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For Immediate Release
August 21, 2006

ABITIBI-CONSOLIDATED COMPANY OF CANADA FINED \$50,000 FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATION

THUNDER BAY, Ont. – Abitibi-Consolidated Company of Canada, a Montreal, Que.-based major producer of newsprint and wood products, with a paper mill in Thunder Bay, was fined \$50,000 on August 18, 2006 for a violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act that resulted in injuries to an employee.

On October 13, 2004, a worker was standing in a loading dock area and was reviewing the work assignment for that day when the worker was struck by a forklift truck. The worker suffered minor bruising and soreness after being thrown to the ground. The incident occurred at the company's paper mill at 1735 City Road in Thunder Bay.

Abitibi-Consolidated Company of Canada pleaded guilty, as an employer, to failing to ensure that barriers, warning signs or other safeguards for the protection of all workers in the area were used where vehicle or pedestrian traffic could endanger a worker's safety. This was contrary to Section 20 of the Regulations for Industrial Establishments and Section 25(1)(c) of the act.

The fine was imposed by Justice of the Peace Robert Michels of the Ontario Court of Justice in Thunder Bay. In addition, the court imposed a 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge, as required by the Provincial Offences Act. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.

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Court Information at a Glance

Location: Ontario Court of Justice
110 North Archibald Street
Thunder Bay, Ontario

Judge: Justice of the Peace Robert Michels

Date / Time: August 18, 2006, 9 a.m.

Defendant: Abitibi-Consolidated Company of Canada

Matter: Occupational Health & Safety

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