

CERTIFIED WOOD SOLUTIONS

FOR THE FURNITURE SECTOR



PEFC – YOUR SAFE SOURCE OF WOOD

Wood is a warm, fashionable and natural material that attracts all people. Buildings, joinery and wooden furniture made of certified wood offer simple solutions for designers and manufacturers to deliver desired and environmentally sound products to homes and offices.

Certified timber has unique sustainability credentials as a renewable material. PEFC, the world's largest forest certification system, is a transparent tool to demonstrate that wood for furniture is sustainably sourced.

PEFC is an international non-profit, non-governmental organization which has endorsed more than 230 million hectares of certified forests in around 30 countries over four continents.



“ It's important for environmental and quality reasons that we know where the raw materials we use in our production come from. We want to guarantee that our timber supplies come from carefully monitored and certified forests. Our customers should never be in any doubt as to what their furniture is made of. ”

Arto J. Tiitinen, CEO of Isku, an international, family-owned furniture manufacturer founded in 1928

FROM FOREST TO FACTORY TO CONSUMERS

Tables, chairs, desks, beds, sofas, wardrobes... wooden furniture is an essential part of our homes, offices and gardens. Wood accounts for a major part of total furniture sales worldwide. The sector already provides an enormous range of products in different styles and applications, including office, and domestic furniture. New innovation in wood design and production processes open doors to an ever increasing number of natural and sustainable products.

PEFC-certified wood enables companies to assure their customers that wood used in furniture comes from legal and sustainable sources. In addition to the technical quality and design of a product, consumers are increasingly interested in knowing that a piece of furniture they buy has been responsibly produced.

More and more public authorities, companies and large retailers, including DIY outlets and furniture stores, are demanding in their specifications that wooden products come from certified well-managed forests.

This expectation is about to expand to all sectors of the furniture industry. With public awareness for the need for sustainable procurement, especially of wood products, growing, the pressure is on for businesses in the furniture industry supply chain to implement their own Chain of Custody.



“ The willingness of a furniture provider to work toward the goal of implementing a Chain of Custody certificate is something we include in our requirements when we select partners for our commercial development projects. ”

Merja Vuorinen,
Administrative Manager of Skanska

By using PEFC certified products, furniture designers, manufacturers and retailers can demonstrate their corporate sustainability commitments.

Demand for PEFC Chain of Custody certification has grown dramatically in the last few years to the extent that, for many companies, the ability to prove that a timber product is derived from a well-managed source is now a key factor in the specification of timber products.

SAFE & SOUND – HOW DOES PEFC WORK?

One of the easiest ways of demonstrating that wood comes from responsibly managed forests is to source it from independently certified forests. PEFC certification also ensures that products are tracked through the whole supply chain from the forest to the end user.

PEFC is an umbrella organization. It works by endorsing national forest certification systems developed collaboratively by all interested stakeholders and tailored to local priorities and conditions. Each national system undergoes rigorous third party assessment against PEFC International's unique Sustainability Benchmarks. These Benchmarks are based on broad consensus by society, and are expressed in globally respected international and intergovernmental processes and guidelines for the promotion of sustainable forest management.

The Benchmark requirements are regularly revised through multi-stakeholder processes to take account of new scientific knowledge, societal changes, evolving expectations, and to incorporate the most up-to-date best practices worldwide.

Today, PEFC has recognised certification systems in about 30 countries. It is the certification system of choice for both large and small forest owners including family and community-owned forests. PEFC certified materials are accepted by numerous public and private procurement policies worldwide.



1. FOREST

PEFC Chain of Custody Certification

PEFC Chain of Custody certification guarantees that certified products originate from sustainably managed forests.

In order for products to carry the PEFC logo, the certified raw material must be tracked from the forest through the supply chain.

Wood-processing enterprises, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers get their product flow certified.



