Under PRC law, county and provincial forestry bureaus have no authority to issue confirmation letters. Such letters cannot be relied upon in a court of law to resolve a dispute and are not a guarantee of title. Notwithstanding this, during the Class Period, Sino made the following misrepresentations:
 - (a) In the 2006 AIF: "In addition, for the purchased tree plantations, we have obtained confirmations from the relevant forestry bureaus that we have the legal right to own the purchased tree plantations for which we have not received certificates" [emphasis added]; and
 - (b) In the 2007 AIF: "For our Purchased Tree Plantations, we have applied for the relevant Plantation Rights Certificates with the competent local forestry departments. As the relevant locations where we purchased our Purchased Tree Plantations have not fully implemented the new form Plantation Rights Certificate, we are not able to obtain all the corresponding Plantation Rights Certificates for our Purchased Tree Plantations. In this connection, we obtained confirmation on our ownership of our Purchased Tree Plantations from the relevant forestry departments." [emphasis added]

E. Misrepresentations relating to Sino's Relationships with its AIs

- 158. In addition to the misrepresentations alleged above in relation to Sino's AIs, including those alleged in Section VI.C hereof (*Misrepresentations relating to Sino's Related Party Transactions*), Sino made the following misrepresentations during the Class Period in relation to its relationships with it AIs.
 - (i) Sino Misrepresents the Degree of its Reliance on its AIs
- 159. On March 30, 2007, Sino issued and filed on SEDAR its 2006 AIF. In that AIF, Sino stated:

...PRC laws and regulations require foreign companies to obtain licenses to engage in any business activities in the PRC. As a result of these requirements, we currently engage in our trading activities through PRC authorized intermediaries that have the requisite business licenses. There is no assurance that the PRC government will not take action to restrict our ability to engage in trading activities through our authorized intermediaries. In order to reduce our reliance on the authorized intermediaries, we intend to use a WFOE in the PRC to enter into contracts directly with suppliers of raw timber, and then process the raw timber, or engage others to process raw timber on its behalf, and sell logs, wood chips and wood-based products to customers, although it would not be able to engage in pure trading activities.

[Emphasis added.]

- 160. In its 2007 AIF, which Sino filed on March 28, 2008, Sino again declared its intention to reduce its reliance upon AIs.
- 161. These statements were false and/or materially misleading when made, inasmuch as Sino had no intention to reduce materially its reliance on AIs, because its AIs were critical to Sino's ability to inflate its revenue and net income. Rather, these statements had the effect of mitigating any investor concern arising from Sino's extensive reliance upon AIs.
- 162. Throughout the Class Period, Sino continued to depend heavily upon AIs for its purported sales of standing timber. In fact, contrary to Sino's purported intention to reduce its reliance on its AIs, Sino's reliance on its AIs in fact *increased* during the Class Period.

- (ii) Sino Misrepresents the Tax-related Risks Arising from its use of AIs
- 163. Throughout the Class Period, Sino materially understated the tax-related risks arising from its use of AIs.
- 164. Tax evasion penalties in the PRC are severe. Depending on whether the PRC authorities seek recovery of unpaid taxes by means of a civil or criminal proceeding, its claims for unpaid tax are subject to either a five- or ten-year limitation period. The unintentional failure to pay taxes is subject to a 0.05% per day interest penalty, while an intentional failure to pay taxes is punishable with fines of up to five times the unpaid taxes, and confiscation of part or all of the criminal's personal properties maybe also imposed.
- 165. Therefore, because Sino professed to be unable to determine whether its AIs have paid required taxes, the tax-related risks arising from Sino's use of AIs were potentially devastating. Sino failed, however, to disclose these aspects of the PRC tax regime in its Class Period disclosure documents, as alleged more particularly below.
- 166. Based upon Sino's reported results, Sino's tax accruals in all of its Impugned Documents that were interim and annual financial statements were materially deficient. For example, depending on whether the PRC tax authorities would assess interest at the rate of 18.75% per annum, or would assess no interest, on the unpaid income taxes of Sino's BVI subsidiaries, and depending also on whether one assumes that Sino's AIs have paid no income taxes or have paid 50% of the income taxes due to the PRC, then Sino's tax accruals in its 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 Audited Annual Financial Statements were understated by, respectively, US\$10 million to US\$150 million, US\$50 million to US\$260 million, US\$81 million to US\$371 million, and US\$83 million to US\$493 million. Importantly, were one to consider the impact of unpaid taxes other than unpaid income taxes (for example, unpaid value-added taxes), then the amounts by

which Sino's tax accruals were understated in these financial statements would be substantially larger.

- 167. The aforementioned estimates of the amounts by which Sino's tax accruals were understated also assume that the PRC tax authorities only impose interest charges on Sino's BVI Subsidiaries and impose no other penalties for unpaid taxes, and assume further that the PRC authorities seek back taxes only for the preceding five years. As indicated above, each of these assumptions is likely to be unduly optimistic. In any case, Sino's inadequate tax accruals violated GAAP, and constituted misrepresentations.
- 168. Sino also violated GAAP in its 2009 Audited Annual Financial Statements by failing to apply to its 2009 financial results the PRC tax guidance that was issued in February 2010. Although that guidance was issued after year-end 2009, GAAP required that Sino apply that guidance to its 2009 financial results, because that guidance was issued in the subsequent events period.
- 169. Based upon Sino's reported profit margins on its dealings with AIs, which margins are extraordinary both in relation to the profit margins of Sino's peers, and in relation to the limited risks that Sino purports to assume in its transactions with its AIs, Sino's AIs are not satisfying their tax obligations, a fact that was either known to the Defendants or ought to have been known. If Sino's extraordinary profit margins are real, then Sino and its AIs must be dividing the gains from non-payment of taxes to the PRC.
- 170. During the Class Period, Sino never disclosed the true nature of the tax-related risks to which it was exposed. This omission, in violation of GAAP, rendered each of the following statements a misrepresentation:

- (a) In the 2006 Annual Financial Statements, note 11 [b] "Provision for tax related liabilities" and associated text;
- (b) In the 2006 Annual MD&A, the subsection "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text;
- (c) In the AIF dated March 30, 2007, the section "Estimation of the Company's provision for income and related taxes," and associated text;
- (d) In the Q1 and Q2 2007 Financial Statements, note 5 "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities," and associated text;
- (e) In the Q3 2007 Financial Statements, note 6 "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities," and associated text;
- (f) In the 2007 Annual Financial Statements, note 13 [b] "Provision for tax related liabilities," and associated text;
- (g) In the 2007 Annual MD&A and Amended 2007 Annual MD&A, the subsection "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text;
- (h) In the AIF dated March 28, 2008, the section "Estimation of the Corporation's provision for income and related taxes," and associated text;
- (i) In the Q1, Q2 and Q3 2008 Financial Statements, note 12 "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities," and associated text;
- (j) In the Q1, Q2 and Q3 2008 MD&As, the subsection "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text;
- (k) In the July 2008 Offering Memorandum, the subsection "Taxation" in the section "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and associated text;

- (l) In the 2008 Annual Financial Statements, note 13 [d] "Provision for tax related liabilities," and associated text;
- (m) In the 2008 Annual MD&A and Amended 2008 Annual MD&A, the subsection "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text;
- (n) In the AIF dated March 31, 2009, the section "We may be liable for income and related taxes to our business and operations, particularly our BVI Subsidiaries, in amounts greater than the amounts we have estimated and for which we have provisioned," and associated text;
- (o) In the Q1, Q2 and Q3 2009 Financial Statements, note 13 "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities," and associated text;
- (p) In the Q1, Q2 and Q3 2009 MD&As, the subsection "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text;
- (q) In the 2009 Annual Financial Statements, note 15 [d] "Provision for tax related liabilities," and associated text;
- (r) In the 2009 Annual MD&A, the subsection "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text;
- (s) In the AIF dated March 31, 2010, the section "We may be liable for income and related taxes to our business and operations, particularly our BVI Subsidiaries, in amounts greater than the amounts we have estimated and for which we have provisioned," and associated text;
- (t) In the Q1 and Q2 2010 Financial Statements, note 14 "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities," and associated text;
- (u) In the Q1 and Q2 2010 MD&As, the subsection "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text;

- (v) In the Q3 2010 Financial Statements, note 14 "Provision and Contingencies for Tax Related Liabilities," and associated text; and
- (w) In the Q3 2010 MD&As, the subsection "Provision and Contingencies for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text;
- (x) In the October 2010 Offering Memorandum, the subsection "Taxation" in the section "Selected Financial Information," and associated text;
- (y) In the 2010 Annual Financial Statements, note 18 "Provision and Contingencies for Tax Related Liabilities," and associated text;
- (z) In the 2010 Annual MD&A, the subsection "Provision and Contingencies for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text; and
- (aa) In the AIF dated March 31, 2011, the section "We may be liable for income and related taxes to our business and operations, particularly our BVI Subsidiaries, in amounts greater than the amounts we have estimated and for which we have provisioned," and associated text.
- 171. In every Impugned Document that is a financial statement, the line item "Accounts payable and accrued liabilities" and associated figures on the Consolidated Balance Sheets fails to properly account for Sino's tax accruals and is a misrepresentation, and a violation of GAAP.
- 172. During the Class Period, Sino also failed to disclose in any of the Impugned Documents that were AIFs, MD&As, financial statements, Prospectuses or Offering Memoranda, the risks relating to the repatriation of its earnings from the PRC. In 2010, Sino added two new sections to its AIF regarding the risk that it would not be able to repatriate earnings from its BVI subsidiaries (which deal with the AIs). The amount of retained earnings that may not be able to be repatriated is stated therein to be US\$1.4 billion. Notwithstanding this disclosure, Sino did not

disclose in these Impugned Documents that it would be unable to repatriate *any* earnings absent proof of payment of PRC taxes, which it has admitted that it lacks.

- (iii) Sino Misrepresents its Accounting Treatment of its AIs
- 173. In addition, there are material discrepancies in Sino's descriptions of its accounting treatment of its AIs. Beginning in the 2003 AIF, Sino described its AIs as follows:

Because of the provisions in the Operational Procedures that specify when we and the authorized intermediary assume the risks and obligations relating to the raw timber or wood chips, as the case may be, we treat these transactions for accounting purposes as providing that we take title to the raw timber when it is delivered to the authorized intermediary. Title then passes to the authorized intermediary once the timber is processed into wood chips. Accordingly, we treat the authorized intermediaries for accounting purposes as being both our suppliers and customers in these transactions.

[Emphasis added.]

174. Sino's disclosures were consistent in that regard up to and including Sino's first AIF issued in the Class Period (the 2006 AIF), which states:

Because of the provisions in the Operational Procedures that specify when we and the AI assume the risks and obligations relating to the raw timber or wood chips, as the case may be, we treat these transactions for accounting purposes as providing that we take title to the raw timber when it is delivered to the AI. Title then passes to the AI once the timber is processed into wood chips. Accordingly, we treat the AI for accounting purposes as being both our supplier and customer in these transactions.

[Emphasis added.]

- 175. In subsequent AIFs, Sino ceased without explanation to disclose whether it treated AIs for accounting purposes as being both the supplier and the customer.
- 176. Following the issuance of Muddy Waters' report on the last day of the Class Period, however, Sino declared publicly that Muddy Waters was "wrong" in its assertion that, for accounting purposes, Sino treated its AIs as being both supplier and customer in transactions. This claim by Sino implies either that Sino misrepresented its accounting treatment of AIs in its

2006 AIF (and in its AIFs for prior years), or that Sino changed its accounting treatment of its AIs after the issuance of its 2006 AIF. If the latter is true, then Sino was obliged by GAAP to disclose its change in its accounting treatment of its AIs. It failed to do so.

F. Misrepresentations relating to Sino's Cash Flow Statements

- 177. Given the nature of Sino's operations, that of a frequent trader of standing timber, Sino improperly accounted for its purchases of timber assets as "Investments" in its Consolidated Statements Of Cash Flow. In fact, such purchases are "Inventory" within the meaning of GAAP, given the nature of Sino's business.
- 178. Additionally, Sino violated the GAAP 'matching' principle in treating timber asset purchases as "Investments" and the sale of timber assets as "Inventory": cash flow that came into the company was treated as cash flow from operations, but cash flow that was spent by Sino was treated as cash flow for investments. As a result, "Additions to timber holding" was improperly treated as a "Cash Flows Used In Investing Activities" instead of "Cash Flows From Operating Activities" and the item "Depletion of timber holdings included in cost of sales" should not be included in "Cash Flows From Operating Activities," because it is not a cash item.
- 179. The effect of these misstatements is that Sino's Cash Flows From Operating Activities were materially overstated throughout the Class Period, which created the impression that Sino was a far more successful cash generator than it was. Such mismatching and misclassification is a violation of GAAP.
- 180. Cash Flows From Operating Activities are one of the crucial metrics used by the financial analysts who followed Sino's performance. These misstatements were designed to, and did, have the effect of causing such analysts to materially overstate the value of Sino. This material

overstatement was incorporated into various research reports made available to the Class Members, the market and the public at large.

- 181. Matching is a foundational requirement of GAAP reporting. E&Y and BDO were aware, at all material times, that Sino was required to adhere to the matching principle. If E&Y and BDO had conducted GAAS-complaint audits, they would have been aware that Sino's reporting was not GAAP compliant with regard to the matching principle. Accordingly, if they had conducted GAAS-compliant audits, the statements by E&Y and BDO that Sino's reporting was GAAP-compliant were not only false, but were made, at a minimum, recklessly.
- 182. Further, at all material times, E&Y and BDO were aware that misstatements in Cash Flows From Operating Activities would materially impact the market's valuation of Sino.
- 183. Accordingly, in every Impugned Document that is a financial statement, the Consolidated Statements Of Cash Flow are a misrepresentation and, particularly, the Cash Flows From Operating Activities item and associated figures is materially overstated, the "additions to timber holdings" item and figures is required to be listed as Cash Flows From Operating Activities, and the "depletion of timber holdings included in cost of sales" item and figures should not have been included.

G. Misrepresentations relating to Certain Risks to which Sino was exposed

(i) Sino is conducting "business activities" in China

184. At material times, PRC law required foreign entities engaging in "business activities" in the PRC to register to obtain and maintain a license. Violation of this requirement could have resulted in both administrative sanctions and criminal punishment, including banning the unlicensed business activities, confiscating illegal income and properties used exclusively therefor, and/or an administrative fines of no more than RMB 500,000. Possible criminal punishment included a criminal fine from 1 to 5 times the amount of the profits gained.

185. Consequently, were Sino's BVI subsidiaries to have been engaged in unlicensed in "business activities" in the PRC during the Class Period, they would have been exposed to risks that were highly material to Sino.

186. Under PRC law, the term "business activities" generally encompasses any for-profit activities, and Sino's BVI subsidiaries were in fact engaged in unlicensed "business activities" in the PRC during the Class Period. However, Sino did not disclose this fact in any of the Impugned Documents, including in its AIFs for 2008-2010, which purported to make full disclosure of the material risks to which Sino was then exposed.

- (ii) Sino fails to disclose that no proceeds were paid to it by its AIs
- 187. In the Second Report, Sino belatedly revealed that:

In practice, proceeds from the Entrusted Sale Agreements are not paid to SF but are held by the AIs as instructed by SF and subsequently used to pay for further purchases of standing timber by the same or other BVIs. The AIs will continue to hold these proceeds until the Company instructs the AIs to use these proceeds to pay for new BVI standing timber purchases. *No proceeds are directly paid to the Company, either onshore or offshore.*

[Emphasis added]

- 188. This material fact was never disclosed in any of the Impugned Documents during the Class Period. On the contrary, Sino made the following statements during the Class Period in relation to the proceeds paid to it by its AIs, each of which was materially misleading and therefore a misrepresentation:
 - (a) In the 2005 financial statements, Sino stated: "As a result, *the majority* of the accounts receivable arising from sales of wood chips and standing timber are realized through instructing the debtors to settle the amounts payable on standing timber and other PRC liabilities" [emphasis added];
 - (b) In the 2006 Annual MD&A, the subsection "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text;
 - (c) In the 2006 financial statements, Sino stated: "As a result, *the majority* of the accounts receivable arising from sales of wood chips and standing timber are realized through instructing the debtors to settle the amounts payable on standing timber and other liabilities denominated in Renminbi" [emphasis added];
 - (d) In the 2007 financial statements, Sino stated: "As a result, *the majority* of the accounts receivable arising from sales of standing timber are realized through instructing the debtors to settle the amounts payable on standing timber and other liabilities denominated in Renminbi;"
 - (e) In the 2008 financial statements, Sino stated: "As a result, *the majority* of the accounts receivable arising from sales of standing timber are realized through instructing the debtors to settle the amounts payable on standing timber and other liabilities denominated in Renminbi" [emphasis added];
 - (f) In the 2009 financial statements, Sino stated: "As a result, *the majority* of the accounts receivable arising from sales of standing timber are realized through instructing the debtors to settle the amounts payable on standing timber and other liabilities denominated in Renminbi" [emphasis added]; and

(g) In the 2010 financial statements, Sino stated: "As a result, *the majority* of the accounts receivable arising from sales of standing timber are realized through instructing the debtors to settle the amounts payable on standing timber and other liabilities denominated in Renminbi" [emphasis added].

H. Misrepresentations relating to Sino's GAAP Compliance and the Auditors' GAAS Compliance

- (i) Sino, Chan and Horsley misrepresent that Sino complied with GAAP
- 189. In each of its Class Period financial statements, Sino represented that its financial reporting was GAAP-compliant, which was a misrepresentation for the reasons set out elsewhere herein.
- 190. In particular, Sino misrepresented in those financial statements that it was GAAP-compliant as follows:
 - (a) In the annual statements filed on March 19, 2007, at Note 1: "These consolidated financial statements Sino-Forest Corporation (the "Company") have been prepared in United States dollars in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles";
 - (b) In the annual financial statements filed on March 18, 2008, at Note 1: "The consolidated financial statements of Sino-Forest Corporation (the "Company") have been prepared in United States dollars and in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles";
 - (c) In the annual financial statements filed on March 16, 2009, at note 1: "The consolidated financial statements of Sino-Forest Corporation (the "Company") have been prepared in United States dollars and in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles";

- (d) In the annual financial statements filed on March 16, 2010, at note 1: "The consolidated financial statements of Sino-Forest Corporation (the "Company") have been prepared in United States dollars and in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles"; and
- (e) In the annual financial statements filed on March 15, 2011, at note 1: "The consolidated financial statements of Sino-Forest Corporation (the "Company") have been prepared in United States dollars and in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles".
- 191. In each of its Class Period MD&As, Sino represented that its reporting was GAAP-compliant, which was a misrepresentation for the reasons set out elsewhere herein.
- 192. In particular, Sino misrepresented in those MD&As that it was GAAP-compliant as follows:
 - (a) In the annual MD&A filed on March 19, 2007: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP)";
 - (b) In the quarterly MD&A filed on May 14, 2007: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP")";
 - (c) In the quarterly MD&A filed on August 13, 2007: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP")";
 - (d) In the quarterly MD&A filed on November 12, 2007: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP")";

- (e) In the annual MD&A filed on March 18, 2008: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP)";
- (f) In the amended annual MD&A filed on March 28, 2008: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP)";
- (g) In the quarterly MD&A filed on May 13, 2008: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP")";
- (h) In the quarterly MD&A filed on August 12, 2008: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP")";
- (i) In the quarterly MD&A filed on November 13, 2008: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP")";
- (j) In the annual MD&A filed on March 16, 2009: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP)";
- (k) In the amended annual MD&A filed on March 17, 2009: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP)";
- (l) In the quarterly MD&A filed on May 11, 2009: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP)";
- (m) In the quarterly MD&A filed on August 10, 2009: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP)";

- (n) In the quarterly MD&A filed on November 12, 2009: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP")";
- (o) In the annual MD&A files on March 16, 2010: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP")";
- (p) In the quarterly MD&A filed on May 12, 2010: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP")";
- (q) In the quarterly MD&A filed on August 10, 2010: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP")";
- (r) In the quarterly MD&A filed on November 10, 2010: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP")"; and
- (s) In the annual MD&A filed on March 15, 2011: "Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP")."
- 193. In the Offerings, Sino represented that its reporting was GAAP-compliant, which was a misrepresentation for the reasons set out elsewhere herein.
- 194. In particular, Sino misrepresented in the Offerings that it was GAAP-compliant as follows:
 - (a) In the July 2008 Offering Memorandum: "We prepare our financial statements on a consolidated basis in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Canada ("Canadian GAAP")[...]," "Our auditors conduct their audit of our

financial statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Canada" and "Each of the foregoing reports or financial statements will be prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles other than for reports prepared for financial periods commencing on or after January 1, 2011 [...]";

- (b) In the June 2009 Offering Memorandum: "We prepare our financial statements on a consolidated basis in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Canada ("Canadian GAAP")[...]," "Our auditors conduct their audit of our financial statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Canada," "The audited and unaudited consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian GAAP," "Our audited and consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008 and our unaudited interim consolidated financial statements for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2008 and 2009 have been prepared in accordance with Canadian GAAP";
- (c) In the June 2009 Offering Memorandum: "We prepare our financial statements on a consolidated basis in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Canada ("Canadian GAAP")[...]," "Our auditors conduct their audit of our financial statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Canada" and "The audited and unaudited consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian GAAP"; and
- (d) In the October 2010 Offering Memorandum: "We prepare our financial statements on a consolidated basis in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Canada ("Canadian GAAP")[...]," "Our auditors conduct their audit of our financial statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Canada," "The audited and unaudited consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian GAAP," "Our audited and consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2008 and 2009 and our unaudited interim consolidated financial statements for the six-

month periods ended June 30, 2009 and 2010 have been prepared in accordance with Canadian GAAP."

- 195. In the Class Period Management's Reports, Chan and Horsley represented that Sino's reporting was GAAP-compliant, which was a misrepresentation for the reasons set out elsewhere herein.
- 196. In particular, Chan and Horsley misrepresented in those Management's Reports that Sino's financial statements were GAAP-compliant as follows:
 - (a) In the annual statements filed on March 19, 2007 Chan and Horlsey stated: "The consolidated financial statements contained in this Annual Report have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles";
 - (b) In the annual financial statements filed on March 18, 2008 Chan and Horlsey stated: "The consolidated financial statements contained in this Annual Report have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles";
 - (c) In the annual financial statements filed on March 16, 2009 Chan and Horlsey stated: "The consolidated financial statements contained in this Annual Report have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles";
 - (d) In the annual financial statements filed on March 16, 2010 Chan and Horlsey stated: "The consolidated financial statements contained in this Annual Report have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles"; and
 - (e) In the annual financial statements filed on March 15, 2011 Chan and Horlsey stated: "The consolidated financial statements contained in this Annual Report

have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles."

(ii) E&Y and BDO misrepresent that Sino complied with GAAP and that they complied with GAAS

197. In each of Sino's Class Period annual financial statements, E&Y or BDO, as the case may be, represented that Sino's reporting was GAAP-compliant, which was a misrepresentation for the reasons set out elsewhere herein. In addition, in each such annual financial statement, E&Y and BDO, as the case may be, represented that they had conducted their audit in compliance with GAAS, which was a misrepresentation because they did not in fact conduct their audits in accordance with GAAS.

198. In particular, E&Y and BDO misrepresented that Sino's financial statements were GAAP-compliant and that they had conducted their audits in compliance with GAAS as follows:

- (a) In Sino's annual financial statements filed on March 19, 2007, BDO stated: "We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards" and "In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at December 31, 2006 and 2005 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles";
- (b) In the June 2007 Prospectus, BDO stated: "We have complied with Canadian generally accepted standards for an auditor's involvement with offering documents";
- (c) In Sino's annual financial statements filed on March 18, 2008, E&Y stated: "We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards" and "In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at

December 31, 2007 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. The financial statements as at December 31, 2006 and for the year then ended were audited by other auditors who expressed an opinion without reservation on those statements in their report dated March 19, 2007";

- (d) In the July 2008 Offering Memorandum, BDO stated: "We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards" and "In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at December 31, 2006 and 2005 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles" and E&Y stated "We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards" and "In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at December 31, 2007 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles";
- (e) In Sino's annual financial statements filed on March 16, 2009, E&Y stated: "We conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards" and "In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at December 31, 2008 and 2007 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles";
- (f) In Sino's annual financial statements filed on March 16, 2010, E&Y stated: "We conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards" and "In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at December 31, 2009 and 2008 and the results of its operations and its cash flows

- for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles"; and
- (g) In Sino's annual financial statements filed on March 15, 2011, E&Y stated: "We conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards." and "In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Sino-Forest corporation as at December 31, 2010 and 2009 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles."
- (iii) The Market Relied on Sino's Purported GAAP-compliance and E&Y's and BDO's purported GAAS-compliance in Sino's Financial Reporting
- 199. As a public company, Sino communicated the results it claimed to have achieved to the Class Members via quarterly and annual financial results, among other disclosure documents. Sino's auditors, E&Y and BDO, as the case may be, were instrumental in the communication of Sino's financial information to the Class Members. The auditors certified that the financial statements were compliant with GAAP and that they had performed their audits in compliance with GAAS. Neither was true.
- 200. The Class Members invested in Sino's securities on the critical premise that Sino's financial statements were in fact GAAP-compliant, and that Sino's auditors had in fact conducted their audits in compliance with GAAS. Sino's reported financial results were also followed by analysts at numerous financial institutions. These analysts promptly reported to the market at large when Sino made earnings announcements, and incorporated into their Sino-related analyses and reports Sino's purportedly GAAP-compliant financial results. These analyses and reports, in turn, significantly affected the market price for Sino's securities.

