

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 **14th 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 **14th August 2022**.

Certification bodies should complete initial audits to AS4707:2021 on or before 14th August 2023. Certificates issued to AS 4707:2014 will cease to be recognized in the Responsible Wood and PEFC systems from **15th November, 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 **14th August 2022**.

From **15th 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

19th October, 2021

Updated 26th July 2023