THIS IS EXHIBIT "B" TO THE AFFIDAVIT OF ELIZABETH FIMIO

SWORN JUNE 8, 2012

A Commissioner, etc.

Daniel Holden Barrister & Solicitor CANADA
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC
DISTRICT OF QUEBEC
NO: 200-06-000132-111

(

(Class Action) SUPERIOR COURT

GUINING LIU, residing at 6580 Monkland Ave, Unit 103, Montreal, Quebec, H4B 2N4;

Petitioner;

٧.

SINO-FOREST CORPORATION, legal person established pursuant to the Canada Business Corporations Act, having its head office at 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3;

and

ERNST & YOUNG LLP, legal person having its head office at 222 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5K 1J7;

and

ALLEN T.Y. CHAN, Sino-Forest Corporation, 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3;

and

W. JUDSON MARTIN, Sino-Forest Corporation, 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3;

and

KAI KIT POON, Sino-Forest Corporation, 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3;

and

DAVID J. HORSLEY, Sino-Forest Corporation, 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3;

and

WILLIAM E. ARDELL, Sino-Forest Corporation, 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3;

and

JAMES P. BOWLAND, Sino-Forest Corporation, 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3;

and

JAMES M.E. HYDE, Sino-Forest Corporation, 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3;

and

EDMUND MAK, Sino-Forest Corporation, 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3;

and

SIMON MURRAY, Sino-Forest Corporation, 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3; and

PETER WANG, Sino-Forest Corporation, 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3;

and

GARRY J. WEST, Sino-Forest Corporation, 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3;

and

PÖYRY (BEIJING) CONSULTING COMPANY LIMITED, legal person having its head office at 2208-2210 Cloud 9 Plaza, No. 1118 West Yan'an Road, Shanghal 200052, PR China;

Defendants;

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE BRINGING OF A CLASS ACTION AND TO OBTAIN THE STATUS OF REPRESENTATIVE (Article 1002 C.C.P. and following)

TO ONE OF THE HONOURABLE JUSTICES OF THE QUEBEC SUPERIOR COURT, SITTING IN AND FOR THE DISTRICT OF QUEBEC, YOUR PETITIONER STATES AS FOLLOWS:

General presentation

1. The Petitioner wishes to institute a class action on behalf of the following group, of which he is a member (the "Group"):

"All persons or entities domiciled in Quebec (other than 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 an immediate member of the families of the individual named defendants) who purchased or otherwise acquired, whether in the secondary market, or under a prospectus or other offering document in the primary market, equity, debt or other securities of or relating to Sino-Forest Corporation, from and including August 12, 2008 to and including June 2, 2011 (the "Class Period")."

or such other group definition as may be approved by the Court.

2. Sino-Forest Corporation (along with its subsidiaries, "Sino") is a public company and its shares were listed for trading at all material times on the Toronto Stock

Exchange (the "TSX") under the ticker symbol "TRE," on the Berlin exchange as "SFJ GR," on the OTC market in the United States as "SNOFF" and on the Tradegate market as "SFJ TH."

- 3. At all material times, Sino purported to be a legitimate enterprise operating as a commercial forest plantation operator in the People's Republic of China ("PRC"). At all material times, Sino overstated the nature of its forestry operations and misrepresented the fact that its financial reporting had complied with Canadian GAAP, when in fact it had not done so.
- 4. The relief that the Petitioner seeks includes the following:
 - a) damages in an amount equal to the losses that it and the other Members of the Group suffered as a result of purchasing or acquiring the securities of Sino at inflated prices during the Class Period;
 - b) a declaration that every prospectus, management's discussion and analysis, annual information form, information circular, annual financial statement, interim financial report, Form 52-109F2 and Form 52-109F1 issued by Sino-Forest Corporation after August 12, 2008 (the "Impugned Documents") contained one or more misrepresentations;
 - c) a declaration that Sino-Forest Corporation is vicariously liable for the acts and/or omissions of 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

(the "Individual Defendants"), and of its other officers, directors and employees;

- d) a declaration that Ernst and Young LLP is vicariously liable for the acts and/or omissions of each of its officers, directors, partners and employees; and
- e) a declaration that Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Limited is vicariously liable for the acts and/or omissions of each of its officers, directors and employees.

The Petitioner

- The Petitioner is one of thousands of investors who purchased shares of Sino during the Class Period and continued to hold shares of Sino when the price of Sino's securities declined due to the correction of the misrepresentations alleged herein.
- 6. During the Class Period, the Petitioner made net purchases of 1,000 Sino shares over the TSX. [Particulars of the Petitioner's Class Period transactions are attached hereto as P-1].

The Defendants

7. The defendant Sino purports to be a commercial forest plantation operator in the PRC. Sino is a corporation formed under the *Canada Business Corporations Act*, RSC 1985, c C-44 (the "CBCA").

- 8. At the material times, Sino was a reporting issuer in all provinces of Canada, and had its registered office located in Mississauga, Ontario. At the material times, Sino's shares were listed for trading on the TSX under the ticker symbol "TRE," on the Berlin exchange as "SFJ GR," on the OTC market in the United States as "SNOFF" and on the Tradegate market as "SFJ TH." Sino securities are also listed on alternative trading systems in Canada and elsewhere including, without limitation, AlphaToronto and PureTrading. Sino also has various debt instruments, derivatives and other securities which are publicly traded in Canada and elsewhere.
- 9. The defendants 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 and Garry J. West (the "D&Os") are officers and/or directors of Sino. Each of them are directors and/or officers of Sino within the meaning of the *Securities Act*, RSQ c V-1.1 (the "*Securities Act*").
- 10. The defendant Ernst & Young LLP ("E&Y") is Sino's auditor. E&Y is an expert of Sino within the meaning of the *Securities Act*.
- 11. The defendant Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Limited ("Pöyry") is an international forestry consulting firm. Pöyry is an expert of Sino within the meaning of the *Securities Act*.

Sino's Continuous Disclosure Obligations

12. As a reporting issuer in Quebec, Sino was required throughout the Class Period to issue and file with SEDAR:

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- within 60 days of the end of each quarter, quarterly interim financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP including a comparative statement to the end of each of the corresponding periods in the previous financial year;
- within 140 days of the end of the fiscal year, annual financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP, including comparative financial statements relating to the period covered by the preceding financial year;
 and
- contemporaneously with each of the above, management's discussion and analysis of each of the above financial statements.
- 13. The Defendants issued the disclosure documents referenced herein pursuant to their statutory obligation to do so, and also for the specific purpose of attracting investment in Sino's securities, and inducing members of the public to purchase those securities.

The Defendants' Misrepresentations

14. Throughout the Class Period, Sino falsely purported to be a legitimate enterprise operating as a commercial forest plantation operator in the PRC. As part of its obligations as a reporting issuer in Quebec (and elsewhere), Sino issued the Impugned Documents. In those documents, Sino made statements concerning the nature of its business, its revenues, profitability, future prospects and compliance with the laws of the PRC and of Canada, Implicitly and explicitly and through documents incorporated by reference.

- 15. In fact, such statements were materially false and/or misleading. During the Class Period, Sino overstated its forestry assets, misrepresented its revenue recognition practices, falsely maintained that its financial statements complied with Canadian GAAP and issued materially misleading statements regarding Chinese law and Sino's compliance therewith, among other misrepresentations.
- 16. On June 2, 2011, however, the truth was at least partially revealed. As a result, the market value of Sino's securities fell dramatically, and the market value for Sino's shares in particular fell by in excess of 70% on extraordinarily heavy trading volume. Trading of Sino common shares was halted on the TSX after a decline in excess of 24% on June 2. When trading resumed on the TSX on June 3, Sino shares fell in excess of a further 63%, for a two-day drop in excess of nearly 73%.

The Defendants' Fault

The Defendants Owed Duties to the Members of the Group

- The Defendants owed a duty to the Petitioner and to persons and entities similarly situated, at law and under provisions of the *Securities Act* (chapter V-1.1), to disseminate promptly, or to ensure that prompt dissemination of truthful, complete and accurate statements regarding Sino's business and affairs, and promptly to correct previously-issued, materially inaccurate information, so that the price of Sino's publicly-traded securities was based on complete, accurate and truthful information.
- 18. At all times material to the matters complained of herein, each of the Defendants knew or ought reasonably to have known that the trading price of Sino's publicly

traded securities was directly influenced by the statements disseminated by the Defendants concerning the business and affairs of Sino.

19. As such, the Defendants knew or ought reasonably to have known that a failure to ensure that Sino's disclosures referenced herein were materially accurate and materially complete would cause Sino's securities to become inflated, and thus would cause damage to persons who invested in Sino's securities while their price remained inflated by such false statements.

The Defendants Violated their Duties

- 20. Certain statements made by Sino and the D&Os in the Impugned Documents were materially false and/or misleading. The Petitioner and the Members of the Group relied on such statements directly or indirectly or via the instrumentality of the markets on which Sino securities traded. When the truth was revealed and true value of Sino's securities became clear, the Petitioner and the Members of the Group were injured thereby. The Petitioner and the Group plead negligent misrepresentation as against Sino and the D&Os.
- 21. Sino's internal controls, which were designed and/or maintained by the D&Os, were inadequate or ignored. The D&Os owed a duty of care to the Petitioner and the Members of the Group to properly design and/or maintain such internal controls. The Petitioner and the Group plead negligence as against the D&Os in connection thereto.
- 22. E&Y made statements in certain of the Impugned Documents that were continuous disclosure documents that the audited financial statements contained or incorporated by reference therein "present fairly, and in all material respects,

the financial position of [Sino] [...] and the results of its operations and cash flows [...] in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles" (or similar language). Such statements were materially false and/or misleading, and E&Y lacked a reasonable basis to make such statements when E&Y made them. E&Y knowingly prepared its reports for use by Sino's security holders and prospective security holders. The Petitioner and the Group relied on such statements directly or indirectly or via the instrumentality of the markets on which Sino securities traded. When the truth was revealed and the true value of Sino's securities became clear, the Petitioner and the Group were injured thereby. In respect of Sino's continuous disclosure documents, the Petitioner and the Group plead negligence and negligent misrepresentation as against E&Y.

23. E&Y made statements in those of the Impugned Documents that are prospectuses that the Sino financial statements contained or incorporated by reference therein "complied with Canadian generally accepted standards for an auditor's involvement with offering documents" (or similar language). Such statements were materially false and/or misleading, and E&Y lacked a reasonable basis to make such statements when E&Y made them. E&Y knowingly prepared its reports for use by Sino's security holders and prospective security holders. The Petitioner and the Group relied on such statements directly or indirectly or via the instrumentality of the markets on which Sino securities traded. When the truth was revealed and true value of Sino's securities became clear, the Petitioner and the Group were injured thereby. The Petitioner and the Group plead negligence and negligent misrepresentation as against E&Y in respect of Sino's Class Period prospectuses.

- 24. Pöyry made statements regarding the nature of Sino's operations in reports dated on or about May 31, 2011, May 27, 2011, April 23, 2010 and April 2, 2009. Such statements were materially false and/or misleading, and Pöyry lacked a reasonable basis to make such statements when Pöyry made such statements. Pöyry knowingly prepared its reports for use by Sino's security holders and prospective security holders. The Petitioner and the Members of the Group relied on such statements directly or indirectly or via the instrumentality of the markets on which Sino securities traded. When the truth was revealed and true value of Sino's securities became clear, the Petitioner and the Members of the Group were injured thereby. The Petitioner and the Members of the Group plead negligence and negligent misrepresentation as against Pöyry.
- 25. At all times material to the matters complained of herein, each of the Defendants ought to have known that Sino's disclosure documents described herein were materially misleading as detailed above. Accordingly, the Defendants have violated their duties to the Petitioner and to persons or entities similarly situated.
- 26. The reasonable standard of care expected in the circumstances required the Defendants to act fairly, reasonably, honestly, candidly and in the best interests of the Petitioner and the other Members of the Group.
- 27. The Defendants failed to meet the standard of care required by issuing Sino's disclosure documents during the relevant period, which were materially false and/or misleading as described above.
- 28. The negligence of the Defendants resulted in the damage to the Petitioner and Members of the Group as pleaded.

The Relationship Between Sino's Disclosures and the Price of Sino's Securities

- 29. The price of Sino's securities was directly affected during the Class Period by the issuance of the disclosure documents described herein. The Defendants were aware at all material times of the effect of Sino's disclosures upon the price of its Sino's securities.
- 30. The disclosure documents referenced above were filed, among other places, with SEDAR and the TSX and thereby became immediately available to, and were reproduced for inspection by, the Members of the Group, other members of the investing public, financial analysts and the financial press.
- 31. Sino routinely transmitted the documents referred to above to the financial press, financial analysts and certain prospective and actual holders of Sino's securities. Sino provided either copies of the above referenced documents or links thereto on its website.
- 32. Sino regularly communicated with the public investors and financial analysts via established market communication mechanisms, including through regular disseminations of press releases on newswire services in Canada, the United States and elsewhere. The price of Sino's securities was directly affected each time SINO communicated new material information about Sino's financial results to the public.
- 33. Sino was the subject of analysts' reports that incorporated material information contained in the disclosure documents referred to above, with the effect that any recommendations in such reports during the Class Period were based, in whole or in part, upon that information.

34. Sino's securities were and are traded on efficient and automated markets. The price at which Sino's securities traded promptly incorporated material information about Sino's business and affairs, including the omissions and/or misrepresentations described herein, which were disseminated to the public through the documents referred to above and distributed by Sino, as well as by other means.

Statutory Liability for Misrepresentations – Secondary Market

- 35. Each of the Impugned Documents is a "Core Document" within the meaning of the Securities Act.
- 36. Each of the Impugned Documents contained one or more misrepresentations.
- 37. Each of the D&Os was an officer and/or director of Sino at all material times.

 Each of the D&Os authorized, permitted or acquiesced in the release of some or all of the Impugned Documents.
- 38. Sino is a reporting issuer within the meaning of the *Securities Act*.
- 39. Pöyry is an expert within the meaning of the *Securities Act*.
- 40. E&Y is an expert within the meaning of the *Securities Act.*
- 41. The Petitioner and the Group assert the causes of action set forth in Title VIII,

 Chapter II, Division II of the *Securities Act* as against Sino, Pöyry, the D&Os and

 E&Y and will seek leave, if and as required, in connection therewith.

Statutory Liability for Misrepresentations - Primary Market

- 42. Sino issued prospectuses on December 11, 2009 and June 1, 2009 (the "Prospectuses," both of which are Impugned Documents).
- 43. The defendants E&Y, Chan, Horsley, Martin and Hyde signed the Prospectuses.
- 44. The Prospectuses contained one or more misrepresentations within the meaning of the *Securities Act*.
- 45. The Petitioner and the Group plead the cause of action found in Title VIII, Chapter II, Division I of the *Securities Act* as against all Defendants.

Vicarious Liability of Sino

- 46. Sino is vicariously liable for the acts and omissions of the Individual Defendants particularized in this Claim.
- 47. The acts or omissions particularized and alleged herein to have been done by Sino were authorized, ordered and done by the Defendants and other agents, employees and representatives of Sino, while engaged in the management, direction, control 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.

Damages

48. As a result of the acts and omissions described above, the Petitioner and the other Members of the Group were induced to over-pay substantially for Sino's

securities. Such persons and entities have suffered damages equivalent to the loss in market value that occurred when Sino corrected the Migrepresentations.

49. The Petitioner and other Members of the Group are also entitled to recover, as damages or costs, the costs of administering the plan to distribute the recovery in this action.

Conditions required to institute a class action

- 50. The composition of the Group makes the application of article 59 or 67 C.C.P. impracticable for the following reasons:
 - The number of persons included in the group is estimated to be several thousand;
 - The names and addresses of persons included in the group are not known to the Petitioner (but are likely to be known to Defendants);
 - All the facts alleged in the preceding paragraphs make the application of articles 59 or 67 C.C.P. impossible.
- 51. The claims of the Members of the Group raise identical, similar or related questions of fact or law, namely:
 - Did the Defendants authorize or issue false and/or misleading public information?
 - Did the Defendants' Misrepresentations cause the share price of Sino's stock to be artificially inflated during the Class Period?

- Did the Defendants therefore commit a fault towards the Petitioner and the Members of the Group, thereby engaging their liability?
- What prejudice was sustained by the Petitioner and the Members of the Group as a result of the Defendants' faults?
- Are the Defendants jointly responsible for the damages sustained by each of the members?
- 52. The interests of justice weigh in favour of this motion being granted in accordance with its conclusions.

Nature of the action and conclusions sought

- 53. The action that the Petitioner wishes to institute for the benefit of the Members of the Group is an action in damages;
- 54. The conclusions that the Petitioner wishes to introduce by way of a motion to institute proceedings are:

GRANT the Petitioner's action against the Defendants;

CONDEMN Defendants to pay to the Members of the Group compensatory damages for all monetary losses;

GRANT the class action of the Petitioner on behalf of all the Members of the Group;

ORDER the treatment of individual claims of each Member of the Group in accordance with articles 1037 to 1040 C.C.P.;

THE WHOLE with interest and additional indemnity provided for in the *Civil Code of Quebec* and with full costs and expenses including expert fees and notice expenses;

- 55. The Petitioner suggests that this class action be exercised before the Superior Court in the district of Quebec for the following reasons:
 - A great number of the Members of the Group resides in the judicial district of Montreal and in the appeal district of Quebec;
 - The Petitioner and his lawyers are domiciled in the district of Quebec.
- The Petitioner, who is requesting to obtain the status of representative, will fairly and adequately protect and represent the interest of the Members of the Group for the following reasons:
 - He understands the nature of the action;
 - He is available to dedicate the time necessary for an action to collaborate with Members of the Group; and
 - His interests are not antagonistic to those of other Members of the Group.
- 57. The present motion is well-founded in fact and in law.

FOR THESE REASONS, MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

GRANT the present motion;

AUTHORIZE the bringing of a class action in the form of a motion to institute proceedings in damages;

ASCRIBE the Petitioner the status of representative of the persons included in the group herein described as:

"All persons or entities domiciled in Quebec (other than 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 an immediate member of the families of the individual named defendants) who purchased or otherwise acquired, whether in the secondary market, or under a prospectus or other offering document in the primary market, equity, debt or other securities of or relating to Sino-Forest Corporation, from and including August 12, 2008 to and including June 2, 2011 (the "Class Period")."

or such other class definition as may be approved by the Court.

IDENTIFY the principle questions of fact and law to be treated collectively as the following:

- Did the Defendants authorize or issue false and/or misleading public information?
- Did the Defendants' Misrepresentations cause the share price of Sino's stock to be artificially inflated during the Class Period?
- Did the Defendants therefore commit a fault towards the Petitioner and the
 Members of the Group, thereby engaging their liability?

• What prejudice was sustained by the Petitioner and the Members of the Group as a result of the Defendants' faults?

 Are the Defendants jointly responsible for the damages sustained by each of the Members of the Group?