201. The market, including the Class Members, would not have relied on Sino's financial reporting had the auditors disclosed that Sino's financial statements were not reliable or that they had not followed the processes that would have amply revealed that those statements were reliable.

VII. CHAN'S AND HORSLEY'S FALSE CERTIFICATIONS

202. Pursuant to National Instrument 52-109, the defendants Chan, as CEO, and Horsley, as CFO, were required at the material times to certify Sino's annual and quarterly MD&As and Financial Statements as well as the AIFs (and all documents incorporated into the AIFs). Such certifications included statements that the filings "do not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated or that is necessary to make a statement not misleading in light of the circumstances under which it was made" and that the reports "fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the issuer."

203. As particularized elsewhere herein, however, the Impugned Documents contained the Representation, which was false, as well as the other misrepresentations alleged above. Accordingly, the certifications given by Chan and Horsley were false and were themselves misrepresentations. Chan and Horsley made such false certifications knowingly or, at a minimum, recklessly.

VIII. THE TRUTH IS REVEALED

204. On June 2, 2011, Muddy Waters issued its initial report on Sino, and stated in part therein:

Sino-Forest Corp (TSE: TRE) is the granddaddy of China RTO frauds. It has always been a fraud – reporting excellent results from one of its early joint ventures – even though, because of TRE's default on its investment obligations, the JV never went into operation. TRE just lied.

The foundation of TRE's fraud is a convoluted structure whereby it claims to run most of its revenues through "authorized intermediaries" ("AI"). Als are supposedly timber trader customers who purportedly pay much of TRE's value added and income taxes. At the same time, these AIs allow TRE a gross margin of 55% on standing timber merely for TRE having speculated on trees.

The sole purpose of this structure is to fabricate sales transactions while having an excuse for not having the VAT invoices that are the mainstay of China audit work. If TRE really were processing over one billion dollars in sales through AIs, TRE and the AIs would be in serious legal trouble. No legitimate public company would take such risks – particularly because this structure has zero upside.

[...]

On the other side of the books, TRE massively exaggerates its assets. TRE significantly falsifies its investments in plantation fiber (trees). It purports to have purchased \$2.891 billion in standing timber under master agreements since 2006 [...]

[...]

Valuation

Because TRE has \$2.1 billion in debt outstanding, which we believe exceeds the potential recovery, we value its equity at less than \$1.00 per share.

205. Muddy Waters' report also disclosed that (a) Sino's business is a fraudulent scheme; (b) Sino systemically overstated the value of its assets; (c) Sino failed to disclose various related party transactions; (d) Sino misstated that it had enforced high standards of governance; (e) Sino misstated that its reliance on the AIs had decreased; (f) Sino misrepresented the tax risk associated with the use of AIs; and (g) Sino failed to disclose the risks relating to repatriation of earnings from PRC.

206. After Muddy Waters' initial report became public, Sino shares fell to \$14.46, at which point trading was halted (a decline of 20.6% from the pre-disclosure close of \$18.21). When

trading was allowed to resume the next day, Sino's shares fell to a close of \$5.23 (a decline of 71.3% from June 1).

207. On November 13, 2011 Sino released the Second Report in redacted form. Therein, the Committee summarized its findings:

B. Overview of Principal Findings

The following sets out a very high level overview of the IC's principal findings and should be read in conjunction with the balance of this report.

Timber Ownership

[...]

The Company does not obtain registered title to BVI purchased plantations. In the case of the BVIs' plantations, the IC has visited forestry bureaus, Suppliers and AIs to seek independent evidence to establish a chain of title or payment transactions to verify such acquisitions. The purchase contracts, set-off arrangement documentation and forestry bureau confirmations constitute the documentary evidence as to the Company's contractual or other rights. The IC has been advised that the Company's rights to such plantations could be open to challenge. However, Management has advised that, to date, it is unaware of any such challenges that have not been resolved with the Suppliers in a manner satisfactory to the Company.

Forestry Bureau Confirmations and Plantation Rights Certificates

Registered title, through Plantation Rights Certificates is not available in the jurisdictions (i.e. cities and counties) examined by the IC Advisors for standing timber that is held without land use/lease rights. *Therefore the Company was not able to obtain Plantation Rights Certificates for its BVIs standing timber assets in those areas.* In these circumstances, the Company sought confirmations from the relevant local forestry bureau acknowledging its rights to the standing timber.

The IC Advisors reviewed forestry bureau confirmations for virtually all BVIs assets and non-Mandra WFOE purchased plantations held as at December 31, 2010. The IC Advisors, in meetings organized by Management, met with a sample of forestry bureaus with a view to obtaining verification of the Company's rights to standing timber in those jurisdictions. The result of such meetings to date have concluded with the forestry bureaus or related entities having issued new confirmations as to the Company's contractual rights to the Company in respect of 111,177 Ha. as of December 31, 2010 and 133,040 Ha. as of March 31, 2011, and have acknowledged the issuance of existing confirmations issued to the

Company as to certain rights, among other things, in respect of 113,058 Ha. as of December 31, 2010.

Forestry bureau confirmations are not officially recognized documents and are not issued pursuant to a legislative mandate or, to the knowledge of the IC, a published policy. It appears they were issued at the request of the Company or its Suppliers. The confirmations are not title documents, in the Western sense of that term, although the IC believes they should be viewed as comfort indicating the relevant forestry bureau does not dispute SF's claims to the standing timber to which they relate and might provide comfort in case of disputes. The purchase contracts are the primary evidence of the Company's interest in timber assets.

In the meetings with forestry bureaus, the IC Advisors did not obtain significant insight into the internal authorization or diligence processes undertaken by the forestry bureaus in issuing confirmations and, as reflected elsewhere in this report, the IC did not have visibility into or complete comfort regarding the methods by which those confirmations were obtained. It should be noted that several Suppliers observed that SF was more demanding than other buyers in requiring forestry bureau confirmations.

Book Value of Timber

Based on its review to date, the IC is satisfied that the book value of the BVIs timber assets of \$2.476 billion reflected on its 2010 Financial Statements and of SP WFOE standing timber assets of \$298.6 million reflected in its 2010 Financial Statements reflects the purchase prices for such assets as set out in the BVIs and WFOE standing timber purchase contracts reviewed by the IC Advisors. Further, the purchase prices for such BVIs timber assets have been reconciled to the Company's financial statements based on set-off documentation relating to such contracts that were reviewed by the IC. However, these comments are also subject to the conclusions set out above under "Timber Ownership" on title and other rights to plantation assets.

The IC Advisors reviewed documentation acknowledging the execution of the set-off arrangements between Suppliers, the Company and AIs for the 2006-2010 period. However, the IC Advisors were unable to review any documentation of AIs or Suppliers which independently verified movements of cash in connection with such set-off arrangements between Suppliers, the Company and the AIs used to settle purchase prices paid to Suppliers by AIs on behalf of SF. We note also that the independent valuation referred to in Part VIII below has not yet been completed.

Revenue Reconciliation

As reported in its First Interim Report, the IC has reconciled reported 2010 total revenue to the sales prices in BVIs timber sales contracts, together with macro customer level data from other businesses. However, the IC was unable to review any documentation of AIs or Suppliers which independently verified movements

of cash in connection with set-off arrangements used to settle purchase prices paid, or sale proceeds received by, or on behalf of SF.

Relationships

- Yuda Wood: The IC is satisfied that Mr. Huang Ran is not currently an employee of the Company and that Yuda Wood is not a subsidiary of the Company. However, there is evidence suggesting close cooperation (including administrative assistance, possible payment of capital at the time of establishment, joint control of certain of Yuda Wood's RMB bank accounts and the numerous emails indicating coordination of funding and other business activities). Management has explained these arrangements were mechanisms that allowed the Company to monitor its interest in the timber transactions. Further, Huang Ran (a Yuda Wood employee) has an ownership and/or directorship in a number of Suppliers (See Section VI.B). The IC Advisors have been introduced to persons identified as influential backers of Yuda Wood but were unable to determine the relationships, if any, of such persons with Yuda Wood, the Company or other Suppliers or AIs. Management explanations of a number of Yuda Wood-related emails and answers to E&Y's questions are being reviewed by the IC and may not be capable of independent verification.
- Other: The IC's review has identified other situations which require further review. These situations suggest that the Company may have close relationships with certain Suppliers, and certain Suppliers and AIs may have crossownership and other relationships with each other. The IC notes that in the interviews conducted by the IC with selected AIs and Suppliers, all such parties represented that they were independent of SF. Management has very recently provided information and analysis intended to explain these situations. The IC is reviewing this material from Management and intends to report its findings in this regard in its final report to the Board. Some of such information and explanations may not be capable of independent verification.
- Accounting Considerations: To the extent that any of SF's purchase and sale transactions are with related parties for accounting purposes, the value of these transactions as recorded on the books and records of the Company may be impacted.

[...]

BVI Structure

The BVI structure used by SF to purchase and sell standing timber assets could be challenged by the relevant Chinese authorities as the undertaking of "business activities" within China by foreign companies, which may only be undertaken by entities established within China with the requisite approvals. However, there is no clear definition of what constitutes "business activities" under Chinese law and there are different views among the IC's Chinese counsel and the Company's Chinese counsel as to whether the purchase and sale of timber in China as

undertaken by the BVIs could be considered to constitute "business activities" within China. In the event that the relevant Chinese authorities consider the BVIs to be undertaking "business activities" within China, they may be required to cease such activities and could be subject to other regulatory action. As regularization of foreign businesses in China is an ongoing process, the government has in the past tended to allow foreign companies time to restructure their operations in accordance with regulatory requirements (the cost of which is uncertain), rather than enforcing the laws strictly and imposing penalties without notice. See Section II.B.2

C. Challenges

Throughout its process, the IC has encountered numerous challenges in its attempts to implement a robust independent process which would yield reliable results. Among those challenges are the following:

- (a) Chinese Legal Regime for Forestry:
- national laws and policies appear not yet to be implemented at all local levels;
- in practice, none of the local jurisdictions tested in which BVIs hold standing timber appears to have instituted a government registry and documentation system for the ownership of standing timber as distinct from a government registry system for the ownership of plantation land use rights;
- the registration of plantation land use rights, the issue of Plantation Rights Certificates and the establishment of registries, is incomplete in some jurisdictions based on the information available to the IC;
- as a result, title to standing timber, when not held in conjunction with a land use right, cannot be definitively proven by reference to a government maintained register; and
- Sino-Forest has requested confirmations from forestry bureaus of its acquisition of timber holdings (excluding land leases) as additional evidence of ownership. Certain forestry bureaus and Suppliers have indicated the confirmation was beyond the typical diligence practice in China for acquisition of timber holdings.
- (b) Obtaining Information from Third Parties: For a variety of reasons, all of them outside the control of the IC, it is very difficult to obtain information from third parties in China. These reasons include the following:
- many of the third parties from whom the IC wanted information (e.g., AIs, Suppliers and forestry bureaus) are not compellable by the Company or Canadian legal processes;
- third parties appeared to have concerns relating to disclosure of information regarding their operations that could become public or fall into the hands of

Chinese government authorities: many third parties explained their reluctance to provide requested documentation and information as being "for tax reasons" but declined to elaborate; and

• awareness of MW allegations, investigations and information gathering by the OSC and other parties, and court proceedings; while not often explicitly articulated, third parties had an awareness of the controversy surrounding SF and a reluctance to be associated with any of these allegations or drawn into any of these processes.

[...]

- (e) Corporate Governance/Operational Weaknesses: Management has asserted that business in China is based upon relationships. The IC and the IC Advisors have observed this through their efforts to obtain meetings with forestry bureaus, Suppliers and AIs and their other experience in China. The importance of relationships appears to have resulted in dependence on a relatively small group of Management who are integral to maintaining customer relationships, negotiating and finalizing the purchase and sale of plantation fibre contracts and the settlement of accounts receivable and accounts payable associated with plantation fibre contracts. This concentration of authority or lack of segregation of duties has been previously disclosed by the Company as a control weakness. As a result and as disclosed in the 2010 MD&A, senior Management in their ongoing evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures and internal controls over financial reporting, recognizing the disclosed weakness, determined that the design and controls were ineffective. The Chairman and Chief Financial Officer provided annual and quarterly certifications of their regulatory filings. Related to this weakness the following challenges presented themselves in the examination by the IC and the IC Advisors:
- operational and administration systems that are generally not sophisticated having regard to the size and complexity of the Company's business and in relation to North American practices; including:
 - incomplete or inadequate record creation and retention practices;
 - contracts not maintained in a central location;
 - significant volumes of data maintained across multiple locations on decentralized servers:
 - data on some servers in China appearing to have been deleted on an irregular basis, and there is no back-up system;
 - no integrated accounting system: accounting data is not maintained on a single, consolidated application, which can require extensive manual procedures to produce reports; and

- a treasury function that was centralized for certain major financial accounts, but was not actively involved in the control or management of numerous local operations bank accounts;
- *no internal audit function* although there is evidence the Company has undertaken and continues to assess its disclosure controls and procedures and internal controls over financial reporting using senior Management and independent control consultants;
- SF employees conduct Company affairs from time to time using personal devices and non-corporate email addresses which have been observed to be shared across groups of staff and changed on a periodic and organized basis; this complicated and delayed the examination of email data by the IC Advisors; and
- lack of full cooperation/openness in the ICs examination from certain members of Management.
- (f) Complexity, Lack of Visibility into, and Limitations of BVIs Model: The use of AIs and Suppliers as an essential feature of the BVIs standing timber business model contributes to the lack of visibility into title documentation, cash movements and tax liability since cash settlement in respect of the BVIs standing timber transactions takes place outside of the Company's books.
- (g) Cooperation and openness of the Company's executives throughout the process: From the outset, the IC Advisors sought the full cooperation and support of Allen Chan and the executive management team. Initially, the executive management team appeared ill-prepared to address the IC's concerns in an organized fashion and there was perhaps a degree of culture shock as Management adjusted to the IC Advisors' examination. In any event, significant amounts of material information, particularly with respect to the relationship with Yuda Wood, interrelationships between AIs and/or Suppliers, were not provided to the IC Advisors as requested. In late August 2011 on the instructions of the IC, interviews of Management were conducted by the IC Advisors in which documents evidencing these connections were put to the Management for explanation. As a result of these interviews (which were also attended by BJ) the Company placed certain members of Management on administrative leave upon the advice of Company counsel. At the same time the OSC made allegations in the CTO of Management misconduct.

[...]

(h) Independence of the IC Process: The cooperation and collaboration of the IC with Management (operating under the direction of the new Chief Executive Officer) and with Company counsel in completing certain aspects of the IC's mandate has been noted by the OSC and by E&Y. Both have questioned the degree of independence of the IC from Management as a result of this interaction. The IC has explained the practical impediments to its work in the context of the distinct business culture (and associated issues of privacy) in the

forestry sector in China in which the Company operates. Cooperation of third parties in Hong Kong and China, including employees, depends heavily on relationships and trust. As noted above, the Company's placing certain members of Management on administrative leave, as well as the OSC's allegations in the CTO, further hampered the IC's ability to conduct its process. As a result, the work of the IC was frequently done with the assistance of, or in reliance on, the new Chief Executive Officer and his Management team and Company counsel. Given that Mr. Martin was, in effect, selected by the IC and BJ was appointed in late June 2011, the IC concluded that, while not ideal, this was a practical and appropriate way to proceed in the circumstances. As evidenced by the increased number of scheduled meetings with forestry bureaus, Suppliers and AIs, and, very recently, the delivery to the IC of information regarding AIs and Suppliers and relationships among the Company and such parties, it is acknowledged that Mr. Martin's involvement in the process has been beneficial. It is also acknowledged that in executing his role and assisting the IC he has had to rely on certain of the members of Management who had been placed on administrative leave.

[Emphasis added]

208. On January 31, 2012, Sino released the Final Report. In material part, it read:

This Final Report of the IC sets out the activities undertaken by the IC since mid-November, the findings from such activities and the IC's conclusions regarding its examination and review. The IC's activities during this period have been limited as a result of Canadian and Chinese holidays (Christmas, New Year and Chinese New Year) and the extensive involvement of IC members in the Company's Restructuring and Audit Committees, both of which are advised by different advisors than those retained by the IC. The IC believes that, notwithstanding there remain issues which have not been fully answered, the work of the IC is now at the point of diminishing returns because much of the information which it is seeking lies with non-compellable third parties, may not exist or is apparently not retrievable from the records of the Company.

In December 2011, the Company defaulted under the indentures relating to its outstanding bonds with the result that its resources are now more focused on dealing with its bondholders. This process is being overseen by the Restructuring Committee appointed by the Board. Pursuant to the Waiver Agreement dated January 18, 2012 between the Company and the holders of a majority of the principal amount of its 2014 Notes, the Company agreed, among other things, that the final report of the IC to the Board would be made public by January 31, 2012.

Given the circumstances described above, the IC understands that, with the delivery of this Final Report, its review and examination activities are terminated. the IC does not expect to undertake further work other than assisting with responses to regulators and the RCMP as required and engaging in such further specific activities as the IC may deem advisable or the Board may instruct. The

IC has asked the IC Advisors to remain available to assist and advise the IC upon its instructions.

[...]

II. RELATIONSHIPS

The objectives of the IC's examination of the Company's relationships with its AIs and Suppliers were to determine, in light of the MW allegations, if such relationships are arm's length and to obtain, if possible, independent verification of the cash flows underlying the set-off transactions described in Section II.A of the Second Interim Report. That the Company's relationships with its AIs and Suppliers be arm's length is relevant to SF's ability under GAAP to:

- book its timber assets at cost in its 2011 and prior years' financial statements, both audited and unaudited
- recognize revenue from standing timber sales as currently reflected in its 2011 and prior years' financial statements, both audited and unaudited.

A. Yuda Wood

Yuda Wood was founded in April 2006 and was until 2010 a Supplier of SF. Its business with SF from 2007 to 2010 totalled approximately 152,164 Ha and RMB 4.94 billion. Section VI.A and Schedule VI.A.2(a) of the Second Interim Report described the MW allegations relating to Yuda Wood, the review conducted by the IC and its findings to date. The IC concluded that Huang Ran is not currently an employee, and that Yuda Wood is not a subsidiary, of the Company. *However, there is evidence suggesting a close cooperation between SF and Yuda Wood which the IC had asked Management to explain.* At the time the Second Interim Report was issued, the IC was continuing to review Management's explanations of a number of Yuda Wood-related emails and certain questions arising therefrom.

Subsequent to the issuance of its Second Interim Report in mid-November, the IC, with the assistance of the IC Advisors, has reviewed the Management responses provided to date relating to Yuda Wood and has sought further explanations and documentary support for such explanations. This was supplementary to the activities of the Audit Committee of SF and its advisors who have had during this period primary carriage of examining Management's responses on the interactions of SF and Yuda Wood. While many answers and explanations have been obtained, the IC believes that they are not yet sufficient to allow it to fully understand the nature and scope of the relationship between SF and Yuda Wood. Accordingly, based on the information it has obtained, the IC is still unable to independently verify that the relationship of Yuda Wood is at arm's length to SF. It is to be noted that Management is of the view that Yuda Wood is unrelated to SF for accounting purposes. The IC remains satisfied that Yuda is not a subsidiary of SF. Management continues to undertake work related to Yuda

Wood, including seeking documentation from third parties and responding to emails where the responses are not yet complete or prepared. Management has provided certain banking records to the Audit Committee that the Audit Committee advises support Management's position that SF did not capitalize Yuda Wood (but that review is not yet completed). The IC anticipates that Management will continue to work with the Audit Committee, Company counsel and E&Y on these issues.

B. Other Relationships

Section VI.B.1 of the Second Interim Report described certain other relationships which had been identified in the course of the IC's preparation for certain interviews with AIs and Suppliers. These relationships include (i) thirteen Suppliers where former SF employees, consultants or secondees are or have been directors, officers and/or shareholders (including Yuda Wood); (ii) an AI with a former SF employee in a senior position; (iii) potential relationships between AIs and Suppliers; (iv) set-off payments for BVI standing timber purchases being made by companies that are not AIs and other setoff arrangements involving non-AI entities; (v) payments by AIs to potentially connected Suppliers; and (vi) sale of standing timber to an AI potentially connected to a Supplier of that timber. Unless expressly addressed herein, the IC has no further update of a material nature on the items raised above.

On the instructions of the IC, the IC Advisors gave the details of these possible relationships to Management for further follow up and explanation. Just prior to the Second Interim Report, Management provided information regarding AIs and Suppliers relationships among the Company and such parties.

This information was in the form of a report dated November 10, 2011, subsequently updated on November 21, 2011 and January 20, 2012 (the latest version being the "Kaitong Report") prepared by Kaitong Law Firm ("Kaitong"), a Chinese law firm which advises the Company. The Kaitong Report has been separately delivered to the Board. Kaitong has advised that much of the information in the Kaitong Report was provided by Management and has not been independently verified by such law firm or the IC.

[...]

The Kaitong Report generally describes certain relationships amongst AIs and Suppliers and certain relationships between their personnel and Sino-Forest, either identified by Management or through SAIC and other searches. The Kaitong Report also specifically addresses certain relationships identified in the Second Interim Report. The four main areas of information in the Kaitong Report are as follows and are discussed in more detail below:

(i) Backers to Suppliers and AIs: The Kaitong Report explains the concept of "backers" to both Suppliers and AIs. The Kaitong Report suggests that backers are individuals with considerable influence in political, social or business circles,

or all three. The Kaitong Report also states that such backers or their identified main business entities do not generally appear in SAIC filings by the Suppliers or AIs as shareholders thereof and, in most instances, in any other capacity.

- (ii) Suppliers and AIs with Former SF Personnel: The appendices to the Kaitong Report list certain Suppliers that have former SF personnel as current shareholders.
- (iii) Common Shareholders Between Suppliers and AIs: The Kaitong Report states that there are 5 Suppliers and 3 AIs with current common shareholders but there is no cross majority ownership positions between Suppliers and AIs.
- (iv) Transactions Involving Suppliers and AIs that have Shareholders in common: The Kaitong Report states that, where SF has had transactions with Suppliers and AIs that have certain current shareholders in common as noted above, the subject timber in those transactions is not the same; that is, the timber which SF buys from such Suppliers and the timber which SF sells to such AIs are located in different counties or provinces.

The IC Advisors have reviewed the Kaitong Report on behalf of the IC. The IC Advisors liaised with Kaitong and met with Kaitong and current and former Management. A description of the Kaitong Report and the IC's findings and comments are summarized below. By way of summary, the Kaitong Report provides considerable information regarding relationships among Suppliers and AIs, and between them and SF, but much of this information related to the relationship of each backer with the associated Suppliers and AIs is not supported by any documentary or other independent evidence. As such, some of the information provided is unverified and, particularly as it relates to the nature of the relationships with the backers, is viewed by the IC to be likely unverifiable by it.

1. Backers to Suppliers and AIs

[...]

Given the general lack of information on the backers or the nature and scope of the relationships between the Suppliers or AIs and their respective backers and the absence of any documentary support or independent evidence of such relationships, the IC has been unable to reach any conclusion as to the existence, nature or importance of such relationships. As a result, the IC is unable to assess the implications, if any, of these backers with respect to SF's relationships with its Suppliers or AIs. Based on its experience to date, including interviews with Suppliers and AIs involving persons who have now been identified as backers in the Kaitong Report, the IC believes that it would be very difficult for the IC Advisors to arrange interviews with either the AIs or Suppliers or their respective backers and, if arranged, that such interviews would yield very little, if any, verifiable information to such advisors. The IC understands Management is continuing to seek meetings with its AIs and Suppliers with the objective of

obtaining information, to the extent such is available, that will provide further background to the relationships to the Audit Committee.

[...]

2. Suppliers and AIs with Former SF Personnel

The Appendices to the Kaitong Report list the Suppliers with former SF personnel as current shareholders. According to the information previously obtained by the IC Advisors, the identification of former SF personnel indicated in the Kaitong Report to be current shareholders of past or current Suppliers is correct.

(a) Suppliers with former SF personnel

The Kaitong Report, which is limited to examining Suppliers where ex-SF employees are current shareholders as shown in SAIC filings, does not provide material new information concerning Suppliers where former SF employees were identified by the IC in the Second Interim Report as having various past or present connections to current or former Suppliers except that the Kaitong Report provides an explanation of two transactions identified in the Second Interim Report. These involved purchases of standing timber by SF from Suppliers controlled by persons who were employees of SF at the time of these transactions. Neither of the Suppliers have been related to an identified backer in the Kaitong Report. The explanations are similar indicating that neither of the SF employees was an officer in charge of plantation purchases or one of SF's senior management at the time of the transactions. The employees in question were Shareholder #14 in relation to a RMB 49 million purchase from Supplier #18 in December 2007 (shown in SAIC filings to be 100% owned by him) and Shareholder #20 in relation to a RMB 3.3 million purchase from Supplier #23 (shown in SAIC filings to be 70% owned by him) in October 2007. The Kaitong Report indicates Shareholder #20 is a current employee of SF who then had responsibilities in SF's wood board production business.

The IC is not aware that the employees' ownership positions were brought to the attention of the Board at the time of the transactions or, subsequently, until the publication of the Second Interim Report and understands the Audit Committee will consider such information.

(b) AIs with former SF personnel

The Kaitong Report indicates that no SF employees are listed in SAIC filing reports as current shareholders of AIs. Except as noted herein, the IC agrees with this statement. The Kaitong Report does not address the apparent role of an exemployee Officer #3 who was introduced to the IC as the person in charge of AI #2 by Backer #5 of AI Conglomerate #1. Backer #5 is identified in the Kaitong Report as a backer of two AIs, including AI#2. (The Kaitong Report properly does not include AI #14. as an AI for this purpose, whose 100% shareholder is former SF employee Officer #3. However, the IC is satisfied that the activities of

this entity primarily relate to certain onshoring transactions that facilitated the transfer of SF BVI timber assets to SF WFOE subsidiaries.)

