



## **DFS Furniture Group**

## **Timber Policy**

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## Version Control

V	Last Modified By	Change Description	Last Modified On
1	R Bayles	Draft approved by the Board	17/02/2022
2	K. Wright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Update on managing timber impact.</li><li>- Update requirement to support supply chain transparency (geo-coordinate)</li></ul>	23/02/2024
3	K Wright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Update FSC to FSC®*</li><li>- Add FSC®* license number to footer</li></ul>	28/01/2025
4	K Wright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Update to Our Commitment, to offer reasonable assurance</li></ul>	26/05/2025

## Review History

V	Document Owner	Review Comments	Review Date
1	K Wright	Reviewed and amended	04/07/2022
2	K. Wright	Reviewed and amended	23/02/2024
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## Reviewers

V	Reviewer Name	Reviewer Role	Review Date
1	Liz McDonald	General Counsel & Company Secretary	26/08/2022
2	ESG Committee	ESG Committee	06/02/2024
3	ESG Committee	ESG Committee	13/02/2025
4	ESG Committee	ESG Committee	27/05/2025

## Authorised by

V	Approver Name	Approver Role	Approved Date
1	RSC Committee	Board of Directors	6/07/2022
2	RSC Committee	Board of Directors	19/03/2024
3	RSC Committee	Board of Directors	05/03/2025

4	RSC Committee	Board of Directors	12/06/2025
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## Related Documents

Document Name	Document Location
Group Code of Conduct	
Environmental Policy	
Sustainable Sourcing Policy	<u><a href="#">DFS Corporate Website</a></u>
Leather Policy	
Supplier Code of Practice	
Group Biodiversity policy	

## **DFS Group - Timber Policy**

This Policy was issued and will be reviewed annually (at minimum) for accuracy, completeness, and relevance.

This Policy applies to all timber-based Products (hereinafter 'timber') purchased by DFS Furniture PLC (the "DFS Group") Group containing any amount of timber. This includes

- Timber that is currently out of the scope of the UK and European Timber Regulations and
- Wood composites (e.g., chipboard, particleboard, plywood and MDF);

This policy does not apply to:

- Wood used in man-made cellulosic fabrics (MMCF) such as viscose; and
- Non-timber forest products such as leather (See Leather Policy).

This Policy forms part of DFS Group's Environmental, Social and Governance Programme, whereby we report our performance annually. This programme is subject to annual third-party audits (see 'Risk Management Procedure' below).

The policy applies to DFS Group and all Suppliers, manufacturers, sub-contractors, agents and sourcing operations engaged in supplying DFS Group (hereafter, 'Suppliers'). Suppliers are also expected to cascade the principles of this Policy to their Suppliers and encourage sustainable practices throughout the supply chain.

This policy is approved by the Board of Directors of DFS Furniture PLC on behalf of itself and its subsidiary companies, DFS Trading Limited, Sofology Limited and The Sofa Delivery Company Limited (together "the DFS Group").

### **Timber supply chains**

Forests are essential to tackle climate change, provide crucial habitat for biodiversity and enhance water security. These are key ingredients for a sustainable world. We are aware of the value that forests add to all our lives and the critical role they will play in our future and that of generations to come. DFS Group recognises that as users of timber and timber products, it is our responsibility to ensure that we help maintain the world's forest cover.

## Our Commitment

We commit to sourcing all our timber from supply chains which meet our Timber Minimum Performance Requirements (see below) and to continuously improving and reporting our sourcing performance – year on year – via our Environmental Social Governance (ESG) Programme. See the DFS Group Annual Reports for more information on our targets and progress towards them.

Our aim is to work with our supply chain to ensure our products are made from sustainably sourced timbers such as FSC®\* or PEFC-certified sources by 2025.

DFS Group makes every endeavour to reasonably ensure that we do not contribute to deforestation and forest degradation through our sourcing decisions. We manage our impact on timber production by auditing our supply chains to ensure all products are manufactured using sustainably sourced timber.

