

WHAT IS FSC?

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) promotes environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

Environmentally appropriate forest management ensures that the harvest of timber and non-timber products maintains the forest's biodiversity, productivity and ecological processes.

Socially beneficial forest management helps both local people and society at large to enjoy long term benefits and also provides strong incentives to local people to sustain the forest resources and adhere to long-term management plans.

Economically viable forest management means that forest operations are structured and managed so as to be sufficiently profitable, without generating financial profit at the expense of the forest resources, the ecosystem or affected communities. The tension between the need to generate adequate financial returns and the principles of responsible forest operations can be reduced through efforts to market forest products for their best value.

[FSC Website](#)

WHAT IS FSC CHAIN OF CUSTODY (COC)?

FSC Chain of Custody (COC) is the path taken by raw materials, processed materials and products, from the forest to the consumer, including all successive stages of processing, transformation, manufacturing and distribution.

The main objective of FSC COC certification is to ensure that FSC certified material is tracked through the supply chain between operations and production processes within operations. Only FSC COC certified operations are allowed to label products with the FSC trademarks.

A certified Chain of Custody up to the final point of sale enables end customers to identify and choose FSC certified products knowing there is a system in place to verify the sources of the wood used to manufacture the products. The FSC label thus provides the link between responsible production and consumption.

VT chain of custody numbers: SCS-COC-004128 (Iowa) and NC-COC-000729 (Wisconsin)

[FSC COC Information](#)

WHAT MAKES VT DOORS FSC CHAIN OF CUSTODY (COC) CERTIFIED?

FSC COC certified doors are manufactured using FSC certified and FSC Controlled Wood components. These doors are sold by FSC COC certified manufacturers and distributors. FSC doors hold an "FSC Claim". These claims are printed on invoices and shipping documentation (Bill of Lading, Packing Slips) on a line by line basis. An example of a FSC claim for a certified door is 'FSC Mixed 97%'. Also, doors with a FSC claim of 70% and above are eligible for on-product labeling. VT doors with FSC claims meeting this criterion are identifiable with a FSC label reading 'FSC Mix' on the door tag.

IS FSC AVAILABLE ON STILE AND RAIL/PROFILE DOORS?

Yes, Stile & Rail doors are available from VT.

ARE FSC CERTIFIED VENEERS AVAILABLE?

FSC certified veneers are currently unavailable from VT for the manufacture of Flush and Stile & Rail doors. Sourcing of FSC certified veneers has become difficult in recent years for the architectural wood door industry and VT has decided to remove doors with FSC veneer faces from our product offering. VT can provide FSC certified doors with FSC Controlled Wood faces. Because wood veneer is a smaller percentage of the door construction by volume, the FSC claim is minimally impacted.

ARE FSC 100% OR FSC MIX CREDIT DOORS AVAILABLE FROM VT?

FSC 100% (formerly FSC Pure in past versions of FSC-STD-40-004) or FSC Mix Credit doors are not currently available from VT due to FSC veneer availability. FSC certified doors are not available as FSC 100% as they are assembled using FSC certified composite wood products. FSC 100% would be an eligible FSC claim of products using only solid wood lumber. FSC Mix 100% or FSC Mix Credit (counts as 100%) would be the highest FSC claims for an architectural wood door. Due to FSC veneer availability, FSC Mix 100% and FSC Mix Credit claims are not currently available. VT doors with wood composite cores will still have higher FSC claims, most times above FSC Mix 90%.

AS A DOOR DISTRIBUTOR, DO I NEED FSC COC CERTIFICATION IF THE DOORS ARE SHIPPED DIRECTLY TO THE JOB SITE?

For LEED projects, distributors must hold a valid FSC COC certification and invoice doors per FSC requirements to assist a project with LEED for New Construction Materials and Resources (MR) credit 7: Certified Wood. Door distributors who are installing doors on the project are not required to have FSC COC as they are defined as a project contractor or subcontractor per LEED requirements.

(<https://us.fsc.org/en-us/market/green-building/faqs-for-green-building>)

ARE AGRIFIBER CORE DOORS AVAILABLE WITH AN FSC CLAIM?

