

Principles and Criteria

FSC has developed a set of 10 principles and 57 Criteria for forest management that are applicable to all FSC-certified forests throughout the world. The 10 Principles are summarized below:

Compliance with Laws and FSC Principles

Forest management must abide by all applicable laws of the country in which they occur.

Tenure and Use Rights and Responsibilities

Rights to the land are clearly defined and clearly established.

Indigenous Peoples' Rights

Indigenous peoples' rights to own, use, and manage their lands are recognized and respected.

Community Relations and Worker's Rights

Maintain and/or enhance the long-term social and economic well being of forest workers and local communities.

Benefits from the Forest

Encourage the efficient use of the forest's resources and services to ensure economic viability, and environmental and social benefits.

Environmental Impact

Conserve biological diversity, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, maintaining the ecological functions and integrity of the forest.

Management Plan

A plan is written, implemented, and kept up to date, including statements of long-term objectives.

Monitoring and Assessment

Monitoring is conducted to assess the condition of the forest, yields of forest products, chain-of-custody, management activities, and their social and environmental impacts.

Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests

Management activities enhance the attributes of high conservation value forests.

Plantations

Plantations should complement the management of, reduce pressures on, and promote the restoration and conservation of natural forests.



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Preserving OUR Renewable Resources



FSC Approved Partner

Commitment to Renewable Resources

In April of 2008, Colortech, Inc. became a certified FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) Supplier (SW-COC-002969). This allows us to use FSC trademarks on FSC certified paper. The idea of the FSC trademark is to guarantee that the product comes from responsible sources - environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable.



To read more about FSC, visit their web site at www.fsc.org.

With the FSC trademark, Colortech, Inc. may also use the Rainforest Alliance Certified™ (RAC) seal. The Rainforest Alliance Certification is a comprehensive process that promotes and guarantees improvements in agriculture and forestry. This independent seal of approval ensures that our goods and services were produced in compliance with strict guidelines protecting the environment, wildlife, workers and local communities.



To read more about The Rainforest Alliance, visit their web site at www.rainforest-alliance.org.



What is FSC?

FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) is an international non-profit membership-based organization established in 1993 to promote responsible management of the world's forests. It brings people together to find solutions to issues created by bad forestry practices. It also rewards good forest management.

It is the first worldwide certification system established for forests and forest products. This voluntary market promotes better forest management and directly or indirectly addresses issues such as illegal logging, deforestation, and global warming. It also has positive impacts on economic development and environmental conservation. FSC works to ensure the permanent existence of forest areas through responsible forest management and conservation.

FSC Chain of Custody and Certification



In order for paper to carry the FSC label, the timber used must have originated from an FSC certified forest and continue the processing manufacturing, distribution, and printing through FSC certified companies. This process is known as Chain-of-Custody (COC) and is a creditable guarantee that the product has come from FSC sources.

COC certification allows companies to label their products with the FSC brand consistent with FSC policies.



How are FSC-Certified Products Identified?

FSC's main tool for achieving its mission is a product-labeling system. The public face of this system is the "checkmark and tree" registered Trademark. It is absolutely essential to FSC's mission that the authority, integrity and credibility of the Trademark is maintained, which is accomplished through the chain-of-custody certification process. FSC-certified products can be identified by any of the following labels:



FSC 100%

Products with an FSC 100% label originate entirely from forests certified as meeting the environmental and social standards of FSC.



FSC Recycled

Products with an FSC Recycled label support re-use of forest resources and use only post-consumer recycled wood or fiber in accordance with the FSC standards.



FSC Mixed Sources

Products with an FSC Mixed Sources label support the development of responsible forest management worldwide. The wood comes from FSC-certified well-managed forests, company controlled sources and/or recycled material.