

















NFORMATION GUIDE













A GUDE TO RESPONSIBLE TIMBER PURCHASING

James Latham plc have been importing timber since 1757, so we like to think we know what we are talking about when it comes to wood. The Group now operates from 10 strategically placed sites across the UK.

This brochure has been designed to give our customers some valuable information regarding purchasing timber products from well managed forests. In today's modern world, there is an increasing emphasis on the impact on our environment in all that we do, and purchasing is no different.

As a natural, responsible resource, timber has huge environmental benefits when forests are well managed. In many forested areas of the world replanting far exceeds harvesting, and timber is seen as a crop which needs to be preserved and protected for future generations. But it is now recognised that responsible forestry must encompass more than this and involve protection of biodiversity, landscaping and watercourse protection and the social benefits that forests bring.



In this guide you will find some questions we are commonly asked, as well as the answers that we provide. Also included is a brief guide to some of the more common certification schemes in operation today, and sets out our timber purchasing policy.

James Latham is committed to sourcing, promoting and supplying timber from legal sources, and wherever possible providing timber which has been certified as responsibly managed. Although at the moment there is not enough certified timber to supply all the demands, every year there is more available, as increasing numbers of countries, Governments and forest owners all over the world recognise the need for legally and responsibly sourced wood.

James Latham encourages it's suppliers to work towards providing fully certified products. For further information on products available from James Latham or a copy of our corporate newsletter, The Natural Choice, please contact our marketing department on: Email: marketing@lathams.co.uk or Telephone: 0116 257 3415. Also available to download from our website www.lathamtimber.co.uk.



ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

James Latham plc performs a risk assessment on all suppliers and seeks the clearest practicable information regarding the sources of raw materials.

It recognises that the independent certification of the forests and the process chain is the best means of providing assurance that timber comes from legal and well-managed forests and will purchase certified material wherever possible.

This document sets out James Latham plc's policy and response to the European Union (EU) Timber Regulation. It aims to help customers meet the requirements of the Government's timber procurement policy and that of other environmentally concerned specifiers, and to list the materials that the company stocks that are third party certified.

The position of timber as the renewable construction material has been overshadowed by concerns about the responsibility of forestry operations. There has been particular concerns about the destruction of forest areas in the tropics for agricultural use, resulting in the loss of natural habitats and damage to local ecosystems. While the introduction of certification schemes, notably by the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), has offered consumers a means of ensuring that the material they are using comes from responsibly managed forests. These, for the most part, cover softwood and hardwood from temperate areas which have the infrastructure and governance to allow relatively easy adoption of the standards required. While there has recently been an increase in certification in tropical areas, only about 20% of productive forests are certified.

Customers should note that we can provide third party certified legal and third party certified responsible timber across most of our product range. However, it is essential that requirements are made clear at the time of order, so that chain of custody conditions can be met.

James Latham have been supporting and encouraging our trading partners in Africa and the Far East where governance, land ownership, and infrastructure issues make certification of responsible forestry so difficult.

A number of our suppliers can provide third party verification of legal logging and trade. FSC® and PEFC certified plywood is now available from Indonesia, Malaysia and China and also FSC® certified Sapele and other hardwood from Central West Africa.

James Latham were the first company to sign up to the Timber Trade Federation Responsible Purchasing Policy (RPP). The Company surveys supplying mills, assesses the risk factors surrounding supply and targets our suppliers and us to improve the profile of our purchasing. This process is subject to third party audit.









JAMES LATHAM PLC GUIDE TO ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION SCHEMES



Meeting government contract requirements

Timber and timber products must have been legally and sustainably produced. FLEGT-licensed timber is also permitted.

The policy is mandatory for all Central Government Departments, Executive Agencies and Non-Departmental Public Bodies. Local Authorities, other public bodies and the private sector are also encouraged to adopt responsible timber procurement policies. The contractor must, before delivering timber or timber products, obtain documentary evidence that the timber is both legal and from sustainably managed forests. The authority can demand to see this evidence for a period up to 6 years after delivery.

