

## FSC Advice

<b>ADVICE-40-004-xx [TBD]</b>	<b>Reduced labelling threshold of 50% for chip and fibre based products under a percentage or transfer system</b>
Normative reference	FSC-STD-40-004 V2-0, Clauses 11.2.1a and 11.2.2
Effective date	[as of publication] until 31 December 2015.
Terms & definitions	The definitions for key terms provided in “FSC-STD-40-004 Version 2: FSC Standard for Chain of Custody Certification” apply.
Background	<p>When the new Chain of Custody standard “FSC-STD-40-004 (Version 2): FSC Standard for Chain of Custody Certification” was approved in November 2007 the following previously established exemption was maintained by means of an Advice Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A labelling threshold of 50% for chip and fibre based products under a percentage (or transfer) system.</li> </ul> <p><b>Timelines</b></p> <p>31-DEC-2009: Original expiry date of exemption  31-DEC-2010: Extended expiry date following a decision by the FSC Board of Directors to conduct a policy and market impact analyses and to develop a phase-out mechanism  07-APR-2010: FSC Board of Directors approved a restricted extension of the exemption based on a grandfather clause, i.e. limiting its application to those products that will have been produced under the exemption by the time of the extended expiry date.</p> <p>NOTE: The exemption detailed in this document is specifically related to the eligibility for labelling FSC products and not to the eligibility for producing or selling with FSC claims.</p>
Advice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Certificate holders may request an authorization to continue labelling chip and fibre products with a reduced labelling threshold of 50% from their certification body.</li> <li>2. Authorization may only be granted for those chip and fibre products that are clearly identifiable by unique product identifiers (e.g. product article numbers, Stock Keeping Units SKUs) and have been documented as being commercially produced with a labelling threshold &lt; 70% as part of an FSC Mixed product group before 01 January 2011.</li> <li>3. Certification bodies shall maintain a list of products that have been authorized for being labelled with a threshold of 50% as part of their client files. No products can be added to this list after 31 December 2010.</li> <li>4. Similar products produced with different labelling thresholds shall not be in the same product group. Products approved by the certification body that only undergo minor changes (e.g. changes in the color, size) are not considered new products as long as the composition of forest-based components is not altered.</li> </ol>

	5. All chip and fibre products registered by certification bodies according to this advice shall be in compliance with a labelling threshold of 70% from 01 of January 2016.
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