

# Sustainable Wood Fibre Sourcing Policy

## Officeworks' commitment to zero deforestation

Officeworks is committed to putting people and planet at the heart of everything it does. This includes sourcing wood fibre<sup>1</sup> products, from sustainable and responsible sources. Officeworks recognises that deforestation, which is defined as conversion (whether legal or illegal) of natural forests to agriculture, tree plantations, livestock production, or other land uses, as well as severe or sustained degradation is a critical issue, it must play a leading role in addressing.

Officeworks is committed to protecting forests and does this through complying with relevant laws, minimising negative environmental impacts, maintaining high conservation values, respecting the rights of workers and Indigenous people, maintaining positive community relations, protecting workers health and safety, and implementing ecologically and socially appropriate forest management and restoration techniques.

In 2016 a long-term target was established that all paper products must be Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified or made from 100 per cent recycled content by December 2020<sup>2</sup>. Officeworks' current target is to have zero-deforestation in its supply chain by 2025.

## Officeworks' wood fibre target

To align with its zero-deforestation goal, Officeworks' target is for all wood fibre products it sells to meet the following criteria by December 2025:

- Virgin fibre to be independently certified to credible, international standards of responsible forest management (FSC, preferably 100% not Mix);
- Virgin fibre to be independently shown to provide a solution to global environmental challenges, with supporting evidence that it has been legally and sustainably harvested (i.e. bamboo, rattan, cork); or
- Non-virgin material to be 100% recycled.

If products supplied to Officeworks are not made in line with the above criteria, the supplier must provide additional assurance that the wood fibre sourced is deforestation free. This can include any additional due diligence or responsible forestry initiatives the supplier conducts throughout their supply chain that demonstrates the supply chain is free from deforestation.

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<sup>1</sup> Wood fibre relates to any fibre obtained from the trunk or branches of a tree or shrub.

<sup>2</sup> Note there are some national brand suppliers who have undergone an independent review that satisfy Officeworks that they meet similar stringent forestry standards.



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## Officeworks' approach

Officeworks has a zero-tolerance to illegally logged timber in its supply chain and is committed to supply chain transparency to measure progress against its zero-deforestation goal and inform sourcing decisions. Officeworks traces its supply chains to the point of origin for its most material deforestation risk commodity being wood fibre.

### Monitoring compliance

To monitor compliance, Officeworks requires all suppliers of wood fibre products to disclose detailed information, including chain of custody information, timber species, forest type, conversion date and country and region of harvest. Products that are not deemed low risk are excluded from Officeworks' range. Suppliers are required to ensure all relevant data is valid and properly maintained, and suppliers must notify Officeworks immediately if a forest source changes.

Officeworks does not range products that do not meet the requirements set out in this policy.

### Partnerships

Officeworks has a partnership with FSC and is a signatory to the Vancouver Declaration, which is an international declaration to work towards more sustainable sourcing of forest products. It encourages its suppliers to become a signatory. This policy aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of Life on Land (SDG 15), by protecting forests, strengthening natural resource management and increasing land productivity.

Officeworks will continue to explore the use of emerging technologies that support the requirements of this policy, which include wood fibre testing, satellite mapping and blockchain.

Officeworks goes beyond zero deforestation in its supply chains, to having a positive impact through the Restoring Australia initiative.

In partnership with Greening Australia, Officeworks is restoring woodland ecosystems and improving habitat for threatened species whilst supporting rural communities.

Since 2016 Officeworks has planted two trees for every one used, based on the weight of paper products sold. This results in more than 200,000 native trees being planted across Australia each year, with two million trees expected to be planted by 2025.

### Reporting

To aid in public reporting of progress towards its zero deforestation goals outlined in its audited [People and Planet Positive Report](#), Officeworks monitors the volume of wood fibre from each country in its supply chain and the direct and indirect suppliers of wood fibre.

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