The policy is implemented through contract clauses and applies to all timber and wood derived products. In order to demonstrate that timber is from a legal and responsible source, it is necessary to prove:

- That the forest source was legally and sustainably managed. This includes social criteria relating to indigenous forest dwellers and forest workers.
 The government have produced definitions of what is meant by legal and responsible.
- The source of timber. As the policy applies to legality and responsibility in the forest it is necessary to be able to trace the source, of timber and products made of wood through various stages from the forest to the final product. This is usually done through an audited system of Chain of Custody.



The Government set up the Central Point of Expertise on Timber (CPET) to advise on the criteria for meeting the requirements for legal and responsible timber. Category A criteria involves the assessment of the various timber certification schemes and category B criteria sets out the evidence required for timber not covered by one of the approved certification schemes – namely that the source of the timber has been, or can be, independently verified by an appropriate body as meeting the defined standards for responsible forest management and there is a robust chain of custody.

CPET has judged that the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), meet the requirement for legal and responsible timber, so long as the minimum content as defined by the scheme is 70%.

Up to date information on this can be obtained from our website www.lathamtimber.co.uk, also from our sales staff or the CPET website www.cpet.org.uk. Other environmentally concerned specifiers are modelling their requirements on the government's timber procurement policy.

This currently covers all timber products entering Europe from Indonesia and agreements are in place with several other countries with tropical forests.





As the longest established independent timber business in the UK, we are proud to continue the tradition of holding comprehensive timber stocks of temperate and tropical timber.

These include European softwood, European hardwoods, plus hardwoods from West Africa, S.E. Asia and America. We hold the most comprehensive range of wood based panel products in the UK which includes hardwood and softwood plywood, MDF, particleboard, OSB and door blanks. All are purchased in accordance with our environmental purchasing policy. Wherever possible, we buy material certified to one of the recognised schemes. Each of our sites has developed stock profiles which meet its customers' needs.



Our suppliers have their own third party accreditation and unique chain of custody number. James Latham purchases FSC® and PEFC materials from its suppliers using a clearly defined, documented system, stating product description and our own chain of custody number.

Supplier paperwork is checked carefully and when goods are received, product is checked and stored separately or clearly marked. All FSC® and PEFC products have their own product code to ensure accurate order selection for onward delivery to our customers.

Our customers can only use or sell on products as third party certified material if they have their own third party accredited chain of custody.

Our range of FSC® and PEFC Timber and Panel Products is supplimented by products where legality has been audited such as OLB and VLC.

















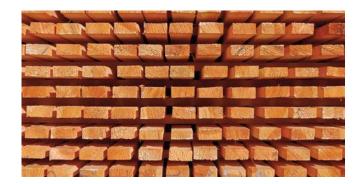
Chain of Custody (COC) is a process for tracking certified timber from the tree in the forest to the processing plant to our depot and to the final customer.

It is important that systems are in place at each stage to ensure identification of the material and third party auditing of the supply chain is required to ensure that there is not contamination at any stage.

For the process to work, each company in the supply chain must have their COC system audited against a set method of working and hold a current COC certificate. FSC® and PEFC require audits to their own criteria so we have COC certificates issued by auditors against both. We also offer COC for other schemes against BM TRADA Forest Products Standard.

It is essential that customers stipulate the certification requirement at time of order so that our invoices conform to our COC requirements.









CERTIFICATION SCHEMES

FSC®

The Forest Stewardship Council® was founded in 1993 as an independent, not-for-profit organisation by a coalition of NGO's, Forest Managers, Timber Traders, Retailers and Representatives of local peoples groups. The aim was to raise the standards of forest management and to create openness in the timber supply chain through an internationally recognised timber certification process.

By 2016 more than 191 million hectares of forest worldwide had been certified to FSC® standards in 82 countries.

FSC® timber is offered with 100% FSC® content, or 'mix', where the percentage content of FSC® material must be stated on contract documents and the balance of content must meet the 'controlled wood' standard. Most purchasing policies require a minimum FSC® content of 70%.

