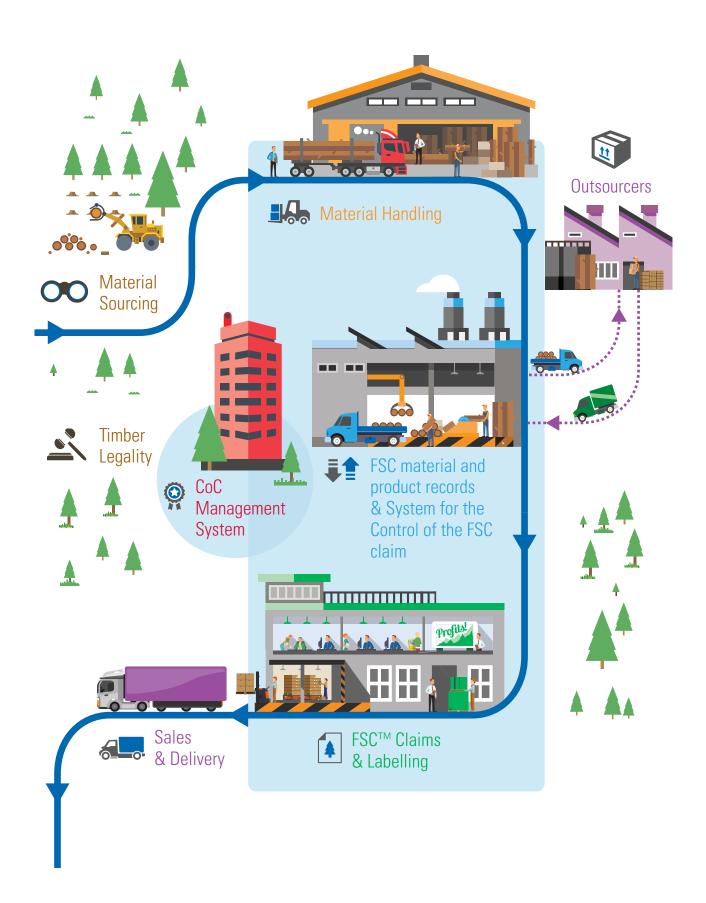


# The Chain of Custody (CoC) from forest to customer



# FSC<sup>™</sup> Chain of Custody Requirements Checklist

To become FSC<sup>™</sup> Chain of Custody (CoC) certified, companies must be audited to meet the requirements of the CoC Standard, FSC-STD-40-004, available on www.fsc.org and summarised below.



# Material sourcing



#### **Supplier validation**

Keep a list of suppliers, and check the validity of their FSC Claims (www.info.fsc.org).



## Input verification

Additional verification is required for controlled, pre-consumer, and post-consumer inputs (see Standard for details).



### **Identification of input**

Upon receipt of materials, verify if invoices include material quantity, FSC category and the supplier's FSC CoC code upon receipt of material.

## Timber legality

The company shall ensure that its FSC certified products conform with all applicable timber legality legislation, and shall collaborate with its direct customer and customers further down in that chain to whom these legislation apply. This includes the following:



#### **Procedures**

Having procedures in place to ensure the import and/or export of FSC certified products conform with all applicable trade and custom laws.



#### **Information request**

To provide information to customers upon request, which demonstrates compliance with timber legality legislation. This could include information on species and country of harvest, and compliance with trade and custom laws.

# Material handling



## **Segregation**

The company shall ensure that there is a physical or temporal segregation of the material; or that the material shall be identified adequately to avoid mixing.

## Outsourcers



#### **Preconditions for outsourcers**

The company shall maintain legal ownership over the material, establish a contract with the outsourcer and a documented control system.



## **Maintain traceability**

The company shall establish procedures to ensure that that the material can be tracked, controlled and is not mixed with non-certified material.

# FSC material and product records

The company shall keep track and record all input, output, and material in stock, as well as the losses during processing (conversion factor).



#### **Processing steps**

The organisation shall identify the main processing steps involving a change of material volume or weight and specify the conversion factor(s) for each processing step or, if not feasible, for the total processing steps.



## **Material accounting record**

For every product type, there must be a material accounting record to verify the amount produced with FSC Claims are in line with the amount of eligible material inputs.



#### **Annual volume summaries**

Annual volume summaries must be provided for each product group and FSC claim (input received, input in stock, output sold, output in stock).

# Selection of FSC<sup>™</sup> control system

A Chain of Custody Control System must be chosen for each Product Group.



#### **Transfer system**

Shall be used for companies dealing with only one type of FSC claim (e.g. FSC 100% or FSC Mix). Typically used for printers, traders, secondary manufacturers and distributors.



#### **Percentage system**

Can be used if the company wants to mix different FSC claims in one product. The percentage of FSC material has to be calculated for each production.



#### **Credit system**

Can also be used for the purpose of mixing different FSC input claims. Input materials with a certain claim adding their claim as FSC "credits" to a credit account. The FSC "credits" can be used when the company wants to sells such product with a FSC claim.

# Quality management



#### **Records**

Maintain up-to-date records and retain these for at least five years.



#### Responsibilities

Identify staff person responsible for conformance, and ensure all staff are aware of CoC procedures.



#### **Training**

Develop and implement a staff training plan on CoC procedures.



#### **Occupational health and safety**

Appoint an OHAS representative, establish and implement adequate procedures, train staff on OHAS.



#### **Procedures**

Develop procedures for implementing CoC management.



#### **Complaints management**

A complaint management system, with certain minimum requirements, must be in place.

# FSC™ claims & labelling

Labels on the products must comply with the FSC requirements (included in the FSC Standard FSC-STD-50-001. The following FSC labels can be used:



#### "FSC mix" label

For products with 'FSC Mix Credit' or 'FSC Mix XX%' Claim. Threshold for labeling is  $\geq 70\%$ 



#### "FSC 100%" label

Can be used on all products with 100% FSC input. It can only be used in a transfer system.



## "FSC recycled" label

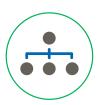
Applies to products with 'FSC Recycled Credit' or 'FSC Recycled XX%' Claim. Threshold for labeling is ≥ 70%.

# Sales & delivery



The company must ensure that their sales and delivery documents meet the respective requirements for all outputs sold with FSC Claims, i.e. Inclusion of FSC Chain of Custody code, FSC claim and product information.

# Scope of the COC system



## **Product groups**

For the FSC system, the company must define clearly which products are covered by the scope of the certificate. Therefore, FSC has defined "Product groups, which shall be used by the company. Examples are roundwood, wooden tables, bleached mechanical pulp, paperboard, books, etc. Detailed product groups are listed in the FSC Standard FSC-STD-40-004a.



# Demonstrate the origin of your wood and paper products

www.tuvsud.com/system-certification systemcertification@tuvsud.com

As an internationally accredited Certification Body for the FSC CoC, TÜV SÜD Czech holds the licence (FSC® A000530) to perform relevant certification services.

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