

ADVICE-20-011-22 Verification audits for material sold but not dispatched prior to suspension

Normative reference	FSC-STD-20-011 V4-2, Clause 3.7 c) FSC-STD-20-011 V4-2, Section E, 'Scope of a chain of custody certificate'
Scope	This advice note applies to all certification bodies accredited for FM/CoC or CoC certification in Russia.
Approval	FSC Director General, 18 March 2022
Effective date	18 March 2022
Background	<p>In general, products which have not yet left an organization's chain of custody system at the time the certificate is invalidated have lost their certified status.</p> <p>This advice note has been issued to account for the extraordinary circumstances that requires the suspension of all FM/CoC and CoC certificates in Russia due to uncontrollable and forest sector wide risks as identified by the revised National Risk Assessment for Russia (FSC-NRA-RU V3-0) and as regulated via Advice Note FSC-ADV-20-001-12.</p> <p>It provides for the option of certificate holders prior to their suspension to undergo an extraordinary audit by which the certified and controlled product stock for delivery and related sales invoices can be inventoried. This will allow CoC certified buyers outside Russia, upon issuance of relevant verification statements by the certification body, to use relevant material as certified or controlled input in case that the dispatch of relevant invoiced stock is not possible before the suspension date.</p>
ADVICE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Upon request of the organization, the certification body may conduct an audit prior to the organization's suspension to verify the existence of certified and controlled product stock which has been sold (invoiced) with FSC claims and which will not undergo any further transformation by the organization prior to its intended delivery. 2. If the certification body can verify that relevant invoiced material is held in stock for delivery and that the total amount of invoiced material does not exceed the total stock held for delivery, then the certification body may issue a confirmation statement to the receiving organization that the material has been duly produced prior to the time of suspension and can be considered / used as eligible input according to the invoice claim despite its dispatch only after the suspension date of the supplying organization's certificate.