



Full Stakeholder Transaction Verification Webinar Question & Answer

Mar 11 2015 (Early Session)

Q: What are the costs of using the OCP?

A: Since FSC is allowing FSC certificate holders to choose the methods used to meet transaction verification, the cost of implementing transaction verification will vary by certificate holder and system employed. The OCP is being offered free of charge but we do understand that some effort will be needed to input records but there are methods for automation. FSC certificate holders need to ensure that their FSC purchases are claimed by their suppliers. FSC certificate holders can use the FSC Online Claims Platform or other methods that meet the 5 criteria mentioned in the webinar (note: the 5 criteria are in draft state & we are looking for feedback on them)."

Q: I am still unclear about the reason of why this system was implemented, as I'm new to this FSC certification system.

A: The FSC Board of Directors recognizes that there is a gap in the current FSC certification scheme – a gap which is present in all similar Chain of Custody certification systems but which we wish to close. The gap consists in the fact that the precise volumes of FSC certified forest products traded are not being compared between trading parties within the chain of custody system. Our current standards and processes, along with the significant volume of FSC products traded, do not enable either certification bodies or ASI to detect discrepancies in the volumes reported by buyers and then used for "volume credits," whether caused intentionally or through negligence. This makes it nearly impossible to detect this type of fraud. Go [here](#) for more information.

Q: Could you explain if there is any connection between EUTR and OCP?

A: For many certificate holders it has become a legal requirement to obtain and hold information on species and country of harvest in order to comply with trade regulations such as the EUTR and the Lacey Act. Public authorities are increasingly requiring this information in order to block the trade of illegally harvested wood. The OCP will make it easier for FSC certified companies to obtain this information for their certified goods.

When wood or wood fiber is introduced to an FSC supply chain for the first time, information about country of harvest and the species of the wood is required.

The OCP will use this information to produce a "logical source map" that shows the list of possible species and possible countries of harvest for a specific product at any point in the supply chain. The greater the number of possible inputs routes, the greater this possible species and origin list may be.



No information is passed through the supply chain and neither you nor your customer will be able to see the full supply chain or from what specific forest(s) the product originates.

More details can be found [here](#).

Q: Through the risk approach do you think there will be exclusion of some CH categories from the obligation to use the OCP or other verification systems?

A: FSC is still determining the risk matrix and is open for suggestions. The 20-011 standard will be released for official public consultation in 2015. Certificate holders can choose to consolidate all claims and may match them on a monthly, quarterly, or possibly even an annually basis, depending on the risk matrix.

Q: At which point is the API data transmission system?

A: The API is on hold until more FSC certificate holders show interest in the API. Until then, FSC will continue to add different features and functions to the OCP. FSC expects the API will be ready for FSC certificate holders to test and use in 2016. For FSC certificate holders that have sophisticated computer system, which have many FSC transactions, we have found that using the spreadsheet processor as an initial step has been a logical place to begin testing and using the OCP.

Q: Please say something about the data safety in the system.

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.

Please find more details [on the security page](#).

Q: For how long is data stored?

A: Data inside the OCP is stored for the life of the certificate, at most five years.

Q: Why don't you develop a unique webpage that allow to access the 2 website connected to OCP Demo-Live and Help? We follow in 3 from here.

A: The OCP Demo and Live site are hyperlinked with each other. You could also go to the [OCP Help](#) site from inside your OCP account.