



Supplier Sustainability Requirements - Paper-Based Packaging

As part of our [Sustainable in a Generation Plan](#), Mars is committed to buying paper-based materials that are either recycled or certified. [Click here for more information.](#)

This document outlines how this commitment of Mars will impact your obligations under the packaging supply agreement(s) you have entered into with any company that is a part of the Mars Group.

Supplier Requirements Summary

- **Transparency** – Full collaboration with annual traceability data request.
- **Recycled Fiber** – Declare content sold
- **Certified Virgin Fiber** – Certification of all virgin fiber content.

Transparency:

As the foundation of our sustainability commitment, sources of virgin wood fiber should be known by you as a supplier and compliant with all applicable legal requirements.

All suppliers shall, upon request by their Mars contracting partner, fully collaborate in the completion of the annual traceability data request, which aims to map all virgin fiber and commercial partners back to at least country of harvest.

The annual traceability data request is sent by Mars Commercial representatives, in the form of a Microsoft Excel template or via an online service provider. The request will be seeking volumes and origin information for the current year.

All data shared by you will be treated with due confidentiality.

Recycled Fiber:

Declare annual average % of recycled fiber sold to Mars, as part of annual traceability request.

Certified Virgin Fiber:

Products that contain over 3% average virgin fiber must be sold to your Mars contracting party with a valid certification claim.

As a pre-requisite, all suppliers selling paper-based materials that contain virgin fiber, must have the **adequate FSC, PEFC or SFI Chain of Custody (CoC) certification** in place for all sites supplying Mars.

Please see below for explanation on **valid certification claims** and corresponding **adequate CoC certification**.

Depending on the origin (country of harvest) of the virgin fiber, Mars will purchase certified materials using either the FSC ([Forest Stewardship Council](#)) certification scheme or the PEFC ([Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification](#)) umbrella certification scheme (including its endorsed national systems, such as SFI & ATFS).

FSC is the preferred certification scheme.

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However, PEFC certification and its endorsed national systems are an option, if all the supplied virgin fiber is sourced from the following fiber countries of harvest only:

Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States.

If any fiber originates from any other country of harvest, then the product must be sold with a FSC claim.

To maximize availability, we are seeking to purchase packaging with the following valid product certification claims:

FSC – FSC Mix or FSC 100%

PEFC – PEFC X% - at least 70%

SFI – SFI CoC Credit or Percentage System - at least 70%

Suppliers must adhere to relevant Chain of Custody rules and include the certification claim information on transactional documentation.

Note – Mars currently has no requirement to print certification claim labels on products nor does it require fully recycled products to be certified.