

Organic
trade association
SINCE 1985



TextileExchange
Creating Material Change



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483503

Organic Fiber & Textiles

OTA's Role



Gwendolyn Wyard

Regulatory Director for Organic Standards and Food Safety

Organic Trade Association (OTA)



OTA is the leading voice for the organic trade in the United States, representing over 6,500 organic businesses across 49 states.

Our members include growers, shippers, processors, certifiers, farmers' associations, distributors, importers, exporters, consultants, retailers and others.

OTA's Board of Directors is democratically elected by its members.

Global Organic Textile Standard

OTA Involvement

- OTA is one of four International Working Group Members
 - ✓ OTA (USA)
 - ✓ Soil Association (England)
 - ✓ IVN (Germany)
 - ✓ JOCA (Japan)

Marni Karlin: VP of Government Affairs & Legal Counsel, OTA

Designated IWG Representative (OTA)

Gwendolyn Wyard: Regulatory Director, Organic Standards and Food Safety, OTA

USA GOTS Technical Committee Representative (OTA)

- OTA formally recognizes GOTS as the global standard for textiles
- Annual meetings and revisions to the standards every three years



Organic Fiber & Textiles

OTA Advocacy

- OTA News Flash, Fiber Forum, & Task Forces
- NOP Policy Memo 11-14 on Labeling of Textiles
- Imported Cotton: Finding an alternative to Methyl Bromide
- OTA comments to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC)
 - Oversight and enforcement of organic claims on fiber and textiles
 - Policy Conference “ask” for Congress to sign onto a letter

Learn more about OTA’s advocacy work!

<http://www.ota.com/organic/fiber.html>



Organic Cotton Survey

- Each year, OTA produces a report on domestic organic cotton production in partnership with Cotton, Inc.
- OTA has collected information on organic cotton production in the U.S. since 2001
- The annual U.S. Organic Cotton Production & Marketing Trends is made available at no cost in January via OTA's Web site

2011 and Preliminary 2012
**U.S. Organic Cotton
Production & Marketing Trends**
January 2013



Descriptive Summary
Background
2011 U.S. Organic Cotton
Production Overview
Acres Planted / Acres Harvested
Pricing & Market
Agriculture
Farm Size, Revenues & Crop Insurance
Experienced Producers
Outlook for 2012 and Beyond
GOTS
Global Supply & Demand
Growth Constraints
Areas of Opportunity
Government Agency Resources
Methodology
Acknowledgements
Appendix: Data Resources

Produced by:

Organic
Trade Association

For:

Cotton
Incorporated

The most recent report can be found here:

<http://www.ota.com/pics/documents/2012-2013-Organic-Cotton-Report.pdf>



Thank You!



Gwendolyn Wyard

Regulatory Director, Organic Standards and Food Safety
Organic Trade Association



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www.ota.com





Textile Exchange

Organic Content Standard

June 12, 2014

OUR MISSION



**We INSPIRE and EQUIP people
to accelerate sustainable practices
in the textile value chain.**

OUR EXPERTISE

Organic Cotton

**Verification and
Certification**

Raw Materials

**Chemistry and
Processing**

**Value Chain
Development**

OUR EXPERTISE

Organic Cotton

**Verification and
Certification**

Raw Materials

**Chemistry and
Processing**

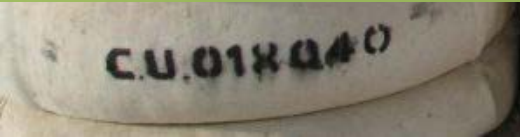
**Value Chain
Development**

CERTIFICATION

ORGANIC CERTIFICATION



- Differentiation in the market
- Integrity of production through a certification process
- Cotton can be traced back to the farm



IT IS ABOUT REPUTATION



REPUTATION

*A reputation that took decades to build
can be threatened by a single event.*



**... AND MAKING SURE YOU ARE MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

ORGANIC CONTENT STANDARD

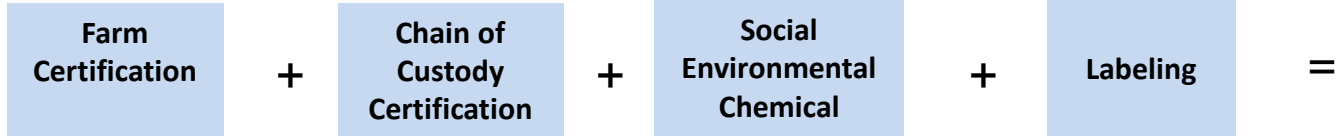
OE100 / OE BLENDED BECOME OCS



ORGANIC STANDARDS COMPONENTS



Material
Content
Standard



Full
Product
Standard

ORGANIC STANDARDS

Material Content Standard

Organic Content Standard (OCS)



Product Standard

Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)



ORGANIC STANDARDS

Material Content Standard

Organic Content Standard (OCS)

“Contains 65% organically grown cotton”

“Contains 100% organically grown linen”



Product Standard




Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)

