



Paper Products Use and Procurement Policy

2014

VISION

In Canada, RONA is recognized as a responsible company in its industry. Our [Responsible Procurement Policy \(RPP\)](#) establishes the principles stating that we seek to do business with suppliers and partners who respect the environment and comply with labour standards.

RONA has adopted a rigorous approach to analyzing the environmental impact of its products, based on life cycle assessment, a stringent and recognized method to measure the environmental impact of a product from cradle to grave.

RONA firmly believes that the environment must be conserved through the protection of and the responsible use of natural resources extracted from it, so that future generations can continue to benefit from these resources. We recognize that we have an important role to play, through the products we sell and consume as a business, to ensure the sustainability of natural resources and to reduce our environmental footprint.

As a buyer of wood products, RONA wishes to do business with suppliers who comply with this policy.

SCOPE

This policy applies to paper products used in our daily operations and those products sold in our network of stores.

This policy deals specifically with environmental and socioeconomic issues already addressed in detail in the [Forest Products Procurement Policy](#). For all other sustainability-related issues, these products are governed by RONA's [Responsible Procurement Policy \(RPP\)](#), including the principles for implementation.

PRINCIPLES

1. Responsible procurement of paper

- **Using responsibly sourced fibres**

When RONA buys paper, we look for the following qualities:

- **Recycled fibre**

RONA favours the procurement of paper containing post-consumer recycled fibre.

RONA recognizes the importance of recovering wastepaper and recycling the fibre to make new products.

- **Certified virgin fibre**

RONA wishes to do business with suppliers who provide wood products sourced from forests that have a recognized certification in sustainable forest management (SFM), or are in the process of obtaining certification.

We have adopted an inclusive approach to the certification of forests and recognize the standards of the following organizations:

- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)
- The standards supported by the Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC), including:
 - Canadian Standards Association (CSA)
 - Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)

RONA supports certifications that integrate environmental and social aspects into forest management. RONA recognizes the importance of strong and respectful relationships with indigenous communities and the conservation of biodiversity, two priority factors as defined in FSC certification. RONA also recognizes that differences exist between the various certifications and that FSC standards are among the most stringent. As a result, RONA will give preference to paper products that comply with FSC standards, subject to availability and price competitiveness. RONA will also seek to improve these criteria by considering other certification standards.

- **Legally sourced fibre**

RONA will not knowingly use illegally harvested wood fibre. For the purposes of this policy, illegally harvested wood fibre is any such product obtained in violation of established legislation. Consequently, this includes manufacturing by-products, such as wood chips.

RONA will diligently investigate all complaints in this regard and ask the supplier to take corrective action immediately. If the supplier fails to comply with such a request, RONA will reconsider its business relationship with the supplier.

- **Using paper not bleached with elemental chlorine**

RONA favours the procurement of paper that has not been bleached with elemental chlorine.

- **Performance of suppliers**

RONA wishes to evaluate the environmental performance of suppliers' manufacturing facilities, when this information is available.

RONA encourages paper suppliers to adopt environmental management systems aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

2. Reducing consumption

RONA aims to reduce the volume of paper required for daily operations by involving our employees. To this end, RONA will identify and implement management and communications practices that help us reduce our consumption of paper products.

VERIFICATION

As stated in the Responsible Procurement Policy (RPP), RONA will take the required action to monitor compliance with this policy. For details, please see the Verification section of the RPP.

This policy will be applied in a context of dialogue and continuous improvement. RONA expects that suppliers implement corrective measures to remedy all cases of non-compliance. If necessary, the business relationship with the supplier may be reconsidered.

RONA is also committed to cooperating with all stakeholders to implement and improve this policy.

As part of a sustainability action plan, RONA will develop goals that are specific to this policy. In its annual report on corporate responsibility, RONA is committed to reporting on progress made in implementing this policy.