IDENTIFY the conclusions sought by the class action to be instituted as being the following:

GRANT the Petitioner's action against the Defendants;

DECLARE that the Defendants made the Misrepresentations during the Class Period;

DECLARE that the Defendants made the Misrepresentations negligently;

DECLARE that Sino is vicariously liable for the acts and/or omissions of the Individual Defendants;

CONDEMN Defendants to pay to the Members of the Group compensatory damages in the amount of 4 billion\$, or such other sum as this Court finds appropriate for all monetary losses;

GRANT the class action of the Petitioner on behalf of all the Members of the Group;

ORDER the treatment of individual claims of each Member of the Group in accordance with articles 1037 to 1040 C.C.P.;

THE WHOLE with interest and additional indemnity provided for in the Civil

Code of Quebec and with full costs and expenses including expert fees and

notice fees;

DECLARE that all Members of the Group that have not requested their exclusion

from the Group in the prescribed delay to be bound by any judgement to be

rendered on the class action to be instituted;

FIX the delay of exclusion at 30 days from the date of the publication of the

notice to the Members of the Group;

ORDER the publication of a notice to the Members of the Group in accordance

with article 1006 C.C.P.;

THE WHOLE with costs to follow.

Quebec, June 9, 2011

(s) SISKINDS, DESMEULES

SISKINDS, DESMEULES, AVOCATS

(Me Simon Hébert)

Lawyer for the Petitioner

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SCHEDULE 1

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT

Take notice that the plaintiff has filed this action or application in the office of the Superior Court of the judicial district of Québec.

To file an answer to this action or application, you must first file an appearance, personally or by advocate, at the courthouse of Québec located at 300, boul. Jean-Lesage, Québec, G1K 8K6 within 10 days of service of this motion.

If you fail to file an appearance within the time limit indicated, a judgment by default may be rendered against you without further notice upon the expiry of the 10 day period.

If you file an appearance, the action or application will be presented before the court on September 23, 2011, at 9h00 a.m., in room 3.14 of the courthouse. On that date, the court may exercise such powers as are necessary to ensure the orderly progress of the proceeding or the court may hear the case, unless you have made a written agreement with the plaintiff or the plaintiff's advocate on a timetable for the orderly progress of the proceeding. The timetable must be filed in the office of the court.

These exhibits are available on request.

Quebec City June 9, 2011

(s) SISKINDS, DESMEULES

SISKINDS, DESMEULES, AVOCATS (Me Simon Hébert)
Lawyers for the Petitioner

THIS IS EXHIBIT "C" TO THE AFFIDAVIT OF ELIZABETH FIMIO

SWORN JUNE 8, 2012

A Commissioner, etc.

Daniel Holden
Barrister & Solicitor

	•	Q.B. No. Of 2011
CANADA PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN)	

IN THE QUEEN'S BENCH JUDICIAL CENTRE OF REGINA

Between:

ALLAN HAIGH

Plaintiff,

and

SINO-FOREST CORPORATION, ALLEN T.Y. CHAN, and DAVID J. HORSLEY.

Defendants

Brought under The Class Actions Act

STATEMENT OF CLAIM

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT

- 1. The plaintiff may enter judgment in accordance with this Statement of Claim or such judgment as may be granted pursuant to the Rules of Court unless
 - · within 20 days if you were served in Saskatchewan;
 - · within 30 days if you were served elsewhere in Canada or in the United States of America;
- within 40 days if you were served outside Canada and the United States of America
 (excluding the day of service) you serve a Statement of Defence on the plaintiff and file a copy thereof in the office of the local registrar of the Court for the judicial centre abovenamed.
- 2. In many cases a defendant may have the trial of the action held at a judicial centre other than the one at which the Statement of Claim is issued. Every defendant should consult his lawyer as to his rights.
- 3. This Statement of Claim is to be served within six months from the date on which it is issued.
- 4. This Statement of Claim is issued at the above-named judicial centre the It day of December, 2011.

T. LANGFORD

DY. LOCAL REGISTRAR

Local Registrar

GEAL

DEFINED TERMS

- 1. In this Statement of Claim, in addition to the terms that are defined elsewhere herein, the following terms have the following meanings:
- (a) "AI" means Authorized Intermediary;
- (b) "AIF" means Annual Information Form;
- (c) "CAA" means The Class Actions Act, S.S. 2001, c. C-12.01, as amended;
- (d) "CBCA" means the Canada Business Corporations Act, RSC 1985, c. C-44, as amended;
- (e) "Chan" means the defendant Allen T.Y. Chan;
- (f) "Class" and "Class Members" means all persons and entities wherever they may reside who acquired securities of Sino during the Class Period either by primary distribution in Canada or an acquisition on the TSX or other secondary market in Canada, other than 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 an immediate member of the family of an Individual Defendant;
- (g) "Class Period" means the period from and including March 19, 2007 to and including June 2, 2011;
- (h) "Code" means Sino's Code of Business Conduct;
- (i) "Defendants" means Sino and the Individual Defendants;
- .(j) "December 2009 Prospectus" means Sino's Final Short Form Prospectus, dated December
- 10, 2009, which Sino filed on SEDAR on December 11, 2009;
- (k) "E&Y" means Ernst and Young LLP;
- (1) "GAAP" means Canadian generally accepted accounting principles;
- (m) "Globe" means The Globe and Mail;
- (n) "Horsley" means the defendant David J. Horsley;
- (o) "Impugned Documents" means the 2006 Annual Consolidated Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on March 19, 2007), 2006 AIF (filed on SEDAR on March 30, 2007), 2006 Annual MD&A (filed on SEDAR on March 19, 2007), Management Information Circular dated April 27, 2007 (filed on SEDAR on May 4, 2007), Q1 2007 MD&A (filed on SEDAR

on May 14, 2007), Q1 2007 Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on May 14, 2007), June 2007 Prospectus, Q2 2007 MD&A (filed on SEDAR on August 13, 2007), Q2 2007 Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on August 13, 2007), Q3 2007 MD&A (filed on SEDAR on November 12, 2007), Q3 2007 Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on November 12, 2007), 2007 Annual Consolidated Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on March 18, 2008), 2007 AIF (filed on SEDAR on March 28, 2008), 2007 Annual MD&A (filed on SEDAR on March 18, 2008), Amended 2007 Annual MD&A (filed on SEDAR on March 28, 2008), Management Information Circular dated April 28, 2008 (filed on SEDAR on May 6, 2008), Q1 2008 MD&A (filed on SEDAR on May 13, 2008), Q1 2008 Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on May 13, 2008), Q2 2008 MD&A (filed on SEDAR on August 12, 2008), Q2 2008 Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on August 12, 2008), Q3 2008 MD&A (filed on SEDAR on November 13, 2008), O3 2008 Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on November 13, 2008), 2008 Annual Consolidated Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on March 31, 2009), 2008 Annual MD&A (filed on SEDAR on March 16, 2009), Amended 2008 Annual MD&A (filed on SEDAR on March 17, 2009), 2008 AIF (filed on SEDAR on March 31, 2009), Management Information Circular dated April 28, 2009 (filed on SEDAR on May 4, 2009), Q1 2009 MD&A (filed on SEDAR on May 11, 2009), Q1 2009 Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on May 11, 2009), June 2009 Prospectus, Q2 2009 MD&A (filed on SEDAR-on-August 10, 2009), Q2 2009 Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR-on-August 10, 2009), Q3 2009 MD&A (filed on SEDAR on November 12, 2009), Q3 2009 Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on November 12, 2009), December 2009 Prospectus, 2009 Annual MD&A (filed on SEDAR on March 16, 2010), 2009 Audited Annual Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on March 16, 2010), 2009 AIF (filed on SEDAR on March 31, 2010), Management Information Circular dated May 4, 2010 (filed on SEDAR on May 11, 2010), Q1 2010 MD&A (filed on SEDAR on May 12, 2010), Q1 2010 Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on May 12, 2010), Q2 2010 MD&A (filed on SEDAR on August 10, 2010), Q2 2010 Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on August 10, 2010), Q3 2010 MD&A (filed on SEDAR on November 20, 2010), Q3 2010 Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on

November 20, 2010), 2010 Annual MD & A (March 15, 2011), 2010 Annual Audited Financial Statements (filed on SEDAR on March 15, 2011), 2010 AIF (filed on SEDAR on March 31, 2011) and Management Information Circular dated May 2, 2011 (filed on SEDAR on May 10, 2011);

- (p) "Individual Defendants" means Chan and Horsley;
- (q) "June 2007 Prospectus" means Sino's Short Form Prospectus, dated June 5, 2007, which Sino filed on SEDAR on June 5, 2007;
- (r) "June 2009 Prospectus" means Sino's Final Short Form Prospectus, dated June 1, 2009, which Sino filed on SEDAR on June 1, 2009;
- (s) "MD&A" means Management's Discussion and Analysis;
- (t) "Muddy Waters" means Muddy Waters LLC;
- (u) "OSC" means the Ontario Securities Commission;
- (v) "Plaintiff" means the plaintiff Allan Haigh;
- (w) "PRC" means the People's Republic of China;
- (x) "Representation" means the statement that Sino's financial statements complied with GAAP;
- (y) "SEDAR" means the system for electronic document analysis and retrieval of the Canadian Securities Administrators;
- (z) "Sino" means the defendant, Sino-Forest Corporation;....
- (aa) "SSA" means The Securities Act, S.S. 1988-89, c. S-42.2, as amended;
- (bb) "TSX" means the Toronto Stock Exchange;
- (cc) "WFOE" means wholly foreign owned enterprise or an enterprise established in China in accordance with the relevant PRC laws, with capital provided solely by foreign investors.

CLAIM

(1) the parties

(a) plaintiff

2. The Plaintiff, Allan Haigh, resides in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Mr. Haigh purchased 200 shares of Sino on November 3rd, 2010, at a cost of \$20.14 per share.

(b) defendants

- 3. The Defendant Sino-Forest Corporation ("Sino-Forest"), is incorporated pursuant to the laws of Canada, with its head office at 1208-90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C3.
- 4. The Defendant Chan resides in Ontario. At all material times, Chan was Sino's Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and a director of the company.
- The Defendant Horsley resides in Ontario. At all material times, Horsley was Sino's Chief Financial Officer.

(2) the class

6. The Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of all persons or entities who held common shares of Sino between March 19th, 2007 and June 2, 2011 (the "Class Period") either by primary distribution in Canada or an acquisition on the Toronto Stock Exchange or other secondary market in Canada.

(3) particulars

- 7. At all material times, Sino was a reporting issuer in all provinces of Canada, and had its registered office located in Mississauga, Ontario.
- 8. From the time of its establishment in 1994, Sino has claimed to be a legitimate business operating in the commercial forestry industry in the PRC and elsewhere.
- 9. In 1994, Sino entered Canada's capital markets by way of a "reverse takeover." This allowed Sino to avoid the scrutiny of an Initial Public Offering.
- 10. At all material times, Sino's shares were listed for trading on:(a) the Toronto Stock Exchange (the "TSX") under the ticker symbol "TRE";

- (b) on the Berlin exchange as "SFJ GR";
- (c) on the OTC market in the United States as "SNOFF";
- (d) on the Tradegate market as "SFJ TH";
- (e) on alternative trading systems in Canada and elsewhere including, without limitation, AlphaToronto and PureTrading.
- 11. At all material times, Sino had various debt instruments, derivatives and other securities that were publicly traded in Canada and elsewhere.
- 12. 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.
- 13. 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 Plaintiff, Class Members, other members of the investing public, financial analysts and the financial press.
- 14. 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 Impugned Documents or links thereto on its website.
- 15. 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.

- 16. 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.
- 17. 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.
- 18. In Sino's Initial Proxy Circular of February 11th, 1994, Sino purported to operate through six joint ventures formed in the PRC. By the early 2000's, Sino's business structured changed to include wholly-owned subsidiaries and so called authorized intermediaries ("AIs"). By early 2011, Sino purported to conduct business through more than 60 subsidiaries, at least 16 of which were formed in the British Virgin Islands, and at least 40 of which were formed in the PRC.
- 19. Sino conducted seven offerings during the Class Period (the "Offerings"), raising an aggregate of more than \$2,7 billion from investors:
 - (a) by short form prospectus dated June 5, 2007 (filed with SEDAR), Sino conducted an offering of 15,900,000 common shares at a price of \$12.65 per share, resulting in gross proceeds of \$201,135,000;
 - (b) by way of an "Offering Memorandum", Sino sold through private placement US\$345 million in aggregate principal amount of convertible senior notes due 2013;
 (c) by short form prospectus dated June 1, 2009 (filed with SEDAR), Sino conducted an offering of 34,500,000 common shares for \$11.00 per share, resulting in gross

proceeds of \$379,500,000;

- (d) by way of an Exchange Offer Memorandum, Sino exchanged certain of its then outstanding senior notes with new notes, pursuant to which Sino issued US\$212,330,000 in aggregate principal amount of guaranteed senior notes due 2014; (e) by way of a final Offering Memorandum, Sino sold through private placement US\$460,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of convertible senior notes due 2016; (f) by short form prospectus dated December 11th, 2009 (filed with SEDAR on December 11, 2009), Sino conducted an offering of 21,850,000 common shares for \$16.80 per shares, resulting in proceeds of \$367,080,000;
- (g) On February 8th, 2010, Sino closed the acquisition of substantially all of the outstanding common shares of Mandra Forestry Holdings Limited. Concurrent with this acquisition, Sino completed an exchange with holders of 99.7% of the USD\$195 million notes issued by Mandra Forestry Financial Limited and 96.7% of the warrants issued by Mandra Forestry Holdings Limited, for new guaranteed senior notes issued by Sino in the aggregate principal amount of USD\$187,177,375 with a maturity date of July 28, 2014.
- (g) On October 14, 2010, Sino issued a final Offering Memorandum pursuant to which Sino sold through private placement US\$600,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of guaranteed senior notes due 2017.
- 20. The offering documents referenced in the preceding paragraph included and incorporated other documents by reference that included the Representation and other misrepresentations that are particularized below. Had the truth in regard to Sino's management, business and affairs been timely disclosed, securities regulators likely would not have receipted the Prospectuses and the offerings would not have occurred.

(4) Sino's class period misrepresentations

- 21. During the class period, Sino misrepresented:
 - (a) Its 2006 Results and AIF;

- (b) Its May 2007 Management Information Circular;
- (c) Its tax-related risks arising from its use of AIs;
- (d) Its Yunnan Forestry Assets;
- (e) Its Suriname Forestry Assets;
- (f) Its Jiangxi Forestry Assets;
- (g) Its related parties;
- (h) Its sales of standing timber;
- (i) Its purchases of Forestry Assets; and
- (i) Its margins and taxes.

Sino's 2006 Results and AIF

- 22. Prior to the opening of markets on March 19th, 2007, Sino issued and filed on SEDAR its 2006 Annual Consolidated Financial Statements and 2006 Annual MD&A. Each document contained the Representation, which was false.
- 23. In particular, Sino materially overstated its results for 2006, and its assets as at year-end 2008. Sino reported in each such document, on a GAAP basis, that its revenues and net income for the year ended December 31st, 2006 were, respectively, US\$634.0 million and US\$111.6 million, and further reported, on a GAAP basis, that its assets as at December 31st, 2006 were US\$1.2 billion.
- 24. Over the ten trading days following the issuance of Sino's inflated 2006 results, Sino's share price rose substantially on unusually heavy trading volume. At the close of trading on March 16th, 2007 (the trading day prior to March 19th, 2007), Sino's shares traded at \$10.10 per share. At the close of trading on March 29th, 2007, Sino's shares traded at \$13.42 per share, which constituted an increase of approximately 33% from the March 19th closing price.

Sino's May 2007 Management Information Circular

25. 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 ourrently 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.]

- 26. In its 2007 AIF, which Sino filed on March 28, 2008, Sino again declared its intention to reduce its reliance upon AIs.
- 27. These statements were false and materially misleading when made, as Sino had no intention of reducing materially its reliance on AIs, because 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.
- 28. Throughout the Class Period, Sino continued to depend heavily upon AIs for its purported sales of standing timber and Sino's reliance on AIs in fact *increased* during the Class Period.

Sino's tax-related risks arising from its use of AIs

29. Throughout the Class Period, Sino materially understated the tax-related risks arising from its use of Als.

- 30. Tax evasion penalties in the PRC are severe and depending on the severity of the offense can be punishable with unlimited fines.
- 31. During the Class Period, Sino professed to be unable to determine whether its AIs had paid required taxes and so the tax-related risks arising from Sino's use of AIs were potentially devastating. Sino failed to disclose these risks in its Class Period disclosure documents, including and particularly in its discussions of its tax provisioning set forth in its Class Period financial statements and AIFs.
- 32. Based upon Sino's reported results, Sino's tax accruals in its 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 Audited Annual Financial Statements were materially deficient and Sino's inadequate tax accruals violated GAAP.
- 33. 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.
- 34. 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 were 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.

- 35. During the Class Period, Sine also failed to disclose the risks relating to the repatriation of its earnings from the PRC. In 2010, Sine 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, Sine did not disclose that it would be unable to repatriate any earnings absent proof of payment of PRC taxes, which it has admitted that it lacks.
- 36. 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.]

37. Sino's disclosures were consistent in that regard up to and including Sino's first AIP issued in the Class Period, 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.]

38. In subsequent AIFs, Sino ceased without explanation to disclose whether it treated AIs for accounting purposes as being both the supplier and the customer.

39. 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.

Sino Overstates its Yunnan Forestry Assets

- 40. In a press release issued by Sino and filed on SEDAR on March 23, 2007, Sino announced that it had entered into an agreement to sell 26 million shares to several institutional investors for gross proceeds of US\$200 million, and that the proceeds would be used for the acquisition of standing timber, including pursuant to a new agreement to purchase standing timber in Yunnan Province. It further stated in that press release that Sino-Panel (Asia) Inc. ("Sino-Panel"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sino, had entered on that same day into an agreement with Gengma Dai and Wa Tribes Autonomous Region Forestry Company Ltd., ("Gengma Forestry") established in Lincang City, Yunnan Province in the PRC, and that, under that Agreement, Sino-Panel would acquire approximately 200,000 hectares of non-state owned commercial standing timber in Lincang City and surrounding cities in Yunnan for US\$700 million to US\$1.4 billion over a 10-year period.
- 41. These same terms of Sino's Agreement with Gengma Forestry were disclosed in Sino's Q1 2007 MD&A. Moreover, throughout the Class Period, Sino discussed its purported Yunnan acquisitions in the Impugned Documents.
- 42. However, the reported acquisitions did not take place. As the *Globe* later revealed, Sino "substantially overstated the size and value of its forestry holdings in China's Yunnan Province, according to figures provided by senior forestry officials and a key business partner there." Sino simply does not own the trees it claims to own in Yunnan.