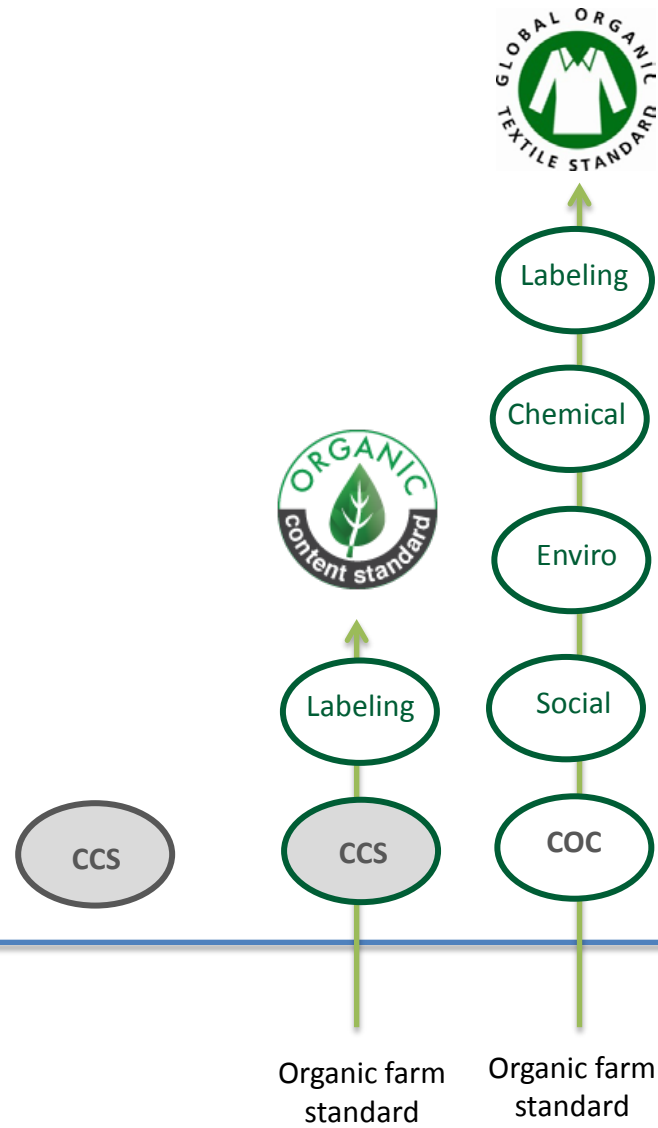
“organic t-shirt”

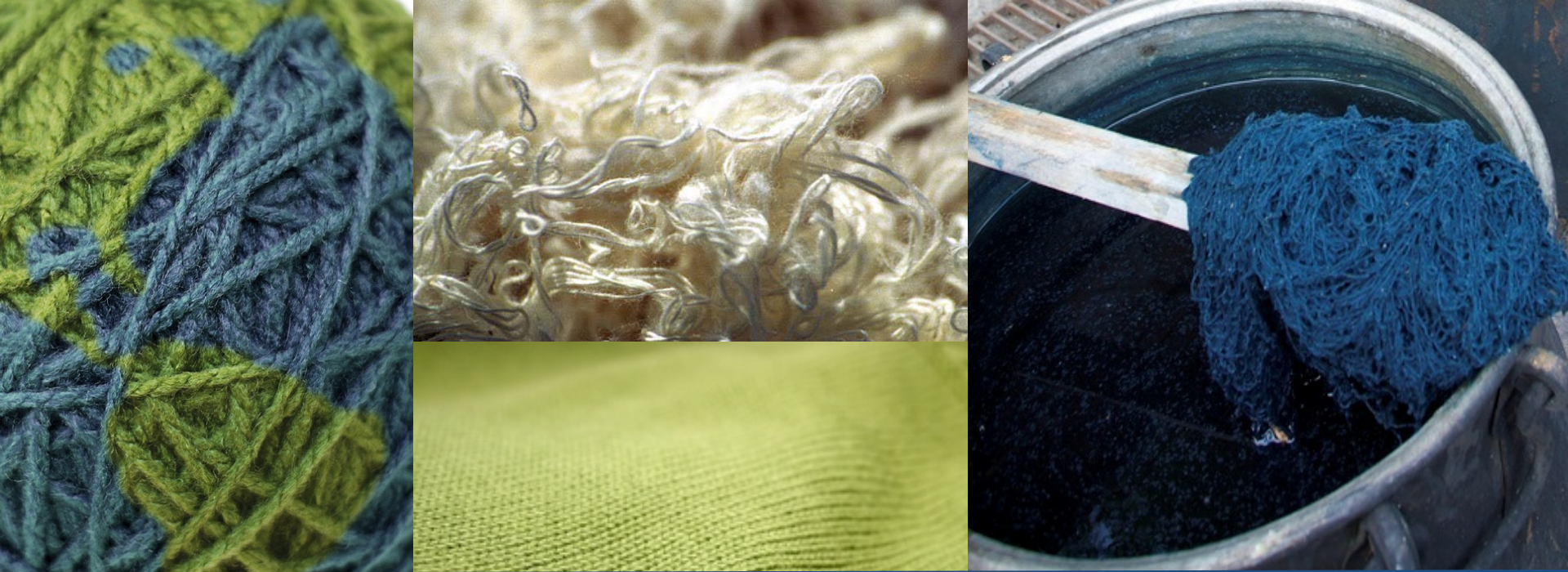
“100% organic sheets”