There was one other instance where a past shareholding relationship has been identified between an AI #10 and persons who were previously or are still shown on the SF human resources records, Shareholder #26 and Shareholder #27. Management has explained that such entity sold wood board processing and other assets to SF and that the persons associated with that company consulted with SF after such sale in relation to the purchased wood board processing assets. Such entity subsequently also undertook material timber purchases as an AI of SF in 2007-2008 over a time period in which such persons are shown as shareholders of such AI in the SAIC filing reviewed (as to 47.5% for Shareholder #26 and as to 52.5% for Shareholder #27). That time period also intersects the time that Shareholder #26 is shown in such human resources records and partially intersects the time that Shareholder #27 is shown on such records. Management has also explained that Shareholder #26 subsequent to the time of such AI sales became an employee of a SF wood board processing subsidiary. Management has provided certain documentary evidence of its explanations. The IC understands that the Audit Committee will consider this matter.

3. Common Shareholders between Supplier and AIs

The Kaitong Report states that there are 5 Suppliers and 3 AIs that respectively have certain common current shareholders but also states that there is no cross control by those current shareholders of such Suppliers or AIs based on SAIC filings. The Kaitong Report correctly addresses current cross shareholdings in Suppliers and AIs based on SAIC filings but does not address certain other shareholdings. With the exception of one situation of cross control in the past, the IC has not identified a circumstance in the SAIC filings reviewed where the same person controlled a Supplier at the time it controlled a different AI. The one exception is that from April 2002 to February 2006, AI #13 is shown in SAIC filings as the 90% shareholder of Supplier/AI #14. AI #13 did business with SF BVIs from 2005 through 2007 and Supplier/AI #14 supplied SF BVIs from 2004 through 2006. However, the IC to date has only identified one contract involving timber bought from Supplier/AI #14 that was subsequently sold to AI #13. It involved a parcel of 2,379 Ha. timber sold to AI #13 in December 2005 that originated from a larger timber purchase contract with Supplier/AI #14 earlier that year. Management has provided an explanation for this transaction. The IC understands that the Audit Committee will consider this matter.

4. Transactions involving Suppliers and AIs with Current Shareholders in Common

The Kaitong Report states that where SF has had transactions with 5 Suppliers and 3 AIs that have current shareholders in common (but no one controlling shareholder) as shown in SAIC filings, the subject timber in the transactions they

each undertook with SF is not the same; that is, the timber which SF buys from the Suppliers and the timber which SF sells to the AIs where the Supplier and AI have a current common shareholder were located in different areas and do not involve the same plots of timber. The Kaitong Report further states that where SF has had transactions with 5 Suppliers and 3 AIs with current shareholders in common as shown in SAIC filings, SF had transactions with those AIs prior to having transactions with those Suppliers, thus SF was not overstating its transactions by buying and selling to the same counterparties.

[...]

The Kaitong Report does not specifically address historical situations involving common shareholders and potential other interconnections between AIs and Suppliers that may appear as a result of the identification of backers. There is generally no ownership connection shown in SAIC filings between backers and the Suppliers and AIs associated with such backers in the Kaitong Report.

[...]

VI. OUTSTANDING MATTERS

As noted in Section I above, the IC understands that with the delivery of this report, its examination and review activities are terminated. The IC would expect its next steps may include only:

- (a) assisting in responses to regulators and RCMP as required; and
- (b) such other specific activities as it may deem advisable or the Board may instruct.

[Emphasis added]

IX. SINO REWARDS ITS EXPERTS

209. Bowland, Hyde and West are former E&Y partners and employees. They served on Sino's Audit Committee but purported to exercise oversight of their former E&Y colleagues. In addition, Sino's Vice-President, Finance (Corporate), Thomas M. Maradin, is a former E&Y employee.

- 210. The charter of Sino's Audit Committee required that Ardell, Bowland, Hyde and West "review and take action to eliminate all factors that might impair, or be perceived to impair, the independence of the Auditor." Sino's practice of appointing E&Y personnel to its board and paying them handsomely (for example, Hyde was paid \$163,623 by Sino in 2010, \$115,962 in 2009, \$57,000 in 2008 and \$55,875 in 2007, plus options and other compensation) undermined the Audit Committee's oversight of E&Y.
- 211. E&Y's independence was impaired by the significant non-audit fees it was paid during 2008-2010, which total \$712,000 in 2008, \$1,225,000 in 2009 and \$992,000 in 2010.
- 212. Further, Andrew Fyfe, the former Asia-Pacific President for Pöyry Forestry Industry Ltd, was appointed Chief Operating Officer of Greenheart, and is the director of several Sino subsidiaries. Fyfe signed the Pöyry valuation report dated June 30, 2004, March 22, 2005, March 23, 2006, March 14, 2008 and April 1, 2009.
- 213. George Ho, Sino's Vice President, Finance (China), is a former Senior Manager of the BDO.

X. THE DEFENDANTS' RELATIONSHIP TO THE CLASS

- 214. By virtue of their purported accounting, financial and/or managerial acumen and qualifications, and by virtue of their having assumed, voluntarily and for profit, the role of gatekeepers, the Defendants had a duty at common law, informed by the Securities Legislation and/or the *CBCA*, to exercise care and diligence to ensure that the Impugned Documents fairly and accurately disclosed Sino's financial condition and performance in accordance with GAAP.
- 215. Sino is a reporting issuer and had an obligation to make timely, full, true and accurate disclosure of material facts and changes with respect to its business and affairs.

- 216. The Individual Defendants, by virtue of their positions as senior officers and/or directors of Sino, owed a duty to the Class Members to ensure that public statements on behalf of Sino were not untrue, inaccurate or misleading. The continuous disclosure requirements in Canadian securities law mandated that Sino provide the Impugned Documents, including quarterly and annual financial statements. These documents were meant to be read by Class Members who acquired Sino's Securities in the secondary market and to be relied on by them in making investment decisions. This public disclosure was prepared to attract investment, and Sino and the Individual Defendants intended that Class Members would rely on public disclosure for that purpose. With respect to Prospectuses and Offering Memoranda, these documents were prepared for primary market purchasers. They include detailed content as mandated under Canadian securities legislation, national instruments and OSC rules. They were meant to be read by the Class Members who acquired Sino's Securities in the primary market, and to be relied on by them in making decisions about whether to purchase the shares or notes under the Offerings to which these Prospectuses and Offering Memoranda related.
- 217. Chan and Horsley had statutory obligations under Canadian securities law to ensure the accuracy of disclosure documents and provided certifications in respect of the annual reports, financial statements and Prospectuses during the Class Period. The other Individual Defendants were directors of Sino during the Class Period and each had a statutory obligation as a director under the *CBCA* to manage or supervise the management of the business and affairs of Sino. These Individual Defendants also owed a statutory duty of care to shareholders under section 122 of the *CBCA*. In addition, Poon, along with Chan, co-founded Sino and has been its president since 1994. He is intimately aware of Sino's operations and as a long-standing senior officer, he

had an obligation to ensure proper disclosure. Poon authorized, permitted or acquiesced in the release of the Impugned Documents.

- 218. BDO and E&Y acted as Sino's auditors and provided audit reports in Sino's annual financial statements that were directed to shareholders. These audit reports specified that BDO and E&Y had conducted an audit in accordance with GAAS, which was untrue, and included their opinions that the financial statements presented fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Sino, the results of operations and Sino's cash flows, in accordance with GAAP. BDO and E&Y knew and intended that Class Members would rely on the audit reports and assurances about the material accuracy of the financial statements.
- 219. Dundee, Merrill, Credit Suisse, Scotia, CIBC, RBC, Maison, Canaccord and TD each signed one or more of the Prospectuses and certified that, to the best of its knowledge, information and belief, the particular prospectus, together with the documents incorporated therein by reference, constituted full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the securities offered thereby. These defendants knew that the Class Members who acquired Sino's Securities in the primary market would rely on these assurances and the trustworthiness that would be credited to the Prospectuses because of their involvement. Further, those Class Members that purchased shares under these Prospectuses purchased their shares from these defendants as principals.
- 220. Credit Suisse USA, TD and Banc of America acted as initial purchasers or dealer managers for one or more of the note Offerings. These defendants knew that persons purchasing these notes would rely on the trustworthiness that would be credited to the Offering Memoranda because of their involvement.

XI. THE PLAINTIFFS' CAUSES OF ACTION

A. Negligent Misrepresentation

- 221. As against all Defendants except Pöyry and the Underwriters, and on behalf of all Class Members who acquired Sino's Securities in the secondary market, the Plaintiffs plead negligent misrepresentation for all of the Impugned Documents except the Offering Memoranda.
- 222. Labourers and Wong, on behalf of Class Members who purchased Sino Securities in one of the distributions to which a Prospectus related, plead negligent misrepresentation as against Sino, Chan, Horsley, Poon, Wang, Martin, Mak, Murray, Hyde, BDO, E&Y, Dundee, Merrill, Credit Suisse, Scotia, CIBC, RBC, Maison, Canaccord and TD for the Prospectuses.
- 223. Grant, on behalf of Class Members who purchased Sino Securities in one of the distributions to which an Offering Memorandum related, pleads negligent misrepresentation as against Sino, BDO and E&Y for the Offering Memoranda.
- 224. In support of these claims, the sole misrepresentation that the Plaintiffs plead is the Representation. The Representation is contained in the language relating to GAAP particularized above, and was untrue for the reasons particularized elsewhere herein.
- 225. The Impugned Documents were prepared for the purpose of attracting investment and inducing members of the investing public to purchase Sino securities. The Defendants knew and intended at all material times that those documents had been prepared for that purpose, and that the Class Members would rely reasonably and to their detriment upon such documents in making the decision to purchase Sino securities.
- 226. The Defendants further knew and intended that the information contained in the Impugned Documents would be incorporated into the price of Sino's publicly traded securities

such that the trading price of those securities would at all times reflect the information contained in the Impugned Documents.

- 227. As set out elsewhere herein, the Defendants, other than Pöyry, Credit Suisse USA and Banc of America, had a duty at common law to exercise care and diligence to ensure that the Impugned Documents fairly and accurately disclosed Sino's financial condition and performance in accordance with GAAP.
- 228. These Defendants breached that duty by making the Representation as particularized above.
- 229. The Plaintiffs and the other Class Members directly or indirectly relied upon the Representation in making a decision to purchase the securities of Sino, and suffered damages when the falsity of the Representation was revealed on June 2, 2011.
- 230. Alternatively, the Plaintiffs and the other Class Members relied upon the Representation by the act of purchasing Sino securities in an efficient market that promptly incorporated into the price of those securities all publicly available material information regarding the securities of Sino. As a result, the repeated publication of the Representation in these Impugned Documents caused the price of Sino's shares to trade at inflated prices during the Class Period, thus directly resulting in damage to the Plaintiffs and Class Members.

B. Statutory Claims, Negligence, Oppression, Unjust Enrichment and Conspiracy

- (i) Statutory Liability–Secondary Market under the Securities Legislation
- 231. The Plaintiffs plead the claim found in Part XXIII.1 of the *OSA*, and, if required, the equivalent sections of the Securities Legislation other than the *OSA*, against all Defendants except the Underwriters.

- 232. Each of the Impugned Documents except for the December 2009 and October 2010 Offering Memoranda is a "Core Document" within the meaning of the Securities Legislation.
- 233. Each of these Impugned Documents contained one or more misrepresentations as particularized above. Such misrepresentations and the Representation are misrepresentations for the purposes of the Securities Legislation.
- 234. Each of the Individual Defendants was an officer and/or director of Sino at material times. Each of the Individual Defendants authorized, permitted or acquiesced in the release of some or all of these Impugned Documents.
- 235. Sino is a reporting issuer within the meaning of the Securities Legislation.
- 236. E&Y is an expert within the meaning of the Securities Legislation. E&Y consented to the use of its statements particularized above in these Impugned Documents.
- 237. BDO is an expert within the meaning of the Securities Legislation. BDO consented to the use of its statements particularize above in these Impugned Documents.
- 238. Pöyry is an expert within the meaning of the Securities Legislation. Pöyry consented to the use of its statements particularized above in these Impugned Documents.
- 239. At all material times, each of Sino, Chan, Poon and Horsley, BDO and E&Y knew or, in the alternative, was wilfully blind to the fact, that the Impugned Documents contained the Representation and that the Representation was false, and that the Impugned Documents contained other of the misrepresentations that are alleged above to have been contained therein.
 - (ii) Statutory Liability Primary Market for Sino's Shares under the Securities Legislation
- 240. As against Sino, Chan, Horsley, Wang, Martin, Mak, Murray, Hyde, Pöyry, BDO, E&Y, Dundee, Merrill, Credit Suisse, Scotia, CIBC, RBC, Maison, Canaccord and TD, and on behalf

of those Class Members who purchased Sino shares in one of the distributions to which the June 2009 or December 2009 Prospectuses related, Labourers and Wong assert the cause of action set forth in s. 130 of the *OSA* and, if necessary, the equivalent provisions of the Securities Legislation other than the *OSA*.

- 241. Sino issued the June 2009 and December 2009 Prospectuses, which contained the Representation and the other misrepresentations that are alleged above to have been contained in those Prospectuses or in the Sino disclosure documents incorporated therein by reference.
 - (iii) Statutory Liability Primary Market for Sino's Notes under the Securities Legislation
- 242. As against Sino, and on behalf of those Class Members who purchased or otherwise acquired Sino's notes in one of the offerings to which the July 2008, June 2009, December 2009, and October 2010 Offering Memoranda related, Grant asserts the cause of action set forth in s. 130.1 of the *OSA* and, if necessary, the equivalent provisions of the Securities Legislation other than the *OSA*.
- 243. Sino issued the July 2008, June 2009, December 2009 and October 2010 Offering Memoranda, which contained the Representation and the other misrepresentations that are alleged above to have been contained in those Offering Memoranda or in the Sino disclosure documents incorporated therein by reference.
 - (iv) Negligence Simpliciter Primary Market for Sino's Securities
- 244. Sino, Chan, Poon, Horsley, Wang, Martin, Mak, Murray, Hyde, BDO, E&Y, Pöyry and the Underwriters (collectively, the "**Primary Market Defendants**") acted negligently in connection with one or more of the Offerings.
- 245. As against Sino, Chan, Horsley, Poon, Wang, Martin, Mak, Murray, Hyde, BDO, E&Y, Pöyry, Dundee, Merrill, Credit Suisse, Scotia, CIBC, RBC, Maison, Canaccord and TD, and on

behalf of those Class Members who purchased Sino's Securities in one of the distributions to which those Prospectuses related, Labourers and Wong assert negligence simpliciter.

- 246. As against Sino, BDO, E&Y, Pöyry, Credit Suisse USA, Banc of America and TD, and on behalf of those Class Members who purchased Sino's Securities in one of the distributions to which the Offering Memoranda related, Grant asserts negligence simpliciter.
- 247. The Primary Market Defendants owed a duty of care to ensure that the Prospectuses and/or the Offering Memoranda they issued, or authorized to be issued, or in respect of which they acted as an underwriter, initial purchaser or dealer manager, made full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the Securities offered thereby, or to ensure that their opinions or reports contained in such Prospectuses and Offering Memoranda did not contain a misrepresentation.
- 248. At all times material to the matters complained of herein, the Primary Market Defendants ought to have known that such Prospectuses or Offering Memoranda and the documents incorporated therein by reference were materially misleading in that they contained the Representation and the other misrepresentations particularized above.
- 249. Chan, Poon, Horsley, Wang, Martin, Mak, Murray and Hyde were senior officers and/or directors at the time the Offerings to which the Prospectuses related. These Prospectuses were created for the purposes of obtaining financing for Sino's operations. Chan, Horsley, Martin and Hyde signed each of the Prospectuses and certified that they made full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the shares offered. Wang, Mak and Murray were directors during one or more of these Offerings and each had a statutory obligation to manage or supervise the management of the business and affairs of Sino. Poon was a director for the June 2007 share Offering and was president of Sino at the time of the June 2009 and December 2009 Offering.

Poon, along with Chan, co-founded Sino and has been the president since 1994. He is intimately aware of Sino's business and affairs.

- 250. The Underwriters acted as underwriters, initial purchasers or dealer managers for the Offerings to which the Prospectuses and Offering Memoranda related. They had an obligation to conduct due diligence in respect of those Offerings and ensure that those Securities were offering at a price that reflected their true value or that such distributions did not proceed if inappropriate. In addition, Dundee, Merrill, Credit Suisse, Scotia, CIBC, RBC, Maison, Canaccord and TD signed one or more of the Prospectuses and certified that to the best of their knowledge, information and belief, the Prospectuses constituted full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts relating to the shares offered.
- 251. E&Y and BDO acted as Sino's auditors and had a duty to maintain or to ensure that Sino maintained appropriate internal controls to ensure that Sino's disclosure documents adequately and fairly presented the business and affairs of Sino on a timely basis.
- 252. Pöyry had a duty to ensure that its opinions and reports reflected the true nature and value of Sino's assets. Pöyry, at the time it produced each of the 2008 Valuations, 2009 Valuations, and 2010 Valuations, specifically consented to the inclusion of those valuations or a summary at any time that Sino or its subsidiaries filed any documents on SEDAR or issued any documents pursuant to which any securities of Sino or any subsidiary were offered for sale.
- 253. The Primary Market Defendants have violated their duties to those Class Members who purchased Sino's Securities in the distributions to which a Prospectus or an Offering Memorandum related.

- 254. The reasonable standard of care expected in the circumstances required the Primary Market Defendants to prevent the distributions to which the Prospectuses or the Offering Memoranda related from occurring prior to the correction of the Representation and the other misrepresentations alleged above to have been contained in the Prospectuses or the Offering Memoranda, or in the documents incorporated therein by reference. Those Defendants failed to meet the standard of care required by causing the Offerings to occur before the correction of such misrepresentations.
- 255. In addition, by failing to attend and participate in Sino board and board committee meetings to a reasonable degree, Murray and Poon effectively abdicated their duties to the Class Members and as directors of Sino.
- 256. Sino, E&Y, BDO and the Individual Defendants further breached their duty of care as they failed to maintain or to ensure that Sino maintained appropriate internal controls to ensure that Sino's disclosure documents adequately and fairly presented the business and affairs of Sino on a timely basis.
- 257. Had the Primary Market Defendants exercised reasonable care and diligence in connection with the distributions to which the Prospectuses related, then securities regulators likely would not have issued a receipt for any of the Prospectuses, and those distributions would not have occurred, or would have occurred at prices that reflected the true value of Sino's shares.
- 258. Had the Primary Market Defendants exercised reasonable care and diligence in connection with the distributions to which the Offering Memoranda related, then those distributions would not have occurred, or would have occurred at prices that reflected the true value of Sino's notes.

- 259. The Primary Market Defendants' negligence in relation to the Prospectuses and the Offering Memoranda resulted in damage to Labourers, Grant and Wong, and to the other Class Members who purchased Sino's Securities in the related distributions. Had those Defendants satisfied their duty of care to such Class Members, then those Class Members would not have purchased the Securities that they acquired under the Prospectuses or the Offering Memoranda, or they would have purchased them at a much lower price that reflected their true value.
- (v) Unjust Enrichment of Chan, Martin, Poon, Horsley, Mak and Murray
 260. As a result of the Representation and the other misrepresentations particularized above,
 Sino's shares traded, and were sold by Chan, Martin, Poon, Horsley, Mak and Murray, at
 artificially inflated prices during the Class Period.
- 261. Chan, Martin, Poon, Horsley, Mak and Murray were enriched by their wrongful acts and omissions during the Class Period, and the Class Members who purchased Sino shares from such Defendants suffered a corresponding deprivation.
- 262. There was no juristic reason for the resulting enrichment of Chan, Martin, Poon, Horsley, Mak and Murray.
- 263. The Class Members who purchased Sino shares from Chan, Martin, Poon, Horsley, Mak and Murray during the Class Period are entitled to the difference between the price they paid to such Defendants for such shares, and the price that they would have paid had the Defendants not made the Representation and the other misrepresentations particularized above, and had not committed the wrongful acts and omissions particularized above.

- (vi) Unjust Enrichment of Sino
- 264. Throughout the Class Period, Sino made the Offerings. Such Offerings were made via various documents, particularized above, that contained the Representation and the misrepresentations particularized above.
- 265. The Securities sold by Sino via the Offerings were sold at artificially inflated prices as a result of the Representation and the others misrepresentations particularized above.
- 266. Sino was enriched by, and those Class Members who purchased the Securities via the Offerings were deprived of, an amount equivalent to the difference between the amount for which the Securities offered were actually sold, and the amount for which such securities would have been sold had the Offerings not included the Representation and the misrepresentations particularized above.
- 267. The Offerings violated Sino's disclosure obligations under the Securities Legislation and the various instruments promulgated by the securities regulators of the Provinces in which such Offerings were made. There was no juristic reason for the enrichment of Sino.

(vi) Unjust Enrichment of the Underwriters

- 268. Throughout the Class Period, Sino made the Offerings. Such Offerings were made via the Prospectuses and the Offering Memoranda, which contained the Representation and the other misrepresentations particularized above. Each of the Underwriters underwrote one or more of the Offerings.
- 269. The Securities sold by Sino via the Offerings were sold at artificially inflated prices as a result of the Representation and the other misrepresentations particularized above. The Underwriters earned fees from the Class, whether directly or indirectly, for work that they never

performed, or that they performed with gross negligence, in connection with the Offerings, or some of them.

- 270. The Underwriters were enriched by, and those Class Members who purchased securities via the Offerings were deprived of, an amount equivalent to the fees the Underwriters earned in connection with the Offerings.
- 271. The Offerings violated Sino's disclosure obligations under the Securities Legislation and the various instruments promulgated by the securities regulators of the Provinces in which such Offerings were made. There was no juristic reason for the enrichment of the Underwriters.
- 272. In addition, some or all of the Underwriters also acted as brokers in secondary market transactions relating to Sino securities, and earned trading commissions from the Class Members in those secondary market transactions in Sino's Securities. Those Underwriters were enriched by, and those Class Members who purchased Sino securities through those Underwriters in their capacity as brokers were deprived of, an amount equivalent to the commissions the Underwriters earned on such secondary market trades.
- 273. Had those Underwriters who also acted as brokers in secondary market transactions exercised reasonable diligence in connection with the Offerings in which they acted as Underwriters, then Sino's securities likely would not have traded at all in the secondary market, and the Underwriters would not have been paid the aforesaid trading commissions by the Class Members. There was no juristic reason for that enrichment of those Underwriters through their receipt of trading commissions from the Class Members.

(vii) Oppression

274. The Plaintiffs and the other Class Members had a reasonable and legitimate expectation that Sino and the Individual Defendants would use their powers to direct the company for Sino's

best interests and, in turn, in the interests of its security holders. More specifically, the Plaintiffs and the other Class Members had a reasonable expectation that:

- (a) Sino and the Individual Defendants would comply with GAAP, and/or cause Sino to comply with GAAP;
- (b) Sino and the Individual Defendants would take reasonable steps to ensure that the Class Members were made aware on a timely basis of material developments in Sino's business and affairs;
- (c) Sino and the Individual Defendants would implement adequate corporate governance procedures and internal controls to ensure that Sino disclosed material facts and material changes in the company's business and affairs on a timely basis;
- (d) Sino and the Individual Defendants would not make the misrepresentations particularized above;
- (e) Sino stock options would not be backdated or otherwise mispriced; and
- (f) the Individual Defendants would adhere to the Code.

275. Such reasonable expectations were not met as:

- (a) Sino did not comply with GAAP;
- (b) the Class Members were not made aware on a timely basis of material developments in Sino's business and affairs;
- (c) Sino's corporate governance procedures and internal controls were inadequate;
- (d) the misrepresentations particularized above were made;
- (e) stock options were backdated and/or otherwise mispriced; and
- (f) the Individual Defendants did not adhere to the Code.

- 276. Sino's and the Individual Defendants' conduct was oppressive and unfairly prejudicial to the Plaintiffs and the other Class Members and unfairly disregarded their interests. These defendants were charged with the operation of Sino for the benefit of all of its shareholders. The value of the shareholders' investments was based on, among other things:
 - (a) the profitability of Sino;
 - (b) the integrity of Sino's management and its ability to run the company in the interests of all shareholders;
 - (c) Sino's compliance with its disclosure obligations;
 - (d) Sino's ongoing representation that its corporate governance procedures met with reasonable standards, and that the business of the company was subjected to reasonable scrutiny; and
 - (e) Sino's ongoing representation that its affairs and financial reporting were being conducted in accordance with GAAP.
- 277. This oppressive conduct impaired the ability of the Plaintiffs and other Class Members to make informed investment decisions about Sino's securities. But for that conduct, the Plaintiffs and the other Class Members would not have suffered the damages alleged herein.
 - (viii) Conspiracy
- 278. Sino, Chan, Poon and Horsley conspired with each other and with persons unknown (collectively, the "Conspirators") to inflate the price of Sino's securities. During the Class Period, the Conspirators unlawfully, maliciously and lacking bona fides, agreed together to, among other things, make the Representation and other misrepresentations particularized above, and to profit from such misrepresentations by, among other things, issuing stock options in respect of which the strike price was impermissibly low.

