

ANCIENT AND ENDANGERED FOREST CONSERVATION VISION AND ECO-PAPER PROCUREMENT POLICY

Effective: January 1, 2019

Our Vision Statement

Through this policy MET Fine Printers (MET) is positioned as an environmental leader in the printing, publishing, paper and communications industries, and will work in partnership with other companies, our partners, customers, and Canopy to promote sustainable forest management, the protection of endangered forests, eco-paper development and responsible environmental practices.

MET recognizes that in order to maintain business leadership and long-term success, MET must consider the environment, including the world's forest ecosystems. MET is positioned to influence both supply and demand in the market, and thus contribute to the development of environmental solutions that conserve our climate, protect ancient and endangered forests and restore natural forests. MET fully supports responsible forest management practices that protect biodiversity and ecosystem integrity, to provide long-term social and economic benefits to communities and build a climate of operational certainty.

MET supports the development and use of papers for magazines, catalogues, newspapers, books, brochures, leaflets, labels, communication material and similar printed matter, and offices that do not come from ancient and endangered forests. Recognizing that the number of high quality and affordable eco-papers have increased substantially, MET will collaborate throughout the supply chain and advise its customers to ensure continued support and creation of paper made from low footprint sources.

In addition, MET will support initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions where feasible and will play a role in mitigating climate change by participating in initiatives to reduce the loss of high carbon value forests. Thus, MET is committed to following Ancient and Endangered Forests Stewardship Model and implementing goals for paper procurement, and to applying this model and principles to all corporate paper use. This policy addresses the entire paper lifecycle, and supports principles that result in long-term environmental, social and economic benefits.

Our Implementation Goals

Protect Ancient and Endangered Forests

MET recognizes the impact of paper use and production on endangered forests and the environment. Therefore, the need to support and encourage the adoption of environmentally and socially responsible practices to ensure that fiber used in our paper is sourced from well-managed forests, and that land use choices and management practices contribute to the conservation of natural resources and in some instances additional environmental protection. MET will use reasonable efforts to influence our paper supply chain to use environmentally responsible practices.

MET will work to eliminate the use of fiber from ancient and endangered forests in places, such as the Canadian Boreal Forests; Temperate Rainforests of British Columbia, Alaska and Chile; and the Tropical Rainforests of Indonesia and the Amazon. In portions of Canada's Boreal Forest and the Great Bear Rainforest where visionary agreements are currently being implemented, MET will work with Canopy to identify opportunities to support and encourage these initiatives.

MET will work to ensure that paper products do not originate from endangered species habitat. If we find that any of our papers do contain fiber from such habitat, we will engage our partners to cease operations in that area and encourage alternative sources.

Conservation of Ancient and Endangered Forests and Protection of Biodiversity and Ecosystems

MET will give preference to partners that work toward conservation of endangered forests and the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems contained within these forests. MET also recognizes that certain regions have been identified as priority regions for forest conservation and biodiversity by the conservation science community and other stakeholders, and will work toward phasing out and finding suitable alternatives to any fiber sourced from these regions.

Forest Certification

MET will give purchasing preference to fiber originating from Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) certified operations.

Avoiding Controversial Sources

MET will presently reduce, and by 2025 eliminate, its purchase of paper products from other highly controversial sources including: Companies that are logging forests illegally; forests that comprise habitats of threatened, endangered, or imperiled species; intact and old growth forests; tree plantations established after 1994 through the conversion or simplification of natural forests; or areas being logged in contravention of First Nations/Tribal/Indigenous Peoples' Rights. Furthermore, we will work with and communicate to our clients and customers to encourage these same responsible choices.

Plantations

MET will source paper with fiber originating from FSC® certified, well-managed, longstanding plantations or from new fiber plantations established on degraded agricultural or pasture lands. MET will encourage paper suppliers to abandon the practice of conversion of natural forests to plantations.

Illegal Logging

MET is committed to working with its paper suppliers and other stakeholders to ensure that illegally sourced fibers are not used in the manufacturing of paper purchased by MET.

Reduce Greenhouse Gas Footprint

MET will strive to reduce its greenhouse gas footprint and consequent impacts on climate change. Towards this end, we will implement the following strategies:

- Engage partners to curb deforestation and/or fragmentation of intact forests;
- Use Ancient Forest Friendly and recycled papers as much as possible;
- Give preference to paper manufactured by suppliers that use effective strategies to actively reduce their Greenhouse gas footprint; and
- Partner with Environmental leaders such as Climate Smart to assist in measurement of our footprint, and Brinkman Climate for offset procurement.

Maximize Recycled Content

Industry supported Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) shows sourcing recycled fiber can reduce overall pressure on forests and other important natural resources like water, as well as reducing the carbon footprint of the paper, especially when fibers from post-consumer waste are used in paper production. Therefore, MET will:

- Give preference to paper with high-recycled content and specifically post-consumer waste content, and to progressively set targets to increase recycled content while meeting the physical and performance demands required for the individual product;
- Encourage its suppliers to continuously improve and expand the availability of recycled content in papers; and
- Work to maximize the overall recycled fiber content of its papers to a minimum average of 30% within 5 years.

Develop Agricultural Residue Fiber Sources

MET will work with suppliers and Canopy to explore and encourage the development of agricultural residues and fibers as a commercially viable fiber source for paper. We anticipate this will be an area of rapid advances over the next few years, and will keep abreast of new developments and potential opportunities in this area. Therefore MET will:

- Source papers from alternative fibers, such as flax, wheat straw or other agricultural residues, when possible; and
- Support research and development of commercial scale production of pulp and paper from alternative fiber sources. MET may offer press time for trials.

