



FURNITURE MANUFACTURING & CERTIFICATION

How your business
benefits from PEFC



PEFC, THE WORLD'S LEADING FOREST CERTIFICATION SYSTEM

PEFC, the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification, is the world's leading forest certification system. We are a global alliance that strives for a world in which people manage forests sustainably. We do this through the commitment of national forest certification systems, NGOs, associations, companies and committed individuals.

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

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

more than
300 million
hectares
of forests globally
are PEFC-certified

over **18,000**
PEFC Chain of Custody
certified companies



PROVIDING CUSTOMERS WITH A RESPONSIBLE CHOICE

In a world where we are aware of the impact our choices have on the environment, people want to minimize their environmental footprint. They are no longer happy to buy products without knowing where they came from.

This is where you as a furniture manufacturer can benefit from PEFC. PEFC enables you to source responsibly and to communicate to customers and consumers alike that the wood you are using for your products comes from sustainably managed forests.

Your suppliers may already be PEFC-certified, making it easy for you to take advantage of PEFC and help promote sustainable forest management.





SO WHY CHOOSE PEFC-CERTIFIED WOOD FOR YOUR FURNITURE?

As a furniture manufacturer, you already understand the benefits of using wood; its adaptability, esthetics and environmental credentials all speak for themselves. So why should you choose to use PEFC-certified wood?

- **Leading retailers are demanding PEFC-certified products** as part of their corporate social responsibility commitments and are developing responsible procurement policies for many forest products. With PEFC certification, your business will be well placed to meet these requirements.
- PEFC certification assists in meeting regulatory requirements such as the European Union Timber Regulation (EUTR) and the US Lacey Act. By gaining PEFC certification for your company and selling PEFC-certified products, you can ensure that both you and your customers can **maintain access to these environmentally conscious and demanding markets.**

- Selling PEFC-certified material enables you and your customers to use the globally recognized PEFC label. The use of labels is of growing importance to consumers around the world. By using the PEFC label, you can **make sure you don't miss out on business** because you left your customers in doubt of your product's origin.
- Gaining PEFC certification allows you to show leadership in your sector while also **enhancing your competitive advantage over other manufacturers.**

2/3 rd of the world's certified forest area is PEFC-certified

That's more than 300 million hectares. This means that specifying PEFC-certified material for your furniture will give you **access to an extremely wide range of PEFC-certified fiber and timber.**





WHAT IS PEFC CHAIN OF CUSTODY CERTIFICATION?

If you want to sell your products as PEFC-certified, you need PEFC Chain of Custody certification.

PEFC Chain of Custody certification provides independently verified assurance that the certified wood in a product originates from well-managed forests.

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

The PEFC Due Diligence System (PEFC DDS) is an integral part of PEFC Chain of Custody certification. The PEFC DDS minimizes the risk that timber comes from illegal harvesting, GMOs and conversions. It also enables companies to demonstrate alignment with regulatory requirements such as the EUTR.

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



THE STEPS YOU NEED TO TAKE

1

Get yourself PEFC Chain of Custody certified

PEFC Chain of Custody certification is available to all companies that manufacture, process, trade or sell timber or timber-based products, and it 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. But essentially, you need 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 an independent certification body. After compliance is verified, you are PEFC Chain of Custody certified.

 *See the back page for more information on how to get certified.*

2

Start procuring PEFC-certified material

Once you have achieved PEFC certification, you need to ensure that you are procuring PEFC-certified timber – this means that your suppliers must be PEFC-certified as well.

There are PEFC-certified forests in all major timber-producing countries, and the majority of the world's certified forest products are certified to PEFC. So chances are you already procure or have access to timber and forest-based products that feature PEFC certification. Potentially, all that's missing is for your supplier(s) to also obtain PEFC Chain of Custody certification or for you to demand PEFC-certified material from your supplier(s).





3

Make sure the PEFC label is on your product

Being PEFC Chain of Custody certified and procuring PEFC-certified material demonstrates your ethical business practices. Now make sure that your customers know about it – the best way to do this is through the PEFC label.

The PEFC label is exclusively available on PEFC-certified products. Supplying PEFC-certified products enables your customers to use the PEFC label. This allows them to highlight their sustainability credentials to their customers. Finally, consumers will be able to clearly recognize and distinguish products that are made from responsibly sourced raw materials.

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.



Labels communicate trust

Environmental labels allow companies to visibly communicate their commitment to responsible sourcing. This is becoming ever more important as consumers are increasingly conscious of the impact of their buying decisions.

According to the first PEFC/ GfK Global Consumer Survey, an overwhelming majority of consumers globally – more than 80% – want companies to use labels on products. 30% of all consumers said they actively look for forest certification labels, with the PEFC label the most trusted global forest certification label.



MORE INFORMATION



Find everything you need to get started on PEFC Chain of Custody certification 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

Contact us:



If you are located in a country with national PEFC representation

(check out treee.es/nationalmembers), contact your local representative.

In all other cases, contact PEFC International (treee.es/contact-pefc) or a PEFC-recognized certification body operating in your country (treee.es/find-cb).

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