Sino Overstates its Suriname Forestry Assets

- 43. In mid-2010, Sino became a majority shareholder of Greenheart Group Ltd., a Bermuda corporation having its headquarters in Hong Kong and a listing on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange ("Greenheart").
- 44. In August 2010, Greenheart issued an aggregate principal amount of US\$25,000,000 convertible notes for gross proceeds of US\$24,750,000. The sole subscriber of these convertible notes was Greater Sino Holdings Limited. Chan became a member of Greenheart's Board and the Board's Chairman. Other officers and directors of Sino became officers and directors of Greenheart.
- 45. On August 24, 2010 and December 28, 2010, Greenheart granted to Chan options to purchase approximately 6.8 million. The options are exercisable for a five-year term.
- 46. As at March 31, 2011, General Enterprise Management Services International Limited, a company in which some of Sino's officers and directors have an indirect interest, held 7,000,000 shares of Greenheart, being 0.9% of the total issued and outstanding shares of Greenheart.
- 47. As a result of the aforesaid transactions and interests, Sino, Chan, and other officers and directors of Sino, stood to profit handsomely from any inflation in the market price of Greenheart's shares.
- 48. At all material times, Greenheart purported to have forestry assets in New Zealand and Suriname. On March 1, 2011, Greenheart issued a press release in which it announced that:

Greenheart acquires certain rights to additional 128,000 hectare concession in Suriname

312,000 hectares now under Greenheart management Hong Kong, March 1, 2011 - Greenheart Group Limited ("Greenheart" or "the Company")

(HKSE: 00094), an investment holding company with forestry assets in Suriname and New Zealand (subject to certain closing conditions) today announced that the Company has acquired 60% of Vista Marine Services N.V. ("Vista"), a private company based in Suriname, South America that controls certain harvesting rights to a 128,000 hectares hardwood concession. Vista will be rebranded as part of the Greenheart Group. This transaction will increase Greenheart's concessions under management in Suriname to approximately 312,000 hectares. The cost of this acquisition is not material to the Company as a whole but the Company is optimistic about the prospects of Vista and the positive impact that it will bring. The concession is located in the Sipalarini district of Suriname, South America, bordering Lake Brokopondo and has an estimated annual allowable cut of approximately 100,000 cubic meters. Mr. Judson Martin, Chief Executive Officer of Greenheart and Vice-Chairman of Sino- Forest Corporation, the Company's controlling shareholder said, "This acquisition is in line with our growth strategy to expand our footprint in Suriname. In addition to increased harvestable area, this acquisition will bring synergies in sales, marketing, administration, financial reporting and control, logistics and overall management. I am pleased to welcome Mr. Ty Wilkinson to Greenheart as our minority partner. Mr. Wilkinson shares our respect for the people of Suriname and the land and will be appointed Chief Executive Officer of this joint venture and be responsible for operating in a sustainable and responsible manner. This acquisition further advances Greenheart's strategy of becoming a global agri-forestry company. We will continue to actively seek well-priced and sustainable concessions in Suriname and neighboring regions in the coming months."

About Ty Wilkinson

Mr. Wilkinson has over twenty years of experience in the agricultural and forestry business. He was awarded the prestigious "Farmer and Rancher of the year" award in the USA, in recognition of his work on water conservation, perfecting the commercial use of drip irrigation and maximizing crop yield through the use of technical soil research and analysis. Mr. Wilkinson also has extensive knowledge in sustainable forestry management, forestry planning, infrastructure development, harvest schedules, lumber drying, lumber processing, extensive local knowledge as well as regional business networks. He has been living in Suriname since 2001. [Emphasis added.]

49. In its 2010 AIF, filed on SEDAR on March 31, 2011, Sino stated:

We hold a majority interest in Greenheart Group which, together with its subsidiaries, owns certain rights and manages approximately 312,000 hectares of hardwood forest concessions in the Republic of Suriname, South America ("Suriname") and 11,000 hectares of a radiata pine plantation on 13,000 hectares of freehold land in New Zealand as at March 31, 2011. We believe that our ownership in Greenheart Group will strengthen our global sourcing network in supplying wood fibre for China in a sustainable and responsible manner. [Emphasis added].

50. In its Annual Report for 2010, which Sino filed on SEDAR on May 10, 2011, Sino's Vice-Chairman stated:

I am honored to report to you for the first time as Vice Chairman of Sino-Forest and Chief Executive Officer of Greenheart Group [...] Greenheart's strategy is to be Sino-Forest's international growth vehicle for acquiring sustainable and profitable forestry assets located outside China to serve the growing wood deficit within China while at the same time maintaining the ability to manage and operate in other markets around the world. At the end of 2010. Greenheart had three primary assets; a 60% interest in a 184,000 hectare hardwood concession located in western Suriname (Sino-Forest currently owns the remaining 40% minority interest); a commitment to acquire 13,000 hectares of freehold land including 11,000 hectares of softwood radiata pine plantations in New Zealand (which was completed subsequent to year end); and US\$78 million in cash. In the first quarter of 2011, we acquired 60% of Vista Marine Services N.V., which holds certain harvesting rights to a 128,000-hectare concession in eastern Suriname. This acquisition expands Greenheart's land under-management-in-Suriname-to-approximately-3-1-2,000-hectare.-We-are currently building two large-scale wood processing facilities, which we expect to complete late this year, which will allow us to process logs into lumber and other value-added products such as flooring, decking and special millwork, Greenheart's strategy in Suriname is to continue to expand our concession footprint and be the leader in the sustainable timber industry. We are committed to low-impact harvesting and silviculture methods as prescribed by Suriname's Centre for Agricultural Research ("CELOS"), and we will be working towards Forest Stewardship Council ("FSC") certification in all our operations. The responsible care of people and the environment is our corporate policy but also our state of mind, [Emphasis added.]

- 51. The foregoing statements were false or materially misleading when made, for the reasons set out below.
- 52. Shortly before Greenheart's purported acquisition of Vista Marine Services N.V. ("Vista"), Vista was founded by Ty Wilkinson, an American citizen who formerly resided in Sarasota, Florida. Although Greenheart saw fit to disclose in its March 1, 2011 press release that Mr. Wilkinson, Greenheart's new Suriname CEO, was once named "Farmer and Rancher of the year," Greenheart failed to disclose that the Circuit Court of Sarasota County, Florida, had issued a warrant for Mr. Wilkinson's arrest in October 2009, and that Mr. Wilkinson abandoned residence in the United States at least in part to avoid arrest, and also to avoid paying various debts Wilkinson owes to a former business associate and others.
- 53. There is no record of Greenheart in the Suriname Trade Register maintained by the Chamber of Commerce in Suriname, nor is there any record of Greenheart with the Suriname Foundation for Forest Management and Production Control.
- 54. In addition, under the Suriname Forest Management Act, it is prohibited for one company or a group of companies in which one person or company has a majority interest to control more than 150,000 hectares of land under concession.
- 55. Finally, Vista's forestry concessions are located in a region of Suriname populated by the Saramaka, an indigenous people. Pursuant to the American Convention on Human Rights and a decision of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Saramaka people must have effective control over their land, including the management of their reserves, and must be effectively consulted by the State of Suriname. Neither Sino nor Greenheart has disclosed that Vista's purported concessions in Suriname, if they exist at all, are impaired due to the unfulfilled rights of the indigenous peoples of Suriname.

Jiangxi Forestry Assets

56. On June 11, 2009, Sino issued a press release in which it stated:

Sino-Forest Corporation (TSX: TRE), a leading commercial forest plantation operator in China, announced today that its wholly-owned subsidiary, Sino-Panel (China) Investments Limited ("Sino-Panel"), has entered into a Master Agreement for the Purchase of Pine and Chinese Fir Plantation Forests (the "Jiangxi Master Agreement") with Jiangxi Zhonggan Industrial Development Company Limited ("Jiangxi Zhonggan"), which will act as the authorized agent for the original plantation rights holders. Under the Jiangxi Master Agreement, Sino-Panel will, through PRC subsidiaries of Sino-Forest, acquire between 15 million and 18 million cubic metres (m3) of wood fibre located in plantations in Jiangxi Province over a three-year period with a price not to exceed RMB300 per m3, to the extent permitted under the relevant PRC laws and regulations. The plantations in which such amount of wood fibre to acquire is between 150,000 and 300,000 hectares to achieve an estimated average wood fibre yield of approximately 100 m3 per hectare, and include tree species such as pine, Chinese fir and others. Jiangxi Zhonggan will ensure plantation forests sold to Sino-Panel and its PRC subsidiaries are non-stateowned, non-natural, commercial plantation forest trees. In addition to securing the maximum tree acquisition price, Sino-Panel has pre-emptive rights to lease the underlying plantation land at a price, permitted under the relevant PRC laws and regulations, not to exceed RMB450 per hectare per annum for 30 years from the time of harvest. The land lease can also be extended to 50 years as permitted under PRC laws and regulations. The specific terms and conditions of purchasing or leasing are to be determined upon the execution of definitive agreements between the PRC subsidiaries of Sino-Panel and Jiangxi Zhonggan upon the authorisation of original plantation rights holders, and subject to the requisite governmental approval and in compliance with the relevant PRC laws and regulations.

Sino-Forest Chairman and CEO Allen Chan said, "We are fortunate to have been able to capture and support investment opportunities in China's developing forestry sector by locking up a large amount of fibre at competitive prices. The Jiangxi Master Agreement is Sino-Forest's fifth, long-term, fibre purchase agreement during the past two years. These five agreements cover a total plantation area of over one million hectares in five of China's most densely forested provinces." [Emphasis added].

- 57. According to Sino's 2010 Annual MD&A, as of December 31, 2010, Sino had acquired 59,700 ha of plantation trees from Jiangxi Zhonggan Industrial Development Company Limited ("Zhonggan") for US\$269.1 million under the terms of the master agreement. (In its interim report for the second quarter of 2011, which was issued after the Class Period, Sino claims that, as at June 30, 2011, this number had increased to 69,100 ha, for a purchase price of US\$309.6 million).
- 58. However, as was known to Sino, Chan, and Horsley, Sino's plantation acquisitions through Zhonggan are far smaller than Sino has claimed.
- 59. In August 2011, a supervisor of the Forestry Bureau of Nanchang, the capitol of Jiangxi Province, affirmed that he had never heard of Zhonggan. In that same month, the Jiangxi Forestry Bureau, which has jurisdiction over the Province of Jiangxi, was able to confirm only that Zhonggan had rented the land use rights of 3,333 ha from local farmers.
- 60. Zhonggan's offices belie the purported scope and nature of Zhonggan's business. During a visit to Zhonggan's offices in August 2011, no personnel were present during business hours, there was no signage outside the office, and there was a CCTV camera and a fingerprint entry machine installed near the office entrance.
- Zhonggan was formed in January 2008, only 18 months before agreeing to sell to Sino's subsidiary up to 300,000 ha of plantation forest. Moreover, when it was established, Zhonggan was capitalized with a mere \(\mathbb{X} \)5 million.
- 62. Irrespective of the true extent of Zhonggan's transactions in Jiangxi forestry plantations, Sino failed to disclose, in violation of GAAP, that Zhonggan was a related party of Sino. More particularly, according to AIC records, the legal representative of Zhonggan is Lam Hong Chiu, who is an executive vice president of Sino. Lam Hong Chiu is also a director

and a 50% shareholder of China Square Industrial Limited, a BVI corporation which, according to AIC records, owns 80% of the equity of Zhonggan.

Misrepresentations Regarding Related Parties other than Zhonggan

63. On January 12, 2010, Sino issued a press release in which it announced: the acquisition by one of its wholly-owned subsidiaries of Homix Limited ("Homix"), which it described as a 48 company engaged in research and development and manufacturing of engineered-wood products in China, for an aggregate amount of US\$7.1 million. That press release stated:

HOMIX has an R&D laboratory and two engineered-wood production operations based in Guangzhou and Jiangsu Provinces, covering eastern and southern China wood product markets. The company has developed a number of new technologies with patent rights, specifically suitable for domestic plantation logs including poplar and encalyptus species. HOMIX specializes in curing, drying and dyeing methods for engineered wood and has the know-how to produce recomposed wood products and laminated veneer lumber. Recomposed wood technology is considered to be environment-friendly and versatile as it uses fibre from forest plantations, recycled wood and/or wood residue. This reduces the traditional use of large-diameter trees from natural forests. There is growing demand for recomposed wood technology as it reduces cost for raw material while increases the utilization and sustainable use of plantation fibre for the production of furniture and interior/exterior building materials.

[...]

Mr. Allen Chan, Sino-Forest's Chairman & CEO, said, "As we continue to ramp up our replanting programme with improved eucalyptus species, it is important for Sino-Forest to continue investing in the research and development that maximizes all aspects of the forest product supply chain. Modernization and improved productivity of the wood processing industry in China is also necessary given the country's chronic wood fibre deficit. Increased use of technology improves operation efficiency, and maximizes and broadens the use of domestic plantation wood, which reduces the need for logging domestic natural forests and for importing logs from strained tropical forests. HOMIX has significant technological capabilities in engineered-wood processing."

Mr. Chan added, "By acquiring HOMIX, we intend to use six-year eucalyptus fibre instead of 30-year tree fibre from other species to produce quality lumber using recomposed technology. We believe that this will help preserve natural forests as well as improve the demand for and pricing of our planted eucalyptus trees."

- 64. Sino's 2009 Annual Audited Financial Statements, Q1/2010 Unaudited Interim Financial Statements, 2010 Annual Audited Financial Statements, the MD&As related to each of the aforementioned financial statements, and Sino's AIFs for 2009 and 2010, each discussed the acquisition of Homix, but nowhere disclosed that Homix was in fact a party related to Sino.
- 65. More particularly, Hua Chen, a Senior Vice President, Administration & Finance, of Sino in the PRC, and who joined Sino in 2002, is a 30% shareholder of an operating subsidiary of Homix, Jiangsu Dayang Wood Co., Ltd.
- 66. Pursuant to GAAP, Sino was required to provide, among other things, a description of the relationship between the transacting parties when dealing with related parties. GAAP recognizes that detail on related party transactions is crucial.
- .67.—Thus, Sino's failure to disclose that Homix was a related party was a violation of a GAAP, and a misrepresentation.
- 68. Finally, Homix has no patent designs registered with the PRC State Intellectual Property Office, a fact also not disclosed by Sino at the time of the Homix acquisition or subsequently.

Misrepresentations Regarding Sales of Standing Timber

- 69. Every financial statement and MD&A issued during the Class Period overstates Sino's sales of standing timber to a material degree, and overstates to a material degree Sino's reported revenues and net income for the period in question.
- 70. Throughout the Class Period, Sino purported to sell "standing timber." As particularized above, such sales did not occur, or did not occur in a manner such that revenue could be recorded pursuant to GAAP.

Misrepresentations Regarding Purchases of Forestry Assets

- 71. As particularized above, Sino overstated its acquisition of forestry assets in Yunnan and Jiangxi Provinces in the PRC and in Suriname. Accordingly, Sino's total assets are overstated to a material degree in the Impugned Documents in violation of GAAP, and each such statement of Sino's total assets constitutes a misrepresentation.
- 72. In addition, during the Class Period, Sino caused statements to be made that are misrepresentations in regard to Sino's Yunnan Province "assets," namely:
- (a) In a report dated March 15, 2008, filed on SEDAR on March 31, 2008, Sino:
 - (a) caused to be stated that it had determined the valuation of the Sino forest assets to be US\$3.2 billion as at 31 December 2007;
 - (b) caused tables and figures regarding Yunnan to be published;
 - (c) caused to be stated that "Stands in Yunnan range from 20 ha to 1000 ha," that "In 2007 Sino-Forest purchased an area of mixed broadleaf forest in Yunnan Province," that "Broadleaf forests already acquired in Yunnan are all mature," and that "Sino-Forest is embarking on a series of forest acquisitions/expansion efforts in Hunan, Yunnan and Guangxi;" and
 - (d) provided a detailed outline of Sino's Yunnan "holdings" at Appendixes 3 and 5;

(b) In a report dated April 1, 2009 and filed on SEDAR on April 2, 2009, Sino caused to be stated that:

"[t]he area of forest owned in Yunnan has quadrupled from around 10 000 ha to almost 40 000 ha over the past year,"

provided figures and tables regarding Yunnan, and stated that:

"Sino-Forest has increased its holding of broadleaf crops in Yunnan during 2008, with this province containing nearly 99% of its broadleaf resource;"

(c) In a "Final Report" dated April 23, 2010, and filed on SEDAR on April 30, 2010, Sino caused to be stated that:

"Guangxi, Hunan and Yunnan are the three largest provinces in terms of Sino-Forest's holdings. The largest change in area by province, both in absolute and relative terms [sic] has been Yunnan, where the area of forest owned has almost tripled, from around 39 000 ha to almost 106 000 ha over the past year,"

provided figures and tables regarding Yunnan, and stated that:

"Yunnan contains 106 000 ha, including 85 000 ha or 99% of the total broadleaf forest," stated that "the three provinces of Guangxi, Hunan and Yunnan together contain 391 000 ha or about 80% of the total forest area of 491 000 ha" and that "[a]lmost 51 97% of the broadleaf forest is in Yunnan,"

and provided a detailed discussion of Sino's Yunnan "holdings" at Appendixes 3 and 4;

- (d) In a "Summary Valuation Report" regarding "Valuation of Purchased Forest Crops as at
- 31 December 2010" and dated May 27, 2011, Sino caused to be published tables and figures

-regarding-Yunnan, and stated that:

"[t]he major changes in area by species from December 2009 to 2010 has been in Yunnan pine, with acquisitions in Yunnan and Sichuan provinces"

and that:

"[a]nalysis of [Sino's] inventory data for broadleaf forest in Yunnan, and comparisons with an inventory that Pöyry undertook there in 2008 supported the upwards revision of prices applied to the Yunnan broadleaf large size log,"

and stated that:

"[t]he yield table for Yunnan pine in Yunnan and Sichuan provinces was derived from data collected in this species in these provinces by Pöyry during other work;"

and

- (e) In a press release titled "Summary of Sino-Forest's China Forest Asset 2010 Valuation Reports" and which was "jointly prepared by Sino-Forest and Pöyry to highlight key findings and outcomes from the 2010 valuation reports," Sino caused to be reported that the estimated market value of Sino's forest assets on the 754,816 ha to be approximately US\$3.1 billion as at December 31, 2010.
- 73. Statements caused to be made by Sino regarding the value of Sino's forestry "assets" that were misrepresentations were incorporated into the 2007 Annual MD&A, the Amended 2007 Annual MD&A, each of the 2008 Q1, Q2, Q3, Annual and amended Annual MD&As, each of the 2009 Q1, Q2, Q3 and Annual MD&As, and each of the 2010 Q1, Q2 and Q3 MD&As.

Misrepresentations Regarding Sino's Margins and Taxes

- 74. Sino never disclosed the true source of its elevated profit margins and the true nature of the tax-related risks to which it was exposed, as particularized above. This omission 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 2008 Annual Financial Statements, note 13 [d] "Provision for tax related liabilities," and associated text;
- (1) 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;
- (m) 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; (n) In the Q1, Q2 and Q3 2009 Financial Statements, note 13 "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities," and associated text;
- (o) 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;
- (p) In the 2009 Annual Financial Statements, note 15 [d] "Provision for tax related liabilities," and associated text;
- (q) In the 2009 Annual MD&A, the subsection "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text;
- (r) 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;

- (s) In the Q1 and Q2 2010 Financial Statements, note 14 "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities," and associated text;
- (t) In the Q1 and Q2 2010 MD&As, the subsection "Provision for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text;
- (u) In the Q3 2010 Financial Statements, note 14 "Provision and Contingencies for Tax Related Liabilities," and associated text; and
- (v) In the Q3 2010 MD&As, the subsection "Provision and Contingencies for Tax Related Liabilities" in the section "Critical Accounting Estimates," and associated text;
- (w) In the 2010 Annual Financial Statements, note 18 "Provision and Contingencies for Tax Related Liabilities," and associated text;
- (x) 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
- (y) 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.
- 75. 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.

CEO AND CFO FALSE CERTIFICATIONS

76. 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."

77. 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.

THE TRUTH IS REVEALED

78. 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-Als-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.

- 79. Muddy Waters also disclosed in its initial report that Sino had failed to disclose various related party transactions, including its dealings with Jiangxi Zhonggan Industrial Development Company Ltd.
- 80. 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).
- 81. On June 3, 2011, Sino announced the formation of an "Independent Committee," comprised of William E. Ardell (Chair), James P. Bowland and James M.E. Hyde, to investigate Muddy Waters' allegations and report to Sino's Board in that regard.
- 82. On June 14, Sino issued is Q1 2011 Financial Statements. Those financial statements contained the following notice:

Notice of no auditor review of the condensed interim consolidated financial statements.