3. MANUFACTURING



5. RETAIL



4. WHOLESALE

2. WOOD-PROCESSING

nobilia: Building PEFC-Certified Kitchens in Germany

nobilia, Europe's second largest built-in kitchen manufacturer, takes its commitment to environmental sustainability seriously. Obtaining PEFC certification was a logical step for the company. nobilia has worked to rapidly integrate PEFC standards and requirements into the existing management systems of the company.

PEFC certification has yielded positive results for the company. nobilia is the first kitchen manufacturer in Germany to have achieved sustainability certification. Given rising levels of consumer awareness this has afforded the company a key competitive

advantage, not only in Germany, but also internationally where PEFC certification has become a selling point for the company.

PEFC certification also enables the company to offer clear and demonstrable evidence of the origin of the raw materials used in its products. This helps to strengthen the company's position in the market and offers nobilia and its trading partners a further competitive edge.

nobilia believes that its decision to select PEFC certification was the right one and its commitment to responsible sourcing has assisted the company in maintaining and further expanding its leading role in sustainability.



IN THE FOREFRONT OF RESPONSIBILITY

The furniture sector has positioned itself as a front runner in the demand for certified products and has demonstrated its commitment to responsible sourcing of timber. Accordingly, the demand for furniture, or furniture components manufactured from timber or wood-based products derived from sustainable sources, is increasing rapidly.



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With PEFC certification, those supplying government departments, large corporate companies, and universities can ensure that timber used in the manufacture of their products originates from sustainable sources, and that these credentials can be passed on by the implementation of their own chain of custody systems.

In its purchasing policy, the furniture industry can demand PEFC-certified products and thus increase the number of sustainable products on the market. This gives a clear market signal that the industry accepts only timber from legal and sustainably managed sources.

Together with the construction, publishing and packaging industries, the furniture industry can take advantage of the global PEFC certification system and demonstrate its commitment to the principles of sustainability. The variety of products from PEFC sources is enormous. In addition to wood furniture, the PEFC brand is nationally and internationally visible on a wide variety of forest-based products, including publications and magazines; windows and doors; playgrounds and toys; and product packaging.



WHY CHOOSE PEFC?

PEFC allows you to be confident about the raw material you source. It provides you and your customers assurances that the wood products purchased originate from legal and sustainable sources.

PEFC provides a practical demonstration of your company's corporate, environmental and social responsibility by forming the foundation of a credible procurement policy.

PEFC Chain of Custody is the first global certification system to include social requirements, safeguarding the basic rights of potentially millions of workers along the supply chain.

PEFC gives access to its trademarked logo for both on and off-product communications. Its distinctive and easily recognised logo transcends language barriers making it a truly global brand.



Leading German Furniture Manufacturer Decker Promotes Benefits of PEFC Certification

Since 1915, creativity, quality and craftsmanship have been the cornerstones of success for the wooden furniture manufacturer A. Decker GmbH - firm advocates of the benefits of PEFC certification.

Environmental considerations are a cornerstone of Decker's corporate philosophy. The company seeks to ensure that sustainability concerns are integrated throughout the entire value chain, from procurement to production to the final product.

By obtaining PEFC certification, Decker is showing the marketplace that in choosing PEFC-certified products, customers and consumers alike can make a valuable contribution to a healthy environment.

PEFC certification provides assurances to customers and consumers that its timber products originate from sustainable managed forests. It promotes Decker's tradition of placing strong emphasis on environmental protection, sustainability and credibility in all of its activities, and is a smart move in preparation for future market demands.

THE WORLD'S LARGEST FOREST CERTIFICATION SYSTEM



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Using certified wood is an ideal way for the furniture sector to demonstrate to its customers that manufacturers and retailers and the whole supply chain are committed to responsible forest management.

Ever increasing numbers of retailers and producers of wood furniture choose certified products from PEFC sources in around 30 countries over four continents. Together these sources cover over 230 million hectares of certified forests, making PEFC the world's largest forest certification system.

For further information on the PEFC programme, visit: www.pefc.org