



Full Stakeholder Transaction Verification and OCP Webinar Question & Answer March 11, 2014 (Late Session)

Q: Is the risk index based on your own business, or your suppliers? Is it possible for the risk index to be applied by the CB. This would prevent customers putting a broad brush across all suppliers.

A: FSC certificate holders will determine their own risk based off of a yet to be published risk assessment. During the audit, the CB will verify that the certificate holder determined their risk properly.

Q: What happens with 'self-billing invoices' for transactional verification?

A: Self billing invoices can be part of a tool to meet transaction verification. As long as the self-billing system includes the 5 requirements of a transaction verification mechanism, it can be accepted.

Q: By significantly sufficient 'amount of transactions'- will this be by volume / number of suppliers?

A: For auditor based transaction verification, the amount of transactions will be based on both the total number of transactions and suppliers. The risk matrix and exact formulas are still yet to be determined, but will be available for public consultation once the accreditation standard (20-011) is released for public consultation, later in 2015.

Q: To challenge the concept: auto-acceptance would not be a 'handshake'. Auditor A and B would both see agreement.

A: The other trading party can be a passive user by allowing for auto acceptance of claims. This would allow the CB's of both organizations to verify the claims.

Q: Can you have a mix of ERP for internal and other verification system for outside purchases?

A: Yes, certificate holders can choose to use multiple transaction verification mechanisms.



Q: Is this required for Controlled Wood, too? Or just for FSC credit material?

A: Only FSC claims need to be verified, so virgin wood purchases with no FSC claim that you verify as Controlled via your own Controlled Wood Risk Assessment does not need to be verified. However, wood purchased as "FSC Controlled Wood" needs to be verified since it's an FSC claim.

Q: What provisions are made for data security? Will invoices be visible only to the buyer/seller, and not to all suppliers, customers, general public?

A: Confidentiality, security and data protection is critical to the OCP. Your suppliers will only have visibility of the trades they made with you and they will have no visibility beyond this. Certificate holders will control who has access to their OCP account. Certification bodies can only gain access to their clients' accounts through permission of the certificate holder. The certificate holder will be able to view who has access to their account, and choose to add others and remove users. If the certification body is not granted access to the certificate holder's account off-site, then the certification body will need arrange with the certificate holder's how they will be provided access to the OCP account, such as on-site during the annual audit.

All the data certificate holders enter in the OCP belongs exclusively to them, and they control how it is shared. The OCP will not share data unless explicitly agreed to by the certificate holder unless required by law or order of a court of competent jurisdiction or government department.

Q: Is there a link between the purchase page and the sales page? Or are those completely separate and unrelated transactions?

A: FSC purchases and FSC sales are separate and not linked together. Some certificate holders who do job by job orders may choose to link their FSC purchases and sales together via use of the "extra fields" inside the OCP.

Q: There seems to be resistance to participate in the OCP by primary manufacturers, what is FSC doing to increase the number of participants in the program?

A: We are encouraging organizations to test the OCP and working with a number of organizations interested in using the OCP who are encouraging their suppliers to try the OCP. We will be contacting certificate holders next month once the live version is available as that will allow CHs to use the OCP to help them meet the current CoC standard.



Q: Is the Excel template you demonstrated available?

A: Yes, please go [here](#) to see instructions on how to download your own personal templates.

Q: The big issue with OCP was data security and sharing...can you outline how this has been managed now.

A: FSC views the security of the OCP of highest importance. Historic Futures, the service provider, has been certified to ISO 27001, the leading data security standard. Further, the OCP application is hosted on Amazon's Web Services which provides world-class security and performance. Thousands of large international businesses use Amazon's hosting services, including Amazon itself. Many case studies can be found here. Please visit our [security tab](#) on our OCP Informational website.

Q: Who checks that user data entered in the OCP are correct?

A: The other trading party has the ability to accept (actively or passively) the claims that were entered by their trading party. Either party can edit the claim, but both parties are notified if a claim is edited. Go [here](#) for more information on how to edit a claim and [here](#) on how to accept a claim.

Q: As a paper distributor we have 40-50 suppliers and possibly hundreds fsc certified purchases a day. Many of our purchases have multiple fiber claims on them due to the different claims per each product being purchased. OCP does not seem like a viable system. What would be a good way to verify with our suppliers?

A: The OCP allows you to use excel spreadsheets to upload claims. Go [here](#) for information on the spreadsheet upload option. FSC certificate holders can also "consolidate" claims on a monthly basis, meaning all purchases of similar claims per supplier can be grouped together and entered as one claim. Go [here](#) for more information on consolidation of claims.

Q: Is the cubic measurement also included?

A: Yes



Q: Are Transaction Verifications required for both suppliers and customers?

A: FSC certificate holders are required to ensure transaction verification is met between them and their FSC certified suppliers only. However, FSC certified customers will need to fulfill this requirement for their purchases (your sales) as well.

Q: Our company purchases FSC material using a wood accounting system. Weekly settlements are issued to the supplier to confirm loads delivered. This system would contain all the required elements. Would this process serve as an acceptable transaction verification?

A: Without knowing more details, this seems acceptable as long as it meets the five key elements of what a transaction verification mechanism shall entail.

Q: To clarify, are we right in thinking that goods cannot be sold as FSC if a supplier does not acknowledge the request?

A: No, FSC certificate holders can continue to trade FSC certified products before the handshake between the supplier and customer is made.

Q: Swedish SDC Certificate system developed by SDC called Certikonto is this ok system?

A: Yes, for primary producers using the SDC system, this should work, as long as the system meets the five key elements of a transaction verification mechanism.

Q: Is the notification sent to the registered responsible for certificate?

A: Yes, notifications are sent to the OCP user, who is the responsible person listed on fo.fsc.org. Go [here](#) to see how to add additional users.

Q: The significance of the Make Claims column is unclear to me. Please explain it.

A: The "make claims" button in the "supplier" tab allows you to enable your suppliers to enter their FSC sales to you. Go [here](#) for more information.



Q: If company A use the same invoice number and sell it to compny B and Compnay C, Compa-ny B and Company C are certified by different CB, how CB of Company B and Company C to evaluate this issue, if company A did not use OCP?

A: Company B & C who are using the OCP will enable their auditors to verify these claims. Since transaction verification can be met via several methods, the buyer and seller need to determine which method works best for both parties and agree on that method. If you wish to use the OCP but some of your suppliers do not, you will be able to enter your FSC purchases into the OCP from unconnected suppliers, and provide that list of purchases to your auditor, and your supplier's auditor for your supplier's auditor to verify as well.

Q: Could you please give more information about this Risk Matrix, do you means FSC will publish new version of 20-011 for this part?

A: Yes, the risk matrix and elements of a transaction verification method will be in the 20-011 standard, which will be out for public consultation later in 2015.