

BRUSSELS
20th NOVEMBER, 2012

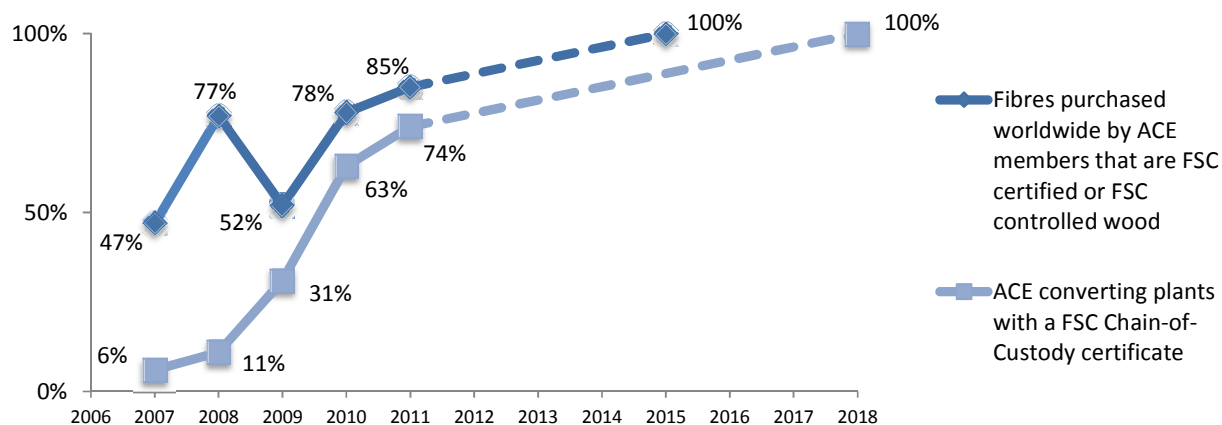
Verified traceability of beverage carton industry's globally sourced wood fibre reaches 85%

Significant progress continues to be made by ACE beverage carton manufacturers towards achieving full third party verified traceability of wood fibres used in cartons and of the factories that produce them worldwide.

In 2011, 85% of wood fibre purchased by ACE members Tetra Pak, Elopak and SIG Combibloc was either FSC certified fibre or originated from FSC controlled wood, compared to 78% in 2010. ACE members are on track to meet their commitment to source 100% wood fibre that is traceable to legal and acceptable sources by 2015. In addition, of the 54 converting plants owned by ACE beverage carton producers worldwide, 40 are FSC chain of custody certified. This represents an increase of 11% compared to 2010, while also having a greater number of plants than in previous years.

“We are delighted to see our members’ steady progress towards achieving the high targets set in 2007”, comments Katarina Molin, Director General of ACE. “Traceability is one of our industry’s most important strategic means to combat illegal logging (which is also an objective of the new European Union Timber Regulation) and equally important to avoid using socially and environmentally unacceptable sources of wood.

ACE Chain of Custody Commitment Status 2007- 2011



With beverage cartons made on average of 75% of this natural renewable resource, ACE members have a vested interest in the responsible management of forests, where the raw materials for their products are sourced.” These figures are arising from the Proforest fifth annual report on the Chain of Custody commitment (CoC) made by the three companies in 2007. Proforest is an independent verifier of natural resource management.

ACE expects that the percentage of CoC certified plants will further increase in 2012. One of the ACE converting members has already fully met the ACE commitments for both CoC certification of converting plants and sustainable sourcing of wood fibres.

Please find the fifth annual Proforest report at www.beveragecarton.eu

Note to Editors

About the commitment

The commitment of ACE members is two-fold and global. First, the three beverage carton manufacturers undertake by 2015 to reach 100% wood fibre that is traceable to legal and acceptable sources, using processes that have been independently verified. The scope includes all wood fibres used in mills producing paperboard for the three companies. Second they commit to secure by 2018 chain of custody certification for all their carton manufacturing plants. Within the European Union, 100% of the wood used for the production of beverage cartons already comes from paper mills that have an FSC-certified Chain of Custody in place.

About ACE

ACE, the Alliance for Beverage Cartons and the Environment, provides a European platform for beverage carton manufacturers and their paperboard suppliers to benchmark and profile cartons as renewable, recyclable and low carbon packaging solutions. Engaging with stakeholders and partners seeking high environmental stewardship, it contributes expertise to EU policy, legislation and standard-setting.

ACE members include beverage carton producers Elopak, SIG Combibloc and Tetra Pak; they develop, manufacture and market systems for the packaging and distribution of food, and produce packaging material at 22 plants in Europe. ACE also includes Stora Enso and Korsnäs, the leading European paperboard suppliers for the beverage carton industry. Worldwide altogether, these five companies employ approximately 30,000 people in their beverage carton businesses.

For further information please visit the ACE website or contact:

ALBANE SIRAMY • ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS MANAGER
TEL +32 (0)2 504 07 17 • albane.siramy@beveragecarton.eu

ANNETTE MEYER • COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER
TEL +32 (0)2 504 07 12 • annette.meyer@beveragecarton.eu