



The mark of
responsible forestry

WHAT IS FSC®?

The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) is an international, non-governmental organisation dedicated to promoting responsible management of the world's forests.

OBJECTIVE OF FSC®:

The FSC's stated mission is to "promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests". To this end, the body has published a global strategy with five goals: Advancing globally responsible forest management.

FSC® CERTIFICATION PROCESS:

01

Application and contract

You can apply online for the FSC® Certification or complete the Application form and return it to GCL International Ltd. head office or one of our local office. We will use the application details to produce a quotation. Once the quotation has been accepted, we will ask you to return a signed copy of the quotation and our Scheme Rules.

02

Preparation for the Initial FSC® Certification Audit

The following documents are supplied prior to the initial certification:

1. Copies of latest FSC standards
2. Client Self-Assessment checklist for the standard. We will ask back the filled Self-Assessment checklist
3. Audit Plan
4. The applicant must submit the participating sites list and sub-contractor list before the audit if applicable
5. Trademark License agreement to be signed online

03

Initial certification audit:

1. Opening meeting
2. On-site Audit
3. Preparation of Audit Report (including Findings)
4. Closing meeting

Following the completion of the inspection or on-site audit, a report detailing the findings is provided. Subject to the closure of Major non-conformances or findings (if any), a Scope Certificate is issued. The certificate will be valid for 5 years with conditions as mentioned in the FSC standard.

04

Usage of FSC® label

The certified organizations can use both On-Product and Promotional FSC usage which are generated from the FSC logo generator. All the certified organizations need to submit their artwork (Promotional and On-Product) to GCL for each usage of FSC logo or FSC trademark for approval. Before each FSC logo or FSC trademark usage, approval for the usage is mandatory.



05

Surveillance or Re-certification audits

GCL International will communicate with the client to plan for the surveillance audits or Re-certification audits. For any changes in scope of the FSC certificate, the applicant organization has to inform GCL. Changes may be change in product, change in address, addition of sub-contractors, addition of sites etc.

GCL will conduct a scope enhancement audit for the scope changes and a report will be prepared for the same. Subject to the closure of any non-conformances or findings (if any), a Scope Certificate is issued with changes in scope.

In a certification cycle 4 surveillance audits will be conducted in during a certification cycle. A detailed audit report will be prepared by GCL.

Subject to the closure of any non-conformances or findings (if any), continuation of the FSC certificate will be recommended. Re-Certification audit will be conducted just before the expiry of the existing certificate. A detailed audit report will be prepared by GCL.

Subject to the closure of any non-conformances or findings (if any), A new scope certificate with validity of 5 years will be issued.

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