

## **TRANSITION POLICY FOR AUSTRALIAN STANDARD AS 4707:2021- CHAIN OF CUSTODY FOR FOREST AND TREE-BASED PRODUCTS**

### **BACKGROUND**

This policy defines the requirements for certified organisations and certification bodies to transition from the 2014 version to the 2021 version of AS 4707-Chain of Custody for Forest and Tree-Based Products.

AS 4707:2021 was published in September 2021 and supersedes AS 4707:2014. AS 4707:2021 is the Australian adoption of the PEFC International Chain of Custody Standard PEFC ST 2002:2020. This policy is aligned with PEFC International's policy for transitioning to PEFC ST 2002:2020.

### **POLICY**

#### **For Certificate Holders (Organisations certified to AS 4707:2014)**

Certification bodies may audit your CoC system against the requirements of AS 4707:2014 until **14<sup>th</sup> August 2022**. After this date, audits will be to AS 4707:2021.

Certified organisations should confirm their audit schedule for 2022 with their certification body and ensure their Chain of Custody Management system complies with AS 4707:2021 at the first audit after the **14<sup>th</sup> August 2022**.

Certificates issued to AS 4707:2014 will be recognised in the Responsible Wood and PEFC systems until **14<sup>th</sup> August 2023**. After this date, certificates to AS 4707:2014 cease to be recognised. To remain recognised, updated certificates listing AS4707:2021 in their scope must be in place from **15<sup>th</sup> August, 2023**.

## **FOR CERTIFICATION BODIES**

Certification Bodies providing certification to AS 4707 need to have their Scope of Accreditation extended to include AS 4707:2021 by **14<sup>th</sup> August 2022**.

From **15<sup>th</sup> August 2022**, audits to AS 4707 will only be recognised where the Certification Body holds accreditation to PEFC ST 2003:2020-Requirements for Certification Bodies Operating Certification against the PEFC International Chain of Custody Standard (Scheme Rules Document) and AS 4707:2021 is listed in their Scope of Accreditation.

Please feel free to contact me at anytime to discuss this Transition Policy.

**Approved by the Responsible Wood Board**

**19<sup>th</sup> October, 2021**