- 279. The Conspirators' predominant purposes in so conspiring were to:
 - (a) inflate the price of Sino's securities, or alternatively, maintain an artificially high trading price for Sino's securities;
 - (b) artificially increase the value of the securities they held; and
 - (c) inflate the portion of their compensation that was dependent in whole or in part upon the performance of Sino and its securities.
- 280. In furtherance of the conspiracy, the following are some, but not all, of the acts carried out or caused to be carried out by the Conspirators:
 - (a) they agreed to, and did, make the Representation, which they knew was false;
 - (b) they agreed to, and did, make the other misrepresentations particularized above, which they knew were false;
 - (c) they caused Sino to issue the Impugned Documents which they knew to be materially misleading;
 - (d) as alleged more particularly below, they caused to be issued stock options in respect of which the strike price was impermissibly low; and
 - (e) they authorized the sale of securities pursuant to Prospectuses and Offering Memoranda that they knew to be materially false and misleading.
- 281. Stock options are a form of compensation used by companies to incentivize the performance of directors, officers and employees. Options are granted on a certain date (the 'grant date') at a certain price (the 'exercise' or 'strike' price). At some point in the future, typically following a vesting period, an options-holder may, by paying the strike price, exercise the option and convert the option into a share in the company. The option-holder will make money as long as the option's strike price is lower than the market price of the security at the

moment that the option is exercised. This enhances the incentive of the option recipient to work to raise the stock price of the company.

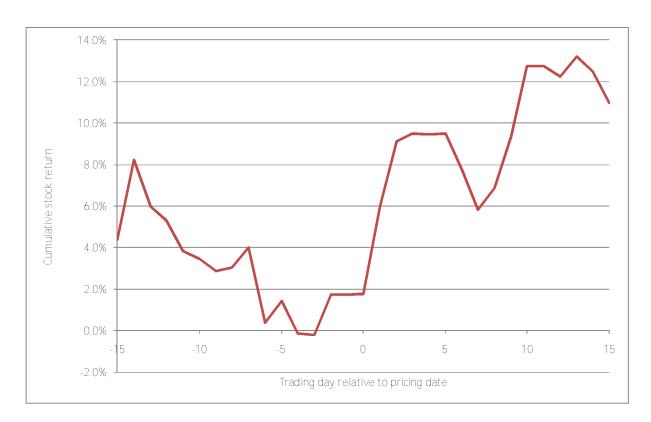
282. There are three types of option grants:

- (a) 'in-the-money' grants are options granted where the strike price is lower than the market price of the security on the date of the grant; such options are not permissible under the TSX Rules and have been prohibited by the TSX Rules at all material times;
- (b) 'at-the-money' grants are options granted where the strike price is equal to the market price of the security on the date of the grant or the closing price the day prior to the grant; and
- (c) 'out-of-the-money' grants are options granted where the strike price is higher than the market price of the security on the date of the grant.
- 283. Both at-the-money and out-of-the-money options are permissible under the TSX Rules and have been at all material times.
- 284. The purpose of both at-the-money and out-of-the-money options is to create incentives for option recipients to work to raise the share price of the company. Such options have limited value at the time of the grant, because they entitle the recipient to acquire the company's shares at or above the price at which the recipient could acquire the company's shares in the open market. Options that are in-the-money, however, have substantial value at the time of the grant irrespective of whether the company's stock price rises subsequent to the grant date.
- 285. At all material times, the Sino Option Plan (the "Plan") prohibited in-the-money options.
- 286. The Conspirators backdated and/or otherwise mispriced Sino stock options, or caused the backdating and/or mispricing of Sino stock options, in violation of, inter alia: (a) the *OSA* and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder; (b) the Plan; (c) GAAP; (d) the Code; (e) the TSX

Rules; and (f) the Conspirators' statutory, common law and contractual fiduciary duties and duties of care to Sino and its shareholders, including the Class Members.

287. The Sino stock options that were backdated or otherwise mispriced included those issued on June 26, 1996 to Chan, January 21, 2005 to Horsley, September 14, 2005 to Horsley, June 4, 2007 to Horsley and Chan, August 21, 2007 to Sino insiders other than the Conspirators, November 23, 2007 to George Ho and other Sino insiders, and March 31, 2009 to Sino insiders other than the Conspirators.

288. The graph below shows the average stock price returns for fifteen trading days prior and subsequent to the dates as of which Sino priced its stock options to its insiders. As appears therefrom, on average the dates as of which Sino's stock options were priced were preceded by a substantial decline in Sino's stock price, and were followed by a dramatic increase in Sino's stock price. This pattern could not plausibly be the result of chance.



- 289. The conspiracy was unlawful because the Conspirators knowingly and intentionally committed the foregoing acts when they knew such conduct was in violation of, *inter alia*, the *OSA*, the Securities Legislation other than the *OSA*, the Code, the rules and requirements of the TSX (the "TSX Rules") and the *CBCA*. The Conspirators intended to, and did, harm the Class by causing artificial inflation in the price of Sino's securities.
- 290. The Conspirators directed the conspiracy toward the Plaintiffs and the other Class Members. The Conspirators knew in the circumstances that the conspiracy would, and did, cause loss to the Plaintiffs and the other Class Members. The Plaintiffs and the Class Members suffered damages when the falsity of the Representation and other misrepresentations were revealed on June 2, 2011.

XII. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SINO'S DISCLOSURES AND THE PRICE OF SINO'S SECURITIES

- 291. The price of Sino's securities was directly affected during the Class Period by the issuance of the Impugned Documents. The Defendants were aware at all material times of the effect of Sino's disclosure documents upon the price of its Sino's securities.
- 292. The Impugned Documents were filed, among other places, with SEDAR and the TSX, and thereby became immediately available to, and were reproduced for inspection by, the Class Members, other members of the investing public, financial analysts and the financial press.
- 293. Sino routinely transmitted the documents referred to above to the financial press, financial analysts and certain prospective and actual holders of Sino securities. Sino provided either copies of the above referenced documents or links thereto on its website.

- 294. Sino regularly communicated with the public investors and financial analysts via established market communication mechanisms, including through regular disseminations of their disclosure documents, including press releases on newswire services in Canada, the United States and elsewhere. Each time Sino communicated that new material information about Sino financial results to the public the price of Sino securities was directly affected.
- 295. Sino was the subject of analysts' reports that incorporated certain of the material information contained in the Impugned Documents, with the effect that any recommendations to purchase Sino securities in such reports during the Class Period were based, in whole or in part, upon that information.
- 296. Sino's securities were and are traded, among other places, on the TSX, which is an efficient and automated market. The price at which Sino's securities traded promptly incorporated material information from Sino's disclosure documents about Sino's business and affairs, including the Representation, which was disseminated to the public through the documents referred to above and distributed by Sino, as well as by other means.

XIII. VICARIOUS LIABILITY

A. Sino and the Individual Defendants

- 297. Sino is vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of the Individual Defendants particularized in this Claim.
- 298. The acts or omissions particularized and alleged in this Claim to have been done by Sino were authorized, ordered and done by the Individual Defendants and other agents, employees and representatives of Sino, while engaged in the management, direction, control and transaction of the business and affairs of Sino. Such acts and omissions are, therefore, not only the acts and omissions of the Individual Defendants, but are also the acts and omissions of Sino.

299. At all material times, the Individual Defendants were officers and/or directors of Sino. As their acts and omissions are independently tortious, they are personally liable for same to the Plaintiffs and the other Class Members.

B. E&Y

300. E&Y is vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of each of its officers, directors, partners, agents and employees as set out above.

301. The acts or omissions particularized and alleged in this Claim to have been done by E&Y were authorized, ordered and done by its officers, directors, partners, agents and employees, while engaged in the management, direction, control and transaction of the business and affairs of E&Y. Such acts and omissions are, therefore, not only the acts and omissions of those persons, but are also the acts and omissions of E&Y.

C. BDO

302. BDO is vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of each of its officers, directors, partners, agents and employees as set out above.

303. The acts or omissions particularized and alleged in this Claim to have been done by BDO were authorized, ordered and done by its officers, directors, partners, agents and employees, while engaged in the management, direction, control and transaction of the business and affairs of BDO. Such acts and omissions are, therefore, not only the acts and omissions of those persons, but are also the acts and omissions of BDO.

D. Pöyry

304. Pöyry is vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of each of its officers, directors, partners, agents and employees as set out above.

305. The acts or omissions particularized and alleged in this Claim to have been done by Pöyry were authorized, ordered and done by its officers, directors, partners, agents and employees, while engaged in the management, direction, control and transaction of the business and affairs of Pöyry. Such acts and omissions are, therefore, not only the acts and omissions of those persons, but are also the acts and omissions of Pöyry.

E. The Underwriters

306. The Underwriters are vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of each of their respective officers, directors, partners, agents and employees as set out above.

307. The acts or omissions particularized and alleged in this Claim to have been done by the Underwriters were authorized, ordered and done by each of their respective officers, directors, partners, agents and employees, while engaged in the management, direction, control and transaction of the business and affairs such Underwriters. Such acts and omissions are, therefore, not only the acts and omissions of those persons, but are also the acts and omissions of the respective Underwriters.

XIV. REAL AND SUBSTANTIAL CONNECTION WITH ONTARIO

308. The Plaintiffs plead that this action has a real and substantial connection with Ontario because, among other thing:

- (a) Sino is a reporting issuer in Ontario;
- (b) Sino's shares trade on the TSX which is located in Toronto, Ontario;
- (c) Sino's registered office and principal business office is in Mississauga, Ontario;
- (d) the Sino disclosure documents referred to herein were disseminated in and from Ontario;
- (e) a substantial proportion of the Class Members reside in Ontario;

- (f) Sino carries on business in Ontario; and
- (g) a substantial portion of the damages sustained by the Class were sustained by persons and entities domiciled in Ontario.

XV. SERVICE OUTSIDE OF ONTARIO

- 309. The Plaintiffs may serve the Notice of Action and Statement of Claim outside of Ontario without leave in accordance with rule 17.02 of the Rules of Civil Procedure, because this claim is:
 - (a) a claim in respect of personal property in Ontario (para 17.02(a));
 - (b) a claim in respect of damage sustained in Ontario (para 17.02(h));
 - (c) a claim authorized by statute to be made against a person outside of Ontario by a proceeding in Ontario (para 17.02(n)); and
 - (d) a claim against a person outside of Ontario who is a necessary or proper party to a proceeding properly brought against another person served in Ontario (para 17.02(o)); and
 - (e) a claim against a person ordinarily resident or carrying on business in Ontario (para 17.02(p)).

XVI. RELEVANT LEGISLATION, PLACE OF TRIAL, JURY TRIAL AND HEADINGS

- 310. The Plaintiffs plead and rely on the *CJA*, the *CPA*, the Securities Legislation and *CBCA*, all as amended.
- 311. The Plaintiffs propose that this action be tried in the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, as a proceeding under the *CPA*.

- 312. The Plaintiffs will serve a jury notice.
- 313. The headings contained in this Statement of Claim are for convenience only. This Statement of Claim is intended to be read as an integrated whole, and not as a series of unrelated components.

January 26, 2012

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Lawyers for the Plaintiffs

Trustees of the Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada, et al.

and

Sino-Forest Corporation, *et al.*

•

Court File No.: CV-11-431153-00CP

Plaintiffs

Defendants

ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

Proceeding commenced at Toronto

Proceeding under the Class Proceedings Act, 1992

FRESH AS AMENDED STATEMENT OF CLAIM (NOTICE OF ACTION ISSUED JULY 20, 2011)

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Plaintiffs

and

Sino-Forest Corporation, et al.

Defendants

Court File No: CV-11-431153-00CP

ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

Proceeding commenced at Toronto

Proceedings Under the Class Proceedings Act, 1992

ORDER

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Lawyers for the Plaintiffs



ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE COMMERCIAL LIST

)	MONDAY, THE 14th
)	
)	DAY OF MAY, 2012

IN THE MATTER OF THE *COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE AND ARRANGEMENT OF SINO-FOREST CORPORATION

CLAIMS PROCEDURE ORDER

THIS MOTION, made by Sino-Forest Corporation (the "Applicant") for an order establishing a claims procedure for the identification and determination of certain claims was heard this day at 330 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.

ON READING the Applicant's Notice of Motion, the affidavit of W. Judson Martin sworn on May 2, 2012, the Second Report of FTI Consulting Canada Inc. (the "Monitor") dated April 30, 2012 (the "Monitor's Second Report") and the Supplemental Report to the Monitor's Second Report dated May 12, 2012 (the "Supplemental Report"), and on hearing the submissions of counsel for the Applicant, the Applicant's directors, the Monitor, the *ad hoc* committee of Noteholders (the "Ad Hoc Noteholders"), and those other parties present, no one appearing for the other parties served with the Applicant's Motion Record, although duly served as appears from the affidavit of service, filed:

SERVICE

1. THIS COURT ORDERS that the time for service of the Notice of Motion, the Motion Record, the Monitor's Second Report and the Supplemental Report is hereby abridged and

validated such that this Motion is properly returnable today and hereby dispenses with further service thereof.

DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

- 2. The following terms shall have the following meanings ascribed thereto:
 - (a) "2013 and 2016 Trustee" means The Bank of New York Mellon, in its capacity as trustee for the 2013 Notes and the 2016 Notes;
 - (b) "2014 and 2017 Trustee" means Law Debenture Trust Company of New York, in its capacity as trustee for the 2014 Notes and the 2017 Notes;
 - (c) "2013 Note Indenture" means the indenture dated as of July 23, 2008, by and between the Applicant, the entities listed as subsidiary guarantors thereto, and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee, as amended, modified or supplemented;
 - (d) "2014 Note Indenture" means the indenture dated as of July 27, 2009 entered into by and between the Applicant, the entities listed as subsidiary guarantors thereto, and Law Debenture Trust Company of New York, as trustee, as amended, modified or supplemented;
 - (e) "2016 Note Indenture" means the indenture dated as of December 17, 2009, by and between the Applicant, the entities listed as subsidiary guarantors thereto, and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee, as amended, modified or supplemented;
 - (f) "2017 Note Indenture" means the indenture dated as of October 21, 2010, by and between the Applicant, the entities listed as subsidiary guarantors thereto, and Law Debenture Trust Company of New York, as trustee, as amended, modified or supplemented;
 - (g) "2013 Notes" means the US\$345,000,000 of 5.00% Convertible Senior Notes Due 2013 issued pursuant to the 2013 Note Indenture;

- (h) "2014 Notes" means the US\$399,517,000 of 10.25% Guaranteed Senior Notes

 Due 2014 issued pursuant to the 2014 Note Indenture;
- (i) "2016 Notes" means the US\$460,000,000 of 4.25% Convertible Senior Notes Due 2016 issued pursuant to the 2016 Note Indenture;
- (j) "2017 Notes" means the US\$600,000,000 of 6.25% Guaranteed Senior Notes Due 2017 issued pursuant to the 2017 Note Indenture;
- (k) "Administration Charge" has the meaning given to that term in paragraph 37 of the Initial Order;
- (l) "BIA" means the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3, as amended;
- (m) "Business Day" means a day, other than a Saturday or a Sunday, on which banks are generally open for business in Toronto, Ontario;
- (n) "CCAA" means the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, as amended;
- (o) "CCAA Proceedings" means the proceedings commenced by the Applicant in the Court under Court File No. CV-12-9667-00CL;
- (p) "CCAA Service List" means the service list in the CCAA Proceedings posted on the Monitor's Website, as amended from time to time;
- (q) "Claim" means:
 - (i) any right or claim of any Person that may be asserted or made in whole or in part against the Applicant, whether or not asserted or made, in connection with any indebtedness, liability or obligation of any kind whatsoever, and any interest accrued thereon or costs payable in respect thereof, including by reason of the commission of a tort (intentional or unintentional), by reason of any breach of contract or other agreement

(oral or written), by reason of any breach of duty (including any legal, statutory, equitable or fiduciary duty) or by reason of any right of ownership of or title to property or assets or right to a trust or deemed trust (statutory, express, implied, resulting, constructive or otherwise), and whether or not any indebtedness, liability or obligation is reduced to judgment, liquidated, unliquidated, fixed, contingent, matured, unmatured, disputed, undisputed, legal, equitable, secured, unsecured, present or future, known or unknown, by guarantee, surety or otherwise, and whether or not any right or claim is executory or anticipatory in nature, including any right or ability of any Person (including Directors and Officers) to advance a claim for contribution or indemnity or otherwise with respect to any matter, action, cause or chose in action, whether existing at present or commenced in the future, which indebtedness, liability or obligation, and any interest accrued thereon or costs payable in respect thereof (A) is based in whole or in part on facts prior to the Filing Date, (B) relates to a time period prior to the Filing Date, or (C) is a right or claim of any kind that would be a claim provable in bankruptcy within the meaning of the BIA had the Applicant become bankrupt on the Filing Date, or an Equity Claim (each a "Prefiling Claim", and collectively, the "Prefiling Claims");

- (ii) a Restructuring Claim; and
- (iii) a Secured Claim;

provided, however, that "Claim" shall not include an Excluded Claim, a D&O Claim or a D&O Indemnity Claim;

(r) "Claimant" means any Person having a Claim, a D&O Claim or a D&O Indemnity Claim and includes the transferee or assignee of a Claim, a D&O Claim or a D&O Indemnity Claim transferred and recognized as a Claimant in accordance with paragraphs 46 and 47 hereof or a trustee, executor, liquidator, receiver, receiver and manager, or other Person acting on behalf of or through such Person;

- (s) "Claimants' Guide to Completing the D&O Proof of Claim" means the guide to completing the D&O Proof of Claim form, in substantially the form attached as Schedule "E-2" hereto;
- (t) "Claimants' Guide to Completing the Proof of Claim" means the guide to completing the Proof of Claim form, in substantially the form attached as Schedule "E" hereto;
- (u) "Claims Bar Date" means June 20, 2012;
- (v) "Class" means the National Class and the Quebec Class;
- (w) "Court" means the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (Commercial List);
- (x) "Creditors' Meeting" means any meeting of creditors called for the purpose of considering and voting in respect of the Plan, if one is filed, to be scheduled pursuant to further order of the Court;
- "D&O Claim" means, other than an Excluded Claim, (i) any right or claim of any (y) Person that may be asserted or made in whole or in part against one or more Directors or Officers that relates to a Claim for which such Directors or Officers are by law liable to pay in their capacity as Directors or Officers, or (ii) any right or claim of any Person that may be asserted or made in whole or in part against one or more Directors or Officers, in that capacity, whether or not asserted or made, in connection with any indebtedness, liability or obligation of any kind whatsoever, and any interest accrued thereon or costs payable in respect thereof, including by reason of the commission of a tort (intentional or unintentional), by reason of any breach of contract or other agreement (oral or written), by reason of any breach of duty (including any legal, statutory, equitable or fiduciary duty) or by reason of any right of ownership of or title to property or assets or right to a trust or deemed trust (statutory, express, implied, resulting, constructive or otherwise), and whether or not any indebtedness, liability or obligation, and any interest accrued thereon or costs payable in respect thereof, is reduced to judgment, liquidated, unliquidated, fixed, contingent, matured, unmatured,

disputed, undisputed, legal, equitable, secured, unsecured, present or future, known or unknown, by guarantee, surety or otherwise, and whether or not any right or claim is executory or anticipatory in nature, including any right or ability of any Person to advance a claim for contribution or indemnity from any such Directors or Officers or otherwise with respect to any matter, action, cause or chose in action, whether existing at present or commenced in the future, which indebtedness, liability or obligation, and any interest accrued thereon or costs payable in respect thereof (A) is based in whole or in part on facts prior to the Filing Date, or (B) relates to a time period prior to the Filing Date;

- (z) "D&O Indemnity Claim" means any existing or future right of any Director or Officer against the Applicant which arose or arises as a result of any Person filing a D&O Proof of Claim in respect of such Director or Officer for which such Director or Officer is entitled to be indemnified by the Applicant;
- (aa) "D&O Indemnity Claims Bar Date" has the meaning set forth in paragraph 19 of this Order;
- (bb) "D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim" means the indemnity proof of claim in substantially the form attached as Schedule "F" hereto to be completed and filed by a Director or Officer setting forth its purported D&O Indemnity Claim;
- (cc) "D&O Proof of Claim" means the proof of claim in substantially the form attached as Schedule "D-2" hereto to be completed and filed by a Person setting forth its purported D&O Claim and which shall include all supporting documentation in respect of such purported D&O Claim;
- (dd) "Directors" means anyone who is or was, or may be deemed to be or have been, whether by statute, operation of law or otherwise, a director or *de facto* director of the Applicant;
- (ee) "Directors' Charge" has the meaning given to that term in paragraph 26 of the Initial Order;

- (ff) "Dispute Notice" means a written notice to the Monitor, in substantially the form attached as Schedule "B" hereto, delivered to the Monitor by a Person who has received a Notice of Revision or Disallowance, of its intention to dispute such Notice of Revision or Disallowance;
- (gg) "Employee Amounts" means all outstanding wages, salaries and employee benefits (including, employee medical, dental, disability, life insurance and similar benefit plans or arrangements, incentive plans, share compensation plans and employee assistance programs and employee or employer contributions in respect of pension and other benefits), vacation pay, commissions, bonuses and other incentive payments, termination and severance payments, and employee expenses and reimbursements, in each case incurred in the ordinary course of business and consistent with existing compensation policies and arrangements;
- (hh) "Equity Claim" has the meaning set forth in Section 2(1) of the CCAA;
- (ii) "Excluded Claim" means:
 - (i) any Claims entitled to the benefit of the Administration Charge or the Directors' Charge, or any further charge as may be ordered by the Court;
 - (ii) any Claims of the Subsidiaries against the Applicant;
 - (iii) any Claims of employees of the Applicant as at the Filing Date in respect of Employee Amounts;
 - (iv) any Post-Filing Claims;
 - (v) any Claims of the Ontario Securities Commission; and
 - (vi) any D&O Claims in respect of (i) though (v) above;
- (jj) "Filing Date" means March 30, 2012;

- (kk) "Government Authority" means a federal, provincial, territorial, municipal or other government or government department, agency or authority (including a court of law) having jurisdiction over the Applicant;
- (ll) "Initial Order" means the Initial order of the Honourable Mr. Justice Morawetz made March 30, 2012 in the CCAA Proceedings, as amended, restated or varied from time to time;

(mm) "Known Claimants" means:

- (i) any Persons which, based upon the books and records of the Applicant, was owed monies by the Applicant as of the Filing Date and which monies remain unpaid in whole or in part;
- (ii) any Person who has commenced a legal proceeding in respect of a Claim or D&O Claim or given the Applicant written notice of an intention to commence a legal proceeding or a demand for payment in respect of a Claim or D&O Claim, provided that where a lawyer of record has been listed in connection with any such proceedings, the "Known Claimant" for the purposes of any notice required herein or to be given hereunder shall be, in addition to that Person, its lawyer of record; and
- (iii) any Person who is a party to a lease, contract, or other agreement or obligation of the Applicant which was restructured, terminated, repudiated or disclaimed by the Applicant between the Filing Date and the date of this Order;
- (nn) "Monitor's Website" has the meaning set forth in paragraph 12(a) of this Order;
- (00) "National Class" has the meaning given to it in the Fresh As Amended Statement of Claim in the Ontario Class Action;
- (pp) "Note Indenture Trustees" means, collectively, the 2013 and 2016 Trustee and the 2014 and 2017 Trustee;

- (qq) "Notes" means, collectively, the 2013 Notes, the 2014 Notes, the 2016 Notes, and the 2017 Notes;
- (rr) "Noteholder" means a registered or beneficial holder on or after the Filing Date of a Note in that capacity, and, for greater certainty, does not include former registered or beneficial holders of Notes;
- (ss) "Notice of Revision or Disallowance" means a notice, in substantially the form attached as Schedule "A" hereto, advising a Person that the Monitor has revised or disallowed all or part of such Person's purported Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim set out in such Person's Proof of Claim, D&O Proof of Claim or D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim;
- (tt) "Notice to Claimants" means the notice to Claimants for publication in substantially the form attached as Schedule "C" hereto;
- (uu) "Officers" means anyone who is or was, or may be deemed to be or have been, whether by statute, operation of law or otherwise, an officer or *de facto* officer of the Applicant;
- (vv) "Ontario Class Action: means the action commenced against the Applicant and others in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, bearing (Toronto) Court File No. CV-11-431153-00CP;
- (ww) "Ontario Plaintiffs" means the Trustees of the Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada and the other named Plaintiffs in the Ontario Class Action;
- (xx) "Person" is to be broadly interpreted and includes any individual, firm, corporation, limited or unlimited liability company, general or limited partnership, association, trust, unincorporated organization, joint venture, Government Authority or any agency, regulatory body, officer or instrumentality thereof or any other entity, wherever situate or domiciled, and whether or not having legal status, and whether acting on their own or in a representative capacity;

- (yy) "Plan" means any proposed plan of compromise or arrangement filed in respect of the Applicant pursuant to the CCAA as the same may be amended, supplemented or restated from time to time in accordance with its terms;
- (zz) "Post-Filing Claims" means any claims against the Applicant that arose from the provision of authorized goods and services provided or otherwise incurred on or after the Filing Date in the ordinary course of business, but specifically excluding any Restructuring Claim;
- (aaa) "Proof of Claim" means the proof of claim in substantially the form attached as Schedule "D" hereto to be completed and filed by a Person setting forth its purported Claim and which shall include all supporting documentation in respect of such purported Claim;
- (bbb) "Proof of Claim Document Package" means a document package that includes a copy of the Notice to Claimants, the Proof of Claim form, the D&O Proof of Claim form, the Claimants' Guide to Completing the Proof of Claim form, the Claimants' Guide to Completing the D&O Proof of Claim form, and such other materials as the Monitor, in consultation with the Applicant, may consider appropriate or desirable;
- (ccc) "Proven Claim" means the amount and Status of a Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim of a Claimant as determined in accordance with this Order;
- (ddd) "Quebec Class" has the meaning given to it in the statement of claim in the Quebec Class Action;
- (eee) "Quebec Class Action" means the action commenced against the Applicant and others in the Quebec Superior Court, bearing Court File No. 200-06-000132-111;
- (fff) "Quebec Plaintiffs" means Guining Liu and the other named plaintiffs in the Quebec Class Action;
- (ggg) "Restructuring Claim" means any right or claim of any Person that may be asserted or made in whole or in part against the Applicant, whether or not asserted

or made, in connection with any indebtedness, liability or obligation of any kind arising out of the restructuring, termination, repudiation or disclaimer of any lease, contract, or other agreement or obligation on or after the Filing Date and whether such restructuring, termination, repudiation or disclaimer took place or takes place before or after the date of this Order;

- (hhh) "Restructuring Claims Bar Date" means, in respect of a Restructuring Claim, the later of (i) the Claims Bar Date, and (ii) 30 days after a Person is deemed to receive a Proof of Claim Document Package pursuant to paragraph 12(e) hereof.
- (iii) "Secured Claim" means that portion of a Claim that is (i) secured by security validly charging or encumbering property or assets of the Applicant (including statutory and possessor liens that create security interests) up to the value of such collateral, and (ii) duly and properly perfected in accordance with the relevant legislation in the appropriate jurisdiction as of the Filing Date;
- (jjj) "Status" means, with respect to a Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim, or a purported Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim, whether such claim is secured or unsecured; and
- (kkk) "Subsidiaries" means all direct and indirect subsidiaries of the Applicant other than Greenheart Group Limited (Bermuda) and its direct and indirect subsidiaries, and "Subsidiary" means any one of the Subsidiaries.
- 3. THIS COURT ORDERS that all references as to time herein shall mean local time in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, and any reference to an event occurring on a Business Day shall mean prior to 5:00 p.m. on such Business Day unless otherwise indicated herein.
- 4. THIS COURT ORDERS that all references to the word "including" shall mean "including without limitation".
- 5. THIS COURT ORDERS that all references to the singular herein include the plural, the plural include the singular, and any gender includes the other gender.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 6. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Monitor, in consultation with the Applicant, is hereby authorized to use reasonable discretion as to the adequacy of compliance with respect to the manner in which forms delivered hereunder are completed and executed, and may, where it is satisfied that a Claim, a D&O Claim or a D&O Indemnity Claim has been adequately proven, waive strict compliance with the requirements of this Order as to completion and execution of such forms and to request any further documentation from a Person that the Monitor, in consultation with the Applicant, may require in order to enable it to determine the validity of a Claim, a D&O Claim or a D&O Indemnity Claim.
- 7. THIS COURT ORDERS that if any purported Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim arose in a currency other than Canadian dollars, then the Person making the purported Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim shall complete its Proof of Claim, D&O Proof of Claim or D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim, as applicable, indicating the amount of the purported Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim in such currency, rather than in Canadian dollars or any other currency. The Monitor shall subsequently calculate the amount of such purported Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim in Canadian Dollars, using the Reuters closing rate on the Filing Date (as found at http://www.reuters.com/finance/currencies), without prejudice to a different exchange rate being proposed in any Plan.
- 8. THIS COURT ORDERS that a Person making a purported Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim shall complete its Proof of Claim, D&O Proof of Claim or Indemnity Proof of Claim, as applicable, indicating the amount of the purported Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim without including any interest and penalties that would otherwise accrue after the Filing Date.
- 9. THIS COURT ORDERS that the form and substance of each of the Notice of Revision or Disallowance, Dispute Notice, Notice to Claimants, the Proof of Claim, the D&O Proof of Claim, the Claimants' Guide to Completing the Proof of Claim, the Claimants' Guide to Completing the D&O Proof of Claim, and D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim substantially in the forms attached as Schedules "A", "B", "C", "D", "D-2", "E", "E-2" and "F" respectively to this Order are hereby approved. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Monitor, in consultation with the

Applicant, may from time to time make minor non-substantive changes to such forms as the Monitor, in consultation with the Applicant, considers necessary or advisable.

