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Institute for Environmental Research and Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Japan and Tacoma, WA, USA:

The Institute for Environmental Research and Education (IERE), non-profit organization in Tacoma, Washington, U.S.A. and (JEMAI) Japanese Environmental Management Association for Industry, have signed a memorandum of understanding to harmonize efforts for their respective Type III EPD label programs.

Environmental Product Declarations (EPD's) are ecolabels that use the science of life cycle assessment (LCA) to evaluate the environmental impacts of products and services from cradle to grave. Dr. Rita Schenck, Executive Director of IERE and Hiroshi Yokoyama, Director, JEMAI, agree this collaboration will boost efforts for both Japanese and US companies, enabling them to obtain their EPD labels.

The agreement allows for sharing resources and the use of Product Category Rules (PCR's), the consensus industry rules for environmental measurement. All activities between the two organizations will help build capacity for LCA and expand the base for TYPE III label development.

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