

February 15, 2011

Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.

Sumitomo Forestry Home Tech Co., Ltd.

**Sumitomo Forestry Home Tech Develops**  
**“Masking Method for Improved Sound Insulation” (Patent Pending)**  
To Create More Comfort for Home Owners Undergoing Renovation

Sumitomo Forestry Home Tech Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President: Kunihiro Takagiri), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd. (Head Office: 3-2 Otemachi 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President and Representative Director: Akira Ichikawa) specializing in building renovations, has developed (patent pending) a new masking method designed to better isolate sound and provide customers with more comfort when living at home during a renovation project. Sumitomo Forestry Home Tech will use the new masking method in all renovation work nationwide by the end of February.

■ “Masking Method for Improved Sound Insulation” Description

Compared with conventional masking methods using tarps, this masking method was specifically designed to better contain dust and to reduce noise during renovation work. It helps customers feel more comfortable during the course of a renovation project by creating a barrier between the construction area and the living area, thereby reducing construction noise, maintaining the quality of indoor air in the living area, and securing the customer’s privacy. Sumitomo Forestry Home Tech has filed a patent application for this masking construction method, which allows construction work to be performed more smoothly while also securing a comfortable living space for residents when at home during renovation work.

Sumitomo Forestry Home Tech is committed to improving its construction methods to not only help its customers live comfortably after renovation but also during the renovation process.

Major Benefits

- (1) Reduces the transmission of construction noise from the work area to the living area
- (2) Reduces the extent to which residents can hear conversations going on in the construction area, and vice versa
- (3) Simple thermal insulation between the living area and the construction area

#### ■ Techniques Used in the New Masking Method

Masking techniques are dictated based on whether or not renovation involves ceiling demolition work. Masking employs a “soundproof and insulating masking sheet” with prescribed sound proofing and thermal insulating characteristics, with predetermined locations and procedures for overlapping and attaching sheets to seal off spaces between multiple masking sheets. Areas to be masked are decided based on considerations of sound transmission routes and the masking sheet’s qualities. The masking sheet material is thicker than tarps that are currently on the market, which also helps construction workers to perform their work more efficiently.

#### Outline of Sumitomo Forestry Home Tech Co., Ltd.

Established: October 1, 1988

President: Kunihiko Takagiri

Capital: 100 million yen (wholly-owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.)

Annual Revenue: 37.5 billion yen (for year ended March 31, 2010)

Head Office: Hitotsubashi S1 Building 8F, 3-26 Kanda-nishikicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Business locations: 55 locations nationwide (as of September 2010)

Number of Employees: 1,215 (as of September, 2010)

Business activities: After-sales maintenance, including renovation of detached homes, historic houses, condominiums, stores, and offices