MONITOR'S ROLE

- 10. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Monitor, in addition to its prescribed rights, duties, responsibilities and obligations under the CCAA and under the Initial Order, is hereby directed and empowered to take such other actions and fulfill such other roles as are authorized by this Order or incidental thereto.
- 11. THIS COURT ORDERS that (i) in carrying out the terms of this Order, the Monitor shall have all of the protections given to it by the CCAA, the Initial Order, and this Order, or as an officer of the Court, including the stay of proceedings in its favour, (ii) the Monitor shall incur no liability or obligation as a result of the carrying out of the provisions of this Order, (iii) the Monitor shall be entitled to rely on the books and records of the Applicant and any information provided by the Applicant, all without independent investigation, and (iv) the Monitor shall not be liable for any claims or damages resulting from any errors or omissions in such books, records or information.

NOTICE TO CLAIMANTS, DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

12. THIS COURT ORDERS that:

- (a) the Monitor shall no later than five (5) Business Days following the making of this Order, post a copy of the Proof of Claim Document Package on its website at http://cfcanada.fticonsulting.com/sfc ("Monitor's Website");
- (b) the Monitor shall no later than five (5) Business Days following the making of this Order, send on behalf of the Applicant to the Note Indenture Trustees (or to counsel for the Note Indenture Trustees as appears on the CCAA Service List if applicable) a copy of the Proof of Claim Document Package;
- (c) the Monitor shall no later than five (5) Business Days following the making of this Order, send on behalf of the Applicant to each of the Known Claimants a copy of the Proof of Claim Document Package, provided however that the

- Monitor is not required to send Proof of Claim Document Packages to Noteholders;
- (d) the Monitor shall no later than five (5) Business Days following the making of this Order, cause the Notice to Claimants to be published in (i) The Globe and Mail newspaper (National Edition) on one such day, and (ii) the Wall Street Journal (Global Edition) on one such day;
- (e) with respect to Restructuring Claims arising from the restructuring, termination, repudiation or disclaimer of any lease, contract, or other agreement or obligation, the Monitor shall send to the counterparty(ies) to such lease, contract, or other agreement or obligation a Proof of Claim Document Package no later than five (5) Business Days following the time the Monitor becomes aware of the restructuring, termination, repudiation or disclaimer of any such lease, contract, or other agreement or obligation;
- (f) the Monitor shall, provided such request is received by the Monitor prior to the Claims Bar Date, deliver as soon as reasonably possible following receipt of a request therefor a copy of the Proof of Claim Document Package to any Person requesting such material; and
- (g) the Monitor shall send to any Director of Officer named in a D&O Proof of Claim received by the Claims Bar Date a copy of such D&O Proof of Claim as soon as practicable along with an D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim form, with a copy to counsel for such Directors or Officers.
- 13. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Applicant shall (i) inform the Monitor of all Known Claimants by providing the Monitor with a list of all Known Claimants and their last known addresses according to the books and records of the Applicant and (ii) provide the Monitor with a list of all Directors and Officers and their last known addresses according to the books and records of the Applicant.
- 14. THIS COURT ORDERS that, except as otherwise set out in this Order or other orders of the Court, neither the Monitor nor the Applicant is under any obligation to send notice to any

Person holding a Claim, a D&O Claim or a D&O Indemnity Claim, and without limitation, neither the Monitor nor the Applicant shall have any obligation to send notice to any Person having a security interest in a Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim (including the holder of a security interest created by way of a pledge or a security interest created by way of an assignment of a Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim), and all Persons (including Known Claimants) shall be bound by any notices published pursuant to paragraphs 12(a) and 12(d) of this Order regardless of whether or not they received actual notice, and any steps taken in respect of any Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim in accordance with this Order.

15. THIS COURT ORDERS that the delivery of a Proof of Claim, D&O Proof of Claim, or D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim by the Monitor to a Person shall not constitute an admission by the Applicant or the Monitor of any liability of the Applicant or any Director of Officer to any Person.

CLAIMS BAR DATES

Claims and D&O Claims

- 16. THIS COURT ORDERS that (i) Proofs of Claim (but not in respect of any Restructuring Claims) and D&O Proofs of Claim shall be filed with the Monitor on or before the Claims Bar Date, and (ii) Proofs of Claim in respect of Restructuring Claims shall be filed with the Monitor on or before the Restructuring Claims Bar Date. For the avoidance of doubt, a Proof of Claim or D&O Proof of Claim, as applicable, must be filed in respect of every Claim or D&O Claim, regardless of whether or not a legal proceeding in respect of a Claim or D&O Claim was commenced prior to the Filing Date.
- 17. THIS COURT ORDERS that any Person that does not file a Proof of Claim as provided for herein such that the Proof of Claim is received by the Monitor on or before the Claims Bar Date or the Restructuring Claims Bar Date, as applicable, (a) shall be and is hereby forever barred from making or enforcing such Claim against the Applicant and all such Claims shall be forever extinguished; (b) shall be and is hereby forever barred from making or enforcing such Claim as against any other Person who could claim contribution or indemnity from the Applicant; (c) shall not be entitled to vote such Claim at the Creditors' Meeting in respect of the

Plan or to receive any distribution thereunder in respect of such Claim; and (d) shall not be entitled to any further notice in, and shall not be entitled to participate as a Claimant or creditor in, the CCAA Proceedings in respect of such Claim.

18. THIS COURT ORDERS that any Person that does not file a D&O Proof of Claim as provided for herein such that the D&O Proof of Claim is received by the Monitor on or before the Claims Bar Date (a) shall be and is hereby forever barred from making or enforcing such D&O Claim against any Directors or Officers, and all such D&O Claims shall be forever extinguished; (b) shall be and is hereby forever barred from making or enforcing such D&O Claim as against any other Person who could claim contribution or indemnity from any Directors or Officers; (c) shall not be entitled to vote such D&O Claim at the Creditors' Meeting or to receive any distribution in respect of such D&O Claim; and (d) shall not be entitled to any further notice in, and shall not be entitled to participate as a Claimant or creditor in, the CCAA Proceedings in respect of such D&O Claim.

D&O Indemnity Claims

- 19. THIS COURT ORDERS that any Director of Officer wishing to assert a D&O Indemnity Claim shall deliver a D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim to the Monitor so that it is received by no later than fifteen (15) Business Days after the date of receipt of the D&O Proof of Claim by such Director or Officer pursuant to paragraph 12(g) hereof (with respect to each D&O Indemnity Claim, the "D&O Indemnity Claims Bar Date").
- 20. THIS COURT ORDERS that any Director of Officer that does not file a D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim as provided for herein such that the D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim is received by the Monitor on or before the D&O Indemnity Claims Bar Date (a) shall be and is hereby forever barred from making or enforcing such D&O Indemnity Claim against the Applicant, and such D&O Indemnity Claim shall be forever extinguished; (b) shall be and is hereby forever barred from making or enforcing such D&O Indemnity Claim as against any other Person who could claim contribution or indemnity from the Applicant; and (c) shall not be entitled to vote such D&O Indemnity Claim at the Creditors' Meeting or to receive any distribution in respect of such D&O Indemnity Claim.

Excluded Claims

21. THIS COURT ORDERS that Persons with Excluded Claims shall not be required to file a Proof of Claim in this process in respect of such Excluded Claims, unless required to do so by further order of the Court.

PROOFS OF CLAIM

- 22. THIS COURT ORDERS that (i) each Person shall include any and all Claims it asserts against the Applicant in a single Proof of Claim, provided however that where a Person has taken assignment or transfer of a purported Claim after the Filing Date, that Person shall file a separate Proof of Claim for each such assigned or transferred purported Claim, and (ii) each Person that has or intends to assert a right or claim against one or more Subsidiaries which is based in whole or in part on facts, underlying transactions, causes of action or events relating to a purported Claim made against the Applicant shall so indicate on such Claimant's Proof of Claim.
- 23. THIS COURT ORDERS that each Person shall include any and all D&O Claims it asserts against one or more Directors or Officers in a single D&O Proof of Claim, provided however that where a Person has taken assignment or transfer of a purported D&O Claim after the Filing Date, that Person shall file a separate D&O Proof of Claim for each such assigned or transferred purported D&O Claim.
- 24. THIS COURT ORDERS that the 2013 and 2016 Trustee is authorized and directed to file one Proof of Claim on or before the Claims Bar Date in respect of each of the 2013 Notes and the 2016 Notes, indicating the amount owing on an aggregate basis as at the Filing Date under each of the 2013 Note Indenture and the 2016 Note Indenture.
- 25. THIS COURT ORDERS that the 2014 and 2017 Trustee is authorized and directed to file one Proof of Claim on or before the Claims Bar Date in respect of each of the 2014 Notes and the 2017 Notes, indicating the amount owing on an aggregate basis as at the Filing Date under each of the 2014 Note Indenture and the 2017 Note Indenture.
- 26. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Order, Noteholders are not required to file individual Proofs of Claim in respect of Claims relating solely to the debt evidenced by their

Notes. The Monitor may disregard any Proofs of Claim filed by any individual Noteholder claiming the debt evidenced by the Notes, and such Proofs of Claim shall be ineffective for all purposes. The process for determining each individual Noteholder's Claim for voting and distribution purposes with respect to the Plan and the process for voting on the Plan by Noteholders will be established by further order of the Court.

- 27. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Ontario Plaintiffs are, collectively, authorized to file, on or before the Claims Bar Date, one Proof of Claim and, if applicable, one D&O Proof of Claim, in respect of the substance of the matters set out in the Ontario Class Action, notwithstanding that leave to make a secondary market liability claim has not be granted and that the National Class has not yet been certified, and that members of the National Class may rely on the one Proof of Claim and/or one D&O Proof of Claim filed by the counsel for the Ontario Plaintiffs and are not required to file individual Proofs of Claim or D&O Proofs of Claim in respect of the Claims forming the subject matter of the Ontario Class Action.
- 28. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Quebec Plaintiffs are, collectively, authorized to file, on or before the Claims Bar Date, one Proof of Claim and, if applicable, one D&O Proof of Claim, in respect of the substance of the matters set out in the Quebec Class Action, notwithstanding that leave to make a secondary market liability claim has not be granted and that the Quebec Class has not yet been certified, and that members of the Quebec Class may rely on the one Proof of Claim and/or one D&O Proof of Claim filed by the counsel for the Quebec Plaintiffs and are not required to file individual Proofs of Claim or D&O Proofs of Claim in respect of the Claims forming the subject matter of the Quebec Class Action.

REVIEW OF PROOFS OF CLAIM

- 29. THIS COURT ORDERS that any Claimant filing a Proof of Claim, D&O Proof of Claim or D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim shall clearly mark as "Confidential" any documents or portions thereof that that Person believes should be treated as confidential.
- 30. THIS COURT ORDERS that with respect to documents or portions thereof that are marked "Confidential", the following shall apply:

- (a) any information that is otherwise publicly available shall not be treated as "Confidential" regardless of whether it is marked as such;
- (b) subject to the following, such information will be accessible to and may be reviewed only by the Monitor, the Applicant, any Director or Officer named in the applicable D&O Proof of Claim or D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim and each of their respective counsel, or as otherwise ordered by the Court ("Designated Persons") or consented to by the Claimant, acting reasonably; and
- (c) any Designated Person may provide Confidential Information to other interested stakeholders (who shall have provided non-disclosure undertakings or agreements) on not less than 3 Business Days' notice to the Claimant. If such Claimant objects to such disclosure, the Claimant and the relevant Designated Person shall attempt to settle any objection, failing which, either party may seek direction from the Court.
- 31. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Monitor (in consultation with the Applicant and the Directors and Officers named in the D&O Proof of Claim, as applicable), subject to the terms of this Order, shall review all Proofs of Claim and D&O Proofs of Claim filed, and at any time:
 - (a) may request additional information from a purported Claimant;
 - (b) may request that a purported Claimant file a revised Proof of Claim or D&O
 Proof of Claim, as applicable;
 - (c) may, with the consent of the Applicant and any Person whose liability may be affected or further order of the Court, attempt to resolve and settle any issue arising in a Proof of Claim or D&O Proof of Claim or in respect of a purported Claim or D&O Claim, provided that if a Director or Officer disputes all or any portion of a purported D&O Claim, then the disputed portion of such purported D&O Claim may not be resolved or settled without such Director or Officer's consent or further order of the Court;

- (d) may, with the consent of the Applicant and any Person whose liability may be affected or further order of the Court, accept (in whole or in part) the amount and/or Status of any Claim or D&O Claim, provided that if a Director or Officer disputes all or any portion of a purported D&O Claim against such Director or Officer, then the disputed portion of such purported D&O Claim may not be accepted without such Director or Officer's consent or further order of the Court; and
- (e) may by notice in writing revise or disallow (in whole or in part) the amount and/or Status of any purported Claim or D&O Claim.
- 32. THIS COURT ORDERS that where a Claim or D&O Claim has been accepted by the Monitor in accordance with this Order, such Claim or D&O Claim shall constitute such Claimant's Proven Claim. The acceptance of any Claim or D&O Claim or other determination of same in accordance with this Order, in full or in part, shall not constitute an admission of any fact, thing, liability, or quantum or status of any claim by any Person, save and except in the context of the CCAA Proceedings, and, for greater certainty, shall not constitute an admission of any fact, thing, liability, or quantum or status of any claim by any Person as against any Subsidiary.
- 33. THIS COURT ORDERS that where a purported Claim or D&O Claim is revised or disallowed (in whole or in part, and whether as to amount and/or Status), the Monitor shall deliver to the purported Claimant a Notice of Revision or Disallowance, attaching the form of Dispute Notice.
- 34. THIS COURT ORDERS that where a purported Claim or D&O Claim has been revised or disallowed (in whole or in part, and whether as to amount and/or as to Status), the revised or disallowed purported Claim or D&O Claim (or revised or disallowed portion thereof) shall not be a Proven Claim until determined otherwise in accordance with the procedures set out in paragraphs 42 to 45 hereof or as otherwise ordered by the Court.

REVIEW OF D&O INDEMNITY PROOFS OF CLAIM

- 35. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Monitor, subject to the terms of this Order, shall review all D&O Indemnity Proofs of Claim filed, and at any time:
 - (a) may request additional information from a Director of Officer;
 - (b) may request that a Director or Officer file a revised D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim;
 - (c) may attempt to resolve and settle any issue arising in a D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim or in respect of a purported D&O Indemnity Claim;
 - (d) may accept (in whole or in part) the amount and/or Status of any D&O Indemnity Claim; and
 - (e) may by notice in writing revise or disallow (in whole or in part) the amount and/or Status of any purported D&O Indemnity Claim.
- 36. THIS COURT ORDERS that where a D&O Indemnity Claim has been accepted by the Monitor in accordance with this Order, such D&O Indemnity Claim shall constitute such Director or Officer's Proven Claim. The acceptance of any D&O Indemnity Claim or other determination of same in accordance with this Order, in full or in part, shall not constitute an admission of any fact, thing, liability, or quantum or Status of any claim by any Person, save and except in the context of the CCAA Proceedings, and, for greater certainty, shall not constitute an admission of any fact, thing, liability, or quantum or Status of any claim by any Person as against any Subsidiary.
- 37. THIS COURT ORDERS that where a purported D&O Indemnity Claim is revised or disallowed (in whole or in part, and whether as to amount and/or Status), the Monitor shall deliver to the Director or Officer a Notice of Revision or Disallowance, attaching the form of Dispute Notice.
- 38. THIS COURT ORDERS that where a purported D&O Indemnity Claim has been revised or disallowed (in whole or in part, and whether as to amount and/or as to Status), the revised or

disallowed purported D&O Indemnity Claim (or revised or disallowed portion thereof) shall not be a Proven Claim until determined otherwise in accordance with the procedures set out in paragraphs 42 to 45 hereof or as otherwise ordered by the Court.

39. THIS COURT ORDERS that, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Order, in respect of any Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim that exceeds \$1 million, the Monitor and the Applicant shall not accept, admit, settle, resolve, value (for any purpose), revise or reject such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim without the consent of the Ad Hoc Noteholders or Order of the Court.

DISPUTE NOTICE

- 40. THIS COURT ORDERS that a purported Claimant who intends to dispute a Notice of Revision or Disallowance shall file a Dispute Notice with the Monitor as soon as reasonably possible but in any event such that such Dispute Notice shall be received by the Monitor on the day that is fourteen (14) days after such purported Claimant is deemed to have received the Notice of Revision or Disallowance in accordance with paragraph 50 of this Order. The filing of a Dispute Notice with the Monitor within the fourteen (14) day period specified in this paragraph shall constitute an application to have the amount or Status of such claim determined as set out in paragraphs 42 to 45 of this Order.
- 41. THIS COURT ORDERS that where a purported Claimant that receives a Notice of Revision or Disallowance fails to file a Dispute Notice with the Monitor within the time period provided therefor in this Order, the amount and Status of such purported Claimant's purported Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim, as applicable, shall be deemed to be as set out in the Notice of Revision or Disallowance and such amount and Status, if any, shall constitute such purported Claimant's Proven Claim, and the balance of such purported Claimant's purported Claim, D&O Claim, or D&O Indemnity Claim, if any, shall be forever barred and extinguished.

RESOLUTION OF CLAIMS, D&O CLAIMS AND D&O INDEMNITY CLAIMS

42. THIS COURT ORDERS that as soon as practicable after the delivery of the Dispute Notice to the Monitor, the Monitor, in accordance with paragraph 31(c), shall attempt to resolve and settle the purported Claim or D&O Claim with the purported Claimant.

- 43. THIS COURT ORDERS that as soon as practicable after the delivery of the Dispute Notice in respect of a D&O Indemnity Claim to the Monitor, the Monitor, in accordance with paragraph 35(c), shall attempt to resolve and settle the purported D&O Indemnity Claim with the Director or Officer.
- 44. THIS COURT ORDERS that in the event that a dispute raised in a Dispute Notice is not settled within a time period or in a manner satisfactory to the Monitor, the Applicant and the applicable Claimant, the Monitor shall seek direction from the Court, on the correct process for resolution of the dispute. Without limitation, the foregoing includes any dispute arising as to whether a Claim is or is not an "equity claim" as defined in the CCAA.
- 45. THIS COURT ORDERS that any Claims and related D&O Claims and/or D&O Indemnity Claims shall be determined at the same time and in the same proceeding.

NOTICE OF TRANSFEREES

- 46. THIS COURT ORDERS that neither the Monitor nor the Applicant shall be obligated to send notice to or otherwise deal with a transferee or assignee of a Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim as the Claimant in respect thereof unless and until (i) actual written notice of transfer or assignment, together with satisfactory evidence of such transfer or assignment, shall have been received by the Monitor and the Applicant, and (ii) the Monitor shall have acknowledged in writing such transfer or assignment, and thereafter such transferee or assignee shall for all purposes hereof constitute the "Claimant" in respect of such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim. Any such transferee or assignee of a Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim, and such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim shall be bound by all notices given or steps taken in respect of such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim in accordance with this Order prior to the written acknowledgement by the Monitor of such transfer or assignment.
- 47. THIS COURT ORDERS that if the holder of a Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim has transferred or assigned the whole of such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim to more than one Person or part of such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim to another Person or Persons, such transfer or assignment shall not create a separate Claim, D&O

Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim and such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim shall continue to constitute and be dealt with as a single Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim notwithstanding such transfer or assignment, and the Monitor and the Applicant shall in each such case not be bound to acknowledge or recognize any such transfer or assignment and shall be entitled to send notice to and to otherwise deal with such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim only as a whole and then only to and with the Person last holding such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim in whole as the Claimant in respect of such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim. Provided that a transfer or assignment of the Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim has taken place in accordance with paragraph 46 of this Order and the Monitor has acknowledged in writing such transfer or assignment, the Person last holding such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim in whole as the Claimant in respect of such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim may by notice in writing to the Monitor direct that subsequent dealings in respect of such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim, but only as a whole, shall be with a specified Person and, in such event, such Claimant, transferee or assignee of the Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim shall be bound by any notices given or steps taken in respect of such Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim by or with respect to such Person in accordance with this Order.

48. THIS COURT ORDERS that the transferee or assignee of any Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim (i) shall take the Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim subject to the rights and obligations of the transferor/assignor of the Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim, and subject to the rights of the Applicant or Director or Officer against any such transferor or assignor, including any rights of set-off which the Applicant, Director or Officers had against such transferor or assignor, and (ii) cannot use any transferred or assigned Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim to reduce any amount owing by the transferee or assignee to the Applicant, Director or Officer, whether by way of set off, application, merger, consolidation or otherwise.

DIRECTIONS

49. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Monitor, the Applicant and any Person (but only to the extent such Person may be affected with respect to the issue on which directions are sought) may, at any time, and with such notice as the Court may require, seek directions from the Court with respect to this Order and the claims process set out herein, including the forms attached as Schedules hereto.

SERVICE AND NOTICE

- 50. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Monitor and the Applicant may, unless otherwise specified by this Order, serve and deliver the Proof of Claim Document Package, and any letters, notices or other documents to Claimants, purported Claimants, Directors or Officers, or other interested Persons, by forwarding true copies thereof by prepaid ordinary mail, courier, personal delivery or electronic or digital transmission to such Persons (with copies to their counsel as appears on the CCAA Service List if applicable) at the address as last shown on the records of the Applicant or set out in such Person's Proof of Claim, D&O Proof of Claim or D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim. Any such service or notice by courier, personal delivery or electronic or digital transmission shall be deemed to have been received: (i) if sent by ordinary mail, on the third Business Day after mailing within Ontario, the fifth Business Day after mailing within Canada (other than within Ontario), and the tenth Business Day after mailing internationally; (ii) if sent by courier or personal delivery, on the next Business Day following dispatch; and (iii) if delivered by electronic or digital transmission by 6:00 p.m. on a Business Day, on such Business Day, and if delivered after 6:00 p.m. or other than on a Business Day, on the following Business Day. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this paragraph 50, Notices of Revision or Disallowance shall be sent only by (i) facsimile to a number that has been provided in writing by the purported Claimant, Director or Officer, or (ii) courier.
- 51. THIS COURT ORDERS that any notice or other communication (including Proofs of Claim, D&O Proofs of Claims, D&O Indemnity Proofs of Claim and Notices of Dispute) to be given under this Order by any Person to the Monitor shall be in writing in substantially the form, if any, provided for in this Order and will be sufficiently given only if delivered by prepaid registered mail, courier, personal delivery or electronic or digital transmission addressed to:

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FTI Consulting Canada Inc.
Court-appointed Monitor of Sino-Forest Corporation
TD Waterhouse Tower
79 Wellington Street West

Suite 2010, P.O. Box 104

Toronto, Ontario M5K 1G8

Attention: Jodi Porepa Telephone: (416) 649-8094

E-mail: sfc@fticonsulting.com

Any such notice or other communication by a Person shall be deemed received only upon actual receipt thereof during normal business hours on a Business Day, or if delivered outside of a normal business hours, the next Business Day.

