

## **REISS FORESTRY PRODUCTS SOURCING POLICY**

**Issued: March 2024**

### **Purpose**

This policy outlines our commitment to protecting the world's forests and their biodiversity, eliminating deforestation, and supporting responsible forestry management through our approach to sourcing of timber, pulp, paper, packaging and fabrics.

Reiss recognizes the importance of forests as carbon storehouses and their role in maintaining climate stability. As part of our ongoing work on climate we will support initiatives that advance forest conservation to reduce the loss of high carbon stock forests, by encouraging suppliers to avoid harvesting in these areas, and by giving preference to those that use effective strategies to actively reduce their greenhouse gas footprint.

Reiss recognizes that Ancient and Endangered Forests are vitally important systems for the protection and regulation of water from the local to global level. Large areas of contiguous forest act as a biotic pump helping move moisture from coastal areas to continents. We give preference to those suppliers that use effective strategies to actively maintain and restore forest intactness to maintain forests' function of regulating the flow and purity of water at a micro and macro scale.

Reiss will only source under conditions which meet the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the fundamental ILO conventions; recognising the rights of indigenous communities' and respecting their traditional and civil rights.

Regulatory measures exist under the UK Environment Act 2021<sup>i</sup> (forest risk commodities) and under the EU Regulation on Deforestation Free Products (EUDR)<sup>ii</sup>, placing responsibilities on business to ensure that products are not sourced from land which has been deforested or linked to deforestation.

### **Scope**

The policy applies to all employees, contractors, and suppliers.

This policy applies to all forestry commodities used by Reiss in our operations, products and supply chain, including:

- Wood
- Paper and cardboard
- Natural rubber
- Cork
- Textiles made from wood pulp such as viscose, lyocell and modal
- Leather produced from cattle reared on forested land cleared for farming

### **Definitions**

- Deforestation: We recognise and align to the EUDR definition of deforested land being that which has been deforested after 2020
- Preferred materials: Materials accepted by Reiss as preferred, lower impact, alternatives to traditional commodities. Full details on the current material preferences are provided to Suppliers.

- Certified materials: those materials carrying a recognised third-party chain of custody certificate for responsible sourcing
- Next gen materials: We recognise the need for fashion supply chains to reduce dependence on virgin forestry resources, and to support the development and adoption of 'NextGen' material feedstocks as set out by Canopy<sup>iii</sup>
- Problem plastics: those plastics identified by WRAP<sup>iv</sup> as unnecessary or problematic for pollution and recycling.

## **Our commitment**

Reiss is committed to the responsible sourcing of timber and forestry sourced products. Our specific commitments to responsible forestry commodities sourcing are:

### **1. Design and Prioritization of Reduction and Reuse of paper**

Reiss will eliminate unnecessary packaging, switching to 100% recycled or recyclable packaging materials by 2025.

### **2. Shift to More Environmentally and Socially Beneficial Materials**

Reiss will collaborate with [Canopy](#), along with innovative companies and suppliers, to encourage the development of Next Generation textile fibre sources that reduce environmental and social impacts, with a focus on agricultural residues<sup>v</sup> and recycled fabrics. We will participate in trials where appropriate.

## **Product materials**

Reiss will ensure that our products are sourced and manufactured responsibly, prioritising more sustainable, regenerative, certified and recycled materials.

- By 2025 all manmade cellulosic fibres sourced for Reiss products must carry a responsible forestry certification – PEFC or FSC.
- By 2025 all leather and hide sourced for Reiss products must come from an LWG rated tannery, participating in the scoring for leather traceability<sup>vi</sup>
- By 2025, all MMCFs sourced for Reiss products must have 20% recycled content. Reiss is developing a roadmap towards 100% recycled content by 2030.
- Reiss welcomes the opportunity to support the piloting and adopting of closed loop solutions based on viscose fibre innovation

## **Non product materials:**

- Reiss Sourcing Policies also apply to non-stock providers
- In all store and building works, priority must be given to re-use of existing fittings and materials
- Store restoration hoardings will be leased or hired to reduce use of virgin materials

### **3. Improve Environmental Quality of Packaging and Paper**

Reiss will collaborate with [Canopy](#), along with innovative companies and suppliers to encourage the development of Next Generation Solutions and packaging and paper<sup>vii</sup> that reduce environmental and social impacts, with a focus on agricultural fibres (particularly residues)<sup>10</sup> and recycled content.

We will use Canopy's [Ecopaper database](#) and [The Paper Steps](#) as a guide for paper and packaging sourcing.

To help reduce the footprint of the paper and packaging we use<sup>viii</sup>, Reiss will:

- Complete an annual review of all our paper and packaging to identify areas where we can increase paper use efficiencies, reduce paper and packaging basis weights, and save money and resources.
- Reiss will give preference to paper/packaging with high-recycled content, specifically post-consumer waste content reaching an overall recycled fibre content in our papers and packaging, increasing recycled content year on year
- Support research and development of commercial scale production of pulp, paper and packaging from alternative fibre sources such as wheat straw, and other alternative fibres

#### **4. Forest Certification**

Where the above conditions are met, Reiss will require that all fabric, packaging and paper sourced from forests are from responsibly managed forests, certified to the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)<sup>ix</sup> certification systems, and where FSC and PEFC certified plantations<sup>x</sup> are part of the solution.