STANDARDS OVERVIEW

	OCS	GOTS
Raw materials	Organic fibers	Organic fibers
Chain of custody tracking system	Transaction certificates	Transaction certificates
Environmental issues addressed in processing	None	Chemical use Water treatment Environmental policy
Social issues addressed in processing	None	Based on ILO norms
Label claims allowed <i>* note that there are specific criteria in each standard for when the claims can be made</i>	'Contains X% organically grown cotton'	'Organic' or 'Made with X% organic materials'
Logo	 	





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Integrity Specialist

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Interested in our standards?

Integrity@TextileExchange.org

Interested in membership?

Membership@TextileExchange.org

www.TextileExchange.org



Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) and the North American Marketplace

www.Global-Standard.org

Rules for ecologically and socially
responsible textile production



Sandra Marquardt

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301-592-0077

What is GOTS?



- GOTS is a *voluntary* standard that covers the processing, manufacturing, packaging, labeling, trading, and distribution of all textiles made from at least 70% certified organic natural fibers (organic cotton, organic wool, organic silk...)
- As with organic food standards, a textile product carrying the GOTS label grade 'organic' must contain a minimum of 95% certified organic fibers, whereas a product with the label grade 'made with organic' must contain a minimum of 70% certified organic fibers.

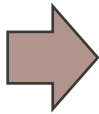
Basic Features of GOTS



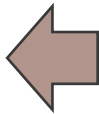
**$\geq 70\%$
Organic Fibers**



**Environmental and
Social Criteria**



**All Processing / B2B
Trading Stages**



**Independent
Certification**



GOTS International Working Group (IWG)



International Association Natural Textile Industry (IVN), Germany



Soil Association (SA), England



Organic Trade Association (OTA), USA



Japan Organic Cotton Association (JOCA), Japan

GOTS History: 2002-2014



August 2002
Intercot, Düsseldorf

Formation of the International Working Group on Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS IWG)

