

Technical Knowledge Folder No. 11



FSC® Certification

Forest Stewardship Council® (Organization for sustainability in forest management)





KLUG's expertise

Research for preservation packaging solutions

KLUG-CONSERVATION, with over 150 years of experience, has the know-how to produce premium-quality products made from ageingresistant paper and board, ensuring maximum permanence and durability for long-term preservation of assets in archives, museums and libraries. Close collaboration with our customers and intense cooperation with the paper industry, research institutes, universities and academies allows us to continually improve our existing products as well as develop new ones. This is essential for maintaining a consistently high quality standard, as well as keeping up-to-date with the latest developments in the conservation field. We would like to share this knowledge with you in the form of our "Technical Knowledge Folders". Should you have any further questions, please refer to our website, our printed publications or contact us personally.

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Who or what is FSC?

Forest Stewardship Council® (Organization for sustainability in forest management)

FSC is the most authoritative organization for ensuring essential environmental and social standards and curbing over-exploitation of forests. With global standards, unprecedented stakeholder involvement and support from reputable companies as well as recognized environmental and social organizations, FSC is acknowledged as the most credible solution for sustainable forest management. Certification is awarded by independent third parties and reviewed annually. Around 200 million hectares of forest worldwide are FSC-certified at present. The FSC system ensures that forests are used in accordance with the social, economic, and ecological needs of present and future generations. To ensure that products bearing the FSC label have actually been manufactured from the corresponding raw materials, the FSC uses a tried-and-tested instrument: chain of custody (CoC) certification. For this purpose, every company in the product chain, from forest to end customer, is required to establish an internal procedure that ensures that FSC-certified materials always remain identifiable. Only certified products made of wood are marketed with the FSC logo, such as furniture, wooden flooring, packaging, board and paper.



FSC in Germany

In Germany, around 1.44 million hectares of forest are FSC-certified. Almost 4,000 companies are certified according to FSC standard (as of Jan 2022). The principles of forest management promoted by the FSC in German forests include that forests are not overexploited, biodiversity is fostered and relations with interested citizens and organizations are transparent. Clear-cutting during regular timber harvesting is prohibited and pesticides may only be used if required by law. FSC is committed to increasing natural mixed forests, protecting forest soil, and conserving rare species and ecosystems. As a result, FSC-certified forests are more stable in a changing climate and provide an ecosystem that can bind more CO_2 in the long term.

Transparent and reliable

The FSC label is backed by a consistent and reliable process: the development of principles and indicators on which globally valid FSC standards for forest management are based. Forests that are managed according to these standards can acquire FSC certification. The FSC also provides transparency and brand security for companies and organizations interested in good, sustainable forest management.

Worldwide FSC principles

To realize its vision, FSC has developed 10 principles and 70 criteria that apply to FSC-certified forests worldwide.

They require managers of certified forests to:

- comply with all applicable laws, regulations and international treaties, conventions and agreements ratified at a national level;
- maintain and improve the social and economic situation of all employed workers;
- identify and uphold the legal and customary rights of indigenous groups regarding ownership, use and management of land, territories and resources affected by management activities;
- **4**. help to maintain or improve the social and economic well-being of the local population;
- manage their products and services in a way that maintains or improves their long-term economic viability, as well as their social and environmental benefits;
- maintains the ecosystem services and environmental values of managed forests;
- establish a management plan that defines the concept and objectives regarding the scope, intensity and risk of management;



- demonstrate control and evaluation of progress toward meeting operational objectives, as well as the effects of management actions and the condition of the forest;
- 9. maintain or improve high conservation values in the forest;
- 10. ensure that the selection and implementation of management activities correspond to the economic, ecological and social objectives of the forest enterprise and comply with all FSC principles and criteria.



FSC at KLUG-CONSERVATION

KLUG-CONSERVATION has been certified by the FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) since May 2021. The majority of our paper boards, corrugated boards and packaging made from these materials are in the meantime available with FSC certification. Our paper and board products are manufactured from 100% FSC-certified, fresh cellulose fibre.

As a manufacturer and retailer of FSC-certified paper products, Walter Klug GmbH & Co. KG holds a Chain of Custody (CoC) certification. This verifies that the entire path of the product – from forest to finished goods – is FSC-certified and trackable.



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