

What do the FSC® Labels Mean?

FSC Controlled Wood

Controlled Wood certification is designed to allow organisations to avoid the categories of wood considered unacceptable which are to be used in products carrying the FSC Mix label. FSC Controlled Wood is defined as: virgin wood or wood fibre which has been verified as having a low probability of including wood from any of the following categories:

- a) Illegally harvested wood;
- b) Wood harvested in violation of traditional and civil rights;
- c) Wood harvested in forests in which high conservation values are threatened by management activities;
- d) Wood harvested in forests being converted from natural and semi natural forest to plantations or non- forest use;
- e) Wood from forests in which genetically modified trees are planted.

Post-consumer reclaimed material: Material that is reclaimed from a consumer or commercial product that has been used for its intended purpose by individuals, households or by commercial, industrial and institutional facilities in their role as end-users of the product.

Pre-consumer reclaimed material: Material that is reclaimed from a process of secondary manufacture or further

downstream industry, in which the material has not been intentionally produced, is unfit for end use and not capable of being re-used on-site in the same manufacturing process that generated it. Examples include sawdust, damaged stock and off cuts

FSC Certified Forests

FSC certified forests have been independently audited to meet FSC's 10 Principles and Criteria for Forest Management.



FSC Certified Forest



FSC Controlled Wood



Recycled



FSC 100%

Containing nothing but fibre from FSC certified forests.

The control system used for FSC 100% product groups is the transfer system.

This was previously 'FSC Pure'.



FSC Mix

If the product is produced under what is called the 'percentage system' it must contain a minimum of 70% FSC certified wood/pulp and/or post-consumer input and the balance must be controlled wood or pre-consumer reclaimed material. In paper products only pre-consumer and post-consumer reclaimed materials both count as valid 'FSC' inputs.

If it is produced under what is called the 'credit system' there is no minimum FSC/post-consumer input, however, only a proportion of products (relative to the FSC/post-consumer inputs) can be labelled and/or promoted as FSC certified. All materials within FSC Mix products, regardless of which system is used to produce them, must be FSC certified, reclaimed (both pre and post-consumer) or controlled wood.

Note that a Mix claim may state *FSC Mix 70%* (where the 70% refers to the amount of FSC 100% and post/consumer reclaimed material) but the product is 100% FSC certified.



FSC Recycled must contain verified post-consumer and/or pre-consumer reclaimed materials.

Further Information

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