



Product Procurement Policy

As a major UK purchaser of timber based panel products, Montague L Meyer (MLM) recognises its responsibility to the environment and to the principles of timber as a legal, sustainable and renewable resource.

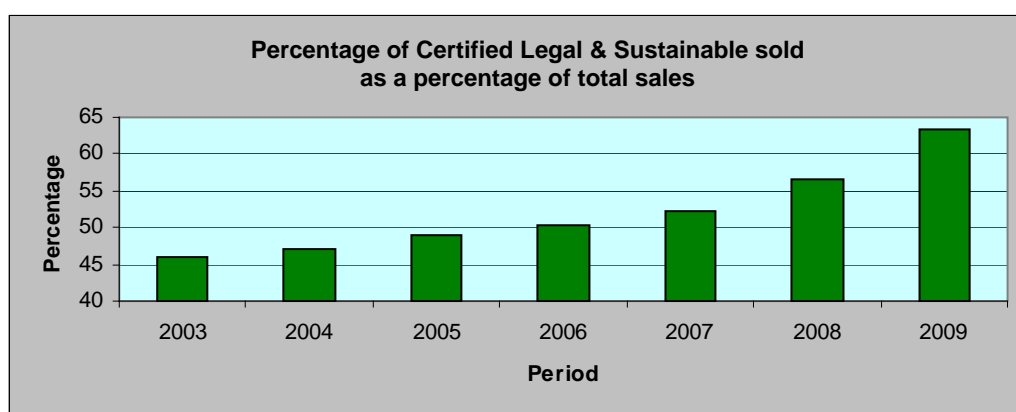
MLM purchases timber products from many parts of the world. We are committed to the purchase of these products from legal sources and to ensuring that wherever possible they are produced from well-managed forests. Within this policy, we do recognise that some regions from which products are sourced present greater environmental risk than others. Where demand dictates that we purchase timber from areas of potentially higher risk, we seek to work with suppliers who can demonstrate a commitment towards improving the level of sustainability in their activities, via a stepped approach towards a recognised environmental standard.

Our buyers regularly travel to our supplier's production facilities and concessions, in order to seek clear evidence that they are operating in an ethical, safe, legally compliant and sustainable way.

We give clear preference to those suppliers who can demonstrate a commitment to ethical standards that match our own, in particular with regard to working hours, minimum wages, non-employment of underage workers, non-use of bonded labour and freedom of association. We have high expectations of our suppliers regarding Health & Safety issues, in particular, with regard to appropriate risk assessments, guarding of machinery, fire safety, the provision of personal protective equipment and appropriate training. We expect to see realistic arrangements for the safe storage of fuel and chemicals, control of emissions and a lack of related prosecutions. With regard to all of the above, we seek evidence that demonstrates that the supplier is in compliance with the laws of their own Country.

In all cases we look for evidence of good forestry management practice. Whilst preference is given to those who can provide such evidence, we accept the need to give encouragement to suppliers who cannot currently fulfill all criteria, but who can demonstrate that they are working to achieve higher standards of forestry management, in particular, by means chain of custody processes and 3rd party certification thereof.

We are committed to the concept of auditable independent certification for all our product ranges, and are registered for both FSC (Cert. TT-CoC-001670) and PEFC / CSA (BMT-PEFC-0057) chain of custody at all our sites. The Company submits itself to independent scrutiny under the BM TRADA 'TRADA-Trak' scheme, to ensure that an increasing proportion of its products can be independently verified as coming from well-managed forests. We believe that this type of certification represents the best available means of demonstrating that products have originated from legal and sustainable sources. The trend of the increase in sales of certified products, as a percentage of our total turnover, by volume is illustrated below:



We recognise and will give preference to suppliers who's products and systems meet the specific qualifying requirements of the Government's procurement criteria, as defined within the CPET (Central Point of Expertise in Timber) Category A (FSC, PEFC, CSA, MTCS & SFI).

We will not trade in timber species prohibited under the Convention on the Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

We will seek to continuously improve this policy, as further certified product options become available to the market.

Signature: 

Name: Richard Lazenby, Purchasing Director

MLM Distribution Ltd, Registered in England No. 3152598
trading as Montague L. Meyer

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