Fact Sheet

TÜV NORD CERT – Certification in accordance with PEFC CoC Regulations

Controlled processing chain for timber, printing and paper products



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The "Chain of Custody" (CoC) product chain certification according to PEFC regulations (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes) stands for products from sustainable forest management. It has been perfectly adapted to the structures of Central European forestry management and is internationally recognised.

The PEFC certificate is a guarantee of a controlled processing chain – independently monitored and fully traceable: from the certified forests, through timber-processing businesses to the end product on the shelf.

The following stages of the supply chain are included:

- Purchasing
- Processing
- Storage
- Sale

Target groups for the certification

Companies working in the timber- or wood fibre-processing industries such as sawmills, the timber trade, furniture producers, paper manufacturers, publishers or printers. Small companies can take advantage of favourable group certification. Combined certification is possible for firms with more than one site, branch or subsidiary. TÜV NORD CERT offers the auditing of joint certificates of all sizes – from regional to global – as well as economic combinations with other certification systems.





Advantages of certification

PEFC-certified businesses display a commitment to the environment and ethical conduct. The timber can be clearly identified at all times during all stages of processing and marketing. An examination and/or certification by TÜV NORD CERT provides customers and their market partners with clear advantages, such as:

- greater trust due to verification of fulfilment of the provisions of a globally recognised standard
- a higher level of acceptance of the timber or timber product among customers and consumers who value a reliable proof of origin
- acquisition of new customer groups with a green purchasing policy
- use of the PEFC symbol as a strong marketing tool compared to competitors without this certification
- proof of origin confirming that the timber does not come from controversial sources
- sustainability thanks to short transport routes documented by specification of a particular region of origin (e.g. timber from Bavaria)

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Prerequisites for certification

- Selection of the appropriate system in each case
 A. System of physical separation:
 PEFC timber or paper strictly separated from uncertified material
 - B. Percentage system: carefully monitored mixing with timber or wood fibre products from controlled sources
- Certificates for purchased PEFC timber and paper products, stocks, any applicable production losses and sold PEFC products
- Verification of a management system with which supplier monitoring, internal examinations and records are guaranteed

Our know-how for your success

TÜV NORD CERT is an internationally recognised and reliable partner for inspection and certification services. Our experts and auditors possess in-depth knowledge and are all employed full-time at TÜV NORD. This guarantees independence, neutrality and continuity when providing support to our customers. The advantage to you is self-evident: Our auditors accompany and support the development of your company and provide you with objective feedback.

TÜV NORD CERT uses highly skilled professional auditors with experience acquired from currently more than 600 issued certificates in the field of product chain certification for timber. We are not only an expert partner in Germany, but offer our services worldwide.

Timber-processing companies are faced with a number of certification systems. These include, for example, management system certifications according to ISO 9001, ISO 14001 or ISO 50001. With its extensive expertise, TÜV NORD CERT covers a wide range of certification areas from a single source. Where certification is performed according to more than one system it is possible to take advantage of synergy effects in this manner which result in major cost savings.

The path to the certificate

Provision of relevant corporate information (questionnaire for the certification of forestry and timber products)

Drafting of an offer by TÜV NORD CERT on the basis of the information provided

Order the certification

PEFC manager and auditor draw up the procedure and an audit timetable together

When required, TÜV NORD CERT provides contacts with independent advisers for the joint development of a tailor-made solution and the implementation of training courses

On-site certification audit

In the case of deviations from the PEFC standards, creation of new prerequisites through the company

Reports on the results of the audits, recommendations for the certification of each part of the product chain by the auditor

If the assessment is positive, issue of a PFSC CoC certificate for the audited parts of the product chain (validity 5 years), entry in the PEFC database by PEFC

Every 12 months a surveillance audit to check the effectiveness of the system



Further information and an overview of all locations can be found at www.tuev-nord-cert.com