

Timber and timber products

Includes any product that contains wood or wood fibre, such as floor joists, scaffolding, site hoardings, paper, presentation folders, notebooks, binders, file dividers, cardboard, office furniture, woody biomass, wood fuel and wood pellets. Does not include 'recycled' materials.

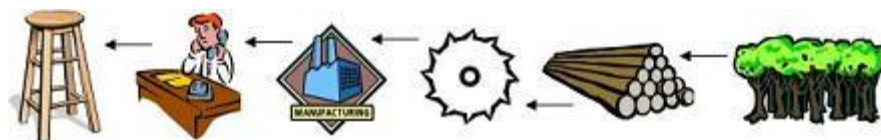
Legality and Sustainability

For definition, see Definition of Legal and Sustainable, 5th edition document

Chain of Custody: From the forest to the final product

To confirm that a wood-based product originated in a legally and sustainably managed forest, you must know which forest or forests it was sourced from. In most cases there are several stages between the original forest and the final product.

Figure 1. A simple supply chain, from forest to supplier.



For example, the wood in a piece of wooden furniture such as a stool starts out as a tree which is cut and sold to a sawmill. Here it is cut into planks and dried before being sold to a furniture factory. The stool is made in the factory and then sold to a furniture supplier who finally supplies the stool to the end user. This is the supply chain and is shown schematically in Figure 1.

In reality, the supply chain is likely to be much more complex because there are often several suppliers at each stage in the chain: every sawmill buys logs from several forests, each furniture factory buys wood from several sawmills and the supplier buys furniture from several factories. Thus, the furniture supplied by a single furniture supplier might contain wood from tens or even hundreds of different forests.

Recycled Products:

Recovered wood that previously had an end use as a standalone object or as part of a structure. The term "recycled" is used to cover the following categories:

1. Pre-consumer recycled wood and wood fibre or industrial by products (from furniture production for example). Sawmill co-products fall within the category of virgin timber and not recycled.
2. Post-consumer recycled wood and wood fibre (recycled paper for example) and drift wood. Contact Central Point of Expertise for Timber (CPET) if claims of drift wood are made.
3. Reclaimed timber which was abandoned or confiscated at least ten years previously. Evidence of the timber being harvested more than 10 years ago is required and contact CPET.

This is in line with the government's policy to [reduce and manage waste](#).
[link to and [WRAP's Reclaimed Building Products Guidance](#) [link to