

ENVIRONMENT INFORMATION SHEET

Benefits of Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certification**Introduction**

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is an international, non-governmental organisation dedicated to promoting responsible management of the world's forests. It was founded in 1993 in response to public concern about deforestation and the demand for a trustworthy wood-labelling scheme.

The Trademark of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is a label on timber and wood based products, including paper, which indicates that the wood comes from a well-managed forest. It gives assurance that the forest of origin has been independently inspected and evaluated to comply with an internationally agreed set of strict environmental, social and economic standards.

Forest Stewardship Council is supported by high profile organisations including; WWF, Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth and the Woodland Trust.

Forest and Chain of Custody certification

Well managed forests are those whose management implements performance standards based on internationally agreed environmental, social and economic requirements. Although many forests are well managed, the only way to provide credible proof of this is through independent verification. Chain of Custody certification is an independent assessment, by a qualified and accredited expert, who verifies systems are in place to trace the flow of wood containing products back to the certified forest.

Business benefits of using FSC Certified Paper

For most corporate organisations procurement and sourcing policies are now included as a fundamental element of their Corporate Social Responsibility strategy. This impacts on their use and choice of paper and print. For paper, commonly products either from a sustainable certified source, like FSC or PEFC or alternatively paper with a recycled content are specified.

Product Labelling

The FSC logo is used to indicate that the material has Chain of Custody and comes from a certified source. Only printers or agencies who are FSC certified, with this secure Chain of Custody, may use this iconography for their clients printed work.

Useful Contact Websites

HSPG FSC website: www.sustainablepaper.co.uk

Forest Stewardship Council (UK) website: www.fsc-uk.info

More Information

To learn more about the environmental and business opportunities of using FSC certified paper, please contact us.

