

**AUSTRALIAN FORESTRY
STANDARD LIMITED**

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Australian paper expands the availability of certified paper products

Australian Paper Pty Ltd has announced that their mainland manufacturing facilities in New South Wales and Victoria have been certified for chain of custody of wood-based products under the Australian Forest Certification Scheme (AFCS) to join their Tasmanian facilities.

The wood-based products, which are now processed and manufactured in Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales, are sourced from forest managers in those States who have been certified to AS 4708 *The Australian Forestry Standard* – the only national Australian Standard® for sustainable forest management for native forests and plantations.

Geoff Gorrie, Chair of Australian Forestry Standard Limited which is the custodian of the Australian Forest Certification Scheme, said “On behalf of Australian Forestry Standard Limited, I would like to welcome Australian Paper Pty Ltd’s expanded certification of its mainland manufacturing facilities to the “certification family” under the Australian Forest Certification Scheme.

“Many companies in the timber and wood-based supply chain are adopting the standard for chain of custody certification because they believe that it will add to the marketability of their sustainable and renewable products and improve the bottom line. I have been impressed with the interest in and uptake of chain of custody certification. We expect that over the next 12 months to have many new certifications,” he said.

Australian Paper Pty Ltd have had their raw material procurement, the manufacturing processes and the company’s quality and management systems audited against AS 4707—2006 *Chain of custody for certified wood and forest products* by an independent, third-party, accredited certification body in order to receive the certificate under this Australian Standard®.

By achieving chain of custody certification under the Australian Forest Certification Scheme, Australian Paper Pty Ltd can now market their products with the use of the PEFC logo based on the Australian Forest Certification Scheme’s endorsement under the PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes) which provides immediate recognition in many global markets.

In conclusion, Mr Gorrie said “Australian Forestry Standard Limited is delighted to see the paper sector embracing independent, third-party certification under the PEFC/AFCS banner in Australia. We believe that it will lead to a much greater awareness of forest certification and sustainable forest management in the general community.” ENDS

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