Yes, agrifiber doors are available with FSC claims. These doors are manufactured with agrifiber cores, FSC Certified (Stiles, Rails, Crossband), and FSC Controlled Wood (Faces & Edges). Agrifiber is a wheat based product and is excluded from FSC claim calculations. These doors carry claims of FSC Mixed 90% and above and contain 30% new wood by weight.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FSC CONTROLLED WOOD AND FSC CERTIFIED VENEERS AND WHEN DO I USE WHICH ONE?

FSC veneers are veneers that are FSC certified. FSC Controlled Wood veneers are non-FSC certified veneers allowed for use in the manufacture of a FSC certified door. FSC COC Certification requires that all non-FSC wood meet their Controlled Wood standards. FSC standards allow veneer manufacturers to sell FSC Controlled Wood components and faces with a similar chain of custody process to FSC certified products. VT purchases these faces as FSC Controlled Wood to ensure compliance. FSC Controlled Wood faces are readily available for VT FSC certified doors.

WHAT IS LEED?

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is a voluntary, consensus-based national rating system for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings. Developed by U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), LEED addresses all building types and emphasizes state-of-the-art strategies for sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials and resources selection, and indoor environmental quality. LEED is a practical rating tool for green building design and construction that provides immediate and measurable results for building owners and occupants. LEED is the most widely accepted green building system. Many times local and regional green building guidelines and codes follow LEED requirements.

- [USGBC](#)
- [LEED](#)
- [LEED Credit Requirements](#)

WHAT IS THE CURRENT LEED VERSION?

LEED has two versions that are currently available for products, LEED v4 & v4.1. Both versions are very similar in relation to LEED credits available for wood doors. LEED v3 (2009) project registration ended October 16, 2016. Projects were able to submit their documentation for certification up until June 22, 2022. Current projects are not expected to be pursuing LEED v3 (2009).

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LEED SILVER AND GOLD AND HOW DO I ACHIEVE EACH OF THEM?

LEED has four certification levels; Certified, Silver, Gold and Platinum. The levels are achieved based on the amount of credits earned by a project. The credits do not change for each level of certification. When specifying LEED assistance, individual credit needs must be stated. Listing LEED Gold or LEED Silver is not specific enough to know what credit assistance is needed. See below for LEED certification levels.

- Certified - 40-49 points
- Silver - 50-59 points
- Gold - 60-79 points
- Platinum - 80 points and above

HOW ARE LEED AND FSC RELATED?

For LEED green building rating systems, FSC Certified products assist with Materials & Resources (MR) Sourcing of Raw Material credit. FSC is the only certified wood certification accepted for LEED projects.

WHAT PERCENTAGE OF RECYCLED CONTENT DO OUR DOORS CONTAIN?

Recycled percentages vary by door type. Agrifiber cores (70% by weight), Particleboard cores (70% by weight), and HDF crossbanding (20% by weight) are composed of 100% pre-consumer recycled fibers. Standard particleboard and agrifiber doors contain 90% pre-consumer recycled content by weight.

WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGIONAL MATERIALS?

For LEED v4/v4.1, products that are extracted, manufactured, and purchased within 100 miles of the project are considered a multiplier for the product value to an eligible credit. Products that meet the 100 miles threshold have twice the value to the credit. VT is unable to meet these requirements based on material source locations. Previous LEED

WHAT DOES NAUF MEAN?

NAUF is short for "No Added Urea Formaldehyde". NAUF is a prescriptive requirement to limit formaldehyde emissions in the indoor environment. VT offers NAUF compliant across all product offerings.

VT tests products to confirm our products are low-emitting for formaldehyde and additional volatile organic chemicals that may be considered harmful in the built environment. NAUF specification is not required to ensure VT doors are low-emitting. GREENAURD and Indoor Advantage test reports have confirmed formaldehyde levels are minimal or even below quantifiable levels with VT doors constructed with NAUF components.

GREENGUARD GOLD and IAQ GOLD certifications provide performance based confirmation that VT doors are low-emitting for formaldehyde and total VOCs and available for your project requirements.

