



Home Retail Group plc
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GFTN-UK FOREST PRODUCT REPORTING SUMMARY FOR 2010

As a member of WWF's Global Forest and Trade Network in the UK since 2009, Argos is committed to progressively sourcing forest products from well managed sources. To monitor our progress, we collect as much information on our supply chain sources as possible, and categorise this to enable us to identify where any risks of poor sourcing may lie, and to eliminate them systematically from our supply chain into the UK market.

The new EU Regulation to limit the trade in illegal timber, which comes into full effect on 3rd March 2013 provides a baseline of legality as a minimum for forest goods entering the European market and reaching consumers. Our business wants to make sure that we are playing our part in reducing the UK footprint on global forest resources, and to source sustainably.

To highlight the change we have achieved so far, to draw attention to the challenges that remain in order to meet the EU regulation, and to exceed the requirements of the regulation by sourcing sustainably and identify our priorities in doing so, we are publishing the status of our supply chain for forest goods as we have established it so far, according to the WWF Global Forest and Trade Network categorisation of forest goods.

We hope our decision to be transparent about our performance on forest sourcing will prompt others in the sector to do the same, and initiate discussion about how business can overcome the remaining challenges in partnership with other stakeholders, including government.

We encourage all forest certification systems to continuously improve their performance in delivering responsible forest management. At present, WWF and GFTN participants believe FSC represents the gold standard and a credible benchmark for other forest certification schemes to match, and it remains our preference to increasingly source from credibly certified forests or verified recycled sources.

Our status for the forest products reported for the 2010 calendar year is as follows:

- 0.3% No information on origin
- 12.6% Known origin but no legality verification possible
- 62.6%* Legal origin confirmed (including e.g. PEFC purchased with Chain of Custody)
- % In the process of becoming credibly certified
- 24.5% Credibly Certified (e.g. FSC purchased with Chain of Custody)

- % Pre-consumer Recycled
- % Post-consumer Recycled

Note* - of the 62.6% which is Legal origin confirmed, 15.5% is from PEFC Certified sources and 47.1% from documentary evidence

For a copy of our timber policy please go to: [Timber Policy](#)

Scope of reporting

- All own or store brand forest products for resale, and those for internal use

Challenges

1	Avoiding products potentially sourced from forests involved in controversial activities, or products using potentially threatened timber species; where there is insufficient information
2	Gaining certification in specific problematic and high risk engineered wood types when used in manufactured product, particularly plywood, which often contains tropical hardwood
3	Achieving compliance in our highest volume lines such as interior furniture, which often contain several types of engineered wood and are largely sourced from complex supply chains in Asia

Priorities

1	Products which are potentially sourced from forests which do not comply with the minimum requirements of our Policy, or contain timber species which are potentially threatened.
2	Products that contain plywood, particularly those sourced from Asia
3	Products that represent the largest volumes of timber, particularly those with complex supply chains such as interior furniture