

PEFC

CHAIN OF CUSTODY CERTIFICATION

**SOURCING
RESPONSIBLY**



**The Business Benefits
of Certification**

PEFC, the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification, is **the world's leading forest certification system**.

More than 300 million hectares of forests are certified to PEFC's internationally recognized Sustainability Benchmarks, supplying more than 18,000 Chain of Custody certified companies globally with responsibly sourced timber and wood-based products.

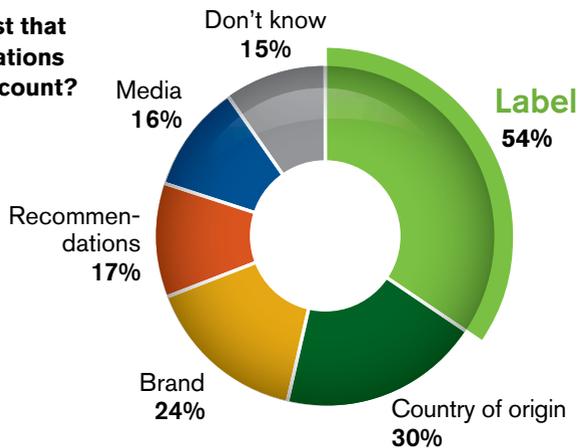
PEFC was founded by **small- and family forest owners** to demonstrate excellence in sustainable forest management.



What reassures you most that environmental considerations have been taken into account?
(% of consumers)

Base: 1,000 men and women aged 16+ years per country.
Question: When purchasing a product or a service, which of the following criteria reassure you the most that environmental considerations and sustainable development have been taken into account?

PEFC/GfK Global Consumer Survey – October 2014



LEGALITY & SUSTAINABILITY:



Meet your customers' expectations with PEFC certification

From small and medium-sized enterprises to global brands, more and more companies along the timber value chain are looking to demonstrate that the forest-based materials they are using come from legal and sustainable sources. Some are doing so in response to legislation and regulatory requirements, others realize the benefits of delivering sustainability assurances on products to address environmental, social and ethical concerns.

Regardless of the motivation, the preferred tool for companies to demonstrate legal and sustainable sourcing of forest products is PEFC Chain of Custody certification.

Legislation: Governments around the world are putting in place legislation designed to support the trade of legal timber and to deny the entry of illegally-produced wood products into the marketplace. This includes the EU Timber Regulation (EUTR), the U.S. Lacey Act, and the Australian Illegal Logging Prohibition Regulation. PEFC Chain of Custody certification is designed to allow you to demonstrate compliance with such legislative requirements.

Customers: Demonstrating commitment to curb deforestation, conserve biodiversity and act socially responsible, public and private buyers often go beyond meeting legal requirements and demand assurance of forest sustainability. For example, nearly 30 national governments have already put in place sustainable timber procurement policies. Similarly, a growing number of companies demand proof of sustainability from their suppliers, with influential business associations like the Consumer Goods Forum (CGF) encouraging companies to insist on certification such as PEFC.

Consumers: Ethical consumption is on the rise, as market research has repeatedly shown over the past years. Certification allows you to use the PEFC label, and an overwhelming majority of consumers globally - more than 80% - want companies to use labels on products, according to the first PEFC/GfK Global Consumer Survey. 30% of all consumers said that they actively look for forest certification labels, with the PEFC label being the most trusted global forest certification label.

PEFC CERTIFICATION:

Questions & Answers



What is PEFC Chain of Custody certification?

PEFC Chain of Custody certification provides independently verified assurance that the certified wood contained in a product originates from well-managed forests. In addition, the PEFC Due Diligence System (DDS) minimizes the risk that timber comes from illegal harvesting and enables companies to demonstrate alignment with regulatory requirements (e.g. EUTR). The PEFC DDS is an integral part of PEFC Chain of Custody certification.

To earn PEFC Chain of Custody certification, companies must develop and implement procedures to account for the purchasing, tracking, manufacturing, sale and recordkeeping of certified materials.

PEFC Chain of Custody certification complements PEFC sustainable forest management certification, which assures that forests are managed in line with challenging environmental, social and economic requirements.

