

ENVIRONMENT INFORMATION SHEET

FSC New Labelling Standard

Forest Stewardship Council – New Labelling Standard - March 2010*FSC-STD-50-001 (V1-1)***Background**

The Forest Stewardship Council introduced a new labelling standard effective from 1st March 2010.

Whilst the full standard can be downloaded from FSC website www.fsc.org the following is a simple summary of some of the key changes.

This standard is a welcome simplification on the rules for using FSC labels and to deliver better end user understanding. For example, the three different “mixed source” labels are being replaced by one standard “MIX” label.

FSC Certificate holders can choose to switch to this new standard at any time, providing they follow this standard and this is with the permission of their certification body. All certified organisations must be compliant with this new labelling standard by 1st January 2011.

Existing stocks of labelled products and promotional materials may continue to be used and distributed beyond 1st January 2011.

Whilst we are in this transition period, with organisations working from different labelling standards, there is the opportunity for confusion. To assist customers during this period our product group schedule shows both the previous and new FSC labels.

FSC labels

There are three categories of the FSC label, which describe the content of FSC material. The correct label should be chosen depending on the claim with which the product or material has been supplied. Each category has various design options, which can be selected according to the available space for labelling.

FSC label categories




The FSC labels are:

- a) **FSC 100%** label for products containing 100% material from FSC certified forests.
- b) **FSC Mix** label for products containing a combination of material from FSC certified forests, FSC controlled wood and eligible recycled fibre.
- c) **FSC Recycled** label for products containing only recycled fibre.

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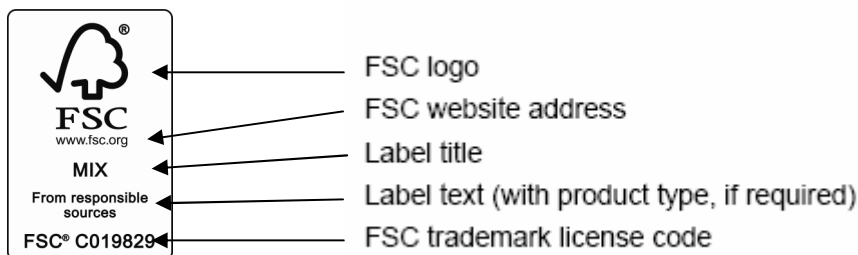
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Mapping to new label

	FSC 100%	FSC MIX	FSC RECYCLED
New Label			
Previous label	FSC_100	FSC_MS_1 FSC_MS_2 FSC_MS_3 FSC_MS_4 FSC_MS_5	FSC_RE_1

Standard label

The required elements for the standard label are:



Mini label

The mini label may be used when there is not sufficient clear, unprinted space for the standard label in the area where the label is to be placed. Approval for use of the mini label shall be at the discretion of the certification body.

Accessing artwork

The FSC label artwork is downloaded through the on-line label generator unless otherwise issued and approved by the certification body. Access to the label generator should be arranged by the organisation's certification body.

For more details

For further and comprehensive details the new labelling standard FSC-STD-50-001 (V1-1) can be downloaded from the FSC website www.fsc.org by entering the standard number in the document search facility.

Your certification body is best placed to advise you on any questions regarding their interpretation of this standard.