Increase Paper Efficiency and Decrease Consumption

MET is committed to reducing its paper consumption by 5% or more on repeat projects annually through the following measures:

- Improving efficiency in paper use, including efforts to reduce waste from material handling, inefficient job layout, pressroom, binding and finishing, shipping and receiving, and miscellaneous waste;
- Promoting continuous technical advances in paper basis weight reduction, and design and printing methods to minimize process waste;
- Supporting the use and development of appropriate technology platforms that help reduce paper consumption; and
- Closing the loop on paper use in North America, and supporting local paper recycling initiatives, such as selling waste and scrap paper to local recyclers and recycled paper makers, and advocating for recovered paper to be sorted rather than mixed into a “single stream” system.

Prevent Pollution

Paper manufacturing is a resource-intensive process that can lead to air and water emissions that impact overall environmental quality.

- MET will give purchasing preference to paper that is chlorine-free and has been processed utilizing responsible bleaching technologies, such as Process and Totally Chlorine-Free (PCF and TCF) bleaching; and
- MET will give preference to suppliers that monitor and reduce overall emissions by adopting the latest technologies and practices to minimize air and water pollution. We will ask prospective suppliers for a description of how they are meeting legal requirements and reporting annually on plant performance related to these issues.

Setting Benchmarks, Timelines, and other Accountability Mechanisms

MET will establish benchmarks, timelines, and other accountability mechanisms to implement this policy, and to review this process annually.

Involving all Stakeholders in the process

MET will involve employees, partners, shareholders and customers in the implementation of its Ancient and Endangered Forest Friendly Paper Procurement Policy.

Working with Incumbent Partners

MET will work with current partners to encourage them to supply information so that their practices can be compared to this policy. MET will work with suppliers on identified compliance matters.

Promote Industry Leadership

MET recognizes the benefit of creating environmental awareness among its customers, employees and peers. As implementation progresses:

- MET will note the post-consumer content of the paper and/or use of the Ancient Forest Friendly logo where appropriate;
- MET will incorporate our environmental commitment into web and electronic forums as appropriate and will initiate campaigns that help promote Ancient Forest Friendly Initiatives, such as advertisements, store displays, etc;
- MET commits to promoting Ancient and Endangered Forest Friendly Paper Procurement Policies with other printers and paper buyers, suppliers, customers, and advertisers; and
- MET will work with partners, Canopy, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders in protecting endangered and ancient forests, improving forest management and production practices, and reducing demand on forests.



Nikos Kallas, President
MET Fine Printers

ANNEX I – IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES

To fulfill the preceding commitments, MET will:

1. Execute an action plan encompassing essential measures and other actions needed to implement our Endangered Forest Conservation Vision and Eco-Paper Procurement Policy.
2. Educate and train relevant MET's team about our Endangered Forest Conservation Vision and Eco-Paper Procurement Policy, its implementation measures, and action plans.
3. Conduct an initial supply vendor audit with Chain of Custody forms supplied by Canopy to:
 - Benchmark our purchases and usage of paper products;
 - Determine the forests of origin for these paper products; and
 - Identify any paper products purchased and sold by MET Fine Printers that may contain inputs from endangered forests and/or other controversial sources.
4. Conduct an audit of MET's purchases and use of paper products to benchmark the company's use of FSC® certified paper, post-consumer recycled (PCR) and chlorine-free paper, and alternative/agricultural residue fiber papers, if any.
5. Develop and implement an action plan to achieve the implementation goals above for:
 - Increasing the purchase and usage of FSC® certified paper products;
 - Increasing the purchase and usage of PCR and chlorine-free paper;
 - Increasing MET's efficiency in the use of paper products; and
 - Exploring opportunities to increase the usage of papers containing agricultural residue fibers.
6. Establish an internal monitoring and feedback system to identify progress in meeting MET's Ancient and Endangered Forest Conservation Vision and Eco-Paper Procurement Policy commitments, and to enable improved implementation of this initiative. The system should require progress reports to be prepared annually.
7. Maintain our targeted goals and objectives in accordance with the Global Reporting Initiative Guidelines as they relate to Forestry Issues:
 - Include plans to communicate with paper suppliers, and advise them that to retain MET's business, they must phase out paper from endangered forests and other controversial sources per the requirements of MET's Endangered Forest Conservation Vision and Eco-Paper Procurement Policy;
 - If the suppliers manage forests, then they must commit to identifying and protecting endangered forests under their management, as well as commit to seeking FSC® Certification;
 - Include plans for conducting third party supply vendor audits for proposed new paper products, to confirm the sources of those products are not endangered forests and/or otherwise controversial;
 - Include plans to require all forest product suppliers to submit annual performance reports detailing their progress in meeting the requirements of MET's Endangered Forest Conservation Vision and Eco-Paper Procurement Policy; and
 - Include plans to consult with conservation organizations, including Canopy, and independent scientists if assistance are needed in identifying endangered forests, other controversial sources, and/or products from these areas.
8. Explore opportunities to develop pilot projects and partnerships that can stimulate the market for environmentally responsible products, such as those containing FSC® certified paper.
9. Report on successes annually with updates to the sustainability section of our website.