## Legal Compliance

DFS Group and Suppliers must adhere to all relevant national and international legislation relating to forest management and timber trade, including but not limited to

- Any relevant European Union, UN, or other sanctions on timber exports;
- National and international legislation relating to forest management and timber trade, including but not limited to requirements of the UK Timber Regulations 2020 (UKTR);
- FLEGT licensing system and CITES convention; and
- Not sourcing timber harvested from or traded through supply chains tainted with 'conflict timber'.

DFS Group is obliged under UKTR to work with a due diligence system to minimise the risk of putting illegal timber or derived products on the market. However, DFS Group is going beyond compliance and wishes to secure sustainability for its supply chain where timber is involved. Suppliers are expected to go beyond compliance and demonstrate continuous improvement beyond the minimum requirements of legislation.

## Performance requirements

The following table summarises the standards to which Suppliers must adhere to and provides clear guidance on how progress can be made to achieve better practice.

Minimum Performance Requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All timber used in DFS Group products must come from sources that do not contribute to deforestation in any part of the supply chain involving our products.</li> <li>2. DFS Group and Suppliers must comply with relevant legislation at all times (see <u>Legal Compliance</u>).</li> <li>3. Timber used in timber manufactured products for DFS Group products must come from sources that are proven (via appropriate due diligence) legal sources.</li> <li>4. The Supplier must declare the species and country of harvest for all products containing timber and provide evidence demonstrating their timber supply chain.</li> <li>5. All timber-containing products will be subject to DFS Group's Risk Management Procedure.</li> <li>6. The supplier must provide the information required for supply chain mapping, including the geo-coordinates of the supply chain from forest to manufacturing.</li> </ol> <p>The timber used in timber-manufactured components or products for DFS Group products must not come from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any species listed on the three CITES Appendices;</li> <li>• Any species listed on the IUCN Red List as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable;</li> <li>• Any illegal sources;</li> <li>• Forests managed or harvested in violation of traditional or human rights;</li> <li>• Forests with high conservation values where harvesting negatively impacts on those values;</li> <li>• Natural tropical rainforests or dry zone forests unless they are FSC®* or PEFC certified;</li> <li>• Ancient or endangered or High Conservation Value forests; and</li> <li>• Areas logged in contravention of indigenous and local communities' rights, including the right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent.</li> </ul> <p>Forest materials must not come from controversial sources. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Illegally logged forests;</li> <li>• Forests containing threatened or endangered species; and</li> <li>• Plantation forests converted after 1994 from natural forests.</li> </ul>
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Good Practice (Responsible Sources)	<p>In order to demonstrate good practice, Suppliers must meet all minimum performance requirements and also prove the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify risks relevant to the country of harvest and mitigate risks;</li> <li>• Use timber material that is verified as recycled material;</li> <li>• Tropical timber (mango, rubber and acacia wood) used in manufactured products for DFS Group's products must only be sourced from plantations established before 1994, evidenced by land titles and harvesting permits;</li> <li>• DFS Group will not accept timber from regions where issues surrounding deforestation have been identified;</li> <li>• Map out and identify high-risk/controversial areas to ensure that material is not sourced from them; and</li> <li>• Work with indigenous and local communities to ensure concerns are heard and mitigated.</li> </ul>
Best Practice (Certified Responsible Sources)	<p>Ensure all timber in the goods-for-sale supply chain is FSC®* or PEFC-certified.</p> <p>In order to demonstrate best practice, Suppliers should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Become members of trade associations such as the Timber Trade Federation;</li> <li>• FSC®* or PEFC certification claim and code to be present on the invoice and/or delivery note provided to DFS Group;</li> <li>• Source timber from an FSC®* or PEFC-certified forest with a full chain of custody in place through to the final product and</li> <li>• Ensure that all claims of certification are made legally and transparently.</li> </ul> <p>FSC®* and PEFC certification are to be promoted through the use of marketing by both DFS Group and Suppliers. The use of their logo is strictly controlled. Necessary permissions must be obtained prior to use.</p>

### DFS Group Risk Management Procedure

All Suppliers of products containing timber are subject to our Risk Management Procedure:

