FSC Chain of Custody Certification

What is FSC?
FSC helps take care of forests and the people and wildlife who call them home. The FSC system can help businesses and consumers to choose wood, paper and other forest products such as cork and latex, from well-managed forests and/or verified and recycled sources.

Why Choose FSC?

• **We have the highest standards**
  We set higher standards than any other forest certification scheme, giving users the best assurance that FSC-certified forests are being managed responsibly.

• **We are respected and credible**
  We are the preferred certification scheme for business and the one most widely used by members of the Fortune 500.

• **We are recognised**
  The FSC system is recognised by BREEAM and the UK Government Timber Procurement Policy. We are the only forest certification scheme member of ISEAL Alliance, the global association for sustainability standards.
FSC Chain of Custody Certification

FSC Chain of Custody (CoC) certification ensures that FSC materials and products have been checked at every stage of processing, so customers purchasing products sold with FSC claims can be confident that they are genuinely FSC-certified.

55%1 of people in the UK recognise the FSC logo.

Why get FSC-Certified?

FSC certification can bring a number of benefits to your business:

- Improved market access
- Enhanced public image
- Corporate Social Responsibility compliance
- Meeting customer expectations
- Government Procurement Policy compliance
- Use of the iconic FSC trademarks and supplementary marketing assets

Who Needs FSC Chain of Custody Certification?

Any company involved in the processing or transformation of FSC-certified products (e.g. manufacturing, repackaging, pack-splitting, relabelling, cutting to size or adding other forest-based components to the product) must be FSC-certified in order to apply an FSC Label to their products and/or sell them with an FSC claim.

Any change of ownership in the supply chain requires Chain of Custody certification if the receiving organisation wants to make an FSC claim about their products. Organisations that do not take ownership (legal title) of FSC-certified products (e.g. transport, bindery, sales agent) do not normally need Chain of Custody certification. Companies with multiple operating facilities, can apply for multi-site certification.

Steps to Becoming FSC-Certified

- Contact FSC accredited certification bodies (and/or small business group schemes if appropriate) to request quotes.
- Submit a certification application to the FSC certification body of your choice.
- Ensure that an appropriate CoC Management System is in place, in line with the requirements of FSC-STD-40-004.
- Undergo an on-site audit by your chosen certification body.
- Gain certification approval and receipt of FSC certification code (XXX-COC-000000) and Trademark Licence Code (FSC-C000000).