52. THIS COURT ORDERS that if during any period during which notices or other communications are being given pursuant to this Order a postal strike or postal work stoppage of general application should occur, such notices or other communications sent by ordinary mail and then not received shall not, absent further Order of the Court, be effective and notices and other communications given hereunder during the course of any such postal strike or work stoppage of general application shall only be effective if given by courier, personal delivery or electronic or digital transmission in accordance with this Order.

53. THIS COURT ORDERS that in the event that this Order is later amended by further order of the Court, the Monitor shall post such further order on the Monitor's Website and such posting shall constitute adequate notice of such amended claims procedure.

MISCELLANEOUS

54. THIS COURT ORDERS that notwithstanding any other provision of this Order, the solicitation of Proofs of Claim, D&O Proofs of Claim and D&O Indemnity Proofs of Claim and the filing by a Person of any Proof of Claim, D&O Proof of Claim or D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim shall not, for that reason only, grant any Person any standing in the CCAA Proceedings or rights under the Plan.

55. THIS COURT ORDERS that the rights of the Ontario Plaintiffs and the Quebec Plaintiffs granted pursuant to paragraphs 27 and 28 of this Order are limited to filing a single Proof of

guantification,

Claim and, if applicable, a single D&O Proof in respect of each of the National Class and the Quebec Class in these proceedings, and not for any other purpose. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the filing of any Proof of Claim or D&O Proof of Claim by the Ontario Plaintiffs or the Quebec Plaintiffs pursuant to this Order:

- (a) is not an admission or recognition of their right to represent the Class for any other purpose, including with respect to settlement or voting in these proceedings, the Ontario Class Action or the Quebec Class Action; and
- (b) is without prejudice to the right of the Ontario Plaintiffs and the Quebec Plaintiffs or their counsel to seek an order granting them rights of representation in these proceedings, the Ontario Class Action or the Quebec Class Action.
- 56. THIS COURT ORDERS that nothing in this Order shall constitute or be deemed to constitute an allocation or assignment of Claims, D&O Claims, D&O Indemnity Claims, or Excluded Claims into particular affected or unaffected classes for the purpose of a Plan and, for greater certainty, the treatment of Claims, D&O Claims, D&O Indemnity Claims, Excluded Claims or any other claims are to be subject to a Plan and the class or classes of creditors for voting and distribution purposes shall be subject to the terms of any proposed Plan or further Order of the Court.
- 57. THIS COURT ORDERS that nothing in this Order shall prejudice the rights and remedies of any Directors or Officers or other persons under any existing Director and Officers or other insurance policy or prevent or bar any Person from seeking recourse against or payment from the Applicant's insurance and any Director's and/or Officer's liability insurance policy or policies that exist to protect or indemnify the Directors and/or Officers or other persons, whether such recourse or payment is sought directly by the Person asserting a Claim or a D&O Claim from the insurer or derivatively through the Director or Officer or Applicant; provided, however, that nothing in this Order shall create any rights in favour of such Person under any policies of insurance nor shall anything in this Order limit, remove, modify or alter any defence to such claim available to the insurer pursuant to the provisions of any insurance policy or at law.

58. THIS COURT HEREBY REQUESTS the aid and recognition of any court, tribunal, regulatory or administrative body having jurisdiction in Canada, the United States, Barbados, the British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Hong Kong, the People's Republic of China or in any other foreign jurisdiction, to give effect to this Order and to assist the Applicant, the Monitor and their respective agents in carrying out the terms of this Order. All courts, tribunals, regulatory and administrative bodies are hereby respectfully requested to make such orders and to provide such assistance to the Applicant and to the Monitor, as an officer of the Court, as may be necessary or desirable to give effect to this Order, to grant representative status to the Monitor in any foreign proceeding, or to assist the Applicant and the Monitor and their respective agents in carrying out the terms of this Order.

STOS & I YAM

ON / BOOK (NO:

SCHEDULE "A"

NOTICE OF REVISION OR DISALLOWANCE

For Persons that have asserted Claims against Sino-Forest Corporation,
D&O Claims against the Directors or Officers of Sino-Forest Corporation or D&O
Indemnity Claims against Sino-Forest Corporation

Claim Reference Number:	<u> </u>
TO:	
	(Name of purported claimant)

Defined terms not defined in this Notice of Revision or Disallowance have the meaning ascribed in the Order of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice dated May 8, 2012 (the "Claims Procedure Order"). All dollar values contained herein are in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted.

Pursuant to 31 of the Claims Procedure Order, the Monitor hereby gives you notice that it has reviewed your Proof of Claim, D&O Proof of Claim or D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim and has revised or disallowed all or part of your purported Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim, as the case may be. Subject to further dispute by you in accordance with the Claims Procedure Order, your Proven Claim will be as follows:

	Amount as	s submitted	Amount allowed by Monitor
	(original currency amount)	(in Canadian dollars)	(in Canadian dollars)
A. Prefiling Claim	\$	\$	\$
B. Restructuring Claim	\$	\$	\$
C. Secured Claim	\$	\$	\$
D. D&O Claim	\$	\$	\$.
E. D&O Indemnity Claim	\$	\$	\$
F. Total Claim	\$	\$	\$

Reasons	for l	Revision	or Disal	lowance
ixcasons	101 1	IXC VISIOII	UL DISAL	iowance

SERVICE OF DISPUTE NOTICES

If you intend to dispute this Notice of Revision or Disallowance, you must, no later than 5:00 p.m. (prevailing time in Toronto) on the day that is fourteen (14) days after this Notice of Revision or Disallowance is deemed to have been received by you (in accordance with paragraph 50 of the Claims Procedure Order), deliver a Dispute Notice to the Monitor by registered mail, courier, personal delivery or electronic or digital transmission to the address below. In accordance with the Claims Procedure Order, notices shall be deemed to be received upon actual receipt thereof by the Monitor during normal business hours on a Business Day, or if delivered outside of normal business hours, on the next Business Day. The form of Dispute Notice is enclosed and can also be accessed on the Monitor's website at http://cfcanada.fticonsulting.com/sfc.

FTI Consulting Canada Inc.
Court-appointed Monitor of Sino-Forest Corporation
TD Waterhouse Tower
79 Wellington Street West
Suite 2010, P.O. Box 104
Toronto, Ontario M5K 1G8

Attention: Jodi Porepa Telephone: (416) 649-8094 E-mail: sfc@fticonsulting.com IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A DISPUTE NOTICE WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED TIME PERIOD, THIS NOTICE OF REVISION OR DISALLOWANCE WILL BE BINDING UPON YOU.

DATED at Toronto, this day of

, 2012.

FTI Consulting Canada Inc., solely in its capacity as Court-appointed Monitor of Sino-Forest Corporation and not in its personal or corporate capacity

Per: Greg Watson / Jodi Porepa

SCHEDULE "B"

DISPUTE NOTICE

With respect to Sino-Forest Corporation
Claim Reference Number:
1. Particulars of Claimant:
Full Legal Name of claimant (include trade name, if different):
<u> </u>
(the "Claimant")
Full Mailing Address of the Claimant:

Other Contract Information of the Claimant:
Telephone Number:
Email Address:
Facsimile Number:
Attention (Contact Person):

2.	Particulars of Claim or D&O	0		whom	you	acquired	the	Claim,	D&O

3.

Claim of Bee indomine, Claim.			
Have you acquired this purported (assignment?	Claim, D&O	Claim or D&O	Indemnity Claim by
Yes:		No:	
If yes and if not already pro	ovided, attach	documents evid	lencing assignment.
Full Legal Name of original Claims	ant(s):		

Dispute of Revision or Disallowance of Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim, as the case may be:

For the purposes of the Claims Procedure Order only (and without prejudice to the terms of any plan of arrangement or compromise), claims in a foreign currency will be converted to Canadian dollars at the exchange rates set out in the Claims Procedure Order.

The Claimant hereby disagrees with the value of its Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim, as the case may be, as set out in the Notice of Revision or Disallowance and asserts a Claim, D&O Claim or D&O Indemnity Claim, as the case may be, as follows:

	Amount allowed by Monitor: (Notice of Revision or Disallowance) (in Canadian dollars)	Amount claimed by Claimant: (in Canadian Dollars)
A. Prefiling Claim	\$	\$
B. Restructuring Claim	\$	\$
C. Secured Claim	\$	\$
D. D&O Claim	\$	\$
E. D&O Indemnity Claim	\$	\$
F. Total Claim	\$	\$

REAS	SON(S) FO	R THE	DISPUT	Έ:			
_					_		

SERVICE OF DISPUTE NOTICES

If you intend to dispute a Notice of Revision or Disallowance, you must, by no later than the date that is fourteen (14) days after the Notice of Revision or Disallowance is deemed to have been received by you (in accordance with paragraph 50 of the Claims Procedure Order), deliver to the Monitor this Dispute Notice by registered mail, courier, personal delivery or electronic or digital transmission to the address below. In accordance with the Claims Procedure Order, notices shall be deemed to be received upon actual receipt thereof by the Monitor during normal business hours on a Business Day, or if delivered outside of normal business hours, on the next Business Day.

FTI Consulting Canada Inc.
Court-appointed Monitor of Sino-Forest Corporation
TD Waterhouse Tower
79 Wellington Street West
Suite 2010, P.O. Box 104
Toronto, Ontario M5K 1G8

Attention: Jodi Porepa Telephone: (416) 649-8094 E-mail: sfc@fticonsulting.com

DATED this day of	, 2012.
Name of Claimant:	
	Per:
Witness	Name:
	Title:
	(please print)

SCHEDULE "C"

NOTICE TO CLAIMANTS AGAINST SINO-FOREST CORPORATION

(hereinafter referred to as the "Applicant")

RE: NOTICE OF CLAIMS PROCEDURE FOR THE APPLICANT PURSUANT TO THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT (the "CCAA")

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that this notice is being published pursuant to an Order of the Superior Court of Justice of Ontario made on May 8, 2012 (the "Claims Procedure Order"). Pursuant to the Claims Procedure Order, Proof of Claim Document Packages will be sent to claimants by mail, on or before May 15, 2012, if those claimants are known to the Applicant. Claimants may also obtain the Claims Procedure Order and a Proof of Claim Document Package from the website of the Monitor at http://cfcanada.fticonsulting.com/sfc, or by contacting the Monitor by telephone (416-649-8094).

Proofs of Claim (including D&O Proofs of Claim) must be submitted to the Monitor for any claim against the Applicant, whether unliquidated, contingent or otherwise, or a claim against any current or former officer or director of the Applicant, in each case where the claim (i) arose prior to March 30, 2012, or (ii) arose on or after March 30, 2012 as a result of the restructuring, termination, repudiation or disclaimer of any lease, contract, or other agreement or obligation. Please consult the Proof of Claim Document Package for more details.

Completed Proofs of Claim must be received by the Monitor by 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on the applicable claims bar date, as set out in the Claims Procedure Order. It is your responsibility to ensure that the Monitor receives your Proof of Claim or D&O Proof of Claim by the applicable claims bar date.

Certain Claimants are exempted from the requirement to file a Proof of Claim. Among those claimants who do not need to file a Proof of Claim are individual noteholders in respect of Claims relating solely to the debt evidenced by their notes and persons whose Claims form the subject matter of the Ontario Class Action or the Quebec Class Action. Please consult the Claims Procedure Order for additional details.

CLAIMS AND D&O CLAIMS WHICH ARE NOT RECEIVED BY THE APPLICABLE CLAIMS BAR DATE WILL BE BARRED AND EXTINGUISHED FOREVER.

DATED at Toronto this • day of •, 2012.

SCHEDULE "D"

PROOF OF CLAIM AGAINST SINO-FOREST CORPORATION

1. Original Claimant Identification (the "Claimant")

Legal Name of Claimant		Name of Con	tact	
Address	·	Title		
		Phone #		
		Fax #		
City	Prov / State	e-mail	<u> </u>	
Postal/Zip code				
2. Assignee, if claim l	nas been assigned			
Full Legal Name of Assignee		Name of Con	tact	
Address		Phone #		
		Fax #		
City	Prov / State	e-mail		
Postal/Zip code 3a. Amount of Clai				
The Applicant or Director or Currency	Original Currency	ted to the Claimant as follov Unsecured Prefiling Claim	vs: Restructuring Claim	Secured Claim
3b. Claim against Solid you have or intend to m		r mara Cubaidianiaa whi	sh ia baaad in subala an	in nort on
facts, underlying transactic check the box below, list the claim against such Subsidi	ons, causes of action or ev ne Subsidiaries against wh	ents relating to a claim r	nade against the Applic	cant above,
☐ I/we have a claim agai Name(s) of Subsidiaries	nst one or more Subsidiar Currency	y Original Currency Amoun	t Amount of Clai	im
		_		

4. Documentation

Provide all particulars of the Claim and supporting documentation, including amount, and description of transaction(s) or agreement(s), or legal breach(es) giving rise to the Claim.

5. Certification

I hereby certify that:

- 1. I am the Claimant, or authorized representative of the Claimant.
- 2. I have knowledge of all the circumstances connected with this Claim.
- 3. Complete documentation in support of this claim is attached.

	Name
	Title
Dated at	
this day of2012	Signature
	Witness

6. Filing of Claim

This Proof of Claim must be received by the Monitor by no later than 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on June 20, 2012, by registered mail, courier, personal delivery or electronic or digital transmission at the following address:

FTI Consulting Canada Inc.
Court-appointed Monitor of Sino-Forest Corporation
TD Waterhouse Tower
79 Wellington Street West
Suite 2010, P.O. Box 104
Toronto, Ontario M5K 1G8

Attention: Jodi Porepa Telephone: (416) 649-8094 E-mail: sfc@fticonsulting.com

An electronic version of this form is available at http://cfcanada.fticonsulting.com/sfc.

SCHEDULE "D-2"

PROOF OF CLAIM AGAINST DIRECTORS OR OFFICERS OF SINO-FOREST CORPORATION

This form is to be used only by Claimants asserting a claim against any director and/or officers of Sino-Forest Corporation, and <u>NOT</u> for claims against Sino-Forest Corporation itself. For claims against Sino-Forest Corporation, please use the form titled "Proof of Claim Against Sino-Forest Corporation", which is available on the Monitor's website at http://cfcanada.fticonsulting.com/sfc.

egal Name of Claimant		Name of Contact _	
ddress		Title	
		Phone #	
		Fax #	
ity	Prov / State	e-mail	
ostal/Zip code	_		
2. Assignee, if D&O Claim	n has been assigne	ed	
ull Legal Name of Assignee		Name of Contact_	
ddress		Phone #	
		Fax #	
City	Prov / State	e-mail	
		aimant as follows:	
Amount of D&O Cl The Director or Officer was and st I/we have a claim against a Name(s) of Director(s) and/or Officer(s)	ill is indebted to the Cla		Amount of Claim
The Director or Officer was and standard I/we have a claim against a Name(s) of Director(s) and/or	ill is indebted to the Cla	Officer(s) Original	Amount of Claim
The Director or Officer was and standard I/we have a claim against a Name(s) of Director(s) and/or	ill is indebted to the Cla	Officer(s) Original Currency Amount	
The Director or Officer was and standard I/we have a claim against a Name(s) of Director(s) and/or Officer(s)	ill is indebted to the Cla Director(s) and/or Currency	Officer(s) Original Currency Amount	
The Director or Officer was and stands and stands. I/we have a claim against a Name(s) of Director(s) and/or Officer(s)	ill is indebted to the Cla	Officer(s) Original Currency Amount	
The Director or Officer was and standard I/we have a claim against a Name(s) of Director(s) and/or Officer(s)	ill is indebted to the Cla	Officer(s) Original Currency Amount	
The Director or Officer was and standard I/we have a claim against a Name(s) of Director(s) and/or Officer(s)	ill is indebted to the Claim and supporting	Officer(s) Original Currency Amount	
The Director or Officer was and standard I/we have a claim against a Name(s) of Director(s) and/or Officer(s) 4. Documentation Provide all particulars of the D&O	ill is indebted to the Claim and supporting	Officer(s) Original Currency Amount	
The Director or Officer was and strong I/we have a claim against a Name(s) of Director(s) and/or Officer(s) 4. Documentation Provide all particulars of the D&O or agreement(s), or legal breach(e)	ill is indebted to the Claim and supporting	Officer(s) Original Currency Amount	

- 2. I have knowledge of all the circumstances connected with this D&O Claim.
- 3. Complete documentation in support of this D&O Claim is attached.

	Name
	Title
Dated at	
this day of2012	Signature
	Witness

6. Filing of D&O Claim

This Proof of Claim must be received by the Monitor by no later than 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on June 20, 2012, by registered mail, courier, personal delivery or electronic or digital transmission at the following address:

FTI Consulting Canada Inc.
Court-appointed Monitor of Sino-Forest Corporation
TD Waterhouse Tower
79 Wellington Street West
Suite 2010, P.O. Box 104
Toronto, Ontario M5K 1G8

Attention: Jodi Porepa Telephone: (416) 649-8094 E-mail: sfc@fticonsulting.com

An electronic version of this form is available at http://cfcanada.fticonsulting.com/sfc

SCHEDULE "E"

GUIDE TO COMPLETING THE PROOF OF CLAIM FOR CLAIMS AGAINST SINO-FOREST-CORPORATION

This Guide has been prepared to assist Claimants in filling out the Proof of Claim with respect to Sino-Forest Corporation (the "Applicant"). If you have any additional questions regarding completion of the Proof of Claim, please consult the Monitor's website at http://cfcanada.fticonsulting.com/sfc or contact the Monitor, whose contact information is shown below.

Additional copies of the Proof of Claim may be found at the Monitor's website address noted above.

Please note that this is a guide only, and that in the event of any inconsistency between the terms of this guide and the terms of the Claims Procedure Order made on May 8, 2012 (the "Claims Procedure Order"), the terms of the Claims Procedure Order will govern.

SECTION 1 - ORIGINAL CLAIMANT

- 4. A separate Proof of Claim must be filed by each legal entity or person asserting a claim against the Applicant.
- 5. The Claimant shall include any and all Claims it asserts against the Applicant in a single Proof of Claim.
- 6. The full legal name of the Claimant must be provided.
- 7. If the Claimant operates under a different name, or names, please indicate this in a separate schedule in the supporting documentation.
- 8. If the Claim has been assigned or transferred to another party, Section 2 must also be completed.
- 9. Unless the Claim is assigned or transferred, all future correspondence, notices, etc. regarding the Claim will be directed to the address and contact indicated in this section.
- 10. Certain Claimants are exempted from the requirement to file a Proof of Claim. Among those claimants who do not need to file a Proof of Claim are individual noteholders in respect of Claims relating solely to the debt evidenced by their notes. Please consult the Claims Procedure Order for details with respect to these and other exemptions.

SECTION 2 - ASSIGNEE

- 11. If the Claimant has assigned or otherwise transferred its Claim, then Section 2 must be completed.
- 12. The full legal name of the Assignee must be provided.

- 13. If the Assignee operates under a different name, or names, please indicate this in a separate schedule in the supporting documentation.
- 14. If the Monitor in consultation with the Applicant is satisfied that an assignment or transfer has occurred, all future correspondence, notices, etc. regarding the Claim will be directed to the Assignee at the address and contact indicated in this section.

SECTION 3A - AMOUNT OF CLAIM OF CLAIMANT AGAINST DEBTOR

15. Indicate the amount the Applicant was and still is indebted to the Claimant.

Currency, Original Currency Amount

- 16. The amount of the Claim must be provided in the currency in which it arose.
- 17. Indicate the appropriate currency in the Currency column.
- 18. If the Claim is denominated in multiple currencies, use a separate line to indicate the Claim amount in each such currency. If there are insufficient lines to record these amounts, attach a separate schedule indicating the required information.
- 19. Claims denominated in a currency other than Canadian dollars will be converted into Canadian dollars in accordance with the Claims Procedure Order.

Unsecured Prefiling Claim

20. Check this box ONLY if the Claim recorded on that line is an unsecured prefiling claim.

Restructuring Claim

21. Check this box ONLY if the amount of the Claim against the Applicant arose out of the restructuring, termination, repudiation or disclaimer of a lease, contract, or other agreement or obligation on or after March 30, 2012.

Secured Claim

Check this box ONLY if the Claim recorded on that line is a secured claim.

SECTION 3B - CLAIM AGAINST SUBSIDIARIES

22. Check this box ONLY if you have or intend to make a claim against one or more Subsidiaries which is based in whole or in part on facts, underlying transactions, causes of action or events relating to a claim made against the Applicant above, and list the Subsidiaries against whom you assert your claim.

SECTION 4 - DOCUMENTATION

23. Attach to the claim form all particulars of the Claim and supporting documentation, including amount, description of transaction(s) or agreement(s) or breach(es) giving rise to the Claim.

SECTION 5 - CERTIFICATION

- 24. The person signing the Proof of Claim should:
 - (a) be the Claimant, or authorized representative of the Claimant.
 - (b) have knowledge of all the circumstances connected with this Claim.
 - (c) have a witness to its certification.
- 25. By signing and submitting the Proof of Claim, the Claimant is asserting the claim against the Applicant.

SECTION 6 - FILING OF CLAIM

26. This Proof of Claim must be received by the Monitor by no later than 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on June 20, 2012. Proofs of Claim should be sent by prepaid ordinary mail, courier, personal delivery or electronic or digital transmission to the following address:

FTI Consulting Canada Inc.
Court-appointed Monitor of Sino-Forest Corporation
TD Waterhouse Tower
79 Wellington Street West
Suite 2010, P.O. Box 104
Toronto, Ontario M5K 1G8

Attention: Jodi Porepa Telephone: (416) 649-8094 E-mail: sfc@fticonsulting.com

Failure to file your Proof of Claim so that it is received by the Monitor by 5:00 p.m., on the applicable claims bar date will result in your claim being barred and you will be prevented from making or enforcing a Claim against the Applicant. In addition, you shall not be entitled to further notice in and shall not be entitled to participate as a creditor in these proceedings.

SCHEDULE "E-2"

GUIDE TO COMPLETING THE PROOF OF CLAIM FOR CLAIMS AGAINST DIRECTORS OR OFFICERS OF SINO-FOREST-CORPORATION

This Guide has been prepared to assist Claimants in filling out the D&O Proof of Claim against any Directors or Officers of Sino-Forest Corporation (the "Applicant"). If you have any additional questions regarding completion of the Proof of Claim, please consult the Monitor's website at http://cfcanada.fticonsulting.com/sfc or contact the Monitor, whose contact information is shown below.

The D&O Proof of Claim is to be used only by Claimants asserting a claim against a director and/or officer of Sino-Forest Corporation, and NOT for claims against Sino-Forest Corporation itself. For claims against Sino-Forest Corporation, please use the form titled "Proof of Claim Against Sino-Forest Corporation", which is available on the Monitor's website at http://cfcanada.fticonsulting.com/sfc.

Additional copies of the D&O Proof of Claim may be found at the Monitor's website address noted above.

Please note that this is a guide only, and that in the event of any inconsistency between the terms of this guide and the terms of the Claims Procedure Order made on May 8, 2012 (the "Claims Procedure Order"), the terms of the Claims Procedure Order will govern.

SECTION 1 - ORIGINAL CLAIMANT

- 27. A separate D&O Proof of Claim must be filed by each legal entity or person asserting a claim against any Directors or Officers of the Applicant.
- 28. The Claimant shall include any and all D&O Claims it asserts in a single D&O Proof of Claim.
- 29. The full legal name of the Claimant must be provided.
- 30. If the Claimant operates under a different name, or names, please indicate this in a separate schedule in the supporting documentation.
- 31. If the D&O Claim has been assigned or transferred to another party, Section 2 must also be completed.
- 32. Unless the D&O Claim is assigned or transferred, all future correspondence, notices, etc. regarding the D&O Claim will be directed to the address and contact indicated in this section.

SECTION 2 - ASSIGNEE

33. If the Claimant has assigned or otherwise transferred its D&O Claim, then Section 2 must be completed.

- 34. The full legal name of the Assignee must be provided.
- 35. If the Assignee operates under a different name, or names, please indicate this in a separate schedule in the supporting documentation.
- 36. If the Monitor in consultation with the Applicant is satisfied that an assignment or transfer has occurred, all future correspondence, notices, etc. regarding the D&O Claim will be directed to the Assignee at the address and contact indicated in this section.

SECTION 3 - AMOUNT OF CLAIM OF CLAIMANT AGAINST DIRECTOR OR OFFICER

37. Indicate the amount the Director or Officer is claimed to be indebted to the Claimant and provide all other request details.

Currency, Original Currency Amount

- 38. The amount of the D&O Claim must be provided in the currency in which it arose.
- 39. Indicate the appropriate currency in the Currency column.
- 40. If the D&O Claim is denominated in multiple currencies, use a separate line to indicate the Claim amount in each such currency. If there are insufficient lines to record these amounts, attach a separate schedule indicating the required information.
- 41. D&O Claims denominated in a currency other than Canadian dollars will be converted into Canadian dollars in accordance with the Claims Procedure Order.

