

PRESS RELEASE

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Individual evidence for “sustainable timber procurement“

Low-cost procedure enables verification without certification

With a new order of October 6, 2017, issued by the federal ministries of Germany, it is now possible to participate in public procurements for sustainable wood products without a complex certification (e. g. by the systems FSC® or PEFC™) but with an so called “individual evidence”. This individual evidence certifies that the used wood comes from sustainable cultivation and can be issued by the ift Rosenheim. Particularly for small craft and service enterprises as well as companies that only rarely carry out contracts for the public sector, the individual evidence is a cost-efficient and effective alternative to a Chain-of-Custody certification.

The issue of sustainability is becoming increasingly important these days. In addition to leading retail chains, DIY stores and affluent "eco-builders", this has also been recognised by the public authorities. In the "Federal Regulation on the Procurement of Wood Products", which has been in force since 2010, these authorities have been demanding proof of the fact that wood (with a value of €2,000 or more) used for government orders comes from sustainable and legal forestry.

Previously, this proof was only possible via a Chain-of-Custody certificate (CoC) in the form of a product certification by the systems FSC® or PEFC™ or an equivalent certificate. This certification can also be carried out by ift Rosenheim and guarantees a gapless record of the origin of the wood. It is mainly suitable for companies that receive a large number of orders in accordance with these



Fig. 1
In order to protect forests and biodiversity effectively, sustainable forest management is necessary

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procurement guidelines and/or who want to advertise officially with the trademarks FSC® or PEFC™

With the new federal regulation of the participating federal ministries dated 6 October, it is now also possible to participate in public procurements with an individual certificate and without certification. The individual evidence is thus a way of proving the origin of wood products that are directly related to a specific order. It is particularly suitable for smaller companies that rarely carry out public sector contracts.

In order to fulfil the obligation to provide evidence to a public client after winning the contract and before installing the wood products, it is possible to request the detailed proof from ift Rosenheim. You will receive the preparatory documents for document verification. Only in few complex cases an on-site inspection by an auditor is necessary. After the relevant data has been checked by an ift expert, a confirmation is issued and the test certificate can be issued within a few days.

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Key words: testing, quality, safety, certification, research, wooden window, wooden door, PEFC, individual evidence

Info about ift Rosenheim (for the technical press)

ift Rosenheim is a notified European testing, surveillance and certification body with international accreditation, according to DIN EN ISO/IEC 17025. The core activities at ift Rosenheim include practical, holistic and fast testing and assessment of all characteristics of windows, facades, doors, gates, glazing and construction materials. Its goals include sustainable improvement of product quality, design, and technology as well as work on standardisation and research. Certification by ift Rosenheim assures you of acceptance all over Europe. At ift, we are committed to providing knowledge and as an unbiased institution, ift Rosenheim enjoys a special status with the media – the publications document the current state-of-the-art technology.

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Info about ift Rosenheim (for the public press)

You need skills, technology and experience for good structures, and this is especially applicable to windows, facades and doors. Since 1996, ift Rosenheim has been supporting the industry as a neutral scientific institute with technical services and more than 200 employees. These include conducting tests and research, certification and quality management as well as standardisation, advanced education and technical information. In this manner, ift Rosenheim is promoting the development of quality products that are suitable for use, environment-friendly and efficient, and which make life more comfortable, more secure and safer, and healthier.

(648 characters incl. spaces)

Pictures (available to download from the picture library at www.ift-rosenheim.de/bildarchiv)

No.	Image title and file name	Image
1	<p>In order to protect forests and biodiversity effectively, sustainable forest management is necessary</p> <p><i>File name:</i> PI180130_Fig_1_Individual_evidence_Squirrel_Forest_©_pixabay_klimkin.jpg</p> <p>Source: ift Rosenheim, Pixabay, klimkin</p>	

No.	Image title and file name	Image
2	<p>In order to protect forests and biodiversity effectively, sustainable forest management is necessary</p> <p><i>File name:</i> PI180130_Fig_2_Squirrel_Forrest_@_pixabay_klimkin.jpg</p> <p>Source: Pixabay, klimkin</p>	
3	<p>In order to protect forests and biodiversity effectively, sustainable forest management is necessary</p> <p><i>File name:</i> PI180130_Fig_3_Individual_evidence_sample.jpg</p> <p>Source: ift Rosenheim</p>	