The accompanying unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements (the "Interim Financial Statements") have not been reviewed by the Company's external auditors. On June 2, 2011, Muddy Waters, LLC issued a report-(the "Report")-containing-various-allegations-regarding-the-Company, its assets, operations and financial results. As a result of such report, on June 2, 2011, the Board of Directors of the Company appointed a committee of independent directors (the "Independent Committee") to thoroughly examine and review the allegations contained in the Report, and report back to the Board of Directors. The Independent Committee has retained independent legal counsel in Canada, Hong Kong and China as well as independent accounting firm Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP to assist with the examination. The Company's external auditors were initially engaged to conduct a review of the accompanying Interim Financial Statements in accordance with Canadian standards for the auditor review of interim financial statements. The Company's auditors have advised that they are unable to complete a review of these financial statements until the completion of the examination and review by the Independent Committee and the auditors' consideration of the results

thereof. The Board of Directors and management believe that, based on information currently available to them, the Interim Financial Statements were compiled in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") and fairly depict the financial condition and results of operations of the Company. However, in the event that the allegations set forth in the Report prove to be accurate, in whole or in part, the information set forth in the Interim Financial Statements may differ materially and the Interim Financial Statements could be subject to restatement. As a result, readers should exercise caution in reviewing such financial statements. See Note 2.1 of the Interim Financial Statements.

- 83. That same day, Sino held its Q1 2011 Earnings Call. On that call, Ardell stated that "particular reference was made to a number of the directors that this is an opportunity for them to be in and buying significant amounts of shares to demonstrate strong belief in the company. And I can assure you that if we had the choice, we certainly would at this stage" (emphasis added). Ardell thereby confirmed that he had prejudged the outcome of his committee's investigation, and that his committee was not independent.
- 84. On Saturday June 18 and Sunday June 19, 2011, the *Globe* published an in-depth investigative report on Sino.
- 85. The June 18 article, titled "Key partner casts doubt on Sino-Forest claim," read, in material part:

Embattled Sino-Forest Corp., once Canada's biggest publicly-traded timber company, appears to have substantially overstated the size and value of its forestry holdings in China's Yunnan province, according to figures provided by senior forestry officials and a key business partner there.

During two weeks of on-the-ground reporting that included interviews with Chinese government officials, forestry experts, local business operators and brokers, The Globe and Mail uncovered a number of glaring inconsistencies that raise doubts about the company's public statements regarding the value of the assets that lie at the centre of the company's core business of buying and selling Chinese timber rights.

The Globe's investigation raises particularly hard questions about a key agreement in March, 2007, that Sino-Forest says gave it the right to buy timber rights for up to 200,000 hectares of forest in Yunnan over a 10-year period for between \$700-million (U.S.) and \$1.4-billion. The trees were to be bought through a series of agreements with an entity called Gengma Dai and Wa Tribes Autonomous Region Forestry Co. Ltd., also known as Gengma Forestry.

The company says it has fulfilled virtually all of the agreement with Gengma and now owns more than 200,000 hectares in Yunnan.

But officials with Gengma Forestry, including the chairman, dispute the company's account of the deal, telling The Globe and Mail that the actual numbers are much smaller.

Xie Hongting, the chairman of Gengma Forestry, said in an interview that the transactions carried out so far by Sino-Forest amounted to less than 14,000 heotares.

Asked how many deals Gengma had conducted with Sino-Forest, Mr. Xie said: "I've told you that we sold them almost 200,000 mu." (Mu is a Chinese unit of land measurement; 15 mu equals one hectare.) Mr. Xie's account corroborates the assertions of senior forestry officials in the province. Speaking on condition of anonymity, these officials challenged the company's statements that it controls more than 200,000 hectares of Yunnan trees, and said they are now investigating.

[...]

While Gengma Forestry officials question Sino-Forestry's account of the 2007 deal, local land brokers said it would be difficult to find 200,000 hectares of quality land leases to complete that agreement.

[...]

Senior forestry officials in the province challenged the company's assertion that it controls about 200,000 hectares of forest in the region. Speaking on condition they not be identified, they said their records showed Sino-Forest manages far less than that and said the Yunnan Forestry Bureau would begin an investigation aimed at determining the company's true holdings. In addition to the questions about Sino-Forest's disclosures on the size of its holdings, forestry officials, as well as local timber brokers who spoke to The Globe raised questions regarding the value Sino-Forest attributes to its Yunnan assets.

"It's very hard for anyone to say what the value of their property is," said one forestry official, adding that forested land in Yunnan needed to be evaluated by a special body jointly appointed by the Forestry Bureau and the Ministry of Finance. Sino-Forest has not requested such an official valuation of its land, he said. "(The valuation) must have two chops (official seals) and two forestry resource evaluation experts and two licensed evaluators.... Even I can't just go there and give it a value."

[...]

86. The June 19 article, titled "On the trail of the truth behind Sino-Forest," stated in part:

The deepening mystery surrounding Canadian timber company Sino-Forest Corp, leads to the regional capital of Kunming in China's Yunnan province and down Huashan West Road—to an address that doesn't exist.

That address, No. 125 - 129 Huashan West Rd., is listed as the office of a forestry company that sold 1,600 hectares of timber in Yunnan province to a Sino-Forest subsidiary in March. But the odd-numbered side of Huashan West Road ends at 81.

Finding the buyer, the Sino-Forest subsidiary, proves almost as elusive. The office is in a white three-storey building with a green Sino-Panel sign on Bai Tai Road on the northern edge of Lincang, the administrative centre of the region's forestry industry. But it's empty.

The curious transactions totaling \$6-million and inked on March 7 between a Sino-Forest subsidiary with an empty office and a seller with no address highlight the bigger questions surrounding Sino-Forest's dealings in southern China. Trying to penetrate Sino-Forest's complicated business in Yunnan can be like trying to spot the sun through the thick forests of oak, birch, pine and other timber that carpet the mountains in this sprawling region along China's border with Myanmar.

[...]

Senior forestry bureaucrats also told The Globe and Mail that there's no official valuation of Sino-Forest's properties, since the company has never applied to have an evaluation conducted by the local government. The Yunnan Forestry Bureau has since launched an investigation into the company's claims.

[...]

Two weeks of travelling by car and plane to visit Sino-Forest offices, properties and partners in Yunnan, Hunan and Beijing — and interviews with forestry officials, industry experts and local residents — led to as many new questions as answers.

In the series of deals inked on March 7, the buyer was named as Sino-Panel (Yunnan) Forestry Co., the local affiliate of Sino-Forest, and the seller was listed as Yunnan Shunxuan Forestry Co. Ltd. of Huashan West Road.

No one on Huashan West Road recalls a forestry company ever having an office in the area. "If there was a company like this on Huashan West Road, I would know about it," said a member of the neighbourhood committee (a hyperlocal and usually omniscient arm of the ruling Communist Party) that is responsible for the street.

At the same time, neighbours say the office of Sino-Panel on Bai Tai Road sat empty until Thursday, June 2—hours before Muddy Waters released the report that rocked investor confidence in Sino-Forest and sent its share price spiralling downwards. Then a moving van arrived at the long-vacant building and began unloading desks, chairs, power bars and Internet cables. A week later, however, there was still no evidence of anyone working there, other than a squashed eigarette butt and a caulking gun that lay on the dirty tile floor amid the bare workstations.

"We wouldn't have noticed, but (on June 2) my car was blocking the moving van (and had to be moved). Before that, the building was empty," said Wu Jie, manager of the regional office of Fanhua Forestry Investments Development Co., which sits beside a massage parlour and an English training centre across the street from the deserted Sino-Panel building.

[...]

- 87. In the latter article, the *Globe* also discussed Sino's failure to disclose certain related party transactions.
- 88. On June 20, 2011, Muddy Waters released a follow-up report, "The Ties that Blind, Part 1: Huaihua Yuda," which provided further detail on Sino's undisclosed transactions with related parties Huaihua Yuda and Sonic Jita.

- 89. When the market closed on June 20, 2011, Sino's shares traded at \$2.73 (a decline of 85% from June 1, 2011).
- 90. After the close of markets on June 20, 2011, it was revealed that certain entities affiliated with Paulson & Co., which had been Sino's largest shareholder, had sold all of its holdings and thereby realized a loss, on a mark-to-market basis, in excess of \$560-million. Only five days earlier, Horsley had sought to reassure investors, saying "I've spoken to [Paulson & Co.] and they are very supportive."
- 91. The next day, Sino shares closed at \$1.99 a decline of \$16.22 or 89% from their closing price on June 1, 2011.
- 92. On July 14, 2011, Fitch Ratings withdrew its ratings of Sino's debt securities, stating: Fitch Ratings has withdrawn Sino-Forest Corporation's (Sino-Forest) Foreign Currency Issuer Default Rating and senior unsecured debt rating of 'BB-'. The ratings were on Negative Watch at the point of withdrawal. Fitch has withdrawn the ratings as it is unable to obtain sufficient information to maintain them.

[...]

Since-placing-Sino-Forest-on-Negative-Watch-on-20-June-2011, Fitch-had-requested from the company a more frequent and regular update of its offshore cash balances, as well as updates on management's progress/intentions with regard to the future onshore/offshore structure of the business. Fitch viewed this information as critical to monitoring the position of Sino-Forest offshore creditors, particularly given that under the current business structure offshore obligors are unable to directly access the company's onshore cash flows. Management has informed Fitch that the company is unwilling to provide any further information until the Committee of Independent Board Members—which was formed to investigate the allegations made by Muddy Waters LLC—publishes its findings. The company has not provided a date for the publication. Fitch does not consider these actions commensurate with being able to maintain the rating for investors.

Fitch will no longer provide ratings or analytical coverage of this issuer. [Emphasis added.]

- 93. At the close of trading on August 25, 2011, Sino's shares traded at \$4.81 per share. Shortly prior to the commencement of trading on August 26, 2011, the OSC issued a cease-trade order in relation to Sino's securities, and also took the unprecedented step of ordering, without a hearing, that Chan and various other Sino officers resign.
- 94. In its order, the OSC stated that in part:

[...]

- 3. Albert Ip ("Ip") is the Senior Vice President Development and Operations North-East and South-West China of Sino-Forest;
- 4. Alfred C.T. Hung ("Hung") is Vice-President Corporate Planning and Banking of Sino-Forest;
- 5. George Ho ("Ho") is Vice-President Finance of Sino-Porest;
- 6. Simon Yeung ("Yeung") is Vice President Operation within the Operation / Project Management group of Sino-Panel (Asia) Inc., a subsidiary of Sino-Forest ("Yeung");
- 7. Since 2003, Sino-Forest has raised approximately \$2.986 billion from public investment—and/or_debt_securities—issues—including—four—public—offerings———between 2004 and 2009 which approximately raised \$1.05 billion;
- 8. Sino-Forest has over 150 subsidiaries, the majority of which are registered in the British Virgin Islands and Peoples Republic of China ("PRC");
- 9. Sino-Forest's operations are predominately in the PRC and its management has offices in Hong Kong primarily and also in the PRC and Ontario;
- 10. Staff of the Commission is conducting an investigation into the activities and business of Sino-Forest and its subsidiaries and their management;
- 11. The Independent Committee of Sino-Forest has also been conducting an investigation into the activities and business of Sino-Forest and its subsidiarles

and their management. As a result, Sino-Forest has recently suspended Ho, Hung, and Yeung temporarily and curtailed Ip's duties and responsibilities.

- 12. Sino-Forest, through its subsidiaries, appears to have engaged in significant nonarm's length transactions which may have been contrary to Ontario securities laws and the public interest;
- 13. Sino-Forest and certain of its officers and directors appear to have misrepresented some of its revenue and/or exaggerated some of its timber holdings by providing information to the public in documents required to be filed or furnished under Ontario securities laws which may have been false or misleading in a material respect contrary to section 122 or 126.2 of the Act and contrary to the public interest;
- 14. Sino-Forest and certain of its officers and directors including Chan appear to be engaging or participating in acts, practices or a course of conduct related to its securities which it and/or they know or reasonably ought to know perpetuate a fraud on any person or company contrary to section 126.1 of the Act and contrary to the public interest...
- 95. Several hours later, the OSC rescinded its order that Chan and the other Sino officers referenced in the preceding paragraph resign, but maintained its cease-trade order.
- 96. On August 28, 2011, Sino announced that Chan had resigned "voluntarily" from the positions of Sino's CEO and Board Chairman and as a member of the Sino Board.

(6) the Plaintiff's causes of action

Negligent Misrepresentation

97. As against all Defendants, and on behalf of all Class Members, the Plaintiff pleads negligent misrepresentation. In support of that cause of action, the sole misrepresentation that the Plaintiff pleads is the Representation. The Plaintiff does not plead any other misrepresentation in support of their negligent misrepresentation claim.

- 98. The Representation is contained in the phrase "[e]xcept where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is determined on the basis of Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP")." This phrase appears in the every annual and quarterly MD&A that is an Impugned Document. Sino and the Individual Defendants made this statement or caused it to be made.
- 99. The Representation is also contained in the phrase "[f]he consolidated financial statements of Sino-Forest Corporation (the "Company") have been prepared [...] in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles." This phrase appears in every Audited Annual Financial Statement that is an Impugned Document. Every Interim Financial Statement that is an Impugned Document incorporated by reference that section of the relevant Audited Annual Financial Statement which contained that phrase. Sino and the Individual Defendants made this statement, approved it or caused it to be made.
- 100. The Representation is also contained in the phrase "[t]he consolidated financial statements contained in this Annual Report have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles." This phrase appears in every Audited Annual Financial Statement that is an Impugned Document. That statement was made by Sino. Chan and Horsley in the "Management's Report."
- 101. The Representation is contained in the phrase "[w]e prepare our financial statements in accordance with Canadian GAAP" found in the AIFs filed on March 31, 2009 and 2010. The Representation is also contained in the phrase "[p]rior to January 1, 2011, we have prepared our financial statements in accordance with Canadian GAAP" found in the AIF filed on March 31, 2011. The Impugned Documents that are Management Information Circulars incorporated the most recent AIF, Annual MD&A and Annual Pinancial Statements by reference and thus the Representation. Sino and the Individual Defendants made these statements, approved it, and caused them to be made.

- 102. The Representation is further contained in the phrase "[t]he Corporation prepares its financial statements in accordance with Canadian GAAP" found in the Prospectuses. Sino and the Individual Defendants made this statement, approved it, and caused it to be made. The Representation is contained in the phrase "[i]n our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at December 31, [years vary between documents] and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year[s] then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles," made by E&Y in every Audited Annual Financial Statement that is an Impugned Document.
- 103. The Representation was untrue: the Impugned Documents violated GAAP by, among other things, overstating to a material degree Sino's revenues, net income and assets, failing to disclose changes in accounting policies, understating Sino's tax accruals, and failing to disclose related party transactions.
- 104. The Impugned Documents were prepared for the purpose of attracting investment and inducing members of the investing public to purchase Sino securities, and all of the Defendants knew 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.
- 105. The Defendants further knew 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.

- 106. By virtue of their purported accounting, financial, and managerial acumen, the Defendants had a duty at common law, informed by the Securities Legislation, 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.
- 107. The Defendants or some of them breached that duty by making the Representation as particularized above.
- 108. The Plaintiff and the other Class Members directly or indirectly relied upon the Representation in making a decision to purchase the securities of Sino.
- 109. Alternatively, the Plaintiff 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, Sino's repeated publication of the Representation in the 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 Plaintiff and Class Members.

Statutory Liability-Secondary Market

110. The Plaintiff intends to deliver a notice of motion seeking, among other things, an order granting leave to bring the statutory causes of action found in Part XXIII.1 of the SSA, against all Defendants.

Statutory Liability - Primary Market

111. As against Chan and Horsley who signed the June 2009 and December 2009 Prospectuses, and on behalf of those Class Members who purchased Sino shares in one of the distributions to which those Prospectuses related, the Plaintiff asserts the cause of action set forth in s. 137 of the SSA.

112. 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.

Unjust Enrichment of Chan and Horsley

- 113. As a result of the Representation and the other misrepresentations particularized above, Sino's shares traded, and were sold by Chan and Horsley at artificially inflated prices during the Class Period.
- 114. Accordingly, Chan and Horsley 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.
- 115. There was no juristic reason for the resulting enrichment.
- 116. Accordingly, the Class Members who purchased Sino shares from Chan and Horsley 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.

Unjust Enrichment of Sino

- 117. 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.
- 118. 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.

- 119. Sino was enriched by, and those Class Members who purchased 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.
- 120. 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.

Oppression

- 121. In the circumstances alleged herein, the Plaintiff 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 Plaintiff and the other Class Members had a reasonable expectation that:
- (a) Sino and the Individual Defendants would comply with GAAP, and 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.

- 122. 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;
- (e) Sino's corporate governance procedures and internal controls were inadequate;
- (d) the misrepresentations particularized above were made;
- (e) stock options were backdated and otherwise mispriced; and
- (f) the Individual Defendants did not adhere to the Code
- 123. Sino's and the Individual Defendants' conduct was oppressive and unfairly prejudicial to the Plaintiff 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.
- 124. This oppressive conduct impaired the ability of the Plaintiff and other Class Members to make informed investment decisions about Sino's securities. But for that conduct, the Plaintiff and the other Class Members would not have suffered the damages alleged herein.

(6) general

- 125. The Plaintiff pleads and relies on:
 - (a) The Class Actions Act, S.S. 2001, c. C-12.01, as amended;
 - (b) The Canada Business Corporations Act, R.S. 1985, c. C-44, as am., including ss. 238 and 241;
 - (c) The Pre-Judgment Interest Act, S.S. 1984-85-85, c. P.22.2, as am., including s. 5(1);
 - (d) The Securities Act, S.S. 1988-89, c. S-42.2, as amended; and
 - (d) The Queen's Bench Rules, including rules 388 and 394.

(7) relief sought

- 126. The Plaintiff therefore claims, on behalf of himself and the Class:
 - (a) an order that Sino's affairs have been conducted in a manner that is oppressive, unfairly prejudicial to and which unfairly disregards the interests of Class Members, within the meaning of s. 241;
 - (b)aggravated and compensatory damages against the Defendants in an amount to be determined at trial;
 - (c) punitive damages against the Defendants;
 - (d) prejudgment interest;
 - (e) costs including the costs of notice and of administering the plan of distribution of the recovery in this action plus applicable taxes; and
 - (f) such further and other relief as this Honourable Court deems just.

DATED at Regina, Saskatchewan, on the 1st day of December, 2011,

MERCHANT LAW GROUP LLP,

Delivered By:

Address for Service:

100-2401 Saskatchewan Drive Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 4H8,

Lawyer in Charge:

E. F. Anthony Merchant, Q.C. Tel: (306) 359-7777 Fax: (306) 522-3299,

Counsel for the Plaintiffs.

HAWpdata/Class Action/Sine Forest/S of Caypd

THIS IS EXHIBIT "D" TO THE AFFIDAVIT OF ELIZABETH FIMIO

SWORN JUNE 8, 2012

A Commissioner, etc.