SECTION 4 - DOCUMENTATION

42. Attach to the claim form all particulars of the D&O Claim and supporting documentation, including amount, description of transaction(s) or agreement(s) or breach(es) giving rise to the D&O Claim.

SECTION 5 - CERTIFICATION

- 43. The person signing the D&O Proof of Claim should:
 - (a) be the Claimant, or authorized representative of the Claimant.
 - (b) have knowledge of all the circumstances connected with this D&O Claim.
 - (c) have a witness to its certification.
- 44. By signing and submitting the D&O Proof of Claim, the Claimant is asserting the claim against the Directors and Officers identified therein.

SECTION 6 - FILING OF CLAIM

45. The D&O Proof of Claim must be received by the Monitor by no later than 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on June 20, 2012. D&O Proofs of Claim should be sent by prepaid ordinary mail, courier, personal delivery or electronic or digital transmission to the following address:

FTI Consulting Canada Inc.
Court-appointed Monitor of Sino-Forest Corporation
TD Waterhouse Tower
79 Wellington Street West
Suite 2010, P.O. Box 104
Toronto, Ontario M5K 1G8
Attention: Jodi Porepa

Telephone: (416) 649-8094 E-mail: sfc@fticonsulting.com

Failure to file your D&O Proof of Claim so that it is received by the Monitor by 5:00 p.m., on the applicable claims bar date will result in your claim being barred and you will be prevented from making or enforcing a D&O Claim against the any directors or officers of the Applicant. In addition, you shall not be entitled to further notice in and shall not be entitled to participate as a D&O claimant in these proceedings.

SCHEDULE "F"

D&O INDEMNITY PROOF OF CLAIM SINO-FOREST CORPORATION

1. Director and /or Officer Particulars (the "Indemnitee")

Legal Name of Indemnitee			
Address		Phone #	
		Fax #	
City	Prov / State	e-mail	
Postal/Zip code	_		
2. Indemnification (Claim		
Position(s) Held			
Dates Position(s) Held: From	to		
Reference Number of Proof of Cla	im with respect to which this I	D&O Indemnity Claim is made	
Particulars of and basis for D&O l			

(Provide all particulars of the D&O Indemnity Claim, including all supporting documentation)

3 Filing of Claim

This D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim and supporting documentation are to be returned to the Monitor within ten Business Days of the date of deemed receipt by the Director or Officer of the Proof of Claim by registered mail, courier, personal delivery or electronic or digital transmission at the following address:

FTI Consulting Canada Inc.
Court-appointed Monitor of Sino-Forest Corporation
TD Waterhouse Tower
79 Wellington Street West
Suite 2010, P.O. Box 104
Toronto, Ontario M5K 1G8

Attention: Jodi Porepa Telephone: (416) 649-8094 E-mail: sfc@fticonsulting.com Failure to file your D&O Indemnity Proof of Claim in accordance with the Claims Procedure Order will result in your D&O Indemnity Claim being barred and forever extinguished and you will be prohibited from making or enforcing such D&O Indemnity Claim against the Applicant.

Dated at	this	day of, 2012	2.
Per:		_	
Name			
Signature:		_ (Former Director and/or Officer)	

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES CREDITORS' ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OR COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF SINO-FOREST CORPORATION

Court File No. CV-12-9667-00CL

ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

Proceedings commenced in Toronto

ORDER

BENNETT JONES LLP

One First Canadian Place Suite 3400, P.O. Box 130 Toronto, Ontario M5X 1A4 Robert W. Staley (LSUC #27115J) Kevin Zych (LSUC #33129T)

Derek J. Bell (LSUC #43420J) Jonathan Bell (LSUC #55457P)

Tel: 416-863-1200 Fax: 416-863-1716 Lawyers for the Applicant

CITATION: The Trustees of the Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada v. Sino-Forest Corporation, 2012 ONSC 2937

COURT FILE NO.: 11-CV-431153CP **DATE:** May 17, 2012

ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

BETWEEN:

The Trustees of the Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada, the Trustees of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 793 Pension Plan for Operating Engineers in Ontario, Sjuunde Ap-Fonden, David Grant and Robert Wong

Plaintiffs

- and -

Sino-Forest Corporation, Ernst & Young LLP, BDO Limited (formerly known as BDO McCabe Lo Limited), Allen T.Y. Chan, W. Judson Martin, Kai Kit Poon, David J. Horsley, William E. Ardell, James P Bowland, James M.E. Hyde, Edmund Mak, Simon Murray, Peter Wang, Garry J. West, Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Limited, Credit Suisse Securities (Canada), Inc., TD Securities Inc., Dundee Securities Corporation, RBC Dominion Securities Inc., Scotia Capital Inc., CIBC World Markets Inc., Merrill Lynch Canada, Inc., Canaccord Financial Ltd., Maison Placements Canada Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC and Banc of America Securities LLC

Defendants

Proceeding under the Class Proceedings Act, 1992

COUNSEL:

- Charles Wright, Kirk Baert, Serge Kalloghlian for the Plaintiffs
- John Fabello for the underwriter defendants
- Shara Roy for Ernst & Young LLP
- Kenneth Dekker for BDO Limited
- John Pirie and David Gadsden for Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Limited
- Christopher Scotchmer for David Horsley
- Megan MacKey for Allen Chan

HEARING DATE: May 17, 2012

PERELL, J.

REASONS FOR DECISION

- [1] The Trustees of the Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada, the Trustees of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 793 Pension Plan for Operating Engineers in Ontario, David C. Grant, Robert Wong, and Sjuunde AP-Fonden are the Plaintiffs in a proposed securities misrepresentation class action. Some of the claims may not be brought without leave granted under Ontario's *Securities Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. S.5. The Plaintiffs claim that the proposed class members suffered losses in the billions of dollars.
- [2] The action concerns the affairs of the Defendant Sino-Forest Corporation. There are 23 defendants, including certain directors and officers of Sino-Forest, underwriters, auditors, and consultants. The Plaintiffs seek damages in an amount equal to the losses that they and the other class members suffered as a result of purchasing or acquiring Sino-Forest securities at prices artificially inflated by an alleged misrepresentation respecting, among other things, Sino-Forest's compliance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- [3] In this motion, the Plaintiffs seek court approval of a third-party funding agreement, which they submit they require to protect themselves from the adverse costs consequences of the proposed class action should any of the numerous Defendants successfully resist certification or successfully mount a defence to the Plaintiffs' claims.
- [4] There is no question that if they are unsuccessful, the Plaintiffs would be exposed to a gigantic costs liability.
- [5] Koskie Minsky LLP and Siskinds LLP, the lawyers of record and proposed Class Counsel have agreed to fund the disbursements required to prosecute the Plaintiffs' claims.
- [6] Claims Funding International, PLC ("CFI") has entered into a proposed litigation funding agreement with the Plaintiffs. The terms of this agreement provide that CFI will pay \$50,000 toward disbursements, and it will pay any adverse costs orders issued against the Plaintiffs in return for a scaled and capped commission on any settlement or judgment obtained by the Plaintiffs on behalf of the class.
- [7] In the case at bar, the Defendants were served with notice of the motion for approval as were some members of the proposed class for the action. By letter dated February 21, 2012, notice was given to Sino-Forest's 20 largest independently-run institutional investors as measured by the number of Sino-Forest's securities held during the proposed class period.
- [8] There is no opposition to the court granting approval to the third party funding agreement.
- [9] An agreement nearly identical to the one proposed in this case was approved by Justice Strathy in *Dugal v Manulife Financial Corp*, 2011 ONSC 1785 ("*Dugal*").
- [10] In *Dugal*, Justice Strathy also concluded that the court had jurisdiction to make the approval order binding on putative class members before the certification of the action. I recently came to the same conclusion as an aspect of a decision about the

procedure to follow on a third party funding approval motion. See *Fehr v. Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada* 2012 ONSC 2715

- [11] In Fehr, I discuss the current law about litigation funding, and I reviewed the key judgements; namely: the key judgments are: McIntrye Estate v. Ontario (Attorney General) (2002), 61 O.R. (3d) 257 (C.A.), Metzler Investment GMBH v. Gildan Activewear Inc. [2009] O.J. No. 3315 (S.C.J.), and Dugal v. Manulife Financial Corp., 2011 ONSC 1785, additional reasons 2011 ONSC 3147. I rely on but will not repeat that analysis here.
- [12] In *Fehr*, I concluded that third party funding agreements are not categorically illegal on the grounds of champerty or maintenance, but a particular third party funding agreement might be illegal as champertous or on some other basis. I also concluded that Plaintiffs must obtain court approval in order to enter into a third party funding agreement.
- [13] In the case at bar, the principle terms of the third party funding agreement are:
 - CFI agrees to pay the Plaintiffs' adverse costs orders in exchange for a commission on any settlement or judgment made in relation to the claims asserted by the Plaintiffs on behalf of the class
 - in the event a settlement or judgment is reached at any time before the filing of the Plaintiffs' pre-trial conference brief, a commission representing 5% of the amount of such settlement or judgment, after deduction of lawyers fees and disbursements, including applicable tax, and any administration expenses associated with such settlement or judgment, will be paid to CFI, capped at a maximum of \$5 million
 - in the event a settlement or judgment is reached at any time on or after the filing of the Plaintiffs' pre-trial conference brief, the commission shall be 7% of the amount of such settlement or judgment, after deduction of lawyers fees and disbursements, including applicable tax, and any administration expenses associated with such settlement or judgment, capped at a maximum of \$10 million
 - if the judgment or settlement concerns other actions in addition to the within proceeding, then the same stage-dependent commission percentages and caps apply unless the commission can otherwise be determined in a manner satisfactory to all parties to the resolution
 - although there is an obligation on Class Counsel to inform CFI about any significant issue in the action including prospects, strategy, quantum, proof and material changes, CFI acknowledges that the Plaintiffs provide the instruction to their lawyers and that the lawyers' professional duties are owed to the Plaintiffs and not CFI
 - CFI must pay, into court, security for the Defendants' costs on an escalating scale reflecting the progress of the litigation
 - CFI is bound by the deemed undertaking rule (Rule 30.1.01).

- [14] Much for the same reasons that commended themselves to Justice Strathy in the *Dugal* case, I conclude that the third party funding agreement in the case at bar should be approved.
- [15] It is a fair and reasonable agreement that facilitates access to justice while protecting the interests of the Defendants. The Defendants have the comfort that money for their legal costs has been paid into court.
- [16] In the circumstances of this case, the third party funding agreement is preferable to the alternative of funding from the Class Proceedings Fund. The commission is less than the 10% uncapped levy that would be extracted by the Fund.
- [17] For the above Reasons, I grant approval of the third party funding agreement.

		Perell, J.
Released:	May 17, 2012	

CITATION: The Trustees of the Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada v. Sino-Forest Corporation, 2012 ONSC 2937

COURT FILE NO. 11-CV-431153CP

DATE: May 17, 2012

ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

BETWEEN:

The Trustees of the Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada, et al.

Plaintiffs

- and -

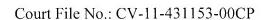
Sino-Forest Corporation et al.

Defendants

REASONS FOR DECISION

Perell, J.

Released: May 17, 2012.



ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

THE HONOURABLE)	THURSDAY, THE 17 th DAY
JUSTICE PERELL)/	OF MAY, 2012

BETWEEN:

THE TRUSTEES OF THE LABOURERS' PENSION FUND OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN CANADA, THE TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 793 PENSION PLAN FOR OPERATING ENGINEERS IN ONTARIO, SJUNDE AP-FONDEN, DAVID GRANT and ROBERT WONG

Plaintiffs

- and -

SINO-FOREST CORPORATION, ERNST & YOUNG LLP, BDO LIMITED (formerly known as BDO MCCABE LO LIMITED), ALLEN T.Y. CHAN, W. JUDSON MARTIN, KAI KIT POON, DAVID J. HORSLEY, WILLIAM E. ARDELL, JAMES P. BOWLAND, JAMES M.E. HYDE, EDMUND MAK, SIMON MURRAY, PETER WANG, GARRY J. WEST, PÖYRY (BEIJING) CONSULTING COMPANY LIMITED, CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES (CANADA), INC., TD SECURITIES INC., DUNDEE SECURITIES CORPORATION, RBC DOMINION SECURITIES INC., SCOTIA CAPITAL INC., CIBC WORLD MARKETS INC., MERRILL LYNCH CANADA INC., CANACCORD FINANCIAL LTD., MAISON PLACEMENTS CANADA INC., CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES (USA) LLC, and BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC

Defendants

Proceeding under the Class Proceedings Act, 1992

ORDER

THIS MOTION, made by the Plaintiffs for an Order approving the terms of a litigation funding agreement entered into with Claims Funding International (the "Funding Agreement"), was heard on May 17, 2012;

ON READING the materials filed by each of the parties, and on hearing the submissions of counsel for the parties concerning whether the Funding Agreement should be approved, and if so, upon what terms;

1. THIS COURT ORDERS that:

- (a) The Funding Agreement is approved, subject to the terms and conditions herein;
- (b) Claims Funding International ("CFI") shall pay into court the following amounts as security for the Defendants' costs of this proceeding, on the dates specified:
 - (i) \$750,000 CDN on or before June 17, 2012;
 - (ii) An additional \$1,500,000 CDN by no later than 30 days after any order certifying this proceeding as a class proceeding under the *Class Proceedings Act*, 1992, SO 1992, c 6; and
 - (iii) An additional \$3,750,000 CDN by no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled trial date;
- (c) Each of the amounts specified in (b) shall be paid into court in the form of cash, certified cheque, or money order, or the posting by CFI of an irrevocable letter of credit in a form acceptable to the Plaintiffs and their counsel, and also to the Accountant of the Superior Court of Justice;
- (d) Counsel for the Plaintiffs shall notify counsel for the Defendants forthwith upon the posting of security in accordance with the terms of this Order;
- (e) If CFI fails to provide security in accordance with the terms of this Order the Defendants or any of them are at liberty to bring a motion on short notice to have the action stayed or dismissed;
- (f) CFI submits and attorns to the jurisdiction of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice for all purposes related to this litigation, including in relation to the enforcement of any costs order made in favour of the Defendants or any of them;

(g) Amounts posted pursuant to this Order shall be paid out to the Defendants in accordance with Rule 72.03 of the *Rules of Civil Procedure*, or as ordered by this Court;

(h) The Defendants or any of them shall be at liberty to seek to vary this Order at any time to increase the amount of security required to be posted by CFI;

(i) Nothing in this Order shall be interpreted as limiting the ability of the Defendants or any of them to seek to enforce any costs award against either the Plaintiffs or CFI;

(j) Subject to further Court Order, no evidence obtained from a Defendant may be provided to CFI without the written consent of the Defendant from whom the evidence was obtained. To the extent any evidence obtained from the Defendants is provided to CFI, then CFI shall be bound by Rule 30.1.01 of the *Rules of Civil Procedure* and shall be deemed to be a party for the purposes of that Rule; and

(k) The Plaintiffs may communicate to CFI any formal settlement offers made by the Defendants, and those communications and their contents shall be kept confidential pursuant to section 5 of the Funding Agreement.

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AS OCCUMENT NO. À TITLE DE BODEMENT NO.: PER / PAR The Honourable Justice Perell

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Sino-Forest Corporation, et al.		30
and		
The Trustees of the Labourer's Pension Fund	of Central and Eastern Canada, et al.	Plaintiffs

Court File No: CV-11-431153-00CP

Defendants

SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE ONTARIO

Proceedings Under the Class Proceedings Act, 1992

Proceeding commenced at Toronto

(Funding Agreement Approval) ORDER

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Lawyers for the Plaintiffs

CITATION The Trustees of the Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada v. Sino Forest Corporation, 2012 ONSC 5398 COURT FILE NO.: CV-11-431153-00CP

DATE: September 25, 2012

ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

BETWEEN:

THE TRUSTEES OF THE LABOURERS')	
PENSION FUND)	A De la Liveria Come W. H. Liter and
OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN		A. Dimitri Lascaris, Serge Kalloghlian, and
CANADA, THE TRUSTEES OF THE) '	S. Sajjad Nematollahi for the Plaintiffs
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF)	
OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 793	Ś	
PENSION PLAN FOR OPERATING	,	
ENGINEERS IN ONTARIO, SJUNDE AP-)	
FONDEN, DAVID GRANT and ROBERT)	
WONG)	
Plaintiffs)	
)	
- and -)	
)	
SINO-FOREST CORPORATION, ERNST) .	Peter Osborne, Shara Roy, and Brendon
& YOUNG LLP, BDO LIMITED (formerly		Grey for the Defendant Ernst & Young LLP
known as BDO MCCABE LO LIMITED),	``	
ALLEN T.Y. CHAN, W. JUDSON	΄.	John Fabello for the Defendants Credit
MARTIN, KAI KIT POON, DAVID J.	- 1	Suisse Securities (Canada) Inc., TD
HORSLEY, WILLIAM E. ARDELL,		Securities Inc., Dundee Securities
JAMES P. BOWLAND, JAMES M.E.	· \	Corporation, RBC Dominion Securities Inc.,
HYDE, EDMUND MAK, SIMON		Scotia Capital Inc., CIBC World Markets
MURRAY, PETER WANG, GARRY J.		Inc., Merrill Lynch Canada Inc., Canaccord
WEST, PÖYRY (BEIJING)		Financial Ltd., Maison Placements Canada
CONSULTING COMPANY LIMITED,	,	Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC
CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES		and Banc of America Securities LLC
(CANADA), INC., TD SECURITIES INC.,)	and Balle of Finding Boomings BBo
DUNDEE SECURITIES CORPORATION,)	Kenneth Dekker for the Defendant BDO
RBC DOMINION SECURITIES INC.,	× .	Limited
SCOTIA CAPITAL INC., CIBC WORLD	ń.	Dimitod
MARKETS INC., MERRILL LYNCH	, \	John J. Pirie and David Gadsden for the
CANADA INC., CANACCORD	,	Defendant Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting
FINANCIAL LTD., MAISON	,	Company Limited
PLACEMENTS CANADA INC., CREDIT)	Company Difficu
TEACEMENTS CANADA INC., CREDIT)	

SUISSE SECURITIES (USA) LLC and)	Emily Cole and Megan Mackey for Allen
MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER &)	Chan
SMITH INCORPORATED (successor by)	
merger to Banc of America Securities LLC)	À	Michael Eizenga for Sino-Forest
Defendants	,	Corporation, W. Judson Martin, and Kai Kit
)	Poon
)	
)	
Proceeding under the Class Proceedings)	HEARD: September 21, 2012
Act, 1992	•	-

PERELL, J.

REASONS FOR DECISION

A, INTRODUCTION

- [1] This is a motion for approval of a partial settlement in a proposed class action under the Class Proceedings Act, 1992, S.O. 1992, c. C.6.
- [2] The Plaintiffs are: Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada ("Labourers"), the Trustees of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 793 Pension Plan for Operating Engineers in Ontario ("Operating Engineers"), Sjunde AP-Fonden ("AP7"), David Grant, and Robert Wong.
- [3] The Defendants are: Sino Forest Corporation, Ernst & Young LLP, BDO Limited (formerly known as BDO McCabe Lo Limited), Allen T.Y. Chan, W. Judson Martin, Kai Kit Poon, David J. Horsley, William E. Ardell, James P. Bowland Mak, Simon Murray, Peter Wang, Garry J. West, Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Limited, Credit Suisse Securities (Canada) Inc., TD Securities Inc., Dundee Securities Corporation, RBC Dominion Securities Inc., Scotia Capital Inc., CIBC World Markets Inc., Merrill Lynch Canada Inc., Canaccord Financial Ltd., Maison Placements Canada Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC and Merril Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (successor by merger to Banc of America Securities LLC).
- [4] In this action, the Plaintiffs allege that Sino Forest misstated in its public filings its financial statements, misrepresented its timber rights, overstated the value of its assets, and concealed material information about its business operations from investors. There is a companion proposed class action in Québec. The Plaintiffs claim damages of \$9.2 billion on behalf of resident and non-resident shareholders and noteholders of Sino-Forest.
- [5] The Plaintiffs in Ontario and Québec have reached a settlement with one of the defendants, Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Limited ("Pöyry (Beijing)"). The Settlement Agreement is subject to court approval in Ontario and Québec. The litigation is continuing against the other defendants.

- [6] The Plaintiffs bring a motion for an order: (a) certifying the action for settlement purposes as against Pöyry (Beijing); (b) appointing the Plaintiffs as representative plaintiffs for the class; (c) approving the settlement as fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of the class; and (d) approving the form and method of dissemination of notice to the class of the certification and settlement of the action.
- [7] The motion for settlement approval is not opposed by the Defendants.
- [8] Up until the morning of the fairness hearing motion, three groups of Defendants objected to the settlement; namely: (a) Ernst & Young LLP; (b) BDO Limited; and (c) Credit Suisse Securities (Canada) Inc., TD Securities Inc., Dundee Securities Corporation, RBC Dominion Securities Inc., Scotia Capital Inc., CIBC World Markets Inc., Merrill Lynch Canada Inc., Canaccord Financial Ltd., Maison Placements Canada Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC and Banc of America Securities LLC (collectively the "Underwriters").
- [9] When the Plaintiffs and Pöyry (Beijing) and various other Pöyry entities agreed to amend their settlement arrangements to provide extensive discovery rights against the Pöyry entities, the opposition disappeared.
- [10] While I originally I had misgivings, I have concluded that the court should approve the settlement as fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of the class members of the consent certification. Accordingly, I grant the Plaintiffs' motion,

B. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- [11] On July 20, 2011, the Plaintiffs commenced this action.
- [12] Of the Plaintiffs, Labourers' and Operating Engineers are specified multiemployer pension plans. AP7 is a Swedish National Pension Fund and is part of Sweden's national pension system. David Grant is an individual residing in Calgary, Alberta. Robert Wong is an individual residing in Kincardine, Ontario.
- [13] All the Plaintiffs purchased Sino Forest shares or Sino Forest Notes and lost a great deal of money.
- [14] All of the Plaintiffs, especially the institutional investors, would appear to be sophisticated They are capable of understanding the issues and competent to give instructions to their lawyers about the tactics and strategies of this massive litigation.
- [15] I mention this last point because their lawyers urged me that in weighing the fairness of the settlement to the class members, I should give considerable deference to the astuteness of the Plaintiffs and to the wisdom of their experienced lawyers about the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed settlement. See *Metzler Investment GmbH v Gildan Activewear Inc.*, 2011 ONSC 1146 at para. 31.
- [16] In their action, the Plaintiffs allege that in its public filings, Sino Forest misstated its financial statements, misrepresented its timber rights, overstated the value of its assets, and concealed material information about its business and operations from

investors. As a result of these alleged misrepresentations, Sino Forest's securities allegedly traded at artificially inflated prices for many years.

- [17] The Defendant Pöyry (Beijing) was one of several affiliated entities that appraised the value of Sino Forest's assets. Some of the Pöyry valuation reports were incorporated by reference into various offering documents. Some of the valuation reports were made publicly available through SEDAR and Pöyry valuation reports were posted on Sino Forest's website.
- [18] In their statement of claim, the Plaintiffs allege that Pöyry (Beijing) is liable for: (a) negligence and under s. 130 of the Ontario Securities Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. S.5 to primary market purchasers of Sino-Forest shares and (b) is liable for negligence and under Part XXIII.1 of the Act to purchasers of Sino Forest's securities in the secondary markets.
- [19] Only one Pöyry entity has been named as a defendant. The affiliated Pöyry entities have not been named as defendants.
- [20] On January 26, 2012, the Plaintiffs filed an amended notice of action and a Statement of Claim. Around this time, The Plaintiffs and Pöyry (Beijing) began settlement discussions. Those discussions culminated in a Settlement Agreement made as of March 20, 2012.
- [21] In its original form, the terms of the Settlement Agreement were as follows:
 - Pöyry (Beijing) will provide information and cooperation to the Plaintiffs for the purpose of pursuing the claims against the other defendants.
 - Pöyry (Beijing) is required to provide an evidentiary proffer relating to the allegations in this action. (This evidentiary proffer was made and apparently was very productive and the harbinger of useful information.).
 - Pöyry (Beijing) is required to provide relevant documents within the possession, custody or control of Pöyry (Beijing) and its related entities, including: (a) documents relating to Sino-Forest, the Auditors or the Underwriters, or any of them, as well as the dates, locations, subject matter, and participants in any meetings with or about Sino-Forest, the Auditors, the Underwriters, or any of them; (b) documents provided by Pöyry (Beijing) or any of its related entities to any state, federal, or international government or administrative agency concerning the allegations raised in the proceedings; and (c) documents provided by Pöyry (Beijing) or any of its related entities to Sino Forest's Independent Committee or the ad hoc committee of noteholders.
 - Pöyry (Beijing) is obliged to use reasonable efforts to make available directors, officers or employees of Pöyry (Beijing) and its related entities for interviews with Class Counsel, and to provide testimony at trial and affidavit evidence.
 - The Plaintiffs will release their claims against Pöyry (Beijing) and its related entities.