May 2005
Intercot, Chicago

OTA, IVN, Joca and Soil Association agree on the 1st version of GOTS

October 2006

Start of certification system

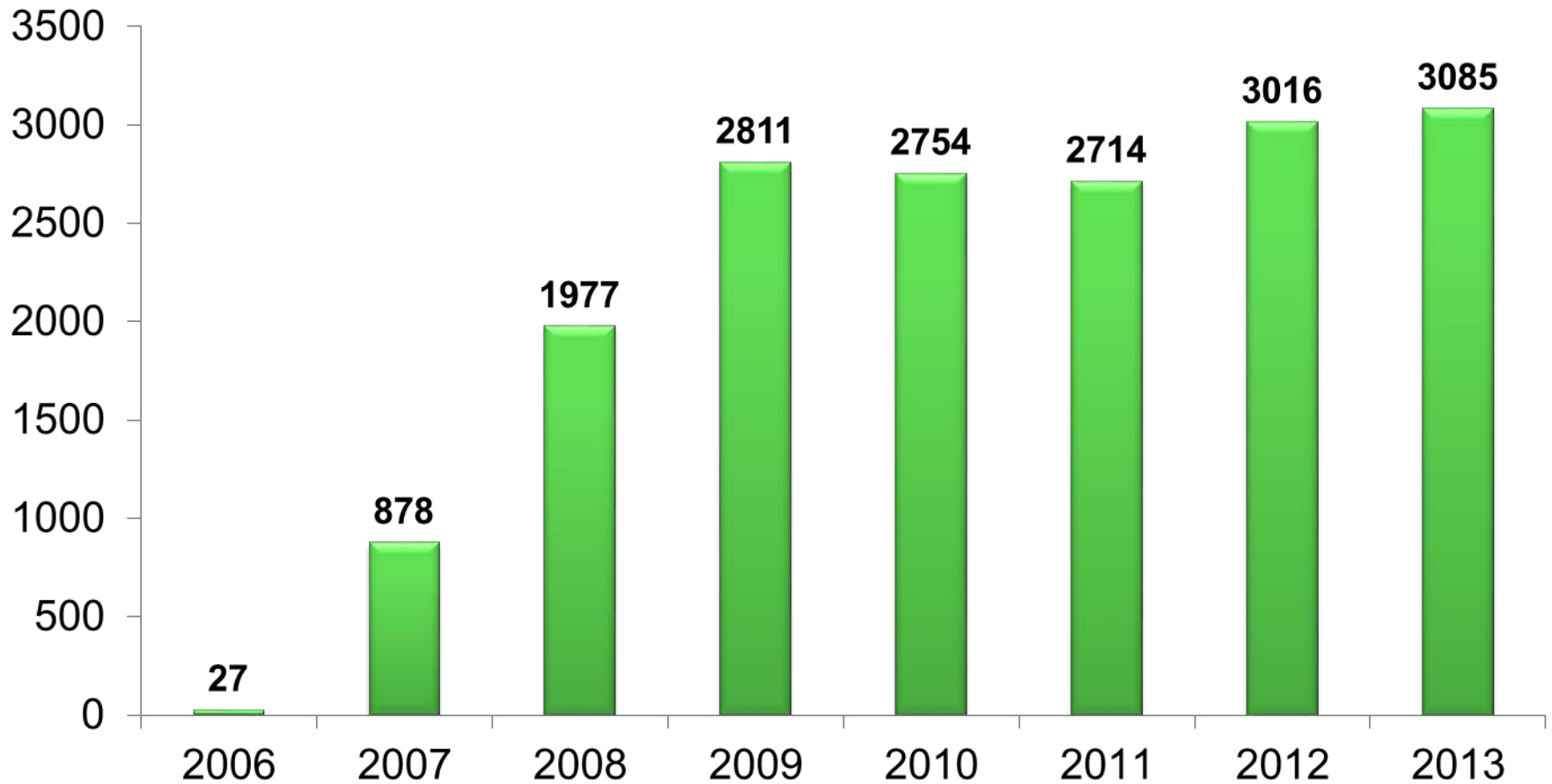
June 2008
IFOAM Conference

Introduction of the logo & release of the Labelling Guide

March 2014

Release of GOTS Version 4.0 (current version)

GOTS Certification of Facilities Worldwide 2006 - 2013



Breakdown of facilities by region / country 2013



3085 facilities certified to GOTS in 62 countries

■ India 1029

■ China 197

■ Asia other 514

■ Turkey 421

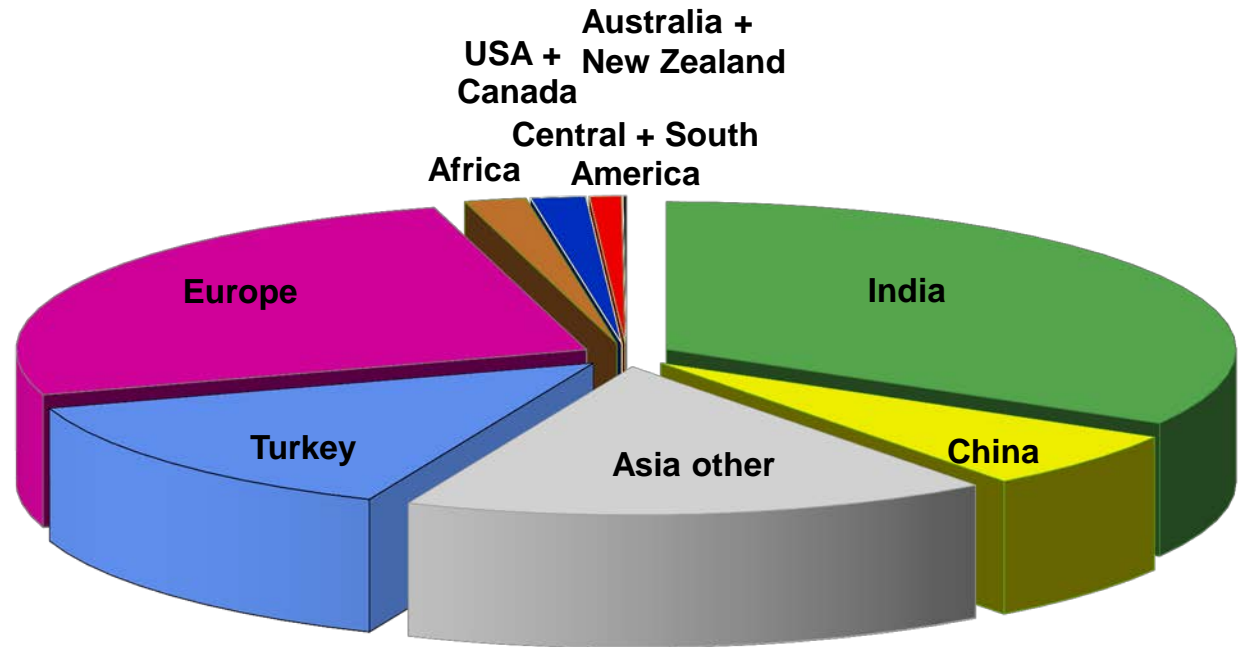
■ Europe 791

■ Africa 54

■ USA / Canada 48

■ Central- / South America 28

■ Australia / New Zealand 3



North American Companies Certified to GOTS



Certified U.S. companies make everything from apparel to beds/bedding, fabrics, home textiles, and personal care products, or provide the bleaching/dyeing, yarn spinning, and more.

