



The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) certification is an international, independent and third-party certification, specific for the forest sector and products - wood and non-wood - deriving from forests. To obtain it, it is necessary to plan numerous activities which are then inspected and evaluated by an accredited certification body that verifies the actual compliance with the FSC regulations. Specifically, obtaining the certification is divided into two stages:

- **CHAIN OF CUSTODY (COC) CERTIFICATION**, for forest products processing and / or trading companies:
- FOREST MANAGEMENT (FM) CERTIFICATION, for forest owners and managers.

On 16th - 18th June 2021 the inspection visit was held inside the cork oak stand of "Lu Canniscioni", located in Sardinia, in Baldu, (Tempio Pausania): the last step to verify compliance with all sustainability principles and criteria and officially obtain this important certification.

An important result, which we wanted and we deserved, to certify the great commitment made by all of us at Sugherificio Molinas to create a sustainable business development program, based on virtuous and measurable environmental and social behaviour.

Declares Paolo Molinas, Sales Manager at Sugherificio Molinas.

LIMBARA ARL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF THE MOLINAS GROUP: THE FIRST COMPANY IN ITALY TO OBTAIN FSC CERTIFICATION FOR AN OWNED CORK FOREST.

HOW DID WE GET CERTIFIED?



The first steps for the FSC* certifications of forest management of the "Limbara Agricultural Company" of the Molinas group date back to the early months of 2020. The certification of the forest management of the owned cork forest completes the Molinas group's sustainability path; in fact, even Sugherificio Molinas has obtained certification for the chain of custody.

Everything started with training our team on FSC* certification, management, planning operations, and monitoring activities.

The major efforts concerned the correct management of the area (viability, borders, silvicultural interventions and accessories, cleaning), and the definition of an operational organization chart, in which a Certification Manager (Dr. Agr. Andrea Martinez), a Purchase Manage (Mr.Giuseppe Molinas), the Health and Safety Manager (Mr.Roberto Fanti), team leaders and operators.

LET'S SEE IN DETAIL WHAT ARE THE TWO CERTIFICATIONS

■ THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY (COC) CERTIFICATION BV-COC-164758

Chain of Custody (CoC) certification guarantees full and detailed traceability of a forest product. The traceability is monitored at any stage or moment of its production, transformation and marketing process, in a clear and defined way. This allows to create a great distinction between certified products and noncertified or different ones, keeping the entire production chain under control and allowing certified products to be labelled with the addition of the FSC logo.





■ THE FOREST MANAGEMENT (FM) CERTIFICATION FSC-C165612

The Forest Management (FM) certification ensures that the forest is managed in compliance with rigorous environmental, social and economic standards. These standards are based on the ten Principles and Criteria of responsible forest management (Principles & Criteria, P&C), defined and kept up to date by FSC with the participation of all interested parties.

To obtain the Forest Management certification, it is therefore necessary to comply with the principles and criteria that cover the essential aspects of responsible forest management: from the early stages of planning of interventions, to the operational phases in the field, up to the felling and extraction of timber. and other products. **Rules that apply all over the world**, across all forest ecosystems and cultural, political and legal systems, with specific indications relating to the type of local forest management.

Fundamental both in the definition of the standards and during the certification process are the participation and consent of local and national stakeholders, or of all the subjects with various and different interests (environmental, social, economic) towards the correct management of the Forest.



CSI Spa is a company of IMQ Group, a European reference center for the assessment and the compliance certification of materials, products, plants and companies. The task of a Certification Body is to be a guarantee. towards citizens and towards the market. For this reason, even before starting the verification, the main local institutions are contacted: local and national bodies and institutions, as well as private entities in order to obtain comments or reports that can make the subsequent activities we carry out more effective. The certification audit of the cork oak tree of "Lu Canniscioni", in the locality of Baldu, owned by the "Limbara Agricultural Company" belonging to Molinas Group lasted three intense days: both a documentary check, to assess that a management system had been prepared in compliance with the requirements of FSC. both in the field, in the cork forest subject to certification, to ascertain that this system was actually implemented as set up. The outcome of this verification was positive and the forest management certificate was issued according to FSC standards, for the cork extraction activity, but also for the responsible management of this territory. Our hope is therefore that the other areas managed by the Molinas Group companies will soon be among those subject to certification, reflecting the commitment to compliance with the social, environmental and economic

Ing. Pierdomenico Baldazzi, Manager of Management Systems Area - CSI Spa

requirements required by the FSC standard.

A REAL ADDED VALUE FOR OUR CUSTOMERS

Our commitment does not only concern us: there are many customers who have been able to appreciate and take advantage of our work and our investments in sustainable development activities for our reality and our productions. Being able to guarantee FSC certified products today is a big step in this direction, resulting in a tangible element and a real added value, which can be enjoyed by all our customers.

