Procuring Wood Sustainably

International Paper EMEA’s wood procurement policy explained
33% more new trees grow in Europe each year than are cut down.  
(Source: European Environmental Agency, State and Outlook 2005)

EU forest land has increased 30% over the last 50 years.  
(Source: UN FAO)

Only around 11% of the wood extracted from the world’s forests is used directly by the paper industry.  
(Source: FAO Statistics 2007)

International Paper EMEA sources its wood supplies solely from responsibly managed forests.

Deforestation around the world (notably in the tropics) is either to make way for local agriculture or to provide domestic fuel.  
(Source: replantingtherainforests.org, April 2009; FAO, Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010)
International Paper EMEA and sustainability

International Paper EMEA is committed to delivering the products its customers want while ensuring responsible stewardship of the natural resources it uses today and in the generations to come.

We take a sustainable approach to business that balances environmental, social and economic needs.

We believe this approach has served our company and society well in the past and that it will continue to do so in the future, which is why it is central to our business philosophy.

In practice this means that International Paper EMEA is committed to:

- ensuring that the natural resources which are its vital raw materials are managed in a sustainable and responsible manner on an ongoing basis
- ensuring that wherever and whenever appropriate it sources locally, thereby reducing the impact of raw material transportation on the environment while promoting economic development in local or neighboring communities
- reporting transparently on how it manages its environmental footprint in Europe which it aims to make as sustainable as possible
- supporting recycling of paper and packaging where it makes environmental and economic sense and is consistent with fitness for purpose of the product
- building sustainability thinking and action into its product and process development and innovation
- continuous improvement in regard to our environmental stewardship.
- training its people to think and act sustainably every day
- telling its own sustainability story to encourage others to take action to be more sustainable in their own sphere of influence

To International Paper EMEA, sustainability means that doing its business in a thoughtful and enlightened manner today and tomorrow, just as you’d expect it to do, because we only have one planet to live on.
International Paper EMEA
Wood Procurement Policy

Scope

International Paper EMEA has developed this wood procurement policy to apply to all suppliers of wood used for production of pulp, paper and board in its mills serving Europe, Middle East and Africa and Russia (including suppliers in Brazil). While in some contexts, we do not have direct control of the wood supply, we take all reasonable measures to obtain the optimum outcome and to influence positive change.

Management standards

In line with International Paper’s Global Policy on Certifications, we expect our wood suppliers and sub-suppliers to engage in forest certification and to comply with the general principles which International Paper follows in its management standards. International Paper EMEA uses, as appropriate, the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) programs, the Program for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), Quality Management Standard ISO 9001, and Environmental Management Standard ISO 14001.

Overall environmental and social responsibility

International Paper EMEA only purchases wood from legal sources. It does not purchase wood from forests where high conservation values are threatened by forest management activities. Neither does it purchase wood harvested in natural forests converted to plantations or non-forest use, unless a specific clearance order has been issued by government authorities. International Paper EMEA does not use wood from genetically modified trees for the manufacturing of its products. It does not purchase wood harvested with violation of traditional and civil rights stipulated in relevant local legislation or international best practice. Through its business practices, it seeks as far as possible to support and promote economic development in local or neighboring communities wherever it is located.
Origin of wood, harvesting, chain of custody and traceability

- **Our minimum:** International Paper EMEA complies fully with the local forest legislation in the countries where it operates and expects its suppliers to demonstrate that they do the same. Suppliers to International Paper EMEA are required to demonstrate that wood they offer for sale has been legally harvested and that they comply with the local forest legislation. To this end, suppliers must guarantee the authenticity, integrity and legality of the wood that is supplied to us by providing all necessary information to ensure the legal origin of the purchased wood and its traceability through the supply chain. They must declare that they comply with the relevant laws and regulations set by the UN’s Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

- **Our preferred requirement:** Suppliers should apply the highest standards possible wherever feasible and go beyond local legislation where this is appropriate and reasonable. Suppliers to International Paper EMEA should hold a valid chain of custody certificate, which should be third party audited and demonstrate unbroken chain of custody up to the source location.

- **What we want to achieve:** International Paper EMEA wishes to make sure that it respects the law at all times and that it goes beyond the requirements of the law where necessary to ensure that it uses only wood that originates from legally operated, sustainably managed forests. International Paper EMEA does not purchase illegally harvested wood and wishes to make sure that it can demonstrate this unequivocally at all times. We will inform the relevant authorities in the event that we are confronted with wood sources which we reasonably believe to have been illegally harvested.
Certified Forest Management

- **Our minimum:** Wood supplied to International Paper EMEA must originate from legally managed plantation or forest, certified according to one of the internationally recognized schemes wherever these are available or to other credible local certification programme. Where such certification has not yet been obtained or is not available, we will take all reasonable measures to encourage the forest owners/managers to demonstrate that their forest management practices are in line with the requirements of the internationally recognized schemes. We will encourage them to certify with one of these schemes at the earliest opportunity.

- **Our preferred requirement:** Suppliers to International Paper EMEA should ideally be certified to the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or Program for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) schemes.

- **What we want to achieve:** International Paper EMEA wishes to make sure that it uses only wood that issues from sustainably managed forests to ensure that the intrinsically renewable nature of its vital raw material – wood – is fully realized in practice. In so doing, we hope to benefit the environment, in general; the atmosphere, in particular; as well as local or neighboring communities.
Efficient Use of Local Resources

- **Our minimum:** Wood supplied to International Paper EMEA’s production processes should be cultivated and harvested in Europe and as close to the relevant paper production site as possible.

- **Our preferred requirement:** Wood supplied to International Paper EMEA should come from responsibly managed forests located on average less than 200 km from the facility in which the wood is to be used for paper-making.

- **What we want to achieve:** International Paper EMEA wants to ensure that it minimizes the transport impact on the environment of its wood procurement in Europe, notably transport emissions, and to promote the local or neighboring economies. To that end, it always sources as close as possible to its production facilities within the limitations of economic feasibility.
**FSC**
Forest Stewardship Council is an independent, international, not-for-profit, non-governmental organization founded in 1993 to support environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world’s forests. It is an association of members consisting of a diverse group of representatives from environmental and social groups, the timber trade and the forestry profession, indigenous people’s organizations, community forestry groups and forest product certification organizations from around the world. Membership is open to all who are involved in forestry or forest products and share its aims and objectives. The FSC provides independent third party certification of the conformity with specified standards and authorizes use of the FSC logo by certified organizations in the forest products sector.

**PEFC**
The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes is an independent, international, not-for-profit, non-governmental organization, founded in 1999 which promotes sustainably managed forests through independent third party certification of conformity with specified standards. The PEFC provides an assurance mechanism to purchasers of wood and paper products that they are promoting the sustainable management of forests. It authorizes use of the PEFC logo by certified organizations in the forest products sector.
International Paper

International Paper is a global forest products, paper and packaging company with primary markets and manufacturing operations in Europe, Russia, Asia, North Africa and, of course, North and Latin America.

International Paper has a long-standing policy of using no wood from endangered forests. The company supports mutual recognition of forest certification standards. We have encouraged the adoption of CERFLOR, the SFI standard and other systems recognized by the global Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) council. It also sources from many forests certified under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) scheme.

With 61,500 employees worldwide, the company has been No1 in the forest products sector eight times in nine years on Fortune’s magazine’s Most Admired Companies list.