There are three methods of establishing claims for FSC® material through the supply chain:

- transfer claims which involves identifying and segregating FSC® material throughout the process
- percentage claims where the content of the final product claimed is the mix of certified FSC® material to the total
- credit claims where the same percentage of product can be classified as FSC® 100% as FSC® material went into the supply chain. In the case of percentage and credit claims, the balance of the material must be FSC® controlled wood.

FSC® controlled wood has been assessed as: legal, not harvested in violation of traditional or civil rights, not harvested in forests where high conservation values are threatened, not being converted for plantations, and not from forests where genetically modified trees are planted. Controlled wood can only be traded between companies that have been audited against the controlled wood standard and controlled wood claims cannot be made when selling a finished product.

James Latham has FSC® Chain of Custody Certification and the Certificate number for all sites is TT-COC-001089.

PEFC The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification is an independent non-profit, non-governmental organisation founded in 1999, which promotes responsibly managed forests through independent third-party certification.



PEFC is a global umbrella organisation for the assessment and mutual recognition of national forest certification schemes developed through a multi-stakeholder process. These national schemes were originally based on inter-governmental processes for the promotion of responsible forest management.

PEFC has in its membership 45 independent national forest certification systems of which 39 to date have been through the rigorous assessment process. These 39 schemes account for more than 300 million hectares of certified forest. PEFC content is a minimum of 70% with the balance from controlled sources.

As with FSC®, PEFC chain of custody claims can be made through physical separation, percentage based and volume credit methods. James Latham has PEFC Chain of Custody Certification and the number for all sites is BMT-PEFC-0007.

Forest Law Enforcement and Governance Trade (FLEGT). Indonesia is the first country to issue FLEGT licences in order to demonstrate the legality of its timber products exported to the EU.

The FLEGT licence automatically meets the requirements of the EUTR, which prohibits operators in the EU from placing illegally harvested timber and its products on the market. Importers of FLEGT-licenced timber products do not need to conduct or manage any risk assessment (due diligence system).

Indonesia's FLEGT-licencing system scheme is based on an obligatory Timber Legality Assurance Scheme called SVLK (Sistem Verifikasi Legalitas Kayu) which has been developed by various delegates and members of Indonesian Forestry Stakeholders. SVLK guarantees that all timber products harvested, imported, traded, processed, transported and exported comply with the national laws of economic, social and environmental aspects as identified by stakeholders from government, civil society and private sector. It is audited yearly by independent third-party Assessment Bodies and independently monitored through civil society.

Third Party Legally Verified

Third party legally verified schemes set out to meet the market requirement for independent evidence that timber and timber products have been legally harvested and traded. These schemes have been introduced in the tropics where there is a high risk of illegal logging. A number of forest certification bodies run legal verification schemes such as SGS, BUREAU VERITAS and the RAINFOREST ALLIANCE.

The schemes ensure that timber has been logged in accordance with the forest policy, cutting licenses, and laws of the country concerned and that taxes have been paid. VLO schemes offer checks against a narrow definition of legality, while VLC includes a wider definition which includes stakeholder consultation. Details of the criteria of the various schemes are published on the auditors' websites and they include Chain of Custody so that claims for legality can be demonstrated throughout the supply chain. Generally suppliers who adopt third party verification do this as a first step towards full certification of responsibility.



The EU Timber Regulation prohibits illegally harvested timber and timber products from being placed on the EU market.

This obligation is on the first placer, called in the regulation 'the operator', who, where appropriate, must keep details of the species and the concession or region of harvest. They have to carry out a risk-based due diligence process to prevent illegal timber getting into the supply chain.

Criteria to evaluate the risk of placing illegally harvested timber or timber products include level of compliance with national legislation, prevalence of illegal harvesting and complexity of the supply chain. The risk can be mitigated by the use of certification schemes such as FSC® and PEFC

and third party schemes to verify legal origin or legal compliance. Traders in timber or timber products are required to keep information for at least 5 years on from where they have purchased timber and to whom they have sold timber.

The REGULATORY DELIVERY, the competent authority, will carry out checks to verify that the regulation is complied with. Penalties include fines, seizure of the timber and immediate suspension of authorisation to trade.