Daniel Holden Barrister & Solicitor SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

DAVID LEAPARD and IMF FINANCE SA on their own behalf and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

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Ŋ,

ALLEN T.Y. CHAN, DAVID J. HORSLEY, KAI KIT POON, BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC, CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES (USA)-LLC, SINO-FOREST CORPORATION, ERNST & YOUNG GLOBAL LIMITED, and ERNST & YOUNG LLP,

Defendants.

INDEX NO. 650258/2012

VERIFIED CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

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Plaintiffs, David Leapard and IMF Finance SA, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated (the "Class" or "Class Members"), allege the following upon personal knowledge as to themselves and their own acts and upon information and belief as to all other matters. Plaintiffs' information and belief is based on the investigation of counsel including, inter alia, review and analysis of (i) government and regulatory documents relating to Defendant Sino-Forest Corporation ("Sino-Forest" or the "Company"); (ii) press releases, Company filings and other public statements by Sino-Forest; (iii) reports of securities analysts; and (iv) other publicly available materials. Many of the facts related to Plaintiffs' allegations are known only to Defendants or are exclusively within their custody or control. Plaintiffs believe that substantial additional evidentiary support for the allegations set forth below will be developed after reasonable opportunity for discovery.

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. Plaintiffs bring this class action on behalf of (i) all persons or entities who, from March 19, 2007 through August 26, 2011 (the "Class Period") purchased the common stock of Sino-Forest on the Over-the-Counter ("OTC") market and who were damaged thereby; and (ii) all persons or entities who, during the Class Period, purchased debt securities issued by Sino-Forest other than in Canada and who were damaged thereby.
- 2. Sino-Forest is a Canadian company engaged in the commercial forest plantation business whose principal operations are in the People's Republic of China ("PRC" or "China"). Among Sino-Forest's businesses are the ownership and management of forest plantation trees, sales of standing timber and wood logs, and the manufacture of related wood products. Substantially all of the Company's sales for 2008, 2009 and 2010 were supposedly generated in the PRC. The Company maintains offices in Toronto, Hong Kong and the PRC. Its common

stock is registered in Canada and trades on the Toronto Stock Exchange, and also trades in the United States on the OTC market. Sino-forest's debt securities are also traded in the open market.

- 3. Sino-Forest portrayed itself as one of the world's largest and most successful forestry companies. According to the Company's Annual Information Form for the year ended December 31, 2010 (the "2010 Annual Form") Sino-Forest "had approximately 788,700 hectares of forest plantations under management which are located primarily in southern and eastern China." Between 2006 and 2010, Sino-Forest's assets (primarily plantation acreage) purportedly grew nearly five-fold from approximately \$1.2 billion to over \$5.7 billion, while revenues grew from \$555 million to \$1.9 billion and net income more than tripled from \$113 million to \$395 million as reflected in the Company's financial statements. From 2007 through 2010, the Company's financial statements were audited by Defendant Ernst & Young LLP which certified they had been prepared in accordance with Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("Canadian GAAP") and that the audit had been conducted in conformance with Canadian Generally Accepted Auditing Standards ("Canadian GAAS").
- 4. Sino-Forest's tremendous growth was ostensibly fueled by increasingly large acquisitions of valuable tree plantations and revenues generated from operations relating to that business. In addition, the Company's escalating growth allowed it to raise enormous sums of capital from investors around the world through the sale of debt securities and common stock, including the sale of \$600 million in notes which occurred in October 2010 (the "Note Offering") that will come due in 2017 (the "2017 Notes"). The Note Offering was underwritten

¹ Except where otherwise indicated, all amounts in this Complaint are in U.S. dollars.

by Defendants Banc of America Securities LLC and Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC. In total, the Company issued over \$1.8 billion in debt instruments during the Class Period.

- However, in stark contrast to the investing public's perception of an enormously 5. successful forestry business in the fast growing PRC market, Sino-Forest was, in fact, materially misleading both investors and regulators. Sino-Forest's assets, revenues and income were all materially overstated. In addition, the Company's financial statements and other disclosures were materially misleading because they failed to disclose that many of Sino-Forest's significant business transactions were with unknown or related parties. Further, Sino-Forest had misrepresented and failed to disclose the true terms of certain agreements it had entered into in the PRC for the acquisition of plantation acreage, vastly overstating the amount of timber it had acquired during the Class Period. In many instances, no documentation or inadequate documentation existed to support Sino-Forest's timber holdings and related assets and the valuations attributed to those properties on Sino-Forest's financial statements. Sino-Forest failed to disclose that the Company lacked adequate internal controls to substantiate its financial performance or verify its assets and contractual relationships; that its operations were permeated by unsubstantiated and undisclosed related party transactions; and that its financial statements were misleading and not prepared in accordance with the applicable accounting standards.
- 6. Information regarding Sino-Forest's fraud first came to light on June 2, 2011, when Muddy Waters, a firm that specializes in analyzing Chinese companies whose stock trades in the U.S. and Canada, published a detailed report alleging improper and illegal conduct at the Company. Over the ensuing weeks, there was a flurry of articles, investigations, and news reports about the Company's misconduct, as well as denials by the Company of the allegations published by Muddy Waters. On June 18, 2011, *The Globe and Mail* reported on its own

investigation regarding some of the allegations against Sino-Forest, finding that there were "doubts about the company's public statements regarding the value of [its] assets" and "broader questions about its business practices."

- Ultimately, in late August 2011, the Ontario Stock Commission ("OSC") 7. confirmed that there was evidence of fraud at Sino-Forest and ordered a halt in trading of Sino-Forest's common stock on the Toronto Stock Exchange, effective August 26th. Reportedly, the OSC accused Sino-Forest of "fraudulently inflating its revenues and exaggerating the extent of its timber holdings." The OSC also noted that the Company had "engaged in significant nonarms-length transactions." Similarly, trading of Sino-Forest common stock was halted in the U.S. on the OTC Bulletin Board. Two days later it was reported that the Company's CEO, Defendant Chan, had resigned; that three of the Company's vice-presidents were placed on leave; and that another senior vice-president was relieved of most of his duties. Sino-Forest has since not filed any required periodic reports or issued financial statements for the third quarter of 2011. On November 11, 2011, the Company announced that it was also the subject of a criminal investigation by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police with respect to the allegations surrounding its business and finances. Sino-Forest has failed to make the most recent payments due on its outstanding debt, been forced to seek waivers of default from its debt holders and has now belatedly advised the investing public that its historical financial statements and audit reports should not be relied upon.
- 8. The disclosures relating to Defendants' misconduct caused the trading prices of the Company's stock and its debt securities to decline dramatically, thereby damaging Class Members. Sino-Forest's common stock, which traded as high as \$26.64, last traded at \$1.38

before trading was halted in the U.S. Moreover, Sino-Forest's debt securities are now priced at a fraction of their original value.

- 9. The Individual Defendants earned millions of dollars in compensation because of Sino-Forest's artificially inflated stock price. Moreover, their misleading portrayal of the Company's finances allowed Sino-Forest to raise billions of dollars by issuing debt and equity securities to investors. This was critical to the Company's survival since the Company had a negative cash flow -- it was spending more money than it was taking in -- yet was spending enormous sums purportedly to purchase new assets. Sino-Forest's inflated stock price also allowed it to use its shares as currency to acquire other companies and assets.
- 10. It was only because of Defendants' concealment of Sino-Forest's true financial condition that the Company was able to complete the \$600 million Note Offering in October 2010. Investors would not have purchased these notes or would not have purchased them at the prices they did, if the truth about Sino-Forest had been known.
- Thus, during the Class Period, Defendants, acting in concert with others, made materially false statements and misleading statements and omitted material facts about the true financial condition and business operations of Sino-Forest, causing the prices of Sino-Forest's common stock and Debt Securities to be artificially inflated during the Class Period. With respect to the claims asserted against the Banc of America Securities LLC, Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Ernst & Young Global Limited, and Ernst & Young LLP, which are based on negligence, negligent misrepresentation, gross negligence and breach of fiduciary duty, Plaintiffs specifically disclaim any allegations of fraud or fraudulent intent.

II. PARTIES

A. Plaintiffs

- 12. Plaintiff **David Leapard** is a resident of South Carolina and purchased the common stock of Sino-Forest during the Class Period in the OTC market and suffered damages when the price of those shares declined as a result of Defendants' misconduct.
- 13. Plaintiff IMF Finance SA ("IMF") is an entity with offices in the British Virgin Islands and purchased 2017 Notes pursuant to the October 2010 Note Offering and suffered damages when the price of the 2017 Notes declined as a result of Defendants' misconduct. Plaintiff IMF asserts claims on behalf of purchasers of Sino-Forest debt securities including purchasers of the 2017 Notes.

B. Defendants

- Defendant Sino-Forest purports to be a commercial forest plantation operator, principally in the PRC but with additional operations in other locations. At all material times, Sino-Forest had its registered office located in Mississauga, Ontario and its common stock traded on the OTC market in the United States using the symbol "SNOFF." As a reporting issuer in Ontario, Canada, Sino-Forest was required to file certain periodic reports regarding its business and operations, including audited financial statements, which were made available to investors. Sino-Forest's common stock and various debt instruments are traded in Canada, the United States and elsewhere.
 - 15. Sino-Forest derives substantial revenue from interstate or international commerce.
- 16. Defendant Allen T. Y. Chan is a co-founder of Sino-Forest and was the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and a director of the Company from 1994 until his recent resignation in the wake of the disclosure of the misconduct described in this Complaint. As

Sino-Forest's CEO, Chan certified the accuracy of the Company's securities filings, including its financial statements, during the Class Period. Chan signed each of the Company's Annual Consolidated Financial Statements issued from 2006 through 2010. Chan is a resident of Hong Kong and, on information and belief, is a citizen of the PRC.

- 17. During the Class Period, Chan received substantial compensation from the Company. For example, for 2008 to 2010, Chan's total compensation was, respectively, \$5.0 million, \$7.6 million, and \$9.3 million. In addition, during the Class Period, while in possession of material adverse information regarding the business and finances of Sino-Forest, Chan sold nearly \$3 million worth of Sino-Forest common stock to unsuspecting investors.
- 18. As of May 1, 1995, shortly after Sino-Forest became a reporting issuer, Chan held 18.3% of Sino-Forest's outstanding common shares and 37.5% of its preference shares. As of April 29, 2011, he held 2.7% of Sino-Forest's common shares.
- 19. Defendant **David J. Horsley** has been Sino-Forest's Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"), since October 2005. In his position as Sino-Forest's CFO, Horsley was responsible for the Company's accounting, internal controls and financial reporting, including the preparation of the Company's financial statements. Horsley signed and certified the Company's disclosure documents during the Class Period. Horsley resides in Ontario.
- 20. During the Class Period, Horsley received substantial compensation from Sino-Forest. For 2008 to 2010, Horsley's total compensation was, respectively, \$1.7 million, \$2.5 million, and \$3.1 million. During the Class Period, while in possession of material adverse information concerning the business and finances of Sino-Forest, Horsley sold almost \$11 million worth of shares of Sino-Forrest common stock.

- 21. Defendant **Kai Kit Poon** is a co-founder of Sino-Forest, a member of its Board of Directors and has been President of the Company since 1994. Poon resides in Hong Kong and, on information and belief, is a citizen of the PRC. During the Class Period, while in possession of material adverse information concerning the business and finances of Sino-Forrest, Poon sold almost \$30 million worth of shares of Sino-Forest common stock.
- 22. Defendants Chan, Horsley and Poon are collectively referred to as the Individual Defendants. The Individual Defendants and Sino-Forest are collectively referred to as the Sino-Forest Defendants.
- 23. Defendant Banc of America Securities LLC ("BOA") is a financial services company which, using the name "BofA Merrill Lynch," acted as one of two "Joint Global Coordinators and Lead Bookrunning Managers" for the Offering. In this capacity, BOA acted as an underwriter for the Offering. BOA operates in and has its principal place of business in New York County, New York. Defendant BOA and Defendant Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC are collectively referred to as the Underwriter Defendants. This Complaint seeks damages on behalf of the purchasers of the 2017 Notes against any and all Bank of America entities that may be liable for the misconduct described herein.
- 24. Defendant Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC ("Credit Suisse") is a financial services company which acted as one of two "Joint Global Coordinators and Lead Bookrunning Managers" for the Note Offering. In this capacity, Credit Suisse acted as an underwriter for this offering. Credit Suisse operates in and has offices in New York County, New York. This Complaint seeks damages on behalf of the purchasers of the 2017 Notes against any and all Credit Suisse entities that may be liable for the misconduct described herein.

- Defendants. The Underwriter Defendants who are located in New York, NY, offered and sold the 2017 Notes pursuant to a materially false and misleading Offering Memorandum dated October 14, 2010 (the "Offering Memorandum") to certain Class Members in the United States who purportedly satisfied the requirements to be considered a "qualified institutional buyer" pursuant to Rule 144 of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). The Underwriter Defendants also sold certain notes in the offering to foreign investors relying on the exemption set forth in SEC Regulation S.
- 26. Defendant Ernst & Young Global Limited is a UK private company limited by guarantee which operates worldwide and which, through affiliated entities, provides audit, accounting and other services. Defendant Ernst & Young LLP, a part of Ernst & Young Global Limited, has offices in Toronto, Canada, has been Sino-Forest's auditor since August 13, 2007 and was also Sino-Forest's auditor from 2000 to 2004. This Complaint seeks damages against any and all Ernst & Young entities that may be liable for the misconduct described herein.
- 27. Ernst & Young Global Limited and Ernst & Young LLP are collectively referred to as "E&Y" or as "the E&Y Defendants," E&Y does business in New York.
- 28. For Sino-Forest's 2007 through 2010 fiscal years, E&Y provided an "Auditor's Report" addressed directly to Sino-Forest's shareholders, which gave the Company a "clean" audit opinion on its financial statements. At all material times, E&Y knew that its audit opinion was directed to Sino-Forest's shareholders, prospective shareholders and prospective purchasers of Sino-forest's securities, and that investors would and did rely on E&Y's statements relating to Sino-Forest in making their investment decisions. E&Y's opinion informed the Company's investors and the purchasers of its securities that, based on its audit, Sino-Forest's financial

statements were presented in accordance with Canadian GAAP and that it had performed its audit in accordance with applicable auditing standards. E&Y's audit opinion was materially false and misleading and was recklessly or negligently issued to investors, including Plaintiffs and Class Members.

29. The Individual Defendants, as the most senior officers of Sino-Forest, are liable to Plaintiffs and the Class because they knew of, directed and participated in the misconduct described in this Complaint and also assisted and conspired with others involved in the misconduct. Sino-Forest is liable for the misconduct of its employees and agents. Furthermore, the representations made in the financial statements and in the Offering Memorandum were materially inaccurate and inconsistent with the truth such that their falsity would have been discovered with minimal due diligence. Nevertheless, despite the obviously false and misleading nature of these statements, E&Y and the Underwriter Defendants recklessly or negligently facilitated the improper conduct of Sino-Forest and the Individual Defendants; E&Y by certifying the Company's financial statements; and the Underwriter Defendants by failing to perform adequate due diligence and disseminating the misleading Offering Memorandum to investors.

C. Jurisdiction and Venue

- 30. The Court possesses jurisdiction over this action pursuant to NYCPLR §§ 301 and 302(a).
- 31. This court has jurisdiction, and venue is proper because, in connection with the Note Offering, Sino-Forest "... irrevocably and unconditionally submits to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of any New York State or United States Federal court sitting in the Borough of Manhattan, New York City over any suit, action or proceeding arising out of or relating to this

Indenture, any Note or any Subsidiary Guarantee." In addition, the Indenture provides that "[a]s long as any of the Notes remain Outstanding, the Company and each of the Subsidiary Guarantors will at all times have an authorized agent in New York City, upon whom process may be served in any legal action or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Indenture, any Note or any Subsidiary Guarantee." Finally, as contemplated by the Indenture, "[e]ach of the Notes, the Subsidiary Guarantees and the Indenture shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York."

32. In addition, the Underwriter Defendants are located in New York and all Defendants do substantial business in New York. All Defendants participated in certain transactions and activities in New York relating to the Note Offering. Also, purchases and sales of Sino-Forest common stock occurred on the OTC market in the United States, including New York. Moreover, the trustee for the 2017 Notes is the Law Debenture Trust Company of New York which is located at 400 Madison Avenue, Suite 4D, New York, New York 10017.

III. BACKGROUND

- 33. Although ostensibly a forestry company, Sino-Forest's purported business was, in many respects, more that of a trader or financial intermediary than of a traditional forestry company. The Company seldom sold wood products to end-user customers. Instead, it claimed that most of its earnings came from buying logs and buying the right to harvest trees and then reselling these logs and rights to harvest trees at higher prices.
- 34. Sino-Forest's corporate structure is a complex web of dozens of interconnected Canadian, Chinese, Hong Kong, Cayman Islands and British Virgin Islands subsidiaries, most of which are wholly-owned or in which the Company has a majority interest. Sino-Forest's most

recently released corporate organizational chart, attached as Exhibit A, illustrates in part, the complexity.

- 35. One specific example of this complexity is Sino-Forest's relationship with one of its most important subsidiaries, Greenheart Group Ltd. ("Greenheart"). Sino-Forest's 64 percent interest in Greenheart was acquired using shares of Company stock. Greenheart trades on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. Greenheart controls most of Sino-Forest's supposedly substantial forestry assets outside of China. But, Sino-Forest also holds a 39.6 percent stake in Greenheart Resources Holdings Ltd. ("GRH"), a subsidiary of Greenheart. GRH, in turn, indirectly owns 100 percent of Greenheart's forest assets and operations in the western part of Suriname, supposedly one of Sino-Forest's principal timber holdings.
- 36. Sino-Forest's business model is further complicated by the fact that much of its business is done through what it describes as "Authorized Intermediaries" ("AIs"), supposedly independent companies which are largely responsible for the actual sale of forestry products to the users of these products. Despite the critical role that these Authorized Intermediaries play in its business, little is known of the financial relationships with these AIs and Sino-Forest has, with one exception, refused to disclose the identity of these companies.
- 37. Because Sino-Forest principally operates in China, Sino-Forest's convoluted structure and business practices did not initially arouse investor suspicions. Because of the unusual aspects of doing business in China, which tightly regulates foreign investment, a number of legitimate foreign companies who operate in that country have unusually complex structures. But, unbeknownst to investors, there was little or no business justification for the way Sino-Forest structured itself and its operations. Sino-Forest's structure was not meant to facilitate

compliance with Chinese law, but to make it easier for Defendants to materially mislead investors about the Company's, operations, revenue, earnings and assets.

- 38. Investors were further assured of the legitimacy of Sino-Forest's finances and operations because of annually issued clean audit opinions from E&Y and by the due diligence purportedly conducted by BOA and Credit Suisse in connection with the Company's offering of the 2017 Notes.
- 39. The purported steady and impressive growth of Sino-Forest helped fuel a series of capital raising activities by the Company. By making the Company appear to be on a much more economically sound footing than was actually the case, Sino-Forest was able to raise the funds it needed to finance its rapid expansion. Because the Company's cash flow did not cover its operating expenses, the Company would not have been able to continue to operate absent cash infusions from debt and equity investors.
- 40. During the Class Period, Sino-Forest conducted numerous debt and equity offerings, issuing over \$1.8 billion in debt securities to investors and also sold investors hundreds of millions of dollars of common stock. Specifically, the following securities were issued to investors:
 - on July 17, 2008, the Company closed an offering of convertible guaranteed senior notes (the "2013 Convertible Notes") for gross proceeds of \$300,000,000. On August 6, 2008, the Company issued an additional \$45,000,000 of 2013 Convertible Notes pursuant to the exercise of an over-allotment option granted to the underwriters in connection with the offering, increasing the gross proceeds to \$345,000,000.

