



FOREST FIBRES POSITION STATEMENT

WHAT ARE FOREST FIBRES?

According to the Canadian NGO Canopy more than 150 million trees a year are logged to harvest cellulose for conversion into forest fibres, most commonly known as viscose, rayon, modal or lyocell. The chances are that almost everyone has garments in their wardrobe that started life as a tree.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH USING FOREST FIBRES?

Illegal logging for timber, pulp and cellulose continues to be a major driver of global deforestation; one of the most significant factors in both biodiversity loss and climate change. The market for forest fibres is expected to grow significantly over the next 10 years, due to a rising demand for biodegradable materials and concerns over micro plastic pollution from synthetics. It is essential that ancient and endangered forest ecosystems are protected and preserved, whilst sustainable forest management and rigorous certification are demanded within supply chains.

WHAT IS SELFRIDGES' POSITION ON FOREST FIBRES?

Selfridges is a house of brands and we do not produce clothing, but we are committed to working with our brand partners to understand the sources of the raw materials used in the products we sell and their impact on our planet. We will work with our brand and supply chain partners to promote conservation of the world's ancient and endangered forests. In particular we are committed to the responsible purchasing of all products that contain raw materials sourced from forests or known to be a significant driver of deforestation. In relation to forest fibres we encourage and support our brands partners to:

1. Make a public commitment to avoid sourcing forest fibres derived from ancient and endangered forests¹ by 2020
2. Source forest fibres derived from sustainably managed forests certified under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) system, including any plantation fibre.
3. Collaborate with Canopy, as well as innovative companies and suppliers to encourage the development of fibre sources that reduce environmental and social impacts, with a focus on agricultural residues and recycled fabrics.
4. To put in place a preference for purchasing man-made cellulose containing a minimum of 50% of these innovative fibre sources and develop a 2025 procurement target for closed-loop solutions
5. Recognise, respect and uphold human rights and the rights of communities and acknowledge indigenous and rural communities legal, customary or user rights to their territories, land, and resources.
6. Avoid all sources of illegal logging.

Last reviewed:
January 2019
(reviewed annually)
Version 1.0

Signed:

Simon Forster

¹Ancient and endangered forests are defined as intact forest landscape mosaics, naturally rare forest types, forest types that have been made rare due to human activity, and/or other forests that are ecologically critical for the protection of biological diversity. Ecological components of endangered forests are: Intact forest landscapes; Remnant forests and restoration cores; Landscape connectivity; Rare forest types; Forests of high species richness; Forests containing high concentrations of rare and endangered species; Forests of high endemism; Core habitat for focal species; Forests exhibiting rare ecological and evolutionary phenomena. As a starting point to geographically locate ancient and endangered forests, maps of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF), as defined by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), and of intact forest landscapes (IFL), can be used and paired with maps of other key ecological values like the habitat range of key endangered species and forests containing high concentrations of terrestrial carbon and High Carbon Stocks (HCS). (The Wye River Coalition's Endangered Forests: High Conservation Value Forests Protection – Guidance for Corporate Commitments. This has been reviewed by conservation groups, corporations and scientists). Key endangered forests globally are the Canadian and Russian Boreal Forests; Coastal Temperate Rainforests of British Columbia, Alaska and Chile; Tropical forests and peat lands of Indonesia, the Amazon and West Africa.



WOOD AND PAPER POSITION STATEMENT

WHERE DO WE USE WOOD AND PAPER?

Our largest footprint using wood and paper are in our packaging (carrier bags, Selfridges Selection) and in construction for shop-fit.

This statement applies to all Selfridges own-label products made of or containing the following:

- Paper products from virgin wood fibre and recycled wood fibre sources
- Components or parts made of agricultural by-products
- Own label packaging
- Any solid or composite wood items

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH USING WOOD AND PAPER?

Illegal logging for timber, pulp and cellulose continues to drive global deforestation, often despite certification. Forests cleared for these raw materials are often then converted to monocrop plantations or agricultural land rather than left to rejuvenate.

WHAT IS SELFRIDGES' POSITION ON WOOD AND PAPER?

At Selfridges we are committed to the responsible purchasing of wood and paper products. We will source all wood and paper products that we specify or purchase for our own label from well-managed forests that have been certified to credible standards, to avoid contributing to deforestation and forest degradation. Our preference is to use recycled wherever possible rather than virgin stock.

Where using virgin content is unavoidable, at present, the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is currently the certification standard which meets all of Selfridges requirements. Where neither of these options are available, we will liaise with suppliers, for suitable alternatives, until our preferred sources can be used.

Selfridges will also engage with our partners represented in our shops and online to seek assurance that appropriate due diligence is also being undertaken for the products that we sell containing the above – we expect all of our brands and suppliers to comply with EU Timber Regulations and our target is for all wood, paper, card and viscose products to be sourced from certified sustainably managed forests by 2025 avoiding any product sourced from ancient or endangered forest.

For the purposes of our own construction, we will trade with timber suppliers who source fully traceable, sustainably managed wood for the following.

- Solid timber
- Timber composites such as MDF or plyboard
- Components or parts made of timber/and or paper

We will apply the same standards to our brands in their shop fits.

Last reviewed:
January 2019
(reviewed annually)
Version 2.0

Signed:

Simon Forster