



Promoting Sustainability at the Source

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JPEG Photos Available Upon Request

**U.S. BASED FORESTRADE, INC.,
AWARDED MAJOR UN AWARD AT WORLD SUMMIT IN JOHANNESBURG**

Johannesburg, September 3, 2002 – ForesTrade, Inc., headquartered in Brattleboro, Vermont, USA was the only U.S. Company to receive the "2002 World Summit Award for Sustainable Development Partnerships." This prestigious award is presented by the United Nations and International Chamber of Commerce, to recognize outstanding companies who successfully demonstrate "that business is not the enemy of sustainable development, but actually an integral and effective part." ForesTrade was chosen for implementing an effective business model that wholly integrates social and environmental concerns and successfully bridges multi-stakeholder partnerships in Indonesia and Guatemala.

"This award validates that businesses can serve as vehicles for economic progress, environmental protection and social progress."

--- Co-founders Thomas Fricke and Sylvia Blanchet

Founded in 1996, ForesTrade has rapidly become the world's leading producer and distributor of fine organic spices, and "single origin" fair trade coffee. Over the last six years, ForesTrade has successfully implemented its social and environmental mission while growing a market driven, profit oriented business.

The Company's success is due to its creation of a number of innovative partnerships and alliances involving producers, processors, NGOs, and customers around the world, combined with early entry into the rapidly growing international market for organic and fair trade products. By working in mutually beneficial partnerships with six thousand local, indigenous producers, over twenty-five local and international NGOs, and about 100 manufacturers and distributors, ForesTrade has found a way to balance good social and ecological sense with good business sense.

"We see our long term success measured in three synergistic ways," explains Co-Founder and CEO, Thomas Fricke. "First, by supplying quality products at competitive prices, we succeed in serving our customers and the industry. Second, by providing fair prices, stable incomes and sustainable practices at the source, we succeed in serving the growers, their communities and our NGO partners. And finally, by operating as an effective business, we succeed as a for-profit enterprise."

ForesTrade, Inc. is an industrial supplier of organic spices, coffee and essential oils. The Company has offices in Vermont, USA, Indonesia, Guatemala, and The Netherlands.

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