Acme Felt Works	Jagger Brothers	Seventh Generation
Ayablu Inc. DBA Burts Bees Baby	Jeffco Fibres	The Natural Baby Company
Barnhardt Manufacturing Company	Lumberton Cellulose Georgia Pacific	TJ Beall Company
Colored Organics	Naturepedic	Toyoshima
Corman Organics	Nonwovens	Trace Industries
Coyuchi	Organic Cotton Plus	U.S. Cotton
Deslee Textiles	Organic Mattresses (OMI)	Ultimate Textile Inc.
Fox-Rich Textiles	Organics-n-More	Under the Nile
Green Living Organics Inc.	Saco River Dye House	Wear PACT
Harmony Art	Savvy Rest	WestPoint Home
Hugh Shepard Enterprises		

U.S. companies in the GOTS certification process



- **American Apparel**
- **Maggie's Organics**
- **Portico/Under the Canopy**
- **Threads for Thought**
- **Possibly others!**

U.S. Retailers Carrying GOTS Products



Several leading retailers in the U.S. are carrying GOTS-certified products:

- ABC Home
- BabiesRUs
- Bed, Bath, and Beyond
- Bed and Bath
- buybuy BABY
- Dillards
- MOM's Organic Market
- Target
- The Company Store
- West Elm
- Whole Foods Market

GOTS Examples – Personal Care



GOTS Examples – Yarn and Fabrics



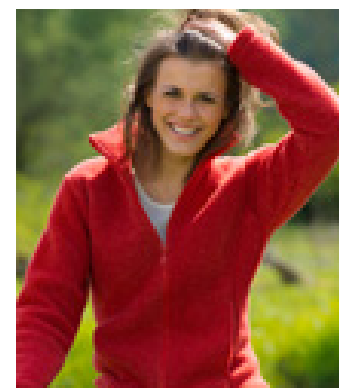
GOTS Examples – Kitchen (Fabric-only certified so far)



GOTS Examples – Children's Products



GOTS Examples – Adult Apparel/Hosiery



GOTS Examples- Home Textiles



The GOTS Marketplace



- **Increasingly:**
 - **consumers are demanding ecologically- and socially responsibly-processed textiles, and**
 - **companies are searching for tools to make their supply chains more sustainable.**
- **The result is a ‘pull effect’ and more companies are becoming GOTS-certified.**

Organic Fiber Product Sales – Global



Textile Exchange (TE's) 2013 Organic Cotton Market Report:

- The international market for organic cotton products reached **\$8.9 billion** in 2012.
- This equals a **31% increase** over \$6.8 billion in 2011.
- **71 percent** of respondents were planning to increase their organic cotton use in 2013.
- The **Top Ten organic cotton users by volume** are (in order by rank): **C&A, H&M, Nike, Puma, Coop Swiss, Anvil, William-Sonoma, Inditex, Carrefour and Target**, in order. For the first time, Top Ten users by volume had to consume over two million pounds of organic cotton each to make it onto this list!

Organic Fiber Product Sales – U.S.



- **Organic Trade Association's 2013 Organic Industry Survey:**
 - **For the second year in a row, fiber is the largest non-food organic category, reaching \$960 million in 2013.**
 - **Growth rates for organic fiber products continued at a double-digit rate, with sales up 16 percent over 2012.**
 - **Apparel is the leading segment, followed by household textiles and baby products. There is also growing demand for organic cotton products for hotels and spas.**

GOTS



**More than 3000 companies and facilities around the world
are certified to GOTS.**

Join us.

For more information, please see www.global-standard.org

or contact

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Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)

GOTS Version 4.0 – Relevant Changes



**Marcus Bruegel, Technical Director
Global Organic Textile Standard**

Key challenges in standard setting



- ✓ Does scope and content reflect the **stakeholders interests**?
- ✓ Are the criteria set at a level that support **improvements** of the current situation?
- ✓ Are the criteria still **achievable and practical**?
- ✓ Are the criteria **verifiable** through the available inspection tools?
- ✓ Is the certification system sufficiently **comprehensive** to assess compliance of the applicant with all criteria?
- ✓ Is the certification system still **accessible and affordable**?
- ✓ Is the certification system **transparent** and the result **visible** to the consumer?

Revision of GOTS 4.0 and the Manual • Multi Stakeholder Approach



Organisations invited to participate:

- Members of the GOTS International Working Group (IWG)
- Approved Certification Bodies
- 20 International stakeholder organizations with expertise in:
 - organic production
 - textile processing and manufacturing
 - textile chemistry
 - social criteria

and representing the industry, NGOs, consumer interests.