Why has RPP been developed?

The RPP is a tool to assist members with the implementation of the Environmental Code of Practice in the TTF Code of Conduct which states that 'Members are committed to sourcing their timber and timber products from legal and well-managed forests' and to meet the requirements of the EU Timber Regulation.

Why has RPP been developed?

The RPP incorporates CITES and Responsible Forest Management criteria in a supplier questionnaire and then assesses suppliers in terms of their ability to deliver against these criteria. The result is a 'snapshot' of each supplier's environmental performance in the form of an estimate of the risk that the supplier may be offering illegal and irresponsible timber. The RPP also offers advice to suppliers on how they can improve their environmental performance and risk rating. The process is then independently audited to ensure that the RPP has credibility with customers and other stakeholders.

How does a company use the RPP?

The RPP has 3 key elements:

- **1.** Developing RPP Company Commitments. The TTF Member writes an Environment Policy with the emphasis on continual improvement.
- 2. Risk Assessing Suppliers. The TTF Member sends a questionnaire or form to its suppliers. The completed questionnaire and any supporting evidence are assessed against a set of standards that help member companies make an informed judgement and grade their suppliers' environmental performance as low, medium or high risk.
- **3.** Compile Annual Management Report. The TTF Member compiles an Annual Management Report, summarising supplier assessments and setting improvement targets for the next 12 months which is audited by a TTF-appointed independent auditor.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is FSC® and what does it stand for?

FSC® stands for the Forest Stewardship Council®. The timber has been certified as coming from forests that meet the FSC® principals and criteria and has been supplied through the FSC® Chain of Custody standard.

What is PEFC and what does it stand for?

PEFC stands for the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification. PEFC is a global umbrella organisation for the assessment and mutual recognition of national forest certification schemes. National schemes must meet the relevant criteria and timber must be processed through the PEFC Chain of Custody scheme.

Is FSC® or PEFC timber always from a responsible source?

Yes and is accepted as such by the UK and other governments.

How can I be sure the wood I receive is FSC[®] or PEFC certified?

A reputable supplier will be able to provide their FSC® or PEFC Chain of Custody certificate. FSC® or PEFC must be shown as such on delivery notes and invoices and the Chain of Custody number stated.

Why is certified wood more expensive?

Because a number of extra costs are involved in managing forests sustainably. This is particularly true in tropical countries where costs of meeting social and bio-diversity criteria can be high. The certification process also carries a cost.

What timber is classified as legal and responsible under the government's timber procurement policy?

FSC® and PEFC, FLEGT and CITES licenced.

What is a secondary species?

Tropical forests contain a large number of species and not all of them are commercially recognised. In order to best manage the forest and maximise the yield of timber on a responsible basis, it is necessary to fell a lesser-known species. Common sense suggests that there is a need to find a market for these secondary species. Some of the more well known secondary species are: Guariuba, Itauba, Jatoba, Marupa, Tiama, Tatajuba, Angelim Pedra, Movingui and Padauk.

So would these secondary species be FSC® then?

Those that we introduce to the market would be.

What if I just ignore it all, will it go away?

No! The environment is currently a high profile issue, so that responsible purchasing is becoming more and more important. Many clients are now requesting that timber used on their projects is from responsible sources.

Why does it matter whether the wood I buy is legally sourced/certified?

Looking after the environment is a very important social and political issue. We need to preserve and care for the forests of the world and only by sensible and sustained forestry and recognising the importance of legally sourced wood will we be able to ensure that forests are there for our children. The importance of forests is recognised for their role in absorbing CO2 and generating oxygen. The regeneration of the world's forests is a crucial part of the climate control to date.

Why not just stop cutting down the tropical forests?

Timber from responsibly managed forests provides jobs and income and places a value on standing forests. Often the alternative is their destruction and replanting with crops, plantations or grazing for cattle. The forest certification schemes look at more than just responsible production, taking into account the needs of the local people and bio-diversity. Forests are a natural process of trees growing old and their replacement by new growth.

Why should I buy certified timber?

