

The Leader In Sustainable Exhibit Technology™

What is FSC?

What is the Forest Stewardship Council?

FSC is an independent, non-governmental, not for profit organization established to promote the responsible management of the world's forests. It provides standard setting, trademark assurance and *accreditation* services for companies and organizations interested in responsible forestry. Products carrying the FSC label are independently certified to assure consumers that they come from forests that are managed to meet the social, economic and ecological needs of present and future generations. FSC has offices in more than 45 countries.

What is the problem and what solutions does FSC offer?

Forests provide us with clean water, fresh air and they even help combat global warming. They also provide food, medicine and important natural resources, such as timber and paper. If managed responsibly, forests and plantations benefit forest people and the global community. However, in some countries as much as 80% of the timber is harvested illegally. This often involves violation of human rights and destruction of protected forests.

FSC *certification* offers forest managers rewards for managing their forests the FSC way – following the highest social and environmental *criteria* there are. In some instances rewards can be in the form of price premiums. But increasingly, FSC *certification* is rewarded with improved access to environmentally sensitive markets. Also, more and more governments and leading businesses specify FSC *certified* materials in their purchasing programs.

How does FSC *certification* make a difference in the world's forests?

All FSC *certified* forests must comply with FSC's rules about how the forests should and should not be managed. When a forester decides to become FSC certified, he or she will make changes to comply with the relevant FSC requirements and become FSC *certified*. This is how FSC has a direct and permanent positive impact on the world's forests and the people living from, in and around the forest.