- On June 24, 2009, the Company offered to eligible holders of outstanding Senior Notes due in 2011 (the "2011 Senior Notes") to exchange these notes for up to \$300,000,000 of new guaranteed senior notes due 2014 (the "2014 Senior Notes"). On July 27, 2009, the Company completed this exchange offer, issuing an aggregate principal amount of \$212,330,000 of 2014 Senior Notes, representing approximately 70.8% of the aggregate principal amount of the 2011 Senior Notes.
- In June 2009, the Company completed a public offering and international private placement of 34,500,000 common shares (including 4,500,000 common shares issued upon the exercise of the underwriters' over-allotment option) for gross proceeds of approximately \$339,810,000.
- On December 17, 2009, the Company closed an offering of convertible guaranteed senior notes (the "2016 Convertible Notes") for gross proceeds of \$460,000,000.
- In December 2009, the Company completed a public offering of 21,850,000 common shares (including an overallotment exercise) for gross proceeds of approximately \$345,318,000.
- In May 2010, Sino-Forest issued 1,990,566 shares of common stock as a \$33.3 million payment to acquire 34% of Greenheart Resources.
- In August 2010, the Company issued \$2.3 million shares of common stock in
 partial payment of its acquisition of Mandra Forestry Holdings Limited, a
 company which supposedly owned the rights to technology relevant to the
 Company's business. In connection with this acquisition of Mandra, the

Company also exchanged nearly \$195 million of Mandra notes for Sino-Forest notes—the Sino-Forest notes had a longer duration and lower interest rate than the Mandra notes for which they were exchanged.

- On October 21, 2010, the Company completed the \$600,000,000 Note Offering of the 2017 Notes.
- 41. Thus, during the Class Period, while Defendants were issuing materially false and misleading financial statements and other reports to investors, Sino-Forest was taking advantage of the illusory growth portrayed to investors through these large debt and equity offerings, which in less than three years, cumulatively totaled over \$2.5 billion.

IV. FALSE AND MISLEADING STATEMENTS

During the Class Period, Defendants made numerous statements that were materially false and misleading and which had the effect of artificially inflating the value of Sino-Forest's securities. These false statements were contained in the Company's public filings, press releases, reports and other statements to the investing public. In general, during the Class Period, the Company reported steadily increasing holdings of timber assets (mostly in the PRC) achieved through acquisitions and purchases, and increasing revenues and earnings, all of which contributed to the Company's rising stock price and its ability to issue additional debt and equity securities to investors.

A. Misrepresentations and Omissions With Respect to Sino-Forest's Financial Statements

43. Sino-Forest's financial statements, which it published to investors on a quarterly and annual basis via press releases and public filings, consistently portrayed Sino-Forest as a profitable and rapidly expanding company. As set forth in Sino-Forest's 2006 Annual

Consolidated Financial Statements, dated March 19, 2007; its 2007 Annual Consolidated Financial Statements dated March 18, 2008; its 2008 Annual Consolidated Financial Statements dated March 16, 2009; its 2009 Annual Consolidated Financial Statements dated March 16, 2010; and its 2010 Annual Consolidated Financial Statements dated March 15, 2011, the Company's revenue, earnings and assets supposedly grew during the Class Period as follows:

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Assets	\$1,207,255,000	\$1,837,497,000	\$2,603,924,000	\$3,963,899,000	\$5,729,033,000
Revenue	\$555,480,000	\$713,866,000	\$896,045,000	\$1,238,185,000	\$1,923,536,000
Net					
Income	\$113,480,000	\$152,273,000	\$228,593,000	\$286,370,000	\$395,426,000

- 44. Each of the annual financial statements, except for the 2006 statements, were accompanied by an audit opinion from E&Y stating that E&Y had conducted annual audits in accordance with Canadian GAAS and that these financial statements were presented in accordance with Canadian GAAP. Defendant Chan signed each annual financial statement.
- 45. The Company also issued materially false and misleading unaudited "Interim Financial Statements," during the Class Period, which incorporated prior period audited financial statements and similarly overstated the Company's revenue, earnings and assets. The Company's materially false and misleading quarterly financial statements (through 2010) which, like the annual financial statements, showed increasing revenue, earnings and assets, were released on the following dates:

Document	Date of Filing
2007 Q-1 Interim Financial Statements	5/14/2007
2007 Q-2 Interim Financial Statements	8/13/2007
2007 Q-3 Interim Financial Statements	11/12/2007
2008 Q-1 Interim Financial Statements	5/13/2008
2008 Q-2 Interim Financial Statements	8/12/2008
2008 Q-3 Interim Financial Statements	11/13/2008

Document	Date of Filing
2009 Q-1 Interim Financial Statements	5/11/2009
2009 Q-2 Interim Financial Statements	8/10/2009
2009 Q-3 Interim Financial Statements	11/12/2009
2010 Q-1 Interim Financial Statements	5/12/2010
2010 Q-2 Interim Financial Statements	8/10/2010
2010 Q-3 Interim Financial Statements	11/10/2010

46. Sino-Forest's quarterly and annual financial statements (through December 31, 2010) were materially false and misleading because they failed to comply with Canadian GAAP. Specifically, at the time each of these financial statements was issued, they overstated the Company's assets, inflated the reported revenue and earnings and misled investors regarding the Company's then current financial situation and its future prospects. Because, among other things, the Company lacked adequate internal controls to substantiate its financial performance, and its operations were permeated by unsubstantiated and undisclosed related party transactions, these financial statements were not prepared in accordance with the applicable accounting standards. Sino-Forest's quarterly financial statements for the first two quarters of fiscal year 2011 also overstated the Company's assets, revenues and net earnings at the time they were issued and were not presented in accordance with the applicable Canadian accounting standards.

B. Other Misrepresentations and Omissions In Annual And Quarterly Filings

47. In addition to filing false and misleading financial statements, the Company also made numerous other false and misleading statements to investors in other periodic securities filings made pursuant to Canadian disclosure regulations. During the Class Period, the Sino-Forest Defendants repeatedly made statements in Sino-Forest's periodic filings that falsely and misleadingly described the Company as a fast-growing, legitimate business which followed good corporate governance practices.

48. The Company's periodic reports to investors included (in addition to the separately filed financial statements) a "Management Discussion and Analysis" ("MD&A") that Sino-Forest filed each quarter during the Class Period, "Annual Information Forms" ("AIFs") and annual reports. These documents provided narrative explanations of the Company's business, operations and financial performance for the specific period, and of the Company's financial condition and future prospects. Canadian law specifically requires that the MD&A discuss important trends and risks that have affected the Company and that are reasonably likely to affect it in future. The dates of these false and misleading statements are set out in the table below.

Document	Date of Filing	
2006 MD&A	.3/19/2007	
2006 AIF	3/30/2007	
2006 Annual Report	5/4/2007	
2007 Q-1 MD&A	5/14/2007	
2007 Q-2 MD&A	8/13/2007	
2007 Q-3 MD&A	11/12/2007	
2007 MD&A	3/18/2008	
2007 AIF	3/28/2008	
2007 Annual Report	5/6/2008	
2008 Q-1 MD&A	5/13/2008	
2008 Q-2 MD&A	8/12/2008	
2008 Q-3 MD&A	11/13/2008	
2008 MD&A	3/16/2009	
2008 AIF	3/31/2009	
2008 Annual Report	5/4/2009	
2009 Q-1 MD&A	5/11/2009	
2009 Q-2 MD&A	8/10/2009	
2009 Q-3 MD&A	11/12/2009	
2009 MD&A	3/16/2010	

Document	Date of Filing
2009 AJF	3/31/2010
2009 Annual Report	5/11/2010
2010 Q-1 MD&A	5/12/2010
2010 Q-2 MD&A	8/10/2010
2010 Q-3 MD&A	11/10/2010
2010 MD&A	3/15/2011
2010 AIF	3/31/2011
2010 Annual Report	5/10/2011

49. Thus, beginning at least as early as March 19, 2007, the Company's MD&A and annual filings were materially false and misleading with respect to the Company's operations and financial performance because they described the Company as a fast-growing, legitimate business which followed good corporate governance practices, while failing to disclose that the Company lacked adequate internal controls to substantiate its financial performance or verify its assets and contractual business relationships, that its operations were permeated by unsubstantiated and undisclosed related party transactions and that the Company's actual financial condition and future prospects were much worse than these public statements indicated.

C. False Certifications

- 50. Each annual financial statement, AIF and MD&A filing was accompanied by separate certifications signed by Chan and Horsley which asserted the following:
 - 1. Review: I have reviewed the AIF, if any, annual financial statements and annual MD&A, including, for greater certainty, all documents and information that are incorporated by reference in the AIF (together, the "annual filings") of Sino-Forest Corporation (the "issuer") for the financial year ended December 31...
 - 2. No misrepresentations: Based on my knowledge, having exercised reasonable diligence, the annual 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, for the period covered by the annual filings.

- 3. Fair presentation: Based on my knowledge, having exercised reasonable diligence, the annual financial statements together with the other financial information included in the annual filings fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the issuer, as of the date of and for the periods presented in the annual filings.
- 51. Similarly, each of the quarterly interim financial statements and quarterly MD&As were accompanied by separate certifications signed by Chan and Horsley which also asserted the following:
 - 1. Review: I have reviewed the interim financial report and interim MD&A (together, the "interim filings") of Sino-Forest Corporation (the "issuer") for the interim period ended....
 - 2. No misrepresentations: Based on my knowledge, having exercised reasonable diligence, the interim 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, with respect to the period covered by the interim filings.
 - 3. Fair presentation: Based on my knowledge, having exercised reasonable diligence, the interim financial report together with the other financial information included in the interim filings fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, financial performance and cash flows of the issuer, as of the date of and for the periods presented in the interim filings.
- 52. However, these publicly filed certifications were materially false and misleading because the Company's quarterly and annual financial statements overstated its assets, revenues and earnings, and the narrative statements were materially false and misleading. These statements failed to disclose that the Company lacked adequate internal controls to substantiate its financial performance or verify its assets and contractual business relationships, that the Company and its operations were permeated by unsubstantiated and undisclosed related party

transactions, and that the document being certified contained materially false and misleading information which materially overstated the Company's current financial situation and its future prospects.

D. Misrepresentations and Omissions Relating To Yunnan Forestry Assets

- 53. On March 23, 2007 Sino-Forest issued a press release announcing that it had entered into an agreement to sell 26 million shares to several institutional investors for gross proceeds of \$200 million and that the proceeds would be used for the acquisition of standing timber including, pursuant to a new agreement, the purchase of standing timber in China's Yunnan Province. The press release further stated that Sino-Forest-Panel (Asia) Inc. ("Sino-Forest-Panel"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sino-Forest, had entered into (on that same day) an agreement with Gengma Dai and Wa Tribes Autonomous Region Forestry Company Ltd., ("Gengma Forestry") in Lincang City, Yunnan Province in the PRC. Under that Agreement, Sino-Forest-Panel would acquire approximately 200,000 hectares of non-state owned commercial standing timber in Lincang City and surrounding cities in Yunnan for \$700 million to \$1.4 billion over a 10-year period.
- 54. Similar representations regarding the acquisition of these assets were also made in Sino-Forest's Q1 2007 MD&A. Moreover, throughout the Class Period, Sino-Forest discussed its purported Yunnan acquisitions in other filings and public statements. In the Company's 2010 AIF, filed on March 31, 2010, the Company asserted that "[a]s of December 31, 2010, we have acquired approximately 190,300 hectares of plantation trees for US\$925.9 million under the terms of the master agreement" which had been entered into in March 2007. It made a similar statement in its 2010 annual report, which was filed on May 10, 2011.

55. However, as subsequently disclosed, Sino-Forest's and Defendants' statements concerning the acquisition of assets in Yunnan Province were materially false and misleading because, among other reasons, Sino-Forest had acquired the rights to far less timber than the Company had claimed and/or the value attributed to the timber assets purportedly owned by Sino-Forest was materially overstated. As a result, the Company's representations relating to its financial results and business were materially misleading as Defendants failed to disclose the true amount of timber acquired from Gengma Forestry, thereby overstating the assets carried on the balance sheet.

E. Misrepresentations and Omissions Relating to the Offering of 2017 Notes

- 56. On October 14, 2010, Sino-Forest, through the Underwriter Defendants, offered and sold the 2017 Notes. The Underwriter Defendants served as Joint Global Coordinators and Lead Bookrunning Managers. The 2017 Notes were purportedly exempt from registration under the U.S. Securities Act because they were offered, pursuant to SEC Rule 144A, to qualified institutional buyers (including those in the U.S.), and in offshore transactions to investors other than U.S. persons under SEC Regulation S.
- The 2017 Notes were sold pursuant to the Offering Memorandum, which was materially false and misleading as described below, and which was prepared by the Sino-Forest Defendants and the Underwriter Defendants. The Offering Memorandum specifically incorporates by reference Sino-Forest's misleading 2007, 2008 and 2009 annual financial statements, its unaudited interim financial statements for the six months ended June 30, 2009 and June 30, 2010, and Defendant E&Y's audit reports dated March 13, 2009 and March 16, 2010 (with E&Y's consent). The Offering Memorandum states that the documents incorporated by reference "form [an] integral part of [the] Offering Memorandum."

- 58. As underwriters of the Note Offering, the Underwriter Defendants had a duty to investors to conduct an adequate due diligence with respect to the representations in the Offering Memorandum. The Underwriter Defendants were reckless or negligent in performing due diligence on the Note Offering by failing, among other things, to determine the legitimacy of the multiple related party transactions at the Company or to ascertain the true value of the assets, properties and business of Sino-Forest, resulting in the issuance of a materially false and misleading Offering Memorandum.
- 59. The Offering Document was signed by the Underwriter Defendants and contained both Sino-Forest's misleading financial statements and the misleading narrative description of the Company and its future prospects, including the portrayal of the Company as a fast-growing, legitimate business which followed good corporate governance practices with positive future prospects for growth. In particular, the Offering Memorandum cited the Company's competitive strengths including, among others, the following: (i) "Leading commercial forest plantation operator in the PRC with established track record;" (ii) "First mover advantage with strong track record of obtaining and developing commercial tree plantations and ability to leverage our industry foresight;" (iii) "Future growth supported by long-term master agreements at agreed capped prices;" (iv) "Strong research and development capability, with extensive forestry management expertise in the PRC;" and (v) "Diversified revenue and asset base."
- 60. As described above, the statements in the Offering Document were materially false and misleading because, contrary to the financial results reported in its financial statements, and contrary to the description of Company with major strengths as a forest plantation operator, the Company was engaged in fraudulent practices, resulting in the overstatement of assets, revenues and earnings, and misleading statements about its contractual relationships with certain

parties in the PRC related to the purchase of timber acreage. Thus, at the time of the Note Offering, investors were misled because the Company's actual financial condition and future prospects were much worse than these public statements indicated.

F. Misrepresentations and Omissions Relating to Code of Business Conduct

- 61. At all material times, Sino-Forest maintained it had in place a Code of Business Conduct (the "Code"), which governed its employees, officers and directors. The full text of the code was posted on the Company's Internet site and available to investors. It stated that the members of senior management "are expected to lead according to high standards of ethical conduct, in both words and actions." The Code further required that Sino-Forest representatives act in the best interests of shareholders, that corporate opportunities not be used for personal gain, that insiders not trade in Sino-Forest securities based on undisclosed knowledge stemming from their position or employment with Sino-Forest, that the Company's books and records be honest and accurate, that conflicts of interest be avoided, and that any violations or suspected violations of the Code, and any concerns regarding accounting, financial statement disclosure, internal accounting or disclosure controls or auditing matters, be reported.
- 62. Nonetheless, as explained in this Complaint, the publicly disclosed Code contained materially false and misleading statements because, as described herein, Sino-Forest's top executives did not actually follow the provisions of the Code.

V. INITIAL DISCLOSURE OF FRAUD AT SINO-FOREST

63. A report published on June 2, 2011 by Muddy Waters (the "Report"), a research firm that specializes in analyzing Chinese companies traded in the United States and Canada, reported that Sino-Förest and its financial statements were permeated by fraud.

64. The Report detailed the extensive investigative effort and resources that Muddy Waters had undertaken to discover the truth about the Company:

In order to conduct our research, we utilized a team of 10 persons who dedicated most to all of their time over two months to analyzing [Sino-Forest]. The team included professionals who focus on China from the disciplines of accounting, law, finance, and manufacturing. Our team read over 10,000 pages of documents in Chinese pertaining to the company. We deployed professional investigators to five cities. We retained four law firms as outside counsel to assist with our analysis.

- 65. The Muddy Waters report concluded that the Company was extensively involved in business practices that were "blatantly illegal" and that the Company's financial statements and other reports to investors were permeated by fraud. According to the Report, Sino-Forest's remarkably consistent growth during the Class Period was illusory simply the result of "a Ponzi scheme," rather than a real expansion in Sino-Forest's business. According to Muddy Waters, the Company used its supposed growth and profitability to raise money from private lenders and the financial markets. This money, in turn, was used to bolster an appearance of further growth and increased profitability, which in turn opened the door to additional funding from private lenders and the capital markets. According to the Report, however, the capital raised by Sino-Forest was not used to expand the Company's business, but was instead largely siphoned off by insiders in undisclosed related party transactions.
- 66. At the heart of the misconduct at Sino-Forest, according to Muddy Waters, is the Company's use of AIs. The Report noted that AIs apparently act as both buyers and sellers in Sino-Forest transactions. For example, in one case uncovered by Muddy Waters, an AI purchased logs from Sino-Forest and delivered them to a chipping facility. Once the logs reached the facility they were sold back to Sino-Forest. Sino-Forest then turned around and sold the logs back to the AI who then proceeded to turn the logs into wood chips. The purpose of

these transactions, which were pointless from a business perspective, was to create the appearance of additional revenue for Sino-Forest.

- 67. The Report also disclosed that Sino-Forest had vastly overstated its forestry assets. In China's Yunnan Province alone the overstatement is potentially hundreds of millions of dollars. As noted above, in March 2007 Sino-Forest publicly announced that it had entered into an agreement to purchase up to 200,000 hectares of trees in Lincang City in Yunnan for \$700 million to \$1.4 billion, but a review of relevant government documents by Muddy Waters indicated that the actual size of this purchase was about 40,000 hectares.
- 68. Furthermore, although Sino-Forest generally does not identify the companies from which it purchases forestry assets, Muddy Waters was able to identify many of these companies by means that included careful review of government records. Muddy Waters visited many of these entities, finding that they "generally operated out of apartments while purportedly each doing annual revenue in the hundreds of millions from TRE [Sino-Forest] alone." This discovery supports Muddy Waters' conclusion that a substantial portion of the Company's reported purchases of forestry assets were greatly exaggerated or never occurred at all.
- 69. The Report also noted that Sino-Forest had engaged in substantial transactions with undisclosed related parties, transactions which are in violation of the applicable accounting rules and which require disclosure of related party transactions. An example is Jiangxi Zhonggan Industrial Development Company Ltd., which was incorporated just months before Sino-Forest entered into an approximately \$700 million contract with it in June 2009. The legal representative and President of this company is Sino-Forest Executive Vice President, Lam Hong Chiu. According to Muddy Waters, Zhonggan's 2008 and 2009 audit report shows "numerous large transactions between the Company, TRE, and other parties." Separately, Muddy Waters

identified Huaihua Yuda Wood Company Ltd., as "an undisclosed TRE subsidiary that has been receiving massive amounts of money from TRE's subsidiaries."

