



## FSC® AND MANUFACTURERS

**Are you manufacturing using FSC certified materials?**  
This factsheet outlines what you need to do in order for your products to carry an FSC label or be promoted using the FSC trademarks.

### What is FSC?

FSC provides global standards for forest management, which cover a balance of environmental, social and economic aspects. The well-being of forest communities and ecosystems is as important as replacing trees in ensuring the future of the world's forests. FSC is the only wood certification scheme endorsed by the major environmental charities, including WWF, Greenpeace and The Woodland Trust.

The FSC system also provides a way of tracking forest products through independently verified Chain of Custody certification. This has to cover every stage in processing, conversion, distribution and printing before the final product can carry the FSC label. If the chain is broken, no claims can be made.

### Selling FSC Certified Products

The FSC logo, the name Forest Stewardship Council and the acronym FSC are all registered trademarks and there are strict controls on their use. Companies that change FSC certified products e.g. through manufacturing processes, can only include information about the FSC status of their products e.g. on sales and delivery notes and promotional materials, if they hold FSC Chain of Custody Certification and are able to source FSC certified input materials/products direct from an FSC certified supplier.

Every link in the supply chain (i.e. every change in ownership) is required to hold FSC certification to ensure that the final product can be FSC labelled. It is this rigorous third-party verification that gives consumers confidence in the FSC logo's guarantee that their purchase of an FSC labelled product is not damaging the world's forests.

Please note that if you are carrying out part of a manufacturing process on behalf of an FSC certified company, it may be possible to be included within the scope of the certified company's certificate. This is down to the discretion of the FSC certified company and would need to be arranged in agreement with their Certification Body.

### Chain of Custody Certification

Companies that hold FSC Chain of Custody certification have their own FSC licence number and are able to label products and pass on the FSC claim to their customers (thereby enabling their customers to promote the FSC status of the product if they hold certification or a Trademark Licence).

Please download our Chain of Custody certification factsheet for further information: [www.fscuk.org/download.chain-of-custody-factsheet.42.pdf](http://www.fscuk.org/download.chain-of-custody-factsheet.42.pdf)

### Getting FSC Certified

To become certified you should:

1. Contact an FSC accredited [certification body](#) or [small business group scheme](#). Bear in mind that charges may vary so it's worth shopping around.
2. Select a body or scheme and arrange for them to audit your company.

### Trademark Misuse

We take trademark misuse very seriously. Only companies that hold Chain of Custody certification or a Trademark Licence can use the FSC trademarks (the FSC logo, the name Forest Stewardship Council and the acronym FSC) to promote their products. All companies manufacturing FSC certified products and using the FSC trademarks should be on the FSC Certificate Database: <http://info.fsc.org/>. You can report any suspected misuses of the FSC trademarks to [trademark@fsc-uk.org](mailto:trademark@fsc-uk.org)

### Further Information

For further information, please get in touch or visit our website. Please note that we also have specific factsheets for a wide range of industries, including the paper and packaging sectors as well as project certification.