

OFFSET ALPINE PRINTING ACHIEVES CHAIN OF CUSTODY CERTIFICATION

Offset Alpine Printing has achieved two more environmental accreditations over and above their ISO 14001 environmental certification.

The Forest Stewardship Council and the Programme for the Endorsement of the Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC) each provide a Chain of Custody certification scheme with the same goal – to achieve responsible forest management.

Chain of Custody refers to the path taken by raw materials from the forest to the consumer, including all successive stages of processing, transformation, manufacturing and distribution.

Offset Alpine Printing was granted Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Chain of Custody Certification on the 4th June 2007.

The FSC is an international not-for-profit membership-based organization that brings people together to find solutions to the problems created by bad forestry practices and to reward good forest management.

Through consultative processes, it sets international standards for responsible forest management.

It accredits independent third party organizations who can certify forest managers and forest product producers to FSC standards.

Its trademark provides international recognition to organizations who support the growth of responsible forest management.

The main objective of FSC chain of custody certification is to ensure that FSC certified material is tracked through the supply chain between operations and production processes within operations.

Operations that have been independently verified for FSC chain of custody certification are eligible to label their products with the FSC logo.

Offset Alpine Printing achieved a second Chain of Custody environmental accreditation on the 10th July 2007, passing an audit that verified



compliance with the requirements of the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC) Council for Chain of Custody certification.

Only FSC Chain of Custody certified operations are allowed to label products with the FSC trademarks.

The PEFC is committed to promoting sustainable forest management through independent third party forest certification.

The PEFC provides an assurance mechanism to purchasers of wood and paper products that they are promoting the sustainable management of forests.

The Chain of Custody cannot be broken at any stage. To be able to place the certification logo on a magazine that was printed using FSC or PEFC certified paper, all businesses along the chain such as the wood/pulp supplier, paper mill producing the paper, company supplying the paper and the printer (us), must be certified.

A certified Chain of Custody up to the final point of sale enables end customers to identify and choose products knowing there is a system in place to verify the sources of the wood used to manufacture the products.

From a customer perspective, the FSC and the PEFC labels represent a promise that is being made to them.

The certification logos thus provide the link between responsible production and consumption.

Chain of Custody and sustainable forest management are two important environmental concepts that were created to ensure that the growing demand on forest product is met via correct management of forests from environmental, economic and social points of view.

Offset Alpine is proud to have achieved both of these very significant environmental accreditations.