70. On publication of the Muddy Waters Report, the price of Sino-Forest's securities dropped dramatically. On June 2, 2011, the Company's shares, which had ended trading at \$18.64 on June 1, ended trading on the OTC market at \$7.33 and then fell further, to \$5.41 on June 3, a price drop of 71% over two days on substantially larger volume than normal. The prices of the Company's debt securities also declined significantly.

VI. SINO-FOREST'S DENIALS AND FURTHER MISLEADING STATEMENTS

- 71. Soon after publication of the Muddy Waters Report, Defendants began an organized campaign to further mislead investors by falsely claiming that there was no misconduct at the Company. These misleading statements (¶¶ 72-76) continued to prop up the prices of Sino-Forest securities until trading was halted on August 26, 2011.
- 72. In a June 3, 2011 press release, the Company asserted that "[t]he Board of Directors and management of Sino-Forest wish to state clearly that there is no material change in its business or inaccuracy contained in its corporate reports and filings that needs to be brought to the attention of the market. Further we recommend shareholders take extreme caution in responding to the Muddy Waters report." The release also quoted Chan as saying the following: "let me say clearly that the allegations contained in this report [by Muddy Waters] are inaccurate and unfounded." The release quoted Horsley as saying "I am confident that the [Sino-Forest Board of Directors'] independent committee's examination will find these allegations to be demonstrably wrong."
- 73. In a June 6, 2011 press release, Sino-Forest further stated that "The Company believes Muddy Waters' report to be inaccurate, spurious and defamatory." The press release

quoted Chan as saying the following: "I stand by our audited financial statements, including the revenue and assets shown therein. All material related party transactions are appropriately disclosed in our financial statements. We do business with the parties identified in the report at arm's length. Those parties are not related or connected to the Company or any of its management."

- 74. During a June 14 conference call with investors, Chan suggested that the Muddy Waters allegations were entirely inaccurate, accusing Muddy Waters of a "pattern of sloppy diligence and gross inaccuracy."
- 75. Moreover, even after the release of the Muddy Waters Report, the Sino-Forest Defendants continued their practice of making false and misleading statements about Sino-Forest's financial condition and future prospects. On both June 14, 2011 and August 15, 2011, Sino-Forest filed, respectively, its Interim Financial Statements and its MD&A covering the first quarter. These filings (which investors were later told they should not rely upon) contained material misrepresentations and omissions similar to those made in filings earlier in the Class Period: they falsely portrayed the Company as a fast-growing, legitimate business which followed good corporate governance practices with positive future prospects for growth and they materially overstated the Company's revenue, earnings and assets.
- 76. The August 15, 2011 MD&A also made the following false statement: "[u]nder the master agreement entered in March 2007 to acquire 200,000 hectares of plantation trees over a 10-year period in Yunnan, the Company has actually acquired 230,200 hectares of plantation trees for \$1,193,459,000 as at March 31, 2011." In fact, as the Muddy Waters Report had disclosed, the Company had vastly overstated the value of its holdings in Yunnan under the March 2007 agreement.

VII. CONFIRMATION OF THE FRAUD

77. After publication of the Muddy Waters Report, additional investigations and disclosures evidence that numerous statements by Sino-Forest during the Class Period were materially false and misleading or omitted material information.

A. The Globe and Mail Investigation

78. A June 18, 2011 article in the highly respected Globe and Mail, Canada's largest-circulation national newspaper, confirmed that Sino-Forest had provided materially inaccurate information about the Company's holdings in Yunnan, which comprised a substantial portion of the Company's supposed forestry assets. The article stated, in part:

The Globe's investigation raises particularly hard questions about a key agreement in March, 2007, that Sino-Forest says gave it the right to buy timber rights for up to 200,000 hectares of forest in Yunnan over a 10-year period for between \$700-million (U.S.) and \$1.4-billion. The trees were to be bought through a series of agreements with an entity called Gengma Dai and Wa Tribes Autonomous Region Forestry Co. Ltd., also known as Gengma Forestry.

The company says it has fulfilled virtually all of the agreement with Gengma and now owns more than 200,000 hectares in Yunnan.

But officials with Gengma Forestry, including the chairman, dispute the company's account of the deal, telling *The Globe and Mail* that the actual numbers are much smaller.

79. The Globe and Mail article reported that in an interview with officials involved in the Sino-Forest transactions indicated that it had acquired less than 14,000 hectares. The article went on to say:

Mr. Xic's account corroborates the assertions of senior forestry officials in the province. Speaking on condition of anonymity, these officials challenged the company's statements that it controls more than 200,000 hectares of Yunnan trees, and said they are now investigating.

80. The Globe and Mail further reported:

In a written response to questions from The Globe, Sino-Forest said it stands by its public statements regarding its Yunnan holdings. The company said it has purchased about 13,300 hectares of 'forestry assets and leased land' directly from Gengma Forestry, and another 180,000 hectares of 'forestry assets only' from other sellers, using Gengma as a purchasing agent.

'The agreement has not been yet fulfilled as we have not completed the purchase of 200,000 hectares,' the company said.²

That statement from Sino-Forest appears to contradict its own publicly filed financial reports. In its first quarter 2011 report, the company said that 'under the master agreement entered in March 2007 to acquire 200,000 hectares of plantation trees over a 10-year period in Yunnan, the Company has actually acquired 230,200 hectares of plantation trees for \$1,193,459,000 as at March 31, 2011.'

The company's 2010 annual information form filed with regulators earlier this year said that as of December 31, 2010, Sino-Forest had 'acquired approximately 190,300 hectares of plantation trees for \$925.9-million (U.S.) under the terms of the master agreement.'

The Globe's investigation of the company's dealings and holdings in Yunnan points to inconsistencies in the company's accounting of its timber rights and raises broader questions about its business practices.

81. In addition, it was reported that:

As of the end of 2010, the company claimed control of about 800,000 hectares of trees in nine Chinese provinces plus New Zealand. Its operation in Yunnan province, in addition to being its largest, is also the one for which it has made additional disclosures recently in an attempt to defuse the allegations made in the Muddy Waters report.

So far, however, it has disclosed purchase agreements as well as forest and woodland rights certificates for about 7,000 hectares of forest in Yunnan. The company has not disclosed significant

² Unless otherwise indicated, all emphasis in quotations is added.

documentation regarding its forestry holdings in other provinces.

To find Gengma Forestry, Sino-Forest's local partner in the so-called 'Yunnan master agreement' – the 2007 deal said to be worth as much as \$1.4-billion – you have to duck down an alleyway behind the drugstore on the main street of this nondescript trading city, then up a dusty cement staircase.

On the landing is the litter-strewn office with an open door and a window protected by metal bars. Despite signing a deal with Sino-Forest that should guarantee a windfall, the company has clearly fallen on hard times. 'Our relations with [Sino-Forest] were not totally good. They talked about a lot of things, but in the end it was hard to get money from them,' said Zhang Ling, Gengma Forestry's office manager.

82. Statements of local officials in Yunnan province also contradict the reported size of Sino-Forest's holdings:

Senior forestry officials in the province challenged the company's assertion that it controls about 200,000 hectares of forest in the region. Speaking on condition they not be identified, they said their records showed Sino-Forest manages far less than that and said the Yunnan Forestry Bureau would begin an investigation aimed at determining the company's true holdings.

83. Not only have the size of the holdings been questioned, but so has the value as reported in *The Globe and Mail*:

In addition to the questions about Sino-Forest's disclosures on the size of its holdings, forestry officials, as well as local timber brokers who spoke to The Globe raised questions regarding the value Sino-Forest attributes to its Yunnan assets.

'It's very hard for anyone to say what the value of their property is,' said one forestry official, adding that forested land in Yunnan needed to be evaluated by a special body jointly appointed by the Forestry Bureau and the Ministry of Finance. Sino-Forest has not requested such an official valuation of its land, he said. '(The valuation) must have two chops (official seals) and two forestry resource evaluation experts and two licensed evaluators.... Even I can't just go there and give it a value.'

84. Subsequently, in early September 2011, *The Globe and Mail* reported that "A Globe investigation, based on interviews with people associated with Sino-Forest and an examination of legal and regulatory documents in Hong Kong and mainland China, has uncovered a pattern of questionable deals and disclosures from the company that date back to its earliest days."

B. Investigations and Regulatory Actions

- 85. On August 26, 2011 the Ontario Stock Commission issued a "Temporary Order" that said the following: "Sino-Forest and certain of its officers and directors including Chan appear to be engaging or participating in acts, practices or a course of conduct related to its securities which it and/or they know or reasonably ought to know perpetuate a fraud on any person or company contrary to section 126.1 of the [Ontario Securities] Act and contrary to the public interest."
- 86. The Commission halted trading in Sino-Forest's stock on the Toronto Stock Exchange effective August 26, 2011 and demanded that several of Sino-Forest's executives resign. Trading was halted in the U.S. on the OTC Bulletin Board at 5:30 p.m. on August 26, 2011.
- 87. On August 28, The Globe and Mail reported that CEO Chan had resigned. The newspaper also reported that "[t]hree Sino-Forest-Forest vice-presidents Alfred Hung, George Ho and Simon Yeung have been placed on administrative leave. Senior vice-president Albert Ip has been relieved of most of his duties but remains with the Company to assist the internal probe." The newspaper also explained why Chan's departure had occurred: "According to people familiar with the case, Mr. Chan was confronted by company officials in Hong Kong last week after a review of e-mail accounts outside the company's network revealed questionable

transactions and money transfers." Despite this evidence of misconduct, Chan remains with the Company, having been granted the title "Founding Chairman Emeritus."

- 88. In late August Standard & Poor's Ratings Services announced that it was withdrawing its ratings on the Company's debt because "[r]ecent developments point towards a higher likelihood that allegations of fraud at the company will be substantiated."
- 89. As a result of the suspension in the trading of Sino-Forest's common stock and disclosure of the suspected fraud, the shares are now virtually worthless and the value of its Debt Securities, including the 2017 Notes have declined substantially. On November 11, 2011, it was announced that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police had commenced a criminal investigation.
- 90. Subsequently, on January 10, 2012, Sino-Forest announced that investors should no longer rely upon its historical financial statements and related audit reports. The Company stated that there was "no assurance" that it would be able to release third quarter financial results or audited financial statements for its 2011 fiscal year. The Company further disclosed in the January 10, 2012 announcement that it was still unable to explain or resolve outstanding issues, relating to its financial results and business relationships, including matters raised by documents identified by its auditor E&Y and the OSC.

VIII. MOTIVATION FOR FRAUD

- 91. The Sino-Forest Defendants had ample motive to commit fraud: the exaggerated revenue, earnings and assets allowed the Company to continue to raise substantial funds from lenders and investors, inflated the Company's stock price and provided a personal financial windfall to the Individual Defendants who sold highly inflated stock to unsuspecting investors.
- 92. In addition to the billions of dollars raised by Sino-Forest during the Class Period (described above), Company insiders also benefited directly by the inflated value of Sino-

Forest's stock because of their substantial stock holdings and because part of their compensation was in the form of stock options. Documents filed by the Company revealed that the Individual Defendants have sold over \$44 million of Company stock since 2006.

Defendants' Sales Of Shares During Class Period

Defendant	Net Shares Sold	Value \$Can	Value \$U.S. (on 11/15/11 \$Cau 1 =\$U\$ 0.98494)
Chan	182,000.00	\$3,003,200.20	\$2,957,970
Horsley	531,431.00	\$11,157,962.93	\$10,989,900
Poon	3,037,900	\$30,054,387.32	\$29,601,800
TOTAL	3,751,331	\$44,215,550.45	\$43,549,670

IX. CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 93. Plaintiffs bring this action on their own behalf and, pursuant to Article 9 of the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules ("CPLR"), as a class action on behalf of themselves and all persons or entities who purchased (i) Sino-Forest's common stock during the Class Period on the OTC market who were damaged thereby; and (ii) all persons or entities who, during the Class Period, purchased Debt Securities issued by Sino-Forest other than in Canada and who were damaged thereby. Excluded from the Class are Defendants, the officers and directors of Sino-Forest during any portion of the Class Period, members of the immediate families of the foregoing persons and the legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns of such persons and any entity in which any Defendant has or had a controlling interest. The Class specifically excludes any investor who purchased Sino-Forest securities on the Toronto Stock Exchange or in Canada.
- 94. The claims of Plaintiffs and the members of the Class have a common origin and share a common basis. The claims of all Class Members originate from the same improper conduct and arise from securities purchases entered into on the basis of the same materially

misleading statements and omissions by Defendants during the Class Period. If brought and prosecuted individually, each Class Member would necessarily be required to prove their respective claims upon the same facts, upon the same legal theories and would be seeking the same or similar relief, resulting in duplication and waste of judicial resources.

- 95. The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. Although all Class Members cannot be identified without discovery, Plaintiff believes that there are many thousands of class members. Sino-Forest has over 246 million shares outstanding which actively traded on the OTC market (as well as in Canada on the Toronto Stock Exchange) and there are approximately \$1.8 billion in Debt Securities outstanding including, approximately, \$600 million in 2017 Notes.
- 96. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and predominate over any questions solely affecting individual members of the Class. Among the questions of law and fact common to the Class are:
 - a. Whether Defendants made materially false and misleading statements or omissions;
 - b. Whether Defendants engaged in any acts that operated as a fraud or deceit, or negligently misrepresented the Company's financial condition to the Class;
 - c. Whether Defendants breached their fiduciary duties to Plaintiffs and the class or were negligent in the performance of their duties;
 - d. Whether Defendants' acts proximately caused injury to the Class or irreparably harmed the Class, and if so, the appropriate relief to which the Class is entitled; and,
 - e. Whether Defendants' acts constitute violations of law for which the Class is entitled to recover damages or other relief.

- 97. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would also create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual members of the Class which would establish incompatible rights and standards of conduct for the parties involved in this case. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would also create a risk of adjudications with respect to individual members of the Class which would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of other members of the Class or substantially impair or impede their ability to protect their interests.
- 98. Plaintiffs have engaged counsel experienced in complex class litigation and will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the Class. Plaintiffs' interests are co-extensive with and not antagonistic to those of the absent members of the Class.
- 99. The members of the Class cannot reasonably be expected to litigate this matter individually. Whether litigated individually or as a class, the causes of action asserted in this Complaint involve complex issues of law and will likely require extensive and costly factual discovery, especially if this case proceeds to trial. The costs of successfully prosecuting such litigation will likely be beyond the resources of most members of the Class.

X. APPLICATION OF THE FRAUD ON THE MARKET PRESUMPTION

100. During the Class Period, Sino-Forest was a high profile Company which regularly provided purportedly accurate information to investors about the Company's operations. The Company was followed by numerous securities analysts. The securities at issue, Sino-Forest common stock and debt securities, were actively traded on efficient markets and publicly disclosed information about the Company was incorporated in the price of these securities within a reasonable amount of time.

A. Common Stock

- 101. During the Class Period, Sino-Forest common stock was traded on the OTC market in the United States, which is an open, well-developed and efficient market. Sino-Forest common stock was traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange, an open, well developed and efficient market. There was a substantial volume of trading in both the United States and Canada and the price of the shares traded in the United States was affected in the same way as the price of shares traded in Canada.
- 102. The OTC market has no fixed location but investors throughout the United States, including in New York County, New York, can purchase OTC securities through registered brokers. The principal regulator of the OTC market is the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority which has its principal offices in New York, NY and Washington, DC.

B. 2017 Notes and Other Debt Securities

- 103. According to the Company, the 2017 Notes "offering was made on a private placement basis in Canada, the United States and internationally pursuant to available exemptions, through a syndicate of initial purchasers." The indenture agreement which governs the 2017 Notes provided that the notes are governed by New York law.
- 104. The 2017 Notes were initially purchased by the Underwriter Defendants. In the purchase agreement between the Underwriter Defendants and Sino-Forest, Banc of America Securities LLC listed its address as One Bryant Park, New York, NY 10036 and Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC listed its address as Eleven Madison Avenue New York, NY 10010. During the Class Period and after their issuance there was an efficient market for the 2017 Notes.
- 105. The 2017 Notes could only be legally sold to non-U.S. persons and to U.S. persons who were qualified institutional buyers. There is an open and well developed market for

such securities which are issued by large and well known issuers such as Sino-Forest and, specifically, there was an active and well-developed market for the 2017 Notes and Sino-Forest's other Debt Securities during the Class Period. Class Members were able to purchase 2017 Notes and other Debt Securities in the OTC market.

106. Accordingly, Class Members who purchased Sino-Forest common stock or 2017 Notes, and other Debt Securities in the secondary market are entitled to a presumption of reliance on the accuracy of the prices paid.

XI. CAUSES OF ACTION

COUNT ONE AGAINST SINO-FOREST AND THE INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANTS FOR FRAUD

- 107. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each of the allegations set forth in above. This claim is asserted against Sino-Forest and the Individual Defendants for common law fraud.
- 108. As set forth herein, Sino-Forest and the Individual Defendants knowingly or recklessly engaged and participated in a continuous course and scheme of fraudulent conduct to disseminate materially false information about Sino-Forest's financial condition or failed to disclose material information with the purpose of inflating the prices of Sino-Forest's common stock, the 2017 Notes and Sino-Forest's other debt securities. As intended by the Sino-Forest Defendants, Plaintiffs and Class Members reasonably relied on these false and misleading statements and failures to disclose and suffered substantial damages as a result.
- 109. As a direct and proximate result of Sino-Forest and the Individual Defendants' fraud, Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered economic losses in an amount to be determined at trial. Sino-Forest and the Individual Defendants are jointly and severally liable to the Class for common law fraud.

COUNT TWO AGAINST SINO-FOREST AND THE INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANTS FOR CIVIL CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD

- 110. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each of the allegations set above. This claim is asserted against Sino-Forest and the Individual Defendants for civil conspiracy to commit fraud.
- 111. In furtherance of a scheme to defraud investors, the Sino-Forest Defendants corruptly agreed to combine their respective skills, expertise, resources, and reputations, thereby causing injury to Plaintiffs and the Class.
- 112. As set forth in detail above, one or more of the conspirators made false representations of material facts, with scienter, and Plaintiffs' and Class Members justifiably relied upon these misrepresentations and were injured as a result.
- 113. As a direct and proximate consequence of the foregoing, Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered economic losses in an amount to be determined at trial. Because Sino-Forest and the Individual Defendants conspired amongst themselves and with others to carry out this fraudulent scheme, the Sino-Forest Defendants are jointly and severally liable both for their own knowledge and conduct and for the knowledge and conduct of their co-conspirators in furtherance of the fraud.

AGAINST SINO-FOREST AND THE INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANTS FOR AIDING AND ABETTING FRAUD

114. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each of the allegations set forth above. This claim is asserted against Sino-Forest and the Individual Defendants for aiding and abetting common law fraud. The Sino-Forest Defendants were aware of the fraudulent scheme that is the subject of this Complaint and each of these Defendants provided substantial assistance to the perpetrators of this scheme.