Who can obtain PEFC Chain of Custody certification?

PEFC Chain of Custody certification is available to all companies that manufacture, process, trade or sell timber or timber-based products.

Whether you are a saw- or paper mill, manufacturer, trader, distributor, wholesaler, retailer, printer, or paper merchant, PEFC Chain of Custody certification provides you with confidence that you are in alignment with regulatory requirements and have access to a growing global market for responsibly sourced wood and paper products.





How does PEFC Chain of Custody certification help to meet EUTR etc?

The European Union Timber Regulation (EUTR) requires companies to implement a due diligence system (DDS) to minimize the risk of placing illegally harvested timber on the market. The PEFC DDS is fully aligned with the EUTR and an integral part of PEFC Chain of Custody certification.

This integration makes PEFC Chain of Custody certification the preferred option for all companies along the timber value chain, independent of whether they are already subject to the EUTR or similar regulatory requirements, or wishing to prepare for future business opportunities with customers who need to demonstrate compliance.

Even without access to certified material, companies benefit from the PEFC DDS as it assists in implementing a system to assess and mitigate risk to ensure the legality of wood. These safeguard checks are scrutinized by the independent certifiers during their annual audits and provide companies with a "double safeguard measure" for their procurement.

Becoming PEFC Chain of Custody certified is therefore a viable option for companies operating in any country around the world.

What are the benefits of PEFC Chain of Custody certification?

PEFC Chain of Custody certification allows you to demonstrate responsible supply chain management to your customers and provides you with a variety of benefits that help the environment, people, and your bottom line:

- **Access to new markets**
- **Availability and choice**
- **Business leadership on sustainability**
- **Compliance with legislation**
- **Proof of traceability**
- **Use of the PEFC label**



How do I obtain PEFC-certified timber and forest-based material?

PEFC sustainable forest management certification is available in all major timber-producing countries, and the majority of the world's certified forest products are certified to PEFC. So chances are you are already procuring or have access to timber and forest-based products that feature PEFC certification. Potentially, all that's missing may be for your supplier(s) to also obtain PEFC Chain of Custody certification or for you to demand PEFC-certified supply from your supplier(s). Keep in mind that in order to use the PEFC label on product, you must have Chain of Custody certification for the product scope and a minimum threshold of 70% certified content in your product.

Even if you don't yet procure PEFC-certified material, gaining PEFC Chain of Custody and applying the PEFC DDS to the material you buy, will help demonstrate your compliance with legislation and regulatory requirements such as EUTR.

A full list of certified companies and forest owners is available at treee.es/find-certified

Certification Types:

Whether your business operations are simple or complex, PEFC offers several Chain of Custody options which can meet your company's needs:

- **Single-site Certification:**
For companies that operate one facility.
- **Multi-site Certification:**
For companies that operate several facilities.
- **Group Certification:**
For small, independent businesses forming a "group" for the purpose of certification to reduce costs.
- **Project Certification:**
For short-term projects involving different, uncertified contractors, such as in construction and building projects, or the one-off production of a specific product.





How do I get certified, and how much does it cost?

PEFC Chain of Custody certification is available globally. The exact steps necessary, as well as the costs involved, depend on multiple factors (such as size and complexity of your business operations), therefore a straightforward answer is not possible.

Essentially, you have to set up a management system in compliance with PEFC's Chain of Custody requirements. This can be integrated into existing systems your company may have already implemented, such as ISO 9001 or ISO 14001.

Once the management system is in place, and additional requirements implemented, your company needs to be audited by a third-party certification body. After compliance is verified, you are PEFC Chain of Custody certified.

How do I get further information?

PEFC offers a wealth of information to get you started on PEFC Chain of Custody certification.

You can find everything you need at treee.es/coc-brochures

Ready to read detailed requirements? Download *Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products – Requirements (PEFC ST 2002:2013)* from treee.es/2002-2013

If you prefer direct contact, the best way to get further information depends on where you are located:

- ***If you are located in a country with national PEFC representation*** (check out treee.es/national-members), please contact your local representative.
- ***In all other cases***, please contact PEFC International (treee.es/contact-pefc) or a PEFC-recognized certification body operating in your country (see treee.es/find-cb).