Other parties were requested to channel their contributions through one of the participating stakeholders

Revision • Course of the Process



2011-2012	Collection of revision topics
16 May 2013	Release of 1 st revision draft of GOTS and the Manual for Implementation by the Technical Committee
16 May – 30 Jul 2013	First stakeholder input period 200 contributions from 14 different organisations received
Aug – Oct 2013	Review and commenting all contributions Release of the 2 nd revision draft
1 Nov – 30 Nov 2013	Second stakeholder input period Another 38 contributions from 10 different organisations
Dec 2013 – Feb 2014	Review and commenting all contributions Release of the final revision draft
March 1 st 2014	Release of GOTS Version 4.0 and the Manual by the IWG

Colour Differentiation in this presentation



- **‘Green text’** indicates specified, revised or new criteria
- **‘Black text’** indicates previously existing criteria and other information

GOTS 4.0 – Scope



- In principle any product that can be considered as a textile fibre product and that is not explicitly excluded is covered under the scope of GOTS
- A product can only be certified and labelled as a whole. It is not possible to certify and label only a part or component of a product (e.g. only the fabric of a garment or the covering of a pillow)
- **Mattress and bedding products, fashion textile accessories (carried or worn), textile toys, as well as textile personal care products are explicitly listed in the scope now**
- Products made from non-fibre materials such as leather, skin, or hide are not in the scope
- **Textiles containing electronic components and furniture are not in the scope**

Key criteria for fiber use



Organic Fibers

- **Minimum of 95% organic fibers for label grade 'organic'**
- **Minimum of 70% organic fibers for label grade 'made with organic'**

Verification requirements

- **Certification according to recognised organic production standards (USDA NOP, EC 834/2007, or [IFOAM Family of Standards](#))**

Non organic fibres in the remaining balance

- **Virgin synthetic and 'conventional' regenerated fibres are limited to 10% (resp. 25% in socks, leggings and sportswear)**

GOTS 4.0 – *Use of fibres* – Significant changes – 1 –



- **All cotton used in fibre composition must be organic (in conversion)**
=> *This is well practical and should give additional support to organic cotton market*
- **All angora wool in fibre composition used must be organic (in conversion)**
=> *The ban on conventional angora wool is a consequence of the mostly unacceptable husbandry conditions of angora rabbits*
- **All polyester used in fibre composition must be recycled**
=> *The market for recycled polyester is about to be established (except for accessories) and the mandatory use for GOTS goods in V 4.0 was announced in V 3.0 already to support this development*

GOTS 4.0 – *Use of fibres* – Significant changes – 2 –



Regenerated and synthetic fibres made from the following environmentally improved raw materials are permitted up to 30% now for label grade 'made with organic'

- Regenerated fibres that are from certified organic raw materials, sustainable forestry management (FSC / PEFC) or recycled
- Certified recycled synthetic fibres (recycled polyester, polyamide, polypropylene and polyurethane)

=> Adequate verification to proof for chain of custody required (e.g. certification to TE's OCS, CCS, RCS or GRS)

=> ***More flexibility in fibre composition (to achieve technical and fashionable properties), if sustainable raw material options are chosen***

GOTS 4.0 – *Use of fibres* – Options in material composition



Sample newly possible material compositions (for “made with organic”):

- 70% organic cotton, 30% recycled polyester (or polyamide)
- 70% organic cotton, 30% viscose made from FSC certified wood (or rayon made from organic bamboo)

Samples for material compositions no longer possible:

- 70% organic wool, 30% conventional cotton
=> *as all cotton used in the fabric must be organic (in conversion)*
- 90% organic cotton, 10% virgin polyester
=> *as all polyester used in the fabric must be recycled*

Samples for material compositions that remain possible:

- 70% organic cotton, 30% conventional wool
- 90% organic wool, 7% virgin polyamide, 3% virgin spandex

Key Criteria for processing



- **General criteria for all processing stages**
(e.g. separation, record keeping, environmental policy, social criteria)
- **General ban on harmful substances in all processing stages**
(e.g. formaldehyde, toxic heavy metals, GMOs)
- **General criteria for the assessment of chemical inputs**
(meeting limits on human and environmental (aquatic, fauna, flora and soil) toxicity as well as on biodegradability / -eliminability)
- **Specific criteria for the different processing stages** (e.g. functional waste water treatment plant for wet processing plants, limitations on materials for accessories and finishing methods)

Requirements for chemical inputs in the supply chain



- **Restrictions and bans for substances in recognised international or national legislation apply for GOTS worldwide**
=> *To ensure all relevant legal requirements (e.g. REACH, CPSIA) are considered and met any time*
- **More hazardous substances explicitly listed as prohibited in GOTS V 4.0 (e.g. SCCPs, brominated and chlorinated flame retardants, chlorinated benzenes, endocrine disruptors)**
=> *To point out clearly that all substances criticized by Greenpeace in their “Detox Campaign” are of course banned in GOTS -> these failed general GOTS hazards and toxicity requirements already*

