



Fiber Testing of Co-Products - Guidance

FSC recognizes the difficulties in controlling co-products due to the nature of their production processes. In order to facilitate company risk assessments of purchases of co-products (until phased-out), companies applying ADVICE-40-005-20 “Sourcing of co-products under the EU Timber Regulation” are advised to proceed as follows:

Confirmation of participation

1. Certificate Holders (CHs) inform their Certification Body (CB) in writing about their agreement to participate in the FSC Fiber Testing program, using the form provided in Annex 1 of this document. The CB notifies the FSC Supply Chain Integrity Manager: fiber-testing@fsc.org about CH’s participation by forwarding the signed form (digital and/or printed version).
→ The FSC Supply Chain Integrity Manager confirms the participation and informs the CH about the further process described below.

Instructions for submission of samples

2. The FSC Supply Chain Integrity Manager requests the CH to send a representative sample for each product group to the US Forest Products Lab and informs the relevant CB about this request.
3. If the sample is a fiber product, then the sample must be at least the size of an A5 sheet or more; 2-3 sheets are preferred. If it is a solid wood product or fibreboard, the sample must be the size of approximately 10 x 7 x 3 cm (a deck of cards or bigger) or bigger.
4. The CH fills in the form provided in Annex 2 of this document, and submits it directly to the Forest Products Lab **along with the sample** and in Cc to fiber-testing@fsc.org.

Results

5. Results will be recorded by the Supply Chain Integrity Manager in a central database managed by FSC International.
6. Results will be shared by the Supply Chain Integrity Manager with the CH and the CB.



Annex 1 FSC Template form to be used by the Certificate Holders/Applicants when applying FSC-ADV-40-005-20

Reference:

FSC-ADV-40-005-20 (FSC-DIR-40-005), clause number 6:

A company sourcing co-products and applying this advice must agree in writing to participate in the FSC fiber testing program (agreements shall be send to the FSC Quality Assurance Unit).

This form shall be filled in by the Organizations that would like to implement requirements of FSC-ADV-40-005-20 and submitted in PDF format to the responsible certification body. The certification body is responsible for submitting the document to FSC International and for keeping receipt of its sending. The document shall be sent by e-mail to fiber-testing@fsc.org.

Organization Name (as stated on the FSC certificate):	
Name and e-mail address of the FSC representative of the Organization:	
Address (Street number, postcode, city of the head office):	
CW code:	
List of Co-Products:	
Country/Countries of co-product origin:	
Species:	

Hereby I state that¹ is willing to participate in the FSC fiber testing of co-products by enabling sample selection by FSC from Organization's certified materials in the event of the Organization falls into the sampling process.

The Organization is aware that first fiber testing of samples taken by the FSC is free of charge. Next fiber testing is free of charge provided that the last testing results do not indicate contamination of unacceptable components. If unacceptable components are indicated in the samples taken from Organization's material, the Organization shall cover the costs of fiber testing respectively to the amount of the Organization's sample material.

The Organization will make all the fiber testing results received from the FSC available to the Certification Body during the evaluation.

.....
Place, date

.....
Signature²

¹ Organization name

² Signature of the FSC representative



Annex 2 Sample submission form

Provide **following information on each sample**³ to FSC and Forest Products Lab:

Manufacturer	
FSC License Number	
FSC COC Code	
SKU #	
FSC On Product Label Claim (if labeled)	
Species claim	
FSC Invoice Claim (e. g: FSC-Mix Credit, FSC-Mix x%, FSC-100%/Pure, FSC-Recycled credit, FSC-Recycled x%, FSC-Controlled Wood)	
Claimed Country of Origin (if claimed)	
Photo of the product (optional)	

Send the samples to:

**Forest Products Laboratory
Attn: Alex Wiedenhoef – FSC Project
One Gifford Pinchot Drive
Madison WI 53726-2398
USA**

³ Fiber product samples must be at least the **size of an A5 sheet** or more; 2-3 sheets are preferred. Solid wood or fiberboard samples must be at least the **size of approximately 10 x 7 x 3 cm** (a deck of cards) or bigger.

**Annex 3 Graphical presentation of
fiber testing of Co-Products flowchart**

When CH/CB Is asked to send a representative sample for any/each product group to the US Forest Products Lab. If a fiber product, then the sample must be at least the size of an A5 sheet or more. 2-3 sheets are preferred. If a solid wood product or fibreboard, the sample must be the size of a deck of cards or bigger.

