

Responsible Timber Sourcing

Network Rail's requirements to implement policy and contractual requirements

Background Information

Responsible Timber Sourcing Policy



RESPONSIBLE TIMBER SOURCING POLICY STATEMENT

Responsibly sourced timber reduces and mitigates global environmental and social challenges relating to pollution, vulnerable species, climate change and social conflicts. Network Rail is a major procurer of timber products and recognises the crucial role it has in encouraging the use of responsibly sourced timber across its supply chain.

Network Rail will only source virgin timber and timber-derived products from legal and sustainable sources which are credibly certified by a third party and hold full chain of custody. This requirement will apply to all timber products used by Network Rail, including temporary site works and products supplied by contractors. This will guarantee that the timber sourced comes from forests which meet essential principles:

- Comply with all relevant national and international legislation relating to the trade in forest products;
- Conserve biological diversity;
- Avoid the use of highly hazardous pesticides; and
- Are not in areas of armed conflict or civil unrest where there is a direct relationship between the forest products trade and the funding of such conflicts.

As a member of WWF's Global Forest and Trade Network, Network Rail will follow the recommendation to prefer timber products certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC); unless it contradicts other Network Rail's sustainability objectives like minimizing transport emissions and favouring local sourcing.

Network Rail will do the following:

- Communicate clearly the requirements to all the supply chain as part of its procurement process and contracts;
- Work closely with its supply chain and provide adequate training;
- Devise adequate monitoring and audit mechanisms to demonstrate compliance; and
- Report on its performance and review its progress on an annual basis to ensure continuous improvement.



Gareth Llewellyn, Safety and Sustainable Development Director
Network Rail, January 2014

**Policy approved in June 2013 by
Network Rail S&SD Executive
Committee**

What does it say?

NR will only source legal and sustainable timber products which are credibly certified by a 3rd party and hold full chain of custody.

→ 100% FSC certified timber; PEFC is allowed under circumstances

Requirements in a nutshell

1. Source credibly certified timber (as per Contract Requirements Environment NR/L2/ENV/015)
2. Agree in writing with Network Rail via the justification report process if credibly certified timber cannot be procured. (by exception)
3. Report timber consumption and certification status via On Trac on a periodic basis
4. Assure data reported are robust
5. Assign responsibility to manage this issue on site and train the relevant people

Your role

At design stage

Take into consideration the sustainability credentials of the timber species selected for the design while balancing the technical requirements:

- ▶ Ensure the species selected can be readily sourced as FSC or PEFC
- ▶ Verify the product specified does not potentially contain “hidden timber”
- ▶ Prefer European timber species to minimise transport emissions

At procurement stage - requirements

- ▶ Request subcontractors - as part of the tender process - to provide a list of timber products they intend to use and corresponding suppliers' certificates
- ▶ Check information provided is accurate:
 - Check validity and authenticity of certificate
 - [FSC Certificate Database](#)
 - [PEFC Information Register](#)
 - Name and location of the facility
 - Scope of the certification
- ▶ Ensure that subcontractors explicitly request FSC (or PEFC) on the purchase order
- ▶ Ensure any off-site manufacturer is adequately certified to maintain chain of custody
- ▶ Get justification report to be approved by Network Rail if non-compliant timber is to be sourced

At delivery stage – requirements

- ▶ Check timber is clearly labelled as FSC (or PEFC)
- ▶ Verify that delivery notes meet the FSC (or PEFC) format requirements: i.e.
 - Supplier details with reference to its certification number/code (e.g. TT-COC-XXXX; BMT-PEFC-XXXX)
 - Site delivery address clearly identifying a Network Rail project
 - Detailed description of the item delivered and corresponding compliant FSC or PEFC claim
- ▶ Report timber consumption on a periodic basis
- ▶ Maintain a file of delivery notes readily available for inspection/audit
- ▶ Assign responsibilities on site to champion these requirements
- ▶ Train people receiving deliveries on the requirements

Monitoring

On a periodic basis, the following data will be reported via the On Trac system :

Contractor	Date	Timber Supplier	Delivery note reference	Product Description	Product group	Species	Country of origin	Volume (m ³)	Certification (i.e. FSC or PEFC)	Certification Number /Code
e.g. Balfour Beatty	09.10.13	Arnold Laver	2007471	18mm plywood	Sawnwood (soft)	Maritime Pine	France	13	PEFC	BMT-PEFC-0112
e.g. Balfour Beatty	09.10.13	M H Southern	356785	Track timber	Sleepers (general)	Ekki	Gabon	11.6	FSC	TT-COC-001673
e.g. Balfour Beatty	09.10.13		-	Scaffold boards	Sawnwood (soft)	Unknown	Unknown	-	Reclaimed	n/a



Thank you