

ENVIRONMENT INFORMATION SHEET

Programme for the endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)

Introduction

Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organisation, founded in 1999 which promotes sustainable managed forests through independent third party certification.

PEFC is a global umbrella organisation that acknowledges and endorses different national forest certification schemes (e.g. the national scheme in Finland is endorsed by the PEFC). These national schemes build upon the inter-governmental processes for the promotion of sustainable forest management, a series of on-going mechanisms supported by 149 governments in the world covering 85% of the world's forest area.

Organisations who are PEFC certified provide an auditable **chain of custody** which assures customers they are buying wood and paper products that originate from sustainable managed forests.

The Howard Smith Paper Group first achieved its PEFC Chain-of-Custody supplier certification in 2007. Certificate number SGS-PEFC/COC-0180

Forest and Chain-of-Custody certification

Sustainable managed forests are those whose management implements performance standards based on internationally agreed environmental, social and economic requirements. Although many forests are sustainably managed, the only way to provide credible proof of this is through independent verification. Chain of Custody certification is an independent assessment, by a qualified and accredited expert, who verifies systems are in place to trace the flow of wood containing products back to the certified forest.

Why should I have PEFC certification

By using PEFC labelled products, you can be assured of gaining public recognition of your environmental and Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR). You can provide independent assurance to customers wishing to buy ethical products that, the forest of origin are managed to the highest social and environmental standards.

Increasingly organisations are realising this as an opportunity to grow their business and secure work from organisations who have committed CSR policies.

Product labelling

The PEFC logo can be used to indicate that the material has chain of custody and comes from a certified source. The PEFC logo can be used optionally on or off product (e.g. invoices etc) under license from the PEFC-Council, only by those who have a valid forest management certificate or a chain of custody certificate to communicate to customers



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Forest Certification (PEFC)**How to become PEFC Certified**

Achieving chain of custody is possible for most organisations with some resource investment. The scale and cost of this investment is reflected on the size and complexity of the business and whether any other quality management schemes, such as ISO14001 or ISO 9001, are already in place.

The Howard Smith Paper Group has developed with a partner organisation, The Print Circle, a web based tool for printers, designers and publishers to understand the process and opportunities of becoming both PEFC and FSC certified. Importantly, this is a competitive and simple solution.

Equally important, having made the investment and securing PEFC certification, this tool then helps you remain compliant.

We have a detailed information sheet which explains the process and guidance on cost. This can be downloaded from www.fscpaper.co.uk/getfsc

What PEFC papers are available

The Howard Smith Paper Group have a comprehensive range of both PEFC and FSC certified products suitable for most print applications. Details, samples and advice on these products can be secured from your regional sales office.

Useful contact websites

Howard Smith Paper Group Chain of Custody website:
www.fscpaper.co.uk

Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)

Global website: www.pefc.org

UK Website: www.pefc.co.uk

How to secure PEFC certification: www.fscpaper.co.uk/getfsc

This information sheets also covers how to secure FSC

PEFC UK contact details

PEFC UK Ltd, Jupiter House, High Street, Tattenhall, Cheshire, CH3 9PX

Telephone 01829 770438

More information

To learn more about the environmental and business opportunities of using and becoming PEFC certified please contact your local Howard Smith Paper Group regional sales centre.