GOTS 4.0 – *Chemical inputs & analysis* – Significant changes



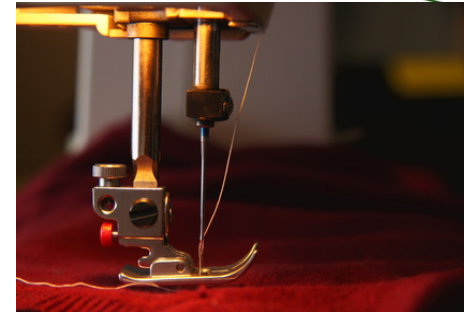
- Prohibition of substances resulting from classification to certain Hazardous Statements is now based on the Global Harmonised System (GHS)
- Requirement for AOX-containing inputs tightened; more precise wording for prohibition of PFCs introduced
- Synthetic sizing agents that are recycled/recovered with a ratio >80% may be used without limitation in the total sizing provide the basic hazards requirements are met
- Residue parameters added / up-dated:

Residue parameters (2.4.15)	Limit value
NP, OP, NPEO, OPEO sum parameter	< 20 mg/kg
Aniline	< 100 mg/kg
PFOA, PFOS	< 0.001 mg/kg
FTOH	< 0.01 mg/kg

=> To ensure latest insights regarding textile chemistry and residue testing methods are considered

GOTS 4.0 – *Use of accessories*

Significant changes



- **Non-fibre materials used for fillings must be certified organic if such certification is possible for the kind of material used (e.g. for grain spelt or feathers)**
- **Asbestos, carbon and silver fibres and all chlorinated plastics are explicitly banned**
- **Stainless steel (containing non-extractable chrome and nickel) may be used**
- **Virgin polyester may still be used for accessories (e.g. sewing threads, zippers or buttons)**
- **More material options provided for ‘not explicitly listed accessories’**
=> *Materials with required functionality and durability can be used*

Specific requirements for: Mattresses and Personal Care Products



Mattresses:

- **Latex used in mattresses must be derived from certified organic or sustainable forestry management. Polyurethane foams are not allowed.**

Residue parameters (2.4.16)	Limit Value	Test method
Natural latex foam:		
Butadiene	< 1.0 mg/kg	Gas chromatography, flame-ionisation detector
Chlorophenols (incl. salts and esters)	< 1.0 mg/kg	LFGB 82-02-08 (GC/MS) Chamber test, DIN ISO 16000-6
Carbon disulphide	< 0.02 mg/m ³	Chamber test; ZH 1/120-23 or BGI 505-23 for air sampling and analysis
Nitrosamines	< 0.001 mg/m ³	

Personal care products:

- **A specific set of criteria has been added (e.g. for tampons or dental rolls no sizing agents, dyes and optical brighteners must be used)**

GOTS 4.0 – *Packaging*



- Paper / cardboard used in packaging material for the retail trade of GOTS Goods (incl. labelling items such as hang tags or swing tags), must be recycled or from certified sustainable forestry management (FSC / PEFC) – this requirement is not set for bulk packaging

Minimum Social Criteria



- **Meeting minimum social criteria based on the ILO key conventions is required for all processing and manufacturing stages. The requirements include e.g.:**
 - **No child labor**
 - **Minimum wages**
 - **Working hours must not be excessive**
 - **Safe and hygienic working conditions**
 - **No discrimination, no harsh or inhumane treatment**
- **Companies must establish social compliance management tools that support their implementation and monitoring**

GOTS 4.0 – *Minimum Social Criteria* – New requirements



- **The minimum social criteria are applicable also to trading stages employing workers**
- **Health and safety training must include fire prevention training and evacuation drills**
- **Protective equipment given to the workers is used whenever necessary**
- **MSDS's for all chemicals used must be maintained, and applicable health and safety measures for handling and storing must be met**
- **Workers must be informed on minimum social criteria in the applicable local language(s)**

Auditing Social Criteria (Implementation Manual)



- **The certifier's inspection requirements for audit social criteria have been specified**
- **Certification programs of which the available audit results should be screened and considered in the course of GOTS certification are now listed:**
 - **Fair Wear Foundation (FWF)**
 - **Social Accountability 8000 (SA 8000)**
 - **Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production (WRAP)**
 - **Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI)**

Dual system for quality assurance



Certification

- On-site inspection of the entire processing chain up to B2B trade level
- Organic product flow (CoC), environmental and social criteria subject to inspection

&



Residue Testing

- Limit values for residues
- Risk assessment of contamination
- Analysis in ISO accredited labs

Auditing of Traders



GOTS certification of traders is required:

- if they are buying GOTS Goods and selling them to other businesses (B2B trading) with an annual turnover of at least 5000€ or
- If they are engaged with (re-)packing or (re-)labelling of GOTS Goods
- **New: remote-inspections may be performed for traders who do not have or subcontract any processing or manufacturing activities.**

On-site inspection must however be performed at least for the first year and every 3rd year of granted certification.