115. As a direct and proximate result of the Sino-Forest Defendants' aiding and abetting of the fraud, Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered economic losses in an amount to be determined at trial. Sino-Forest and the Individual Defendants are jointly and severally liable to the Class for aiding and abetting common law fraud.

COUNT FOUR AGAINST SINO-FOREST FOR UNJUST ENRICHMENT

- 116. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each of the allegations set forth above. This claim is asserted against Sino-Forest for unjust enrichment.
- 117. In connection with the fraudulent scheme set out in this Complaint Defendant Sino-Forest received payment for the sale of the 2017 Notes. Defendant Sino-Forest would not have been able to sell the 2017 Notes or would only have been able to sell these notes at a lower price had the true facts about Sino-Forest's business and financial condition been known. Consequently, Sino-Forest unjustly received money from the purchasers of its securities and it would be unjust to allow Sino-Forest to keep this improperly earned money and should be required to repay it.

COUNT FIVE AGAINST E&Y FOR BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY

- 118. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each of the allegations set forth above. This claim is asserted against the E&Y Defendants for breach of fiduciary duties. Plaintiffs specifically disclaim any allegation of fraud or fraudulent intent of E&Y with respect to this count.
- 119. The E&Y Defendants had a fiduciary relationship to Plaintiffs and Class Members in that the E&Y Defendants owed Plaintiffs and Class Members a duty of ordinary and reasonable care and good faith which arose from the relationships between the E&Y Defendants

and the Plaintiffs and Class Members who were the intended users of the financial statements certified by the E&Y Defendants. The E&Y Defendants breached these fiduciary duties by certifying materially false and misleading financial statements, having known of the material misstatements or omissions, or having failed to do reasonable due diligence which would have discovered the false and misleading nature of these financial statements.

- 120. The E&Y Defendants breached their fiduciary duties to Plaintiffs by failing to perform their audits of Sino-Forest's final statements in accordance with Canadian GAAS by, inter alia, failing to obtain competent evidentiary material in support of the Company's representations in its financial statements and E&Y's audit opinion.
- 121. As a direct and proximate result of the E&Y Defendants' breach of fiduciary duty, Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered economic losses in an amount to be determined according to proof at trial. The E&Y Defendants are jointly and severally liable to the Class for breach of fiduciary duty.

COUNT SIX AGAINST E&Y FOR NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION

- 122. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each of the allegations set forth above. This claim is asserted against the E&Y Defendants for negligent misrepresentation. Plaintiffs specifically exclude any allegations of fraud or fraudulent intent of E&Y with respect to this count.
- 123. The E&Y Defendants had a special relationship of trust and confidence with Plaintiffs and Class Members because of their status as outside auditors of Sino-Forest that gave rise to a duty to exercise due care in the performance of their duties. These Defendants knew or were reckless in not knowing that Plaintiffs and Class Members were relying on them to exercise reasonable care in the performance of their duties.

- 124. As set forth herein, the E&Y Defendants negligently made false and misleading statements that inflated the price of Sino-Forest's securities, including by negligently failing to disclose material information they were obligated to disclose. The E&Y defendants negligently misrepresented to Plaintiffs and Class Members that they had performed audits of Sino-Forest's financial Statements in accordance with Canadian GAAS and that the Company's financial statement were properly presented in accordance with Canadian GAAP.
- 125. Plaintiffs and Class Members reasonably relied on these false and misleading statements and failures to disclose and suffered substantial damages as a result. The E&Y Defendants were at least negligent in making such statements, including because they failed to conduct appropriate due diligence before making such statements by, *inter alia*, failing to obtain competent evidentiary material in support of the Company's representations in its financial statements and E&Y audit opinion.
- 126. As a direct and proximate result of the E&Y Defendants' negligent misrepresentations, Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered economic losses in an amount to be determined according to proof at trial. The E&Y Defendants are jointly and severally liable to the Class for negligent misrepresentation.

COUNT SEVEN AGAINST E&Y FOR GROSS NEGLIGENCE

- 127. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each of the allegations set forth above. This claim is asserted against the E&Y Defendants for gross negligence. Plaintiffs specifically exclude any allegations of fraud or fraudulent intent of E&Y with respect to this count.
- 128. The E&Y Defendants had a special relationship with Plaintiffs and Class Members because of their status as outside auditors of Sino-Forest, a relationship that gave rise

to a duty to exercise due care in the performance of the E&Y Defendants' duties. The E&Y Defendants knew or were reckless in not knowing that Class Members were relying on them to exercise reasonable diligence in the performance of their duties. The E&Y Defendants were grossly negligent in the performance of their duties, including by failing to conduct adequate due diligence. The E&Y Defendants breached their finding changes to Plaintiffs by failing to perform their audits of Sino-Forest's final statements in accordance with Canadian GAAS by, inter alia, failing to obtain competent evidentiary material in support of the Company's representations in its financial statements and E&Y audit opinion.

129. As a direct and proximate result of the E&Y Defendants' gross negligence, Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered economic losses in an amount to be determined by proof at trial. The E&Y Defendants are jointly and severally liable to the Class for gross negligence.

COUNT EIGHT AGAINST E&Y FOR NEGLIGENCE

- 130. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each of the allegations set forth above. This claim is asserted against the E&Y Defendants for negligence. Plaintiffs specifically exclude any allegations of fraud or fraudulent intent of E&Y with respect to this count.
- 131. The E&Y Defendants had a special relationship with Class Members because of their status as independent auditor of Sino-Forest, a relationship that gave rise to a duty to exercise due care in the performance of the E&Y Defendants' duties. The E&Y Defendants knew or were reckless in not knowing that Plaintiffs and Class Members were relying on the E&Y Defendants to exercise reasonable diligence in the performance of their duties. The E&Y Defendants were negligent in the performance of their duties; specifically the E&Y Defendants breached their duties to Plaintiffs by failing to perform their audits of Sino-Forest's final

statements in accordance with Canadian GAAS, including by failing to conduct adequate due diligence by, *inter alia*, failing to obtain competent evidentiary material in support of the Company's representations in its financial statements and E&Y audit opinion.

132. As a direct and proximate result of the E&Y Defendants' negligence, Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered economic losses in an amount to be determined by proof at trial. The E&Y Defendants are jointly and severally liable to the Class for negligence.

COUNT NINE AGAINST THE UNDERWRITER DEFENDANTS FOR NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION

- 133. Plaintiff IMF repeats and realleges each of the allegations set forth above. This claim is asserted against the Underwriter Defendants for negligent misrepresentation on behalf of all Class Members who purchased the 2017 Notes on the Offering. Plaintiff IMF specifically excludes any allegations of fraud or fraudulent intent of Underwriter Defendants with respect to this count.
- 134. The Underwriter Defendants had a special relationship with IMF and those Class Members who purchased the 2017 Notes from the Underwriter Defendants because of their status as underwriters, which gave rise to a duty to exercise due care in the performance of their duties. The Underwriter Defendants knew or were reckless in not knowing that each Class Member who purchased the 2017 Notes was relying on them to exercise reasonable care in the performance of their duties.
- 135. As set forth herein, the Underwriter Defendants negligently made false and misleading statements that inflated the price of the 2017 Notes, including by negligently failing to disclose material information they were obligated to disclose. Plaintiff IMF and Class Members reasonably relied on these false and misleading statements and failures to disclose and

suffered substantial damages as a result. The Underwriter Defendants were at least negligent in making such statements, including because they failed to conduct appropriate due diligence before making such statements.

136. As a direct and proximate result of the Underwriter Defendants' negligent misrepresentation, Plaintiffs and the members of the Class have suffered economic losses in an amount to be determined by proof at trial. The Underwriter Defendants are jointly and severally liable to the Class for negligent misrepresentation.

COUNT TEN AGAINST THE UNDERWRITER DEFENDANTS FOR GROSS NEGLIGENCE

- 137. Plaintiff IMF repeats and realleges each of the allegations set above. This claim is asserted against the Underwriter Defendants for negligent misrepresentation on behalf of all Class Members who purchased the 2017 Notes on the Offering. Plaintiffs specifically exclude any allegations of fraud or fraudulent intent of the Underwriter Defendants with respect to this count.
- 138. The Underwriter Defendants had a special relationship with Plaintiff IMF and Class Members because of their status as underwriters that gave rise to a duty to exercise due care in the performance of their duties. These Defendants knew or were reckless in not knowing that Class Members were relying on them to exercise reasonable diligence in the performance of their duties. These Defendants were grossly negligent in the performance of their duties, including by failing to conduct adequate due diligence.
- 139. As a direct and proximate result of the Underwriter Defendants' gross negligence, Plaintiff IMF and the Class have suffered economic losses in an amount to be determined by

proof at trial. The Underwriter Defendants are jointly and severally liable to Plaintiff IMF and the Class for gross negligence.

COUNT ELEVEN AGAINST THE UNDERWRITER DEFENDANTS FOR NEGLIGENCE

- 140. Plaintiff IMF repeats and realleges each of the allegations set forth above. This claim is asserted against the Underwriter Defendants for negligence on behalf of Plaintiff IMF and all Class Members who purchased the 2017 Notes on the Offering. Plaintiff specifically excludes any allegations of fraud or fraudulent intent of the Underwriter Defendants with respect to this count.
- 141. The Underwriter Defendants had a special relationship with Class Members who purchased the 2017 Notes from them because of their status as underwriters that gave rise to a duty to exercise due care in the performance of their duties. The Underwriter Defendants knew or were reckless in not knowing that Plaintiff IMF and Class Members were relying on them to exercise reasonable diligence in the performance of their duties. The Underwriter Defendants were negligent in the performance of their duties, including by failing to conduct due diligence.
- 142. As a direct and proximate result of the Underwriter Defendants' negligence, Plaintiff IMF and the Class have suffered economic losses in an amount to be determined at trial. The Underwriter Defendants are jointly and severally liable to Plaintiff IMF and the Class for negligence.

XII. PRAYER FOR RELIEF AND JURY DEMAND

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs and the Class hereby demands a trial by jury, and seek a judgment:

- A. Awarding Plaintiffs and the Class all compensatory damages they suffered, including lost profits and consequential and incidental damages, as a result of the wrongful conduct of the Defendants, in an amount to be determined at trial;
- B. Awarding Plaintiffs and the Class damages arising from Defendants' unjust enrichment;
- C. Awarding Plaintiffs and the Class punitive damages in an amount to be determined at trial;
- D. Awarding Plaintiffs and the Class pre-judgment and post-judgment interest;
- B. Awarding Plaintiffs and the Class their costs, expert fees, expenses and attorneys' fees incurred in connection with this action to the maximum extent permitted by law;
- F. Awarding Plaintiffs and the Class such other and further relief as the Court finds just and proper.

Dated: January 27, 2012

Respectfully submitted,

COHEN MILSTEIN SELLERS &

JOLL PLLC

Richard S. Speirs Kenneth M. Rehns

88 Pine Street 14th Floor New York, NY 10005

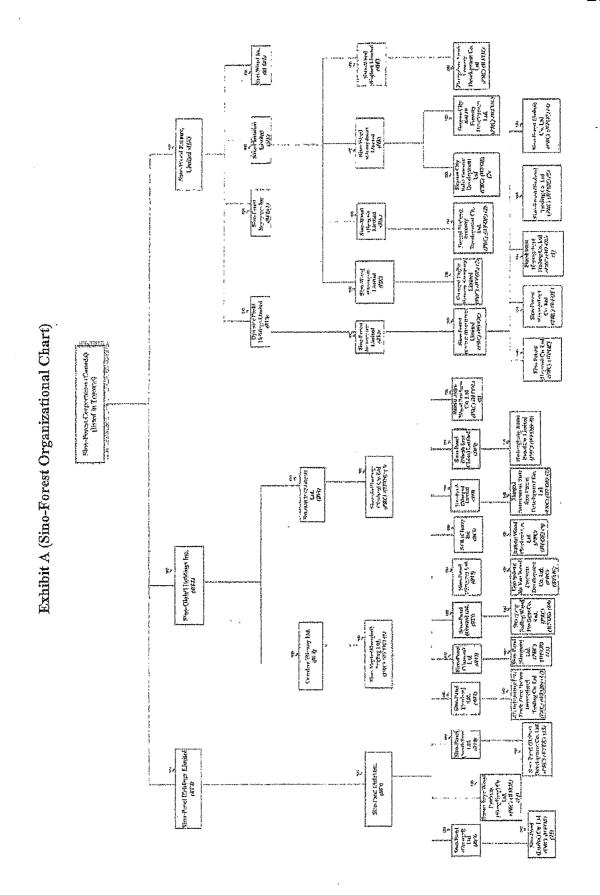
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Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Proposed Class



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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

DAVID LEAPARD and IMF FINANCE SA on their own behalf and on behalf of all others similarly situated,))
Plaintiffs,) INDEX NO.
ν.) VERIFICATION
ALLEN T.Y. CHAN, DAVID J. HORSLEY, KAI KIT POON, BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC, CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES (USA) LLC, SINOFOREST CORPORATION, ERNST & YOUNG GLOBAL LIMITED, and ERNST & YOUNG LLP, Defendants.))))))))
STATE OF NEW YORK) CITY OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF NEW YORK)	,

Kenneth M. Rehns, being duly sworn, states that he is one of the attorneys for Plaintiffs in this action and that the foregoing complaint is true to his own knowledge, except as to matters therein stated on information and belief and as to those matters he believes to be true; that the ground of his belief as to all matters not stated upon his knowledge are upon review of publicly available securities filings, media and newspaper articles and information contained on the Internet; and that the reason why the verification is not made by Plaintiffs David Leapard and IMF Finance SA is that these Plaintiffs are not in the county where Plaintiff's attorney has his office.

Kenneth M. Rehns

Notary Public

Sworn before me this 21 day of January, 2012

JESSE J. LEE
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01LE6167858
Qualified in New York County
Commission Expires June 4, 20

THIS IS EXHIBIT "E" TO

THE AFFIDAVIT OF ELIZABETH FIMIO

SWORN JUNE 8, 2012

A Commissioner, etc.

Daniel HoldenBarrister & Solicitor



Sino-Forest Announces that Approximately 72% of Noteholders have signed Support Agreement

TORONTO, CANADA – June 8, 2012 – Sino-Forest Corporation ("Sino-Forest" or the "Company") announced today that holders of approximately 72% of the aggregate principal amount of the Company's outstanding notes have agreed to be parties to the restructuring support agreement (the "Support Agreement") entered into by, among others, the Company and an ad hoc committee of its noteholders (the "Ad Hoc Committee") on March 30, 2012, which provides for the material terms of a transaction (the "Transaction") which would involve either a sale of the Company to a third party or a restructuring under which the noteholders would acquire substantially all of the assets of the Company, including the shares of all of its direct subsidiaries which own, directly or indirectly, all of the business operations of the Company.

On March 30, 2012, the Company announced that it had reached agreement with the Ad Hoc Committee on the material terms of the Transaction. On March 30, 2012, the members of the Ad Hoc Committee, who hold approximately 40% of the aggregate principal amount of the Company's 5% Convertible Senior Notes due 2013, 10.25% Guaranteed Senior Notes due 2014, 4.25% Convertible Senior Notes due 2016 and 6.25% Guaranteed Senior Notes due 2017 (collectively, the "Notes" and holders of Notes, the "Noteholders") executed the Support Agreement in which they agreed to support and vote for the Transaction. As announced on March 30, 2012, the Company continued to solicit additional Noteholder support for the Transaction and all Noteholders who wished to become "Consenting Noteholders" and participate in the Early Consent Consideration (as defined in the Support Agreement) were invited and permitted to do so until the early consent deadline of May 15, 2012.

Noteholders holding in aggregate approximately 72% of the principal amount of the Notes, and representing over 66.67% of the principal amount of each of the four series of Notes, have now agreed to be parties to the Support Agreement.

Inquiries

All inquiries regarding the Company's proceedings under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* ("CCAA") should be directed to the Monitor via email at: sfc@fticonsulting.com, or telephone: (416) 649-8094. Information about the CCAA proceedings, including copies of all court orders and the Monitor's reports, are available at the Monitor's website http://cfcanada.fticonsulting.com/sfc.

FOR OTHER INQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT:

BRUNSWICK GROUP LIMITED

Tel: + 1 646 625 7452

FOR MEDIA INQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT:

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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

AFFIDAVIT OF ELIZABETH FIMIO (Sworn June 8, 2012)

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

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

ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE COMMERCIAL LIST

THE HONOURABLE MR.)	FRIDAY, THE 15 th
)	
JUSTICE MORAWETZ		DAY OF JUNE, 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 OR ARRANGEMENT OF SINO-FOREST CORPORATION

ORDER

(Motion Regarding the Status of Shareholder Claims and Related Indemnity Claims under the CCAA)

THIS MOTION, made by Sino-Forest Corporation ("SFC") for the relief set out in SFC's notice of motion dated June 15, 2012 was heard this day at 330 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.

ON READING the affidavit of Elizabeth Fimio sworn June 8, 2012 (the "Fimio Affidavit") and on hearing submissions of counsel for SFC, FTI Consulting Canada Inc. in its capacity as monitor (the "Monitor"), the board of directors of SFC, the ad hoc committee of Noteholders and those other parties present,

SERVICE

1. THIS COURT ORDERS that the time for the service of the Notice of Motion and the Motion Record is hereby abridged so that this Motion is properly returnable today and hereby dispenses with further service thereof.

EQUITY CLAIMS

- 2. THIS COURT ORDERS that the claims against SFC resulting from the ownership, purchase or sale of an equity interest in SFC, including, without limitation, the claims by or on behalf of current or former shareholders asserted in the proceedings listed in Schedule "A" (collectively, the "Shareholder Claims") are "equity claims" as defined in section 2 of the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 (the "CCAA"), being claims in respect of monetary losses resulting from the ownership, purchase or sale of an equity interest, being shares in SFC.
- 3. THIS COURT ORDERS that any indemnification claims against SFC related to or arising from the Shareholder Claims, including, without limitation, by or on behalf of any of the other defendants to the proceedings listed in Schedule "A" (the "Related Indemnity Claims") are "equity claims" under the CCAA, being claims for contribution or indemnity in respect of a claim that is an equity claim.
- 4. THIS COURT ORDERS that the relief set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Order is without prejudice to SFC's right to apply for a similar order with respect to (i) any claims in the Statement of Claim that are in respect of Securities other than shares, and (ii) any indemnification claims against SFC related thereto.

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FOREIGN PROCEEDINGS

5. 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 SFC, 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 SFC and to the Monitor, as an officer of this 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 SFC and the Monitor and their respective agents in carrying out the terms of this Order.

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6. THIS COURT ORDERS that each of SFC and the Monitor be at liberty and is hereby authorized and empowered to apply to any court, tribunal, regulatory or administrative body, wherever located, for the recognition of this Order and for assistance in carrying out the terms of this Order and any other Order issued in these proceedings.

SCHEDULE A

- 1. Trustees of the Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada et al. v. Sino-Forest Corporation et al. (Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Court File No. CV-11-431153-00CP)
- 2. Guining Liu v. Sino-Forest Corporation et al. (Quebec Superior Court, Court File No: 200-06-000132-111)
- 3. *Allan Haigh v. Sino-Forest Corporation et al.* (Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench, Court File No. 2288 of 2011)
- 4. David Leapard et al. v. Allen T.Y. Chan et al. (District Court of the Southern District of New York, Court File No. 650258/2012)

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 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

(Regarding the Status of Shareholder Claims and Related Indemnity Claims under the CCAA)

BENNETT JONES LLP

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