DO VT DOORS MEET LEED V4/4.1 LOW-EMITTING MATERIAL CREDIT?

LEED v4 / v4.1 Low-Emitting Material credits categorize interior doors as "Wall Panels". Wall Panels must meet the VOC emission evaluation requiring California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Standard Method v1.2-2017 VOC limits.

GREENGUARD GOLD and Indoor Advantage Gold certification meet CDPH VOC emission limits tested using Classroom and Office environments. Total VOC concentrations fall below 0.5 mg/m³ or less.

Previous versions of LEED categorized doors as Composite Wood products. Wall Panels, including doors, are specifically excluded from the Composite Wood category in current LEED v4/4.1.

DO VT DOORS MEET CARB PHASE II AND TSCA TITLE VI REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPOSITE WOOD PRODUCTS?

All composite woods used in the manufacture of VT Architectural Wood Doors meet the second phase of The California Air Resources Board (CARB) Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) to Reduce Formaldehyde Emissions from Composite Wood Products and EPA Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Title VI Formaldehyde Emission Standard for Composite Wood Products. All doors are labeled with compliance statements reading CARB P2/TSCA VI Compliant.

DOES VT OFFER CARB ULTRA-LOW EMITTING FORMALDEHYDE (ULEF) OR CARB NO ADDED FORMALDEHYDE (NAF) DOORS?

CARB ULEF or CARB NAF compliant VT doors are available by request. CARB ULEF doors are available for all door types. CARB NAF will be limited to only a few door types and environmental selection.

CARB ULEF or NAF is the current LEED Low-Emitting Material credit requirement of Composite Wood Products. Products covered under Wall Panels are excluded from this category requirements. Doors are categorized as Wall Panels.

DOES VT OFFER ANY "FORMALDEHYDE FREE" DOOR OPTIONS?

No, VT offers no added formaldehyde (NAF) options. These options are limited to a few door types. A formaldehyde free wood product is not possible, as formaldehyde is naturally emitted from wood.

All doors are GREENGUARD GOLD and Indoor Advantage Gold certified products. Product testing has found formaldehyde emissions to be very low.

WHERE WILL I FIND LEED REQUIREMENTS IN THE SPECIFICATIONS?

LEED credit requirements should be written into the wood door section of the specification. Each LEED credit should be spelled out in these sections. If not, Section 1 may hold the LEED requirements. Either of these sections should have a LEED specific reference.

HOW DO I FILL OUT THE LEED PAPERWORK?

VT can supply LEED compliance documentation upon request. These documents will provide all information required to submittal for LEED projects. Most forms are generic and not door specific, so additional credits may be listed that are not applicable to VT doors. VT suggest label these sections as Not Applicable (NA). Many times a separate form must be filled out for each door type used on a project, as each door type may assist with different credits or percentages. Distributors must also supply the sale price associated for each door type for proper credit calculations.

DOES ONE MANUFACTURER HAVE MORE LEED CREDITS THAN ANOTHER ONE?

All door manufacturers can assist with the same LEED credits. The amount of assistance can vary based on the construction of the doors. The thickness and width of the core, crossband, stiles, rails, faces, and edges has an effect on the compliant percentages because of the weight differences. These differences are often very slight. For FSC doors, one manufacturer may use higher amounts of FSC certified material, while another may use higher amounts of FSC Controlled Wood materials. Every manufacturer is going to have differences that will affect the amount of LEED credit assistance.

DOES AWI QCP GIVE ME ANY CREDIT TOWARDS LEED?

There is not a specific LEED credit associated with AWI QCP. Doors that are manufactured to meet AWI QCP specification may qualify for LEED credit assistance.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PC AND WSPC DOORS?

No, we offer GREENGUARD GOLD and Indoor Advantage Gold certified products. A formaldehyde free wood product is not possible, as formaldehyde is naturally emitted from wood. Product testing has found formaldehyde emissions to be very low.

WHERE WILL I FIND LEED REQUIREMENTS IN THE SPECIFICATIONS?

The core materials. A PC doors is constructed with a particleboard core. A WSPC is constructed with an agrifiber core (wheat-straw particleboard). See cut sheets for more information.