

TÜV NORD CERT – Certification of the FSC®-Product Chain

Change in values in the manufacture of timber, pulp and paper products

General situation

The value judgements of consumers and business customers with respect to timber, pulp and paper products are changing. Products from responsible forestry management are increasingly in demand.

Your challenge

Sustainability along the entire production chain is a decisive criterion in this. This also includes the protection of wooded areas, the population which depends on the forest, all of the employees involved and aspects of nature conservation. As a company which would like to import timber, pulp or paper products into the EU, you also have to prove that your products stem exclusively from legal and non-controversial sources.

Unbiased proof of sustainable and socially responsible forestry

The independent non-profit organisation Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) has drawn up standards for sustainable, environmentally and socially responsible forestry. For the “Chain of Custody” (CoC) certification according to FSC® the entire product chain from the forest to the end customer is taken into account. TÜV NORD CERT is accredited by FSC® as an international certification body and carries out product chain

certifications according to the FSC® standard. Products that fulfil the requirements of the FSC® standard can be awarded the FSC® logo.

Target groups for the certification

This certification is suitable for sawmills, timber merchants, furniture producers, paper manufacturers, publishers, printers and for do-it-yourself stores and all other companies that offer products made from timber or wood fibre.

Certification relates in particular to the following stages in the supply chain:

- Purchasing
- Processing
- Storage
- Sale



Das Zeichen für
verantwortungsvolle
Waldwirtschaft

Prerequisites for certification

- No mixing of FSC® timber with uncontrolled timber
- Quantity verification/inventory control systems for purchased, stored and supplied FSC®-certified goods
- Compliance with the process description



On the basis of the successful certification of the product chain, the timber can be clearly identified at any time at all stages of its processing and marketing. This gives you and your market partners clear advantages:

- You receive permission to use the logo within 24 hours or a suggested correction from our team of experts for the printing templates that you have submitted
- Through the use of the recognised FSC® logo you can stand out as a quality supplier from your competitors who do not have this certification
- You satisfy the prerequisites for compliance with EU requirements
- Transparency of the flows of commodities from the forest to the customer
- Credibility through certification in accordance with globally recognised standards
- Verification of the commitment to the environment and ethical behaviour
- Acceptance by customers and consumers who attach importance to a reliable proof of origin
- Acquisition of new customer groups with a green purchasing policy

The combined or group certification according to FSC® CoC regulations can be used by firms organised on a higher level (e.g. cooperative or franchise systems) or by chain store companies.

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 and

- PEFC
- Blue Angel
- Carbon Footprint
- BRC IOP

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 (combination audits) there are significant synergy effects that result in major cost savings.

Your route to certification



1 Company decides in favour of FSC® CoC certification



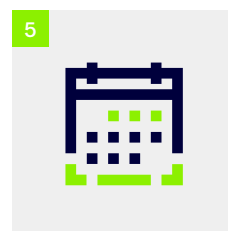
2 Request the questionnaire, provide relevant corporate information



3 Offer and contract phase



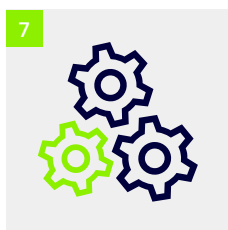
4 Order the certification / optional: pre-audit



5 Together with TNC: Specify the audit date with the FSC® manager and coordinate the timetable



6 On-site audit with the main points of focus on the control system, confirmation of goods receipt/deliveries from suppliers, separation of and distinction between certified and non-certified products, product labelling, output quantities and output products, corporate processes, documentation, system efficiency



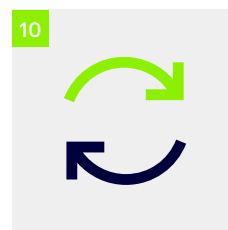
7 In the case of deviations from the standards which are to be fulfilled, creation of new prerequisites through the company



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



9 If the assessment is positive, issue of the FSC® certification for the audited parts of the product chain (validity 5 years), entry in the FSC® database, logo to be released within 24 hours



10 Annual surveillance audits of the production site(s)

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.

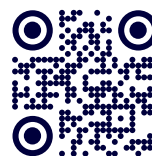


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