By buying FSC® or PEFC you are taking a responsible attitude to protecting the environment. The wood that you are buying is legal, responsible and internationally recognised as being from a bona fide source. The FSC® and PEFC certification schemes are independently audited.

Can I sell FSC® or PEFC wood on to my customers?

Not unless you have the relevant Chain of Custody certification. Only companies with FSC®/PEFC Chain of Custody are able to sell on FSC®/PEFC certified wood. This is done to maintain the Chain of Custody.

Are there any alternatives to FSC® certification?

FSC® and PEFC are the schemes which have international recognition but there are other schemes in place.

Which is the best alternative to FSC® or PEFC?

The CPET process with category A and B criteria offer guidance on this.



I am doing a job for a government/public contract, do I need to supply legally sourced and responsible wood?

Yes and it will almost certainly have to be FSC® or PEFC certified. As a supplier to this sector you will need to have your own third party audited Chain of Custody process.

Why isn't all timber FSC® or PEFC certified?

Because FSC® and PEFC certified timber has to meet so many criteria to prove responsibility and legality as well as Chain of Custody, many saw mills cannot possibly meet the requirements. This is particularly true in countries where the pattern of land ownership is one of many small growers. However, the amount of FSC® and PEFC material coming onto the market increases year by year.

If I use some timber for a job and then in six months time I need an FSC® or PEFC certificate, that will be alright won't it?

No. FSC® or PEFC timber must be specified at the time of order, shown on delivery notes and invoices, you cannot request retrospective certification if you did not ask for the right material in the first place.

Why don't the countries producing the timber just start making it FSC®?

Obtaining certification to FSC® standards is a difficult process and can take many years to achieve. This is particularly the case where there are issues surrounding land ownership and where concession areas are small.











CERTHED TIMBER AND PANEL PRODUCTS





As an active supporter of the campaign to improve forest management, with growing public awareness of the environment and environmental issues and many customers specifically requesting certified products, we have made significant moves towards stocking a wider range of products that originate from identifiable forest units where responsible forestry is practiced.

Our suppliers have their own third party accreditation and unique chain of custody number. Materials are controlled from the forest, through production and into our stock. James Latham purchases FSC® and PEFC materials from its suppliers using a clearly defined, documented system,

stating product description and our own chain of custody number. Supplier paperwork is checked carefully and when goods are received, product is checked and stored separately or clearly marked. All FSC® and PEFC panel products have their own product code to ensure accurate order selection for onward delivery to our customers.

Our customers can only use or sell on products as third party certified material if they have their own third party accreditation and chain of custody.

Please contact our sales office to check which products are $FSC^{@}$ or PEFC certified.

Product availability: certified timber

Wood	Size
NORTH AMERICAN: Oak, Ash, Cherry, Maple, Tulipwood and Black Walnut.	25mm and up
AFRICAN: Sapele, Utile, Iroko, Movingui, Padouk, Wenge and Idigbo	25 – 100mm
SOUTH AMERICAN: Massaranduba decking Eucalyptus Grandis	21 x 145mm 25 – 75mm
FAR EASTERN: Balau decking Meranti	28 x 145mm 25 – 75mm
NEW ZEALAND: Accoya Modified Softwood	25 – 75mm
EUROPEAN HARDWOOD: Oak, Beech and Ash	25 – 100mm
NORTH AMERICAN SOFTWOOD: Cedar	22 – 100mm
EUROPEAN SOFTWOOD: Redwood and Whitewood Thermo-treated wood Engineered Redwood Larch	25 – 100mm 25 x 100mm TGV 25 x 100mm Shiplap and sawn 48 and 63mm 25mm
ENGINEERED HARDWOOD: Oak Eucalyptus Grandis Sapele	48 and 63mm 48 and 63mm 48 and 63mm
FLOORING	Oak 18 – 20mm



