



Texon Möckmühl FSC Certification Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is FSC?

Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC) certification ensures that products made from wood pulp come from responsibly managed forests that provide environmental, social and economic benefits.

FSC certification is the most rigorous international standard for responsible forestry. FSC certified forests conserve biological diversity, water resources and crucial ecosystems. The FSC standard also upholds worker rights and supports economic prosperity in surrounding communities.

The FSC Chain of Custody certification ensures that certified wood products are tracked from forest to final product.

What is “Chain of Custody” certification?

Between the forest and the final user, products may undergo many stages of processing, manufacturing and distribution. Each one of these links in the chain must receive FSC certification to deliver an FSC certified material to the final user.

FSC Chain-of-Custody certification traces the path of products from forests through the supply chain, verifying that FSC-certified material is identified or kept separated from non-certified material throughout the chain.

Which Texon facilities are FSC certified?

Texon Möckmühl has undergone an independent audit and confirmation that they meet all the applicable standards as an FSC Chain of Custody certified manufacturing facility.

Which Texon products will be sold as FSC certified?

Only Texon Vogue will be sold as an FSC certified product. Other Texon products may be added in the future.

Will all Texon Vogue products be sold as FSC certified?

YES, all Texon Vogue products manufactured by Texon Möckmühl will be invoiced as FSC certified from **January 1st 2018**. Orders should clearly request Texon Vogue with FSC certification to ensure invoices and shipping documents include the FSC statement and certificate number. *The customer will only need to specify Texon Vogue FSC on their first order for shipment after January 1, 2018. Antje Herzog (Texon Möckmühl) will then enter a note on that customers' requirements. This must be included on the FSC certification statement on their invoice and shipping documents. Once this is done, documents for future shipments to that customer will include the FSC certification. It is no different than specific packing or labelling instructions that are routinely handled by the Texon customer care team.*

Customers who do not require Texon Vogue to be FSC certified will *not have the FSC certification on their invoice and shipping documents*. The product itself is the same and these customers do not need to order any differently than they do today. However, the invoice and shipping documents will NOT include the FSC statement and certificate number.

Why are we asking customers to request Texon Vogue FSC?

1. It allows us to track and then evaluate the demand for Texon Vogue FSC – how many of our customers require FSC; do we gain incremental sales, etc.
2. It provides us with the opportunity to track or monitor which of our customers have obtained FSC certification or intending to become certified – for example, Texon Italy have already specified Texon Vogue FSC on their future orders and have advised that they are also going through the FSC certification process. If a customer does not intend to become FSC certified, particularly a distributor, then we will want to understand why they order Texon Vogue FSC. As explained in the FAQ, the Forestry Stewardship Council places a very high importance on the ‘chain of custody’ that traces the path of products from forests through the supply chain, verifying that FSC-certified material is identified or kept separated from non-certified material throughout the chain.

What is the manufacturing lead-time for Texon Vogue FSC?

The manufacturing lead-time for Texon Vogue FSC is the same as current manufacturing lead-time, i.e., averages two weeks from receipt of order (actual time to shipment may vary due to receipt of payment)

Do Texon distributors need to become FSC certified to sell Texon Vogue as FSC certified?

YES, only Texon Möckmühl can invoice Texon Vogue FSC. Any other Texon company or 3rd party distributor that buys and resells Texon Vogue FSC would need to obtain FSC certification to sell Texon Vogue FSC.

Any company in the supply chain, including harvesters, processors, manufacturers, distributors, printers, retailers or anyone that is taking ownership of the forest product before the end user, needs to be FSC certified to be able to label or promote their products as FSC certified.

Do Texon sales offices (ex. Texon Dongguan) need to become FSC certified to sell Texon Vogue as FSC certified?

NO, all Texon sales managers and 3rd party agents can sell Texon Vogue FSC on behalf of Texon Möckmühl; however, if Texon Dongguan or any other Texon company invoices the customer, then that company must also become FSC certified to claim that Texon Vogue is FSC certified. The key point here is that **only** Texon Möckmühl is certified to invoice Texon Vogue as an FSC certified product.

How will Texon Vogue FSC products be identified?

From **January 1st 2018**, Texon Möckmühl invoices and shipping documents for Texon Vogue will state FSC certified and include Texon Möckmühl ‘s FSC certification number. A label is also planned to be applied to the outside of the pallet. A copy of Texon Möckmühl ‘s FSC certificate SCS-COC-005826 can be requested from Antje Herzog aherzog@texon.com or downloaded from myTexon.

After further review of the “chain of custody” language, we have decided to not place FSC labels on the pallets. We have no control around where those pallets are shipped after they are sold and therefore, cannot guarantee the chain of custody beyond our initial sale. It then becomes our customer’s responsibility as the next link in the chain of custody.

Is FSC Certification free?

NO, there is an annual certification audit, an annual FSC licensing fee, administrative costs, and FSC certified pulps are approximately 3-5% more expensive than pulps without FSC certification. Texon Möckmühl have invested in becoming an FSC certified Chain of Custody manufacturer to add value to and ultimately, to grow sales of Texon Vogue.

Where can I find additional information about FSC certification?

Visit these websites: www.fsc.org or <https://info.fsc.org/>