

# The Evolution of Timber Log Marking

## Why and how do we mark timber?

Log marking is a crucial aspect of forest management and logging operations. It is primarily used to identify the provenance of harvested timber. The marking of timber was traditionally accomplished with various tools, such as numbering devices and marking hammers. They were simply punched directly on the forefront of the timber log with the numerical designation and the forest logo.

Currently, we use attached tags such as plastic plates, metal tags, radio frequency identification (RFID), and foil with a QR code. There is also a marking that involves writing with colored paint. These methods require extra consumables beyond the tool for their application, and thus, it is necessary to incur expenses for these materials. Such markers can be easily destroyed, removed, or faked, making it challenging to trace the harvested timber's provenance. Another challenge is taking a limited number of these tags or cans of paint to the forest and taking them everywhere with you, which runs the risk of running out of them and causes inconveniences at work. Introducing metal, plastic, and paint into the forest where it isn't their natural habitat is very environmentally unfriendly. Unfortunately, most of these techniques allow wood chips and sawdust to get polluted by the materials used for marking, especially plastic, which makes the sawmill operation less efficient.

The world is in pursuit of change and compliance with new regulations. Despite the mentioned drawbacks, the most promising marking technique to remain in use longer in the timber industry and also be compliant with the new European Union Deforestation Regulations are RFID tags or TimberID marking and traceability solution.

## A modern twist on an old technique

In response to the challenges posed by the inadequacies of the aforementioned marking methods, the forestry industry has begun to adopt more sustainable and efficient methods. So why don't we go back to our roots? Let's use the old methods known for centuries. We can take advantage of the experience of our ancestors and be inspired by well-proven and reliable techniques. One such innovation is the use of coded hammer marks, a modern take on an age-old technique.



Source: <https://archiwum.allegro.pl/oferta/stary-numerator-do-drewna-i10743429689.html>



TimberID Fingerprint offers a solution that meets the stringent requirements of the EU Deforestation Regulation using a modernized method well-known and used for years.

This system involves adding a unique code to each log, allowing precise tracking and verification of timber using a modern mobile application and data sent to the cloud-based online platform. Using modern deep tech, AI/ML technologies, and satellite data, ensure accuracy in tracing the harvested timber's provenance. Such marking is practically impossible to counterfeit!

## The environmental and economic benefits of reinvented technology



TimberID's solution offers several key advantages over traditional marking methods. From an environmental standpoint, it eliminates the need for non-biodegradable marking materials, which reduces pollution and minimizes disturbance to wildlife. It is super environmentally friendly and ecological.

On the economic front, TimberID's system can boost efficiency and cut costs. There is no need to use consumables during work and take them to the forest. By providing a reliable, unfaceable method for timber verification, it aids in the fight against illegal logging and ensures compliance with international trade regulations.

## Big data and the future of forestry

Moreover, solutions like TimberID are paving the way for the creation of big data in forestry. By generating a wealth of data on each log. These systems can provide valuable insights for forest management, conservation efforts, and market analysis.

**In our next article, we'll delve deeper into the exciting potential of big data in the forestry sector.**



Swapan Chaudhuri  
CEO of Deeplai

***„Embark on a journey through time, where the rich history of timber marking meets the power of innovation. TimberID goes beyond being just a brand; it represents our unwavering commitment to revolutionize the timber industry. Drawing inspiration from age-old techniques, we have reimaged and transformed them into cutting-edge innovations. By leveraging deep tech, AI/ML technologies, and satellite data, our system ensures unparalleled accuracy in tracing the origin of harvested timber. Are you ready to explore this captivating transformation? Visit our website at [www.deeplai.com](http://www.deeplai.com) to discover more about TimberID and watch our video showcasing its features. Brace yourself for an awe-inspiring experience!”***