Paper Policy

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Paper Policy

Policy for the procurement and selection of paper and paper products, for print products and packaging made from paper

Corporate Responsibility is an integral part of the strategy of Deutsche Post DHL Group. Under the motto Living Responsibility, we focus on protecting the environment (GoGreen), delivering help (GoHelp), championing education (GoTeach) and support volunteering activities of our employees. We want to minimize the impact of our business on the environment. Paper and paper products are amongst the most important natural resources we use, and are therefore included in our comprehensive environmental strategy.

We offer a unique range of products to our private and business customers. Most of these products are recognized as Deutsche Post or DHL products by customers thanks to their paper or cardboard packaging, or due to being advertised in brochures and other printed material. Therefore, it is vital for us to promote and foster the responsible use of the paper they are made with.

Deutsche Post DHL Group is also committed to the basic principles of sustainable forestry. The wood fiber and recycled paper used to make the paper and paper products we purchase should be used as sparingly and efficiently as possible, and we should at all times try to protect precious environmental resources and biodiversity. To achieve these goals, we strive for increased transparency through a closed chain of custody for all our paper products along the entire supply chain ranging from wood as the raw material to the finished product.

This policy for the selection and procurement of paper and paper products, and for print products and packaging made from paper is based on the Group’s Environmental and Energy Policy and Group-wide standards for procurement. It shall ensure that paper and paper products, and print products and packaging made from paper conform to the guiding principles of sustainability, resource protection and efficiency.

Bonn, 13th May 2015

Dr. Frank Appel
Chairman of the Board of Management

Prof. Dr. Christof Ehrhart
Executive Vice President Corporate Communications and Responsibility

Dr. Michael Nießen
Chief Procurement Officer
1 Scope

This policy is binding for all companies within Deutsche Post DHL Group. It includes all paper, paper products, print products and paper-based packaging materials purchased directly by or on behalf of Deutsche Post DHL Group by third parties or agencies. For this policy the term “paper” stands synonymously for paper, paper products, print products and paper-based packaging materials.

2 Definitions

Recycled paper

For this policy, recycled paper is defined as paper made from 100% post-consumer recycled content\(^1\).

In order to prove that the recycled paper is actually made from 100% post-consumer recycled content, it must have an approved national or international certification. Within Germany, paper that is procured has to meet the high standards of the environmental label “Blauer Engel”\(^2\) (Blue Angel). Outside of Germany, paper meeting the standard “FSC Recycling”\(^3\) is also adequate if the paper is made from 100% post-consumer recycled content. The use and approval of other standards has to be aligned with the Dep 026 Shared Value (for further contact information, please refer to myNet).

Paper from sustainable forestry

Sustainable forestry ensures that forests and forested land are used in a way, and at a rate, that maintains their biodiversity, productivity, regeneration capacity, vitality and their potential to fulfill, now and in the future, relevant ecological, economic and social functions, at local, national, and global levels.

Paper from sustainable forestry has to be certified according to approved national or international standards (“FSC”\(^4\) or “PEFC”\(^5\)). The use and approval of other standards has to be aligned with the Dep 026 Shared Value (for further contact information, please refer to myNet).

Mixed paper

Mixed paper is defined as paper containing post-consumer recycled content and paper from sustainable forestry. The share of post-consumer recycled content should be as high as possible. Mixed paper has to be certified according to approved national or international standards (“FSC Mix”\(^6\)). The use and approval of other standards has to be aligned with the Dep 026 Shared Value (for further contact information, please refer to myNet).

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\(^1\) Waste from paper production itself does not count as post-consumer recycled content.

\(^2\) http://www.blauer-engel.de/en

\(^3\) Forest Stewardship Council (FSC): http://www.fsc.org/

\(^4\) Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC): http://www.pefc.org/
3 Principle: Recycled paper is the preferred type of paper for use at Deutsche Post DHL Group

When procuring paper or services to manufacture or procure paper, only recycled paper (in compliance with paragraph 2) is allowed, unless criteria outlined in paragraph 4 are met.

4 Exceptions to this Paper Policy

Only the following two reasons are considered to be valid exceptions to the principle described in paragraph 3:

a. Recycled paper is not suitable to ensure the necessary physical and/or technical properties of a product (e.g. mechanical stability of packaging) or

b. Recycled paper is not available in the local market and cannot be obtained without an unreasonable amount of additional work and expense.

Any exception must comply with the criteria outlined in paragraph 5 and must be approved as described below. Differences in the look and feel of the paper do not justify an exception to the principle of recycled paper being the preferred type of paper for use at Deutsche Post DHL Group.

5 Alternatives to recycled paper

When an alternative to recycled paper has to be found, mixed papers take precedence over paper from sustainable forestry. When neither mixed paper nor paper from sustainable forestry can be obtained with a reasonable amount of additional work and expense in the local market, paper from non-specified sources may be used.

In any case, the entity which is looking for an alternative to recycled paper needs to seek permission through the local procurement department. Permissions are evaluated individually, following a documented process between the Corporate Procurement and Dep 026 Shared Value (for further contact information, please refer to myNet).

6 Disqualification of specific types of paper

Deutsche Post DHL Group does not knowingly use or procure paper, paper products and print products which:

a. originate from tropical rainforests, primeval forests, ancient forests under protection or worthy of such

b. have been obtained through illegal logging.

Deutsche Post DHL Group reserves the right to exclude certain woodland from its entire supply chain in the case of public or scientific controversy pertaining to the need for conservation or sustainable forestry.
7 Cooperation with suppliers and service providers

Deutsche Post DHL Group endeavors to enter into long-term partnerships with suppliers and service providers that share and support the Group’s commitment to sustainable development.

Suppliers and service providers that cannot provide certification to approved national or international standards will nevertheless be considered in the procurement process, if they:

a. are willing to provide detailed information about the product’s and/or raw material’s origin and their screening process for suppliers,
b. are willing to align their procurement policy with ecological and social criteria and
c. work according to acknowledged national or international standards for sustainable production.

For further information, please contact Dep 026 Shared Value (Externally: Please contact gogreen@dpdhl.com; Internally: Please refer to myNet).