



FSC Chain of Custody Group Certification

The Forest Stewardship Council's (FSC) Group Chain of Custody certification offers an opportunity for small businesses to come together and seek certification under a single Group certificate. This is a cost effective way to earn the world's leading responsible forestry certification by reducing third party auditing costs. The FSC Chain of Custody certification is a powerful and credible way to show your customers that your products come from well-managed forests.

Benefits of FSC Certification

The FSC label provides a market-driven boost to small businesses that supply green wood and paper products. When you earn FSC chain of custody certification you gain the right to use the internationally recognized FSC name and logo on your products and in company communications. This helps your customers identify your products and assures them that your products demonstrate environmental performance across the supply chain.



FSC Certification helps your business:

- Demonstrate your commitment to responsible business practices
- Gain a competitive edge by differentiating your products
- Support responsible forestry and conservation
- Qualify your products for LEED certification (MR credit 7)

Benefits of Group Certification

For small businesses, achieving certification through a Group can dramatically reduce the cost of initial and annual certification audits while still gaining the full benefits of FSC chain of custody certification.

Group Administrators can provide expert guidance and engage in coordinated market development efforts.

It also becomes easier to arrange seminars for your Group members to learn how to meet certification requirements and market certified products.

for information about becoming certified
or locating certified products:

SCScertified.com/coc

tel +1.510.452.8000

forestry@scscertified.com



SCIENTIFIC CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS | *Setting the standard for sustainability™*

Providing global leadership in independent, third-party certification, auditing, testing and standards development for more than 25 years.



Who is eligible for Group Certification?

Any small business in the US with annual forest product sales under \$5,000,000, regardless of the number of employees, is eligible for Group Certification. Each collection of small businesses must appoint a Group Administrator who will oversee the certification activities of the Group.

How to get certified

1. Application: Complete and submit an application form. An SCS staff member will then provide you with the necessary documentation relevant to your particular type of operation(s) and prepare a detailed proposal.
2. Procedures & Desk Audit: Your Group Administrator and each participating company creates procedures that demonstrate how you track FSC products throughout operation process(es). SCS provides materials to help you better understand the FSC requirements of both the Group policy FSC-POL-40-002 and the applicable Chain of Custody standards.
3. On Site Audits: At the site visits, which are usually a sample of the total number of Group Members, an auditor will review your FSC procedures and documentation and will tour facilities where your FSC material is handled.
4. Report & Certification Decision: After the site visits, the auditor prepares a detailed report. The SCS certification committee reviews the auditor's report and makes a certification decision.
5. Certification Maintenance: Once certified, your company will be listed in the FSC Certificate database <http://info.fsc.org>. You'll also receive information about the use of FSC and SCS trademarks and gain access to our online logo-use approval system.

Why choose Scientific Certification Systems?

Scientific Certification Systems has been providing global leadership in third-party environmental and sustainability certification, auditing, testing and standards development for more than 25 years. We're a founding member of the FSC, the leading FSC Chain of Custody certification body in the United States and among the top FSC certifiers worldwide.

SCS is focused on providing excellent customer service around the globe and is able to contract and deploy auditors to the field rapidly. SCS provides certification support services including informational updates about FSC requirements, a superior logo approval system with quick turnaround times and other highly personal assistance from our staff.

Bundled Services

SCS offers complementary certifications that recognize accomplishments in legal verification, CARB, indoor air quality, energy, green building, corporate social responsibility, agricultural production, food processing and handling, fisheries, flowers and plants, consumer and business products and more.



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2000 Powell St., Suite 600, Emeryville, CA 94608 USA
tel +1.510.452.8000 fax +1.510.452.6882.
SCScertified.com