

TRACKING PRODUCTS FROM THE FOREST TO THE CONSUMER

WHAT IS CHAIN OF CUSTODY?

Chain of custody (CoC) is the process of tracking and recording the possession and transfer of wood and fiber from the forests of origin through the different stages of production—primary manufacturing¹, secondary manufacturing², wholesaling, and retailing—to the end user.

WHO NEEDS SFI CHAIN OF CUSTODY?

Companies interested in demonstrating that their products are made from responsibly managed forests, and not from areas that were illegally harvested, major tropical wilderness areas, or biodiversity hotspots³ need SFI® CoC certification.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN SFI CHAIN OF CUSTODY?

Any company that processes or trades SFI certified forest products may seek SFI CoC certification. Eligible companies include manufacturers of forest products, paper merchants, brokers, printers and publishers.

WHAT IS THE COST OF SFI CHAIN OF CUSTODY?

Cost of SFI CoC certification is competitive with other leading systems.

HOW DO YOU BECOME THIRD-PARTY CERTIFIED?

1. Contact an SFI-accredited certifier. The SFI program requires third-party auditors to be accredited to conduct CoC certifications. This ensures the quality, independence and integrity of the audit is maintained.
2. Submit an application to the certifier.
3. Complete an on-site audit.
4. Certification approval usually takes four to six weeks.
5. Complete an annual audit to maintain certification.
6. Visit www.sfiprogram.org/certifiers.cfm for a complete list of SFI-accredited certifiers.

*The SFI program is internationally recognized by
the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) www.pefc.org.*

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¹Those sourcing directly from the forest - i.e. sawmill, paper mill

²Manufacturers that do not source their raw material from the forest – i.e. furniture makers, paper mills using market pulp, retailers, publishers, merchants, printers

³Defined in 2005-2009 Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard

THE SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE® PROGRAM: PRODUCT LABELS & CHAIN OF CUSTODY

Customers and end users of wood and paper products are becoming more environmentally conscious, increasing the need to provide assurance that products are produced in accordance with their environmental expectations. The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) program has the most comprehensive approach to wood supply monitoring of any forest certification program in the world and can help provide this assurance with several options for chain of custody and on-product labels.

■ CERTIFICATION

SFI® program participants are not only required to practice sustainable forestry on their own forests, but are also required by the SFI Standard to encourage their suppliers throughout their wood procurement systems to practice sustainable forestry, including reforestation following harvest and using best management practices for protecting water quality. Manufacturing facilities certified to the SFI Standard must monitor and act on information about their supply of wood fiber. SFI program participants must ensure their fiber is procured from legal sources and is not from biodiversity hotspots or major tropical wilderness. (The SFI Standard can be found at www.sfiprogram.org/generalPDFs/SFBStandard2005-2009.pdf).

SFI Chain of Custody (CoC) and Percent Content Claim Certification

Primary producers, after successful completion of a third-party certification to the SFI Standard, including certification of their wood procurement system, may choose to have their facility certified for percent content. This would then qualify them to use the labels demonstrating the percentage of fiber that comes from forests certified to the SFI Standard.

Secondary producers, retailers, publishers, merchants or printers can obtain CoC certification for their facility and then work with suppliers to obtain certified fiber if they desire to use these labels. CoC requirements can be found at www.sfiprogram.org/sfilabel.cfm. Supply should be available for most companies, since 84 percent of the paper produced in the U.S. comes from SFI program sources.

**“X” PERCENT
CONTENT LABEL**



**100%
CONTENT LABEL**



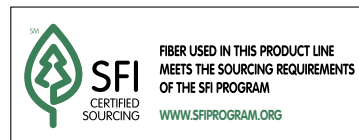
■ FIBER SOURCING REQUIREMENTS CERTIFICATION

A wood fiber sourcing procurement system refers to an auditable system that assesses the overall characteristics of the wood and fiber from the forests of origin to the end user.

In order to use the fiber sourcing system label (with no percent content claim), primary producers—those sourcing directly from the forest (i.e. sawmill, paper mill)—must be certified (as described above under “Certification”) and must also demonstrate that 100 percent of their wood fiber is audited to be in compliance with the SFI Standard, other credible sources, or through an SFI certified wood procurement system, or a combination of the three.

Secondary producers (manufacturers of finished wood products, users of market pulp, retailers, publishers, merchants or printers) must also complete certification to document that at least 66 percent of the wood fiber used in their products comes from forests certified to be in compliance with the SFI Standard, through an SFI certified procurement system, or a combination of both.

**CERTIFIED
SOURCING LABEL**



www.sfiprogram.org

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