

June 2020
(Updated April 2021)

**Enabling
Sustainability**

TRANSITION POLICY FOR PEFC STANDARD ST 2003:2020¹ - REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION BODIES OPERATING CERTIFICATION AGAINST THE PEFC INTERNATIONAL CHAIN OF CUSTODY STANDARD AND AS 4707.

BACKGROUND

PEFC Standard ST 2003 underpins the accreditation processes for Certification Bodies operating in Australia and New Zealand accredited by JAS-ANZ and other IAF members to provide certification against:

1. The PEFC International Chain of Custody Standard PEFC ST 2002 and/or;
2. Australian Standard AS 4707-Chain of Custody for Forest Products.

PEFC ST 2003 was revised in February 2020 and this policy provides guidance to accredited Certification Bodies, JAS-ANZ and other Accreditation Bodies on the implementation of PEFC ST 2003:2020 and migration from the 2012 version.

POLICY

1. Certification Bodies **cannot** offer certification to **PEFC ST 2002:2020**-Chain of Custody of Forest and Tree Based Products and **PEFC ST 2001:2020** Trademark Rules-Requirements, until such time as their Scope of Accreditation has been amended to include the 2020 versions of these Standards² and CB REQUIREMENTS TO **PEFC ST 2003:2020**.
2. For a Certification Body to be accredited, key personnel must undertake mandatory PEFC recognized Chain of Custody and Trademark training³ to the requirements of the 2020 version of PEFC ST 2001 and PEFC ST 2002.

NOTE 1: See references for Standards designations.

Note 2: Certificates issued to the 2020 versions of Standards are not recognized by PEFC until the CBs Scope of Accreditation has been extended to include these Standards.

Note 3: This training is under development and will be available through PEFC and/or Responsible Wood in the near future.

3. Following mandatory training (**See Clause 2**), Certification Bodies will need to contact their Accreditation Body to arrange an assessment to the requirements of **PEFC 2003:2020**. Once the Scope of Accreditation has been updated to include **PEFC ST 2001:2020** and **PEFC ST 2002:2020**, certificates may be issued to the 2020 CoC and Trademark Standards.
4. Audits including initial, recertification and surveillance, to the superseded **2013** version of **PEFC ST 2002** can be performed until **14th August 2022**.
5. From **15th August 2022**, audits must be to the current **2020** versions of **PEFC ST 2001**, **PEFC ST 2002**.
6. From **15th August 2022**, audits to AS4707 will only be recognized where the CB is accredited to **PEFC ST 2003:2020**.
7. All Certification Bodies providing PEFC endorsed Chain of Custody audits to either **PEFC ST 2002:2020** or **AS 4707**-Chain of Custody for Forest Products, must be working towards having their Scope of Accreditation updated to the 2020 Accreditation and Certification Standards by **14th August 2022**.
8. On **14th August 2023** certificates issued to **PEFC ST 2002:2013** (and **AS4707** for CBs accredited to **PEFC ST 2003:2012**) will no longer be recognized and recognition to audit PEFC and Responsible Wood CoC systems will lapse where accreditation is not in accordance with **PEFC ST 2003:2020**.
9. It is anticipated that further details for AS 4707 transition management will be published in the near future.

Please feel free to contact me at any time to discuss this transition policy at any time.

Yours faithfully,



Simon Dorries
Chief Executive Officer

References

Chain of Custody Standards

Australian Standard AS 4707:2013-Chain of Custody for Forest Products.

PEFC Standard PEFC 2002:2013-Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products-Requirements.

PEFC Standard PEFC ST 2002:2020-Chain of Custody of Forest and Tree Based Products.

Scheme Rules/ Accreditation Standards

PEFC Standard PEFC ST 2003:2012-Requirements for Certification Bodies Operating against the PEFC International Chain of Custody Standard.

PEFC Standard ST 2003:2020-Requirements for Certification Bodies Operating Certification against the PEFC International Chain of Custody Standard.

Trademark Standards

PEFC Standard PEFC 2001:2020-Trademark Rules-Requirements.