- The Non-settling Defendants will be subject to a bar order that precludes any
 right to contribution or indemnity against Pöyry (Beijing) and its related entities,
 but preserves the non-settling defendants' rights of discovery as against Pöyry
 (Beijing) and Pöyry Management Consulting (Singapore) PTE, LTD. ("Pöyry
 (Singapore)").
- Pöyry (Beijing) will consent to certification for the purpose of settlement.
- Pöyry (Beijing) will pay the first \$100,000 of the costs of providing the notice of certification and settlement, and half of any such costs over \$100,000.
- [22] The Settlement Agreement is subject to court approval in Ontario and Québec.
- [23] As already noted above, Ernst & Young, BDO, and the Underwriters objected to the original version of the proposed settlement, but hard upon the hearing of the fairness motion, they withdrew their opposition because of a revised version of the settlement that preserved and extended their rights of discovery as against the Pöyry entities.
- [24] The revised terms of the settlement agreement included, among other things, the following provisions:
 - The Court shall retain jurisdiction over the Plaintiffs, the Pöyry Parties (Pöyry (Beijing), Pöyry Management Consulting (Singapore) Pte. Ltd., Pöyry Forest Industry Ltd., Pöyry Forest Industry Pte. Ltd., Pöyry Management Consulting (Australia) Pty. Ltd., Pöyry Management Consulting (NZ) Ltd., JP Management Consulting (Asia-Pacific) Ltd.), Pöyry PLC, and Pöyry Finland OY for all matters all of these parties are declared to have attorned to the jurisdiction of this Court.
 - After all appeals or times to appeal from the certification of this action against the Non-Settling Defendants have been exhausted, any Non-Settling Defendant is entitled to the following:
 - documentary discovery and an affidavit of documents from any and all of Pöyry (Beijing), and the "Pöyry Parties";
 - o oral discovery of a representative of any Pöyry Party, the transcript of which may be read in at trial solely by the Non-Settling Defendants as part of their respective cases in defending the Plaintiffs' allegations concerning the Proportionate Liability of the Releasees and in connection with any claim [described below] by a Non-Settling Defendant against a Pöyry Party for contribution and indemnity;
 - o leave to serve a request to admit on any Pöyry Party in respect of factual matters and/or documents;
 - the production of a representative of any Pöyry Party to testify at trial, with such witness or witnesses to be subject to cross-examination by counsel for the Non-Settling Defendants;
 - o leave to serve Evidence Act notices on any Pöyry Party; and

- o discovery shall proceed pursuant to an agreement between the Non-Settling Defendants and the Pöyry Parties in respect of a discovery plan, or failing such agreement, by court order.
- The Pöyry Parties, Pöyry PLC, and Pöyry Finland OY shall, on a best efforts basis, take steps to collect and preserve all documents relevant to the matters at issue in the within proceeding.
- If any Pöyry Party fails to satisfy its reasonable obligations a Non-Settling Defendant may make a motion to this Court to compel reasonable compliance. If such an Order is made, and not adhered to by the Pöyry Party, a Non-Settling Defendant may then bring a motion to lift the Bar Order and to advance a claim for contribution, indemnity or other claims over against the Pöyry Party.
- If an Order is made permitting a claim to be advanced against a Pöyry Party by a Non-Settling Defendant any limitation period applicable to such a claim, whether in favour of a Pöyry Party or a Non-Settling Defendant, shall be deemed to have been tolled as of the date of the settlement approval order.

C. SUPPORT FOR THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

- [25] On May 17, 2012, the Plaintiffs distributed notice of the fairness hearing. No objections were filed by putative class members.
- [26] The Plaintiffs' lawyers recommend the settlement for four reasons:
 - (1) Although the Plaintiffs' central allegation against Pöyry (Beijing) is that its valuation reports on Sino Forest's assets contained misrepresentations, Pöyry (Beijing)'s, four reports (and one press release) contain exculpatory language that would pose significant challenges to establishing liability;
 - (2) Pöyry (Beijing) is located in the People's Republic of China, and serious
 difficulties exist with respect to serving documents, compelling evidence, and
 enforcing any judgment, especially because compliance with the Convention on
 the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or
 Commercial Matters ("Hague Convention") has already proven untimely;
 - (3) The Plaintiffs' recourse against Pöyry (Beijing) may be limited to the collection of insurance proceeds (62 million) from Pöyry (Beijing)'s insurer; and
 - (4) Pöyry (Beijing is well-positioned to provide useful and valuable information and documents that would be helpful in the prosecution of the claims against the remaining defendants.
- [27] As emerged from the argument at the fairness hearing, the last reason is by far the most significant reason that the Plaintiffs' lawyers recommend the settlement. They urged me that the direct claim against Pöyry (Beijing) is weak and not worth the effort, but the information available from the Pöyry entities and the swiftness of its availability

would be enormously valuable in the litigation battles for leave to assert an action under the Ontario Securities Act, to obtaining certification against the non-settling defendants, to succeeding on the merits, and to facilitating settlement overtures and negotiations.

[28] The Plaintiffs' lawyers urged me that the releases of the Pöyry entities and the risks of the bar order, which risks included the Plaintiffs having to take on the risk and task of contesting the non-settling defendants' efforts to attribute all or the greater proportion of responsibility onto the Pöyry entities was in the best interests of the class.

D. THE WITHDRAWN OPPOSITION OF BDO, ERNST & YOUNG AND THE UNDERWRITERS

- [29] In connection with BDO's audits of the annual financial statements of Sino Forest for the years ended December 31, 2005 and December 31, 2006, BDO obtained and reviewed the Pöyry Asset Valuations and members of its audit team met with individuals from JP Management and Pöyry New Zealand and attended site visits at Sino Forest plantations with Pöyry staff.
- [30] In its statement of defence, BDO will deny the allegations of negligence, and it will deliver a crossclaim against Pöyry (Beijing).
- [31] BDO has already commenced an action against a Pöyry Beijing affiliate, Pöyry Management Consulting (Singapore) Pte. Ltd. ("Pöyry Singapore"), seeking contribution and indemnity in connection with the claims advanced against BDO in this action.
- [32] The Pöyry valuations were relied upon by the Defendant Ernst & Young in its role as auditor of Sino Forest from 2007 to 2012. Ernst & Young submits that that the Plaintiffs' claims against it are inextricably linked to the claims the Plaintiffs advance against Pöyry (Beijing).
- [33] Ernst & Young has commenced a separate action against Pöyry (Beijing) and the other Pöyry entities seeking contribution, indemnity and other relief emanating from the claim made by the plaintiffs against Ernst & Young.
- [34] It was the position of the underwriters that the Pöyry entities and their valuation reports played significant roles in presenting Sino Forest's business to the market for ma many years and before the involvement of the Underwriters.
- [35] The Underwriters have commenced an action seeking contribution and indemnity against seven Pöyry entities in respect of their involvement Sino Forest's disclosure and any liability that may be found after trial.
- [36] Ernst & Young, BDO, and the Underwriters in their factums opposing the court approving the settlement disparaged the settlement as providing nothing of benefit to the class and as unfair to the non-settling defendants who had substantial claims of contribution and indemnity against the Pöyry entities whom they submit were at the centre of the events of this litigation.

E. CERTIFICATION FOR SETTLEMENT PURPOSES

- [37] Pursuant to s. 5(1) of the Class Proceedings Act, 1992, S.O. 1992, c.6, the court shall certify a proceeding as a class proceeding if: (a) the pleadings disclose a cause of action; (b) there is an identifiable class; (c) the claims of the class members raise common issues of fact or law; (d) a class proceeding would be the preferable procedure; and (e) there is a representative plaintiff who would adequately represent the interests of the class without conflict of interest and who has produced a workable litigation plan.
- [38] Where certification is sought for the purposes of settlement, all the criteria for certification still must be met: Baxter v. Canada (Attorney General) (2006), 83 O.R. (3d) 481 (S.C.J.) at para. 22. However, compliance with the certification criteria is not as strictly required because of the different circumstances associated with settlements: Bellaire v. Daya, [2007] O.J. No. 4819 (S.C.J.) at para. 16; National Trust Co. v. Smallhorn, [2007] O.J. No. 3825 (S.C.J.) at para. 8; Bonanno v. Maytag Corp., [2005] O.J. No. 3810 (S.C.J.); Bona Foods Ltd. v. Ajinomoto U.S.A. Inc., [2004] O.J. No. 908 (S.C.J.); Gariepy v. Shell Oil Co., [2002] O.J. No. 4022 (S.C.J.) at para. 27; Nutech Brands Inc. v. Air Canada, [2008] O.J. No. 1065 (S.C.J.) at para. 9.
- [39] Subject to approval of the settlement, in my opinion, the Plaintiffs' action satisfies the criterion for certification under the Class Proceedings Act, 1992. Their pleading discloses two causes of action against Pöyry (Beijing); namely: (1) misrepresentations in relation to the assets, business and transactions of Sino-Forest contrary to Part XXIII.1 and section 130 of the Ontario Securities Act; and (2) negligence in the preparation of its opinions and reports about the nature and value of Sino Forest's assets. Thus, the first criterion is satisfied.
- [40] There is an identifiable class in which all class members have an interest in the resolution of the proposed common issue. Thus, the second criterion is satisfied. The proposed class is defined as:

All persons and entities, wherever they may reside, who acquired Sino's Securities during the Class Period by distribution in Canada or on the Toronto Stock Exchange or other secondary market in Canada, which includes securities acquired over-the-counter, and all person and entities who acquired Sino's Securities during the Class Period* who are resident of Canada or were resident of Canada at the time of acquisition and who acquired Sino's Securities outside of Canada, except the Excluded Persons.*

- *Class Period is defined as the period from and including March 19, 2007 to and including June 2, 2011.
- *Excluded Persons is defined as the Defendants, their past and present subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, senior employees, partners, legal representatives, heirs, predecessors, successors and assigns, and any individual who is a member of the immediate family of an Individual Defendant.
- [41] The Plaintiffs propose the following common issue, as agreed to between the parties to the Settlement Agreement:

Did [Pöyry (Beijing)] make misrepresentations as alleged in this Proceeding during the Class Period concerning the assets, business or transactions of Sino-Forest? If so, what damages, if any, did Settlement Class Members suffer?

- [42] I am satisfied that this question satisfies the third criterion.
- [43] I am also satisfied that assuming that the settlement agreement is approved, a class proceeding is the preferable procedure and the Plaintiffs are suitable representative plaintiffs.
- [44] Thus, I conclude that the action against Pöyry (Beijing) should be certified as a class action for settlement purposes.

F. SETTLEMENT APPROVAL

- [45] To approve a settlement of a class proceeding, the court must find that in all the circumstances the settlement is fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of those affected by it: Dabbs v. Sun Life Assurance, [1998] O.J. No. 1598 (Gen. Div.) at para. 9, aff'd (1998), 41 O.R. (3d) 97 (C.A.); leave to appeal to the S.C.C. ref'd, [1998] S.C.C.A. No. 372; Parsons v. Canadian Red Cross Society, [1999] O.J. No. 3572 (S.C.J.) at paras, 68-73.
- [46] In determining whether to approve a settlement, the court, without making findings of facts on the merits of the litigation, examines the fairness and reasonableness of the proposed settlement and whether it is in the best interests of the class as a whole having regard to the claims and defences in the litigation and any objections raised to the settlement: *Baxter v. Canada (Attorney General)* (2006), 83 O.R. (3d) 481 (S.C.J.) at para, 10.
- [47] While a court has the jurisdiction to reject or approve a settlement, it does not have the jurisdiction to rewrite the settlement reached by the parties: Dabbs v. Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada, supra, at para. 10.
- [48] In determining whether a settlement is fair and reasonable and in the best interests of the class members, an objective and rational assessment of the pros and cons of the settlement is required: Al-Harazi v. Quizno's Canada Restaurant Corp., [2007] O.J. No. 2819 (S.C.J.) at para. 23.
- [49] A settlement must fall within a zone of reasonableness. Reasonableness allows for a range of possible resolutions and is an objective standard that allows for variation depending upon the subject matter of the litigation and the nature of the damages for which the settlement is to provide compensation; Parsons v. The Canadian Red Cross Society, supra, at para. 70; Dabbs v. Sun Life Assurance, supra.
- [50] When considering the approval of negotiated settlements, the court may consider, among other things: likelihood of recovery or likelihood of success; amount and nature of discovery, evidence or investigation; settlement terms and conditions; recommendation and experience of counsel; future expense and likely duration of litigation and risk; recommendation of neutral parties, if any; number of objectors and

nature of objections; the presence of good faith, arms length bargaining and the absence of collusion; the degree and nature of communications by counsel and the representative plaintiffs with class members during the litigation; information conveying to the court the dynamics of and the positions taken by the parties during the negotiation: Dabbs v. Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, supra; Parsons v. The Canadian Red Cross Society, [1999] O.J. No. 3572 (S.C.J.) at paras. 71-72; Frohlinger v. Nortel Networks Corp., [2007] O.J. No. 148 (S.C.J.) at para. 8.

- [51] There is an initial presumption of fairness when a settlement is negotiated atmslength: *Vitapharm Canada Ltd. v. F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd.* (2005), 74 O.R. (3d) 758 (S.C.J.) at paras. 113-114; *CSL Equity Investments Ltd. v. Valois*, [2007] O.J. No. 3932 (S.C.J.) at para. 5.
- [52] The court may give considerable weight to the recommendations of experienced counsel who have been involved in the litigation and are in a better position than the court or the class members, to weigh the factors that bear on the reasonableness of a particular settlement: Kranjcec v. Ontario, [2006] O.J. No. 3671 (S.C.J.) at para. 11; Vitapharm Canada Ltd. v. F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd. (2005), 74 O.R. (3d) 758 (S.C.J.) at para. 142.
- [53] In assessing the reasonableness of a settlement agreement, the court is entitled to consider the non-monetary benefits, including the provision of cooperation: *Nutech Brands Inc. v. Air Canada*, [2009] O.J. No. 709 (SCJ) at paras 29-30, 36-37; *Osmun v Cadbury Adams Canada Inc.*, [2010] O.J. No. 1877 (S.C.J.), aff'd 2010 ONCA 841, leave to appeal to S.C.C. refd [2011] S.C.C.A. No. 55.
- [54] The court may approve a settlement with a "bar order" in which the plaintiff settles with some defendants and agrees only to pursue claims of several liability against the remaining defendants: Ontario New Home Warranty Program v. Chevron Chemical Co. (1999), 46 O.R. (3d) 130 (S.C.J.); Vitapharm Canada Ltd. v. F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd. (2005), 74 O.R. (3d) 758 (S.C.J.) at paras. 134-39; Millard v. North George Capital Management Ltd., [2000] O.J. No. 1535 (S.C.J.); Gariepy v. Shell Oil Co., [2002] O.J. No. 4022 (S.C.J.); McCarthy v. Canadian Red Cross Society, [2001] O.J. No. 2474 (S.C.J.); Bona Foods Ltd. v. Ajinomoto U.S.A. Inc., [2004] O.J. No. 908 (S.C.J.); Attis v. Canada (Minister of Health), [2003] O.J. No. 344 (S.C.J.), aff'd [2003] O.J. No. 4708 (C.A.); Osmun v. Cadbury Adams Canada Inc., supra.
- [55] In the case at bar, before the settlement agreement between the Plaintiffs and Pöyry (Beijing) was revised at the eleventh hour, I had serious misgivings about approving the proposed settlement. I was concerned about whether the non-settling Defendants were being fairly treated, and I was concerned about whether the Plaintiffs should take on the risk and burden of contesting the apportionment of liability in crossclaims and third party claims that normally would not be their concern.
- [56] Subject to what the Plaintiffs might submit during the oral argument, the Defendants' arguments in their factums appeared to me to make a strong case that the non-settling Defendants' ability to defend themselves by shifting the blame exclusively on the Pöyry entities and the non-settling Defendants' ability to advance their

substantive claims for contribution and indemnity were unfairly compromised by the release of all the Pöyry entities and the protection afforded all of them by a bar order.

- [57] Subject to what the Plaintiffs might submit during the oral argument, I was concerned whether the release and bar order was in the class members' best interests in the circumstances of this case, where it is early days in assessing the extent to which the non-settling Defendants could succeed in establishing their claims of contribution and indemnity.
- [58] However, with the non-settling Defendants, apparently being content with the revised settlement arrangement, and with the assertive and confident recommendation of the Plaintiffs and their lawyers made during oral argument that the proposed settlement is in the best interests of the class members and will increase the likelihood of success in obtaining leave under the Securities Act and certification under the Class Proceedings Act, 1992 and perhaps success in encouraging a settlement, my conclusion is that the court should approve the settlement.
- [59] I know from the carriage motion that the lawyers for the Plaintiffs have expended a great deal of forensic energy investigating and advancing this litigation and it is true that they are in a better position than the court to weigh the factors that bear on the reasonableness of a particular settlement, particularily a tactically and strategically motivated settlement in ongoing litigation.

G. CONCLUSION

[60] For the above reasons, I grant the Plaintiffs' motion without costs.

Perell, J.

Perel J

Released: September 25, 2012

The Trustees of the Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada v. Sino Forest Corporation, 2012 ONSC 5398

ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

BETWEEN:

THE TRUSTEES OF THE LABOURERS' PENSION FUND OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN CANADA, THE TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 793 PENSION PLAN FOR OPERATING ENGINEERS IN ONTARIO, SJUNDE AP-FONDEN, DAVID GRANT and ROBERT WONG

Plaintiff

- and -

SINO-FOREST CORPORATION, ERNST & YOUNG LLP, BDO LIMITED (formerly known as BDO MCCABE LO LIMITED), ALLEN T.Y. CHAN, W. JUDSON MARTIN, KAI KIT POON, DAVID J. HORSLEY, WILLIAM E. ARDELL, JAMES P. BOWLAND, JAMES M.E. HYDE, EDMUND MAK, SIMON MURRAY, PETER WANG, GARRY J. WEST, PÖYRY (BEIJING) CONSULTING COMPANY LIMITED, CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES (CANADA), INC., TO SECURITIES INC., DUNDEE SECURITIES CORPORATION, RBC DOMINION SECURITIES INC., SCOTIA CAPITAL INC., CIBC WORLD MARKETS INC., MERRILL LYNCH CANADA INC., CANACCORD FINANCIAL LTD., MAISON PLACEMENTS CANADA INC., CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES (USA) LLC and MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED (successor by merger to Banc of America Securities LLC)

Defendants

REASONS FOR DECISION

Perell, J.

Released: September 25, 2012.

SINO-FOREST CORPORATION CLASS ACTION TO CURRENT AND FORMER SINO-FOREST SHAREHOLDERS AND NOTEHOLDERS

Notice of Settlement with Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Limited

This notice is to everyone, including non-Canadians, who acquired Sino-Forest Corporation ("Sino-Forest") securities in Canada or in a Canadian market between March 19, 2007 and June 2, 2011.

READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY AS IT MAY AFFECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS. YOU MAY NEED TO TAKE PROMPT ACTION.

IMPORTANT DEADLINE:

Opt-Out Deadline (for individuals and entities that wish to exclude themselves from the Class Action. See pages 2-3 for more details.):

January 15, 2013

Opt-Out Forms will not be accepted after this deadline. As a result, it is necessary that you act without delay.

COURT APPROVAL OF THE CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

In June and July of 2011, class actions were commenced in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (the "Ontario Proceeding") and the Québec Superior Court (the "Québec Proceeding") (collectively, the "Proceedings") against Sino-Forest, its senior officers and directors, its auditors, its underwriters and a consulting company, Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Limited ("Pöyry (Beijing)"). The actions alleged that the public filings of Sino-Forest contained false and misleading statements about Sino-Forest's assets, business, and transactions.

Since that time, the litigation has been vigorously contested. On March 30, 2012, Sino-Forest obtained creditor protection under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* (the "*CCAA*"), which allowed an interim stay of proceedings against the company. Orders and other materials relevant to the *CCAA* proceeding can be found at the *CCAA* Monitor's website at http://cfcanada.fticonsulting.com/sfc/. Ten days before the stay of proceedings was ordered, on March 20, 2012, the plaintiffs entered into a settlement agreement with Pöyry (Beijing) that sought to settle the claims against this defendant alone in the Proceedings (the "Settlement Agreement"). The parties to the Proceedings agreed to, and the Courts have since ordered, a partial lifting of the stay of proceedings for, among other things, the purpose of allowing the Courts to consider the fairness of the Settlement Agreement.

The Settlement Agreement stipulates that Pöyry (Beijing) will cooperate with the plaintiffs through the provision of information, documents, and other evidence that the plaintiffs

believe will assist them in the continued litigation against the remaining defendants. Pöyry (Beijing) will not provide monetary compensation to the plaintiffs. In return, the Proceedings will be dismissed against Pöyry (Beijing) and future claims against Pöyry (Beijing) in relation to these Proceedings will be barred.

Pöyry (Beijing) does not admit to any wrongdoing or liability. The Settlement Agreement does not resolve any claims against Sino-Forest, its senior officers and directors, its auditors, or its underwriters. A complete copy of the Settlement Agreement is available at: www.kmlaw.ca/sinoforestclassaction and www.classaction.ca.

On September 25, 2012, the Ontario Superior Court certified the Ontario Proceeding as a class action for settlement purposes and approved the Settlement Agreement. On November 9, 2012 the Québec Proceeding was authorized as a class action for settlement purposes and the Settlement Agreement was approved by the Québec Superior Court (the "Québec Court"). Both Courts declared that the Settlement Agreement is fair, reasonable, and in the best interest of those affected by it.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THIS CLASS ACTION AND BOUND BY THE SETTLEMENT?

The Courts have certified the Proceedings and approved the Settlement Agreement on behalf of classes which encompass the following individuals and entities (the "Class" or "Class Members"):

All persons and entities, wherever they may reside, who acquired Sino-Forest Corporation common shares, notes, or other securities, as defined in the Ontario *Securities Act*, during the period from and including March 19, 2007 to and including June 2, 2011:

- a) by distribution in Canada or on the Toronto Stock Exchange or other secondary market in Canada, which includes securities acquired over-thecounter or
- b) who are resident of Canada or were resident of Canada at the time of acquisition and who acquired Sino-Forest Corporation's securities outside of Canada.

excluding the defendants, their past and present subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, senior employees, partners, legal representatives, heirs, predecessors, successors and assigns, and any individual who is a member of the immediate family of an individual defendant.

REQUESTING EXCLUSION FROM THE CLASS

All persons and entities that fall within the definition of the Class are Class Members unless and until they exclude themselves from the Class ("opt out"). Class Members that do not opt out of the Class will not be able to make or maintain any other claims or legal proceeding in

relation to the matters alleged in the Proceedings against Pöyry (Beijing) or any other person released by the Settlement Agreement.

If you are a Class Member and you do <u>not</u> want to be bound by the Settlement Agreement you <u>must opt out</u>. If you wish to opt out, you may do so by completing an "Opt-Out Form".

IF YOU CHOOSE TO OPT OUT OF THE CLASS, YOU WILL BE OPTING OUT OF THE **ENTIRE** PROCEEDING. THIS MEANS THAT YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY FUTURE SETTLEMENT OR JUDGMENT REACHED WITH OR AGAINST THE REMAINING DEFENDANTS.

In order to successfully opt out, you must include all of the information requested by the Opt-Out Form. Specifically, you must sign a written election that contains the following information:

- a) your <u>full</u> name, current address, and telephone number;
- b) the name and number of Sino-Forest securities purchased between March 19, 2007 and June 2, 2011 (the "Class Period"), and the date and price of each such transaction;
- c) a statement to the effect that you wish to be excluded from the Settlement Agreement; and
- d) your reasons for opting out.

If you wish to opt out, you must submit your <u>fully complete</u> Opt-Out form to the Opt-Out Administrator or the Québec Court (if you are a resident of Québec) at the applicable belownoted address, <u>no later than January 15, 2013</u>.

OPT-OUT ADMINISTRATOR

The Court has appointed NPT Ricepoint Class Action Services as the Opt-Out Administrator for the Settlement Agreement. The Opt-Out Administrator will receive and process opt-out forms for Class Members **outside Québec**. The Opt-Out Administrator can be contacted at:

Telephone: 1-866-432-5534

Mailing Address: Sino-Forest Class Action

Opt-Out Administrator

PO Box 3355

London, ON N6A 4K3

Email: <u>sino@nptricepoint.com</u>

The opt-out forms for Class Members that are **residents of Québec** will be received and processed by the Québec Court, which can be contacted at:

Mailing Address:

Greffier de la Cour supérieure du Québec

Palais de justice de Québec

300, boulevard Jean-Lesage, salle 1.24

Québec (Québec) G1K 8K6

No de dossier : 200-06-000132-111

THE LAWYERS THAT REPRESENT THE CLASS MEMBERS

The law firms of Koskie Minsky LLP, Siskinds LLP, and Siskinds Desmeules, sencrl ("Class Counsel") jointly represent the Class in the Proceedings. They can be reached by mail, email, or by telephone, as provided below:

Koskie Minsky LLP

20 Queen St. West, Suite 900, Box 52, Toronto, ON, M5H 3R3

Re: Sino-Forest Class Action

Tel: 1.866.474.1739

Email: sinoforestclassaction@kmlaw.ca

Siskinds LLP

680 Waterloo Street, P.O. Box 2520 London, ON N6A 3V8

Re: Sino-Forest Class Action Tel: **1.800.461.6166** x.**2380**

Email: nicole.young@siskinds.com

Siskinds Desmeules, sencrl

43 Rue Buade, Bureau 320, Québec City, Québec, G1R 4A2

Re: Sino-Forest Class Action

Tel: 418.694-2009

Email: simon.hebert@siskindsdesmeules.com

INTERPRETATION

If there is a conflict between the provisions of this notice and the Settlement Agreement, the terms of the Settlement Agreement will prevail.

Please do not direct inquiries about this notice to the Court. All inquiries should be directed to the Opt-Out Administrator or Class Counsel.

DISTRIBUTION OF THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED BY THE ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE AND THE QUEBEC SUPERIOR COURT

SINO-FOREST CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT OPT OUT FORM Must be Postmarked

Must be Postmarked No Later Than January 15, 2013

THIS FORM IS NOT A REGISTRATION FORM OR A CLAIM FORM.

THIS FORM EXCLUDES YOU FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE PÖYRY (BEIJING) SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

DO NOT USE THIS FORM IF YOU WANT TO REMAIN IN THE CLASS.

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Please mail your Opt Out Form to:

Sino-Forest Class Action PO Box 3355 London, ON N6A 4K3