#### **5. Support Best Processing Practices and Procurement**

Reiss requires that our man-made cellulosic suppliers use best available environmental practices for processing, such as the 'closed loop' lyocell processing.

We will give purchasing preference to paper and packaging that has been processed utilizing environmentally preferred technologies such as chlorine free bleaching<sup>xi</sup>.

We require that leather goods are produced following industry best practice for transparent sourcing and responsible processing, under the Leather Working Group standards.

#### **6. Promote Industry Leadership**

Reiss looks to create a positive impact together with our suppliers, partners and customers. As implementation progresses, Reiss will work with suppliers, non-governmental organizations, other stakeholders and brands that work with Canopy to support the protection of Ancient and Endangered Forests and forward solutions to reduce the demands upon forests. We will also seek opportunities to educate and inform the public on these issues and solutions through our marketing and communications.

#### **Our requirements**

We will comply with all applicable local and international laws and regulations surrounding deforestation risk and prevention in all relevant jurisdictions.

#### **All suppliers must:**

- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Have a zero-deforestation policy in place</li><li>• Communicate this policy and ensure compliance in their own supply chain</li></ul> |
|---|

- Source forestry materials from preferred raw material sources, such as those certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), or those carrying a Reiss approved preferred fibre chain of custody.
- Have a diligent and systematic approach in place to track and trace the origin of all forestry materials
- Continuously improve and expand the availability of recycled content in all materials
- Continuously support innovation and development of materials that reduce dependence on virgin forestry commodities

## Implementation

- All employees will be trained on our Forestry Products Sourcing policy.
- All suppliers will receive and commit to complying with our Forestry Products Sourcing policy. Should we find that any of our products sourced from ancient and endangered forests, endangered species habitat or illegal logging, we will engage our suppliers to change practices and/or re-evaluate our relationship with them
- We will conduct supply chain due diligence to ensure compliance with our policy.
- We will monitor and track our adoption of preferred and certified raw materials.
- We will partner with others to identify and address deforestation risks.
- We will regularly review and update our policy as needed.

## Related policies

- Environmental policy
- Human Rights policy
- Supplier Code of Conduct
- Raw Materials Sourcing Policy
- Animal Welfare policy

<sup>i</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/schedule/17/enacted>

<sup>ii</sup> [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/forests/deforestation/regulation-deforestation-free-products\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/forests/deforestation/regulation-deforestation-free-products_en)

<sup>iii</sup> <https://canopyplanet.org/campaigns/canopystyle/canopystyle-next-generation-vision-for-viscose/>

<sup>iv</sup> <https://wrap.org.uk/taking-action/plastic-packaging/initiatives/the-uk-plastics-pact/plastics-definitions>

<sup>v</sup> Agricultural Residues are residues left over from food production or other processes and using them maximizes the lifecycle of the fibre. Fibres used for paper products include cereal straws like wheat straw, rice straw, seed flax straw, corn stalks, sorghum stalks, sugar cane bagasse, and rye seed grass straw. Where the LCA (life cycle analysis) shows environmental benefits and conversion of forest land to on purpose crops is not an issue, kenaf can also be included here. Depending on how they are harvested, fibres for fabrics may include flax, soy, bagasse, and hemp. (Agricultural residues are not from on purpose crops that replace forest stands or food crops.)

<sup>vi</sup> <https://www.leatherworkinggroup.com/our-impact/traceability/>

<sup>vii</sup> Environmentally preferred fibre sources include:

- Post-consumer recycled waste fibre
- Pre-consumer recycled fibre
- Agricultural residue defined below
- Fibre from FSC certified tenures (no controlled wood from controlled wood tenures)

<sup>viii</sup> Paper Task Force Report and the Environmental Paper Network Paper Calculator. "The scientific basis for these conclusions is the analysis of the Paper Task Force, a three-year research project convened by Environmental Defense and involving Duke University, Johnson & Johnson, McDonald's, Prudential Insurance, and Time Inc. The Paper Task Force examined environmental impacts through the full lifecycle of paper, along with economic and functional issues across major paper grades. Its findings were extensively peer-reviewed by scientists, academics, environmental experts, and government and industry representatives."

---

<sup>ix</sup> <https://www.pefc.org/for-business/brands-and-retailers>

\*Plantations are areas that have been “established by planting or sowing using either alien or native species, often with few species, regular spacing and even ages, and which lack most of the principal characteristics and key elements of natural forests”. Plantations prior to 1994 are often FSC certified. Source FSC International Generic Indicators: <https://ic.fsc.org/en/document-center/id/335>. Forest plantations can play an important role in supplying fibre for products, it is also recognized that clearing of primary forests for plantations has contributed significantly to the destruction of forests in many parts of the world. [INSERT COMPANY NAME] recognizes that credible regional conservation plans that identify areas to be conserved and also restored back to natural forests is the best way to ensure that sourcing from plantations is done sustainably. We will use the FSC plantation requirements as a baseline. Additionally, we will advocate for our suppliers and national and regional governments to engage in, and develop, conservation plans for the regions from which we source as a means to distinguish those plantations that are contributing to solutions and those that are exacerbating the problem.

<sup>xi</sup> Unbleached, Process Chlorine Free (PCF) and Totally Chlorine Free (TCF) is preferred with Elemental Chlorine Free (ECF) as a minimum.