Product availability: certified panels and door blanks

Wood	Size
MELAMINE MDF:	Kronospan: 2620 x 2070 x 8/15/18/25mm and 2440 x 1220 x 18mm Egger: 2650 x 2070 x 18mm Finsa: 2440 and 3050 x 1220 x 12/15/18mm
MELAMINE FACED CHIPBOARD:	Kronospan: 2800 x 2070 x 15/18/25mm Egger: 2800 x 2070 x 8/15/18/25mm Finsa: 2440/2750 x 2050 x 15/18mm and 2440/3050 x 1220 x 12/15/18mm Xylocleaf 2800 x 2070 x 18mm
MDF:	Kronospan: Medite, Caberwood, Spanolux 2440 x 1220 up to 3050 x 1525, 3mm up to 45mm Finsa: 3660 x 1830 x 12/15/18/25mm
CHIPBOARD:	Flooring grade: $2400 \times 600 \times 18/22/38$ - Kronospan and Caberboard Standard grade: $2440/3050 \times 1220 \times 12/15/18/25$ Furniture grade: 2440×1220 up to $3660 \times 1830 \times 6$ up to $38mm$
OSB:	OSB / 3: 2400 x 1200 & 2440 x 1220 x 9/11/15/18mm, 2400 x 600 T&G 15/18mm - Smartply
VENEERED MDF:	2440/3050 x 1220 x 4mm up to 31mm
BIRCH PLYWOOD Latvian / Finnish / Russian / Polish / Estonian	2440 x 1220 x 4/30mm, 1220 x 2440 up to 1525 x 3660, 4mm up to 24mm 1525 x 1525, 4mm up to 24mm
HARDWOOD PLYWOOD: Malaysian / Chinese / Uruguayan / Paraguayan / Indonesian / Spanish	2440 x 1220 x 3.6 up to 25mm and 3050 x 1220/1525
MARINE PLYWOOD: Malaysian / Indonesian / Spanish	2440 x 1220 x 4/5.5/6/9/12/15/18/25mm
SOFTWOOD PLYWOOD : Brazilian / Chilean / Finnish / Uruguayan /	2440 x 1220 x 9/12/15/18/24mm 1220/1525 x 3050 x 12/15/18mm
DOORBLANKS:	2135 x 915 and 2440 x 1220 x 44/54mm Moralt: Flamebreak, Egger and Halspan. Other sizes and thicknesses also available
SOFTBOARD:	2440 x 1220 x 12mm
HARDBOARD:	2440 x 1220 x 3.2/4.8/6mm Standard, painted and oil tempered
HARDWOOD PANELS:	3050 x 650 and 4000 x 1220 x 26/42mm Beech and Oak

New stocklines are continually being added and the above profile is a guide only.

Please note that we can offer FSC® CW Egger, Kronospan and Abet Laminates ex-stock.







James Latham Distribution Sites

- 🚺 James Latham Dudley 🌑 🖜 T: 01384 234444 F: 01384 233121 E-mail: panels.dudley@lathams.co.uk timber.dudley@lathams.co.uk
- James Latham Fareham • T: 01329 854800 F: 01329 849585 E-mail: panels.fareham@lathams.co.uk timber.fareham@lathams.co.uk
- 🗿 James Latham Gateshead 🌑 🖜 T: 0191 469 4211 F: 0191 469 2615 E-mail: panels.gateshead@lathams.co.uk timber.gateshead@lathams.co.uk
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- ATP (Advanced Technical Panels) • T: 0113 387 0850 F: 0113 387 0855 E-mail: atp@lathams.co.uk
- James Latham Scotland • T: 01698 838777 F: 01698 831452 Email: scotland@lathams.co.uk
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- 3 James Latham Hemel Hempstead T: 01442 849000 F: 01442 239287 E-mail: panels.hemel@lathams.co.uk
- James Latham Thurrock T: 01708 869800 F: 01708 860900 E-mail: panels.thurrock@lathams.co.uk
- James Latham Purfleet T: 01708 864477 F: 01708 862727 E-mail: timber.purfleet@lathams.co.uk
- James Latham BDC Showroom Suite 301, Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, N1 0QH T: 020 7288 6417 F-mail: BDC@lathams.co.uk

Distribution Facilities



Port of Liverpool

Port of Grangemouth







Call **0116 257 3415** email marketing@lathams.co.uk or visit www.lathamtimber.co.uk