- We seek to develop and maintain mutually beneficial and longstanding relationships with all our supplying partners, supporting trusted and efficient communication between parties in the Assessment of Risk.
- We regularly visit our suppliers. During those visits, we will communicate the requirements of this Policy and make it clear that it applies to every link in each timber supply chain.
- It is the Suppliers' responsibility to ensure the requirements of this Policy are effectively communicated to their Suppliers and to obtain the information requested by us as part of our risk management procedures.
- DFS Group, with the support of third-party experts, conducts a Risk Assessment process to establish the degree of risk of illegally harvested timber entering the supply chain on an annual basis (at minimum). However, it may be more frequent if the structure or nature of the supply chain changes. DFS reviews risk indicators for timber products and the associated supply chains (e.g. species, country of harvest, purchase volume, Supplier). From this, DFS Group will calculate product/supply chain risk ratings. Suppliers can be classified as 'Specified Risk' or 'Negligible Risk' based on the assessed risk indicators and the extent to which those risks are mitigated.
- Suppliers will be expected to provide evidence of risk mitigation in the form of documentary evidence as requested by DFS Group to demonstrate compliance with DFS Group's Timber Policy. The higher the level of risk, the more rigorous mitigation measures are needed.
- DFS Group has a robust Risk Monitoring system for all timber products. For supply chains rated as Specified Risk, we may assess Policy compliance for each shipment. We will only continue to buy timber products from Specified Risk supply chains for a specified period, which will be set by DFS Group and agreed upon by all parties. If the Supplier's supply chains and products are still rated as Specified Risk at the end of that period, we will cease trade with that Supplier. For Negligible Risk supply chains, we will undertake due diligence annually.

Risk monitoring includes:

- Working with Suppliers to create Supply Chain Diagrams, which will include the identification of all the links in the supply chain from the forest of harvest to DFS Group; and
- Collecting mitigating documentary evidence of policy compliance (proportionate to the risk of non-compliance) from the businesses shown in the Supply Chain Diagram.

We have a clear risk mitigation plan for timber products:

- We will ask that our Suppliers source from FSC®\* or PEFC-certified forests and ensure timber components are delivered to DFS Group via FSC®\* or PEFC-certified Chains of Custody;
- We will provide Suppliers with guidance and corrective actions on compliance with the law and DFS policies;
- We will not accept production from Suppliers where the information required to assess the Risk Rating is not provided within the agreed timetable.

### **Claims and Declarations**

DFS Group and its Suppliers must ensure that any claims and declarations made about products and services (e.g. recyclability, certifications or “carbon neutral” labels) are legal, honest, transparent and verifiable. When using third-party logos (e.g. FSC®, PEFC), the necessary licenses and permissions must be obtained from the corresponding certification or licensing body before use to ensure accurate, verifiable, relevant and non-misleading use of third-party logos and related claims.

### **Supplier Transparency**

In line with the Minimum Performance Requirements set out above, Suppliers must be able to provide the following information and documentation when requested:

- Timber species;
- Country of harvest;
- Chain of custody details for products advertised as FSC®\* or PEFC-certified;
- Forest-level documents, e.g., a valid FSC®\* Forest Management Certificate (by 2025), including where the factory or tier 1 Supplier is not themselves certified;
- Transport documents; and
- Other reasonably requested information to enable supply chain mapping by DFS Group, including geo-coordinates of the supply chain sites.

DFS Group reserves the right to select random samples of timber for testing to ensure that certification claims are valid. Products will be delisted and re-sourced where Suppliers are unwilling to provide the above information. We will actively support, encourage, and work in partnership with our suppliers to meet the requirements of this policy and ensure that we procure products only from legal and sustainable sources.

## Approval

This policy has been approved by the Responsible and Sustainable Business Committee, a committee of the Board of Directors of DFS Furniture PLC. It is not part of any employee's employment contract, and we may amend it at any time.

**Date: 12.06.2025**

\*DFS Furniture PLC incorporating DFS Trading Ltd T/A DFS and Sofology Ltd T/A Sofology  
FSC® License Holder FSC-C192921