=> We hope that related reduced certification cost will help to convince more (small-scale) traders to get certified and trade GOTS Goods

New Reference documents introduced



- Policy and Template for issuing Certificates of Compliance (Scope Certificates, SCs)
- Policy and Template for issuing Transaction Certificates (TCs)
=> *Both policies and templates are harmonised with Textile Exchange*
- Policy and Template for issuing Letters of Approval for colourants and textile auxiliaries

All relevant GOTS compliance documents are harmonised now

Scope Certificate (SC)



[Certifier's Letterhead containing Name and Address of certifier]

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE (Scope Certificate)

N° [xxxxx]

[Certifier XY] declares that

NAME OF CERTIFIED COMPANY
Address

has been inspected and assessed according to the

Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)
- Version 3.0 -

and that products of the categories as mentioned below (and further specified in the annex) comply with this standard:

Product categories: [Terminology for basic product category terms as provided for in the policy, for specification prefixes and terminology following the samples of the provided excel list can be used]

Processing steps / activities carried out under responsibility of the above mentioned company (by the operations as detailed in the annex) for the certified products:

[List of processing steps/activities, terminology to be used from provided list]

This Certificate is valid until: dd / Month / yyyy

Place and Date of Issue

Stamp of the issuing body

GOTS Logo

[Signature]



Name of the authorised person

This certificate cannot be used as a transaction certificate.

The issuing body can withdraw this certificate before it expires if the declared compliance is no longer guaranteed.

[Optional: A sentence that references the certificate to stipulations of the contract with the licensee and/or clauses of certifier's scope specific stipulations]

Accredited/Licensed by: [name of accreditation body], Accreditation N°: [xxxx]

[If applicable: This electronically issued document is the valid original version]


Certificates of Compliance (=Scope certificates, SC's) confirm that a company works in compliance with GOTS and is able to supply the listed products certified to GOTS

Subcontractors and their relevant processing and manufacturing steps become listed on a separate page of the SC of the *certified entity*.

Transaction Certificate (TC)



TRANSACTION CERTIFICATE (TC) FOR TEXTILES PROCESSED ACCORDING TO THE GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD (GOTS)

1. Body issuing the certificate (name and address) Name of CB's issuing office Address		2a) Licensing code of the certification body GOTS-[CB]-[no.] 2b) Reference number of the certificate [Licensee no. of seller]-[TC no.]	
3. Seller of the product(s) (name and address) Name of seller of certified product(s) Address		4. Inspection body (name and address) Name of inspection body Address	
5. Last processor of the product(s) (name and address) Name of last processor of certified product(s) Address		6. Country of dispatch Country of dispatch	
7. Buyer of the product(s) (name and address) Name of buyer of certified product(s) Address		8. Consignee of the product (Address of the place of destination) Name of Consignee Address	
		9. Country of destination Country of destination	
10. Product and shipment information Minimum Information: - Units and names of the product(s) as they appear on the invoice - Label grade, if applicable (e.g. for GOTS: 'organic' or 'made with organic', for OE: OE 100 or OE Blended) - Fibre material composition of the product(s) (% of each fibre in the product by weight) - Invoice number and date - Reference to transport document (number, date, transport company, truck no., container no) [If more space is required] Information is continued in box 17 on page 2 of this TC		11. Gross weight (kg) kg	12. Net weight (kg) kg
		13. Commercial weight (kg) kg	
14. Declaration of the body issuing the certificate. This is to certify that the [fibre material name] used for the products designated above has been produced in accordance with (an) organic farming standard(s) which is/are recognised by the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) and that the products have been processed in accordance with GOTS. Compliance with this standard is continually monitored by the inspection body named in box 4.			
15. Additional declarations Certification of the organic fibres used for the products listed complies with USDA NOP rules <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no (relevant information for products marketed and sold in the US; obligatory information for any GOTS TC)			
16. Place and date of issue Signature of the authorised person of the body detailed in box 1 Name		Stamp of the issuing body Logo of the Standard 	

[If applicable: This electronically issued document is the valid original version]

Transaction Certificates (TC's) confirm that a given shipment of goods has been produced in accordance with GOTS.

***Certified Entities* must receive and maintain GOTS TCs for the whole quantity of GOTS Goods purchased.**

Labelling – *License number required*



Complete Labelling contains:

- ✓ the GOTS logo (or the wording 'Global Organic Textile Standard' or 'GOTS')
- ✓ the GOTS label grade ('organic' or 'made with organic')
- ✓ the reference to the certifier and
- ✓ the reference to the certified entity **which now must be the license number**

Public Data Base • Information and verification tool



By entering the *license number* into the 'free text' field of the www.global-standard.org search engine, the certified entity can be verified.

Home Contact Sitemap search...

GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD
ECOLOGY & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

THE STANDARD
CERTIFICATION
LICENCING & LABELLING
PUBLIC DATABASE
How to use it
Search for producers and products
INFORMATION CENTRE
ABOUT US

SEARCH

This search form is suitable to search through all data sets contained in the GOTS public database. In order to narrow down the search results, search terms can be entered in several or all search fields at the same time. To understand the functionality of the data base it is proposed to first read through the section "How to use it".

Free text 12345

Product categories Select Product Categories

Field of operation Select Field of Operation

Country Select Country

Search

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Implementation period for GOTS 4.0



The implementation period for the new version of GOTS is one year.

- ✓ **All companies participating in the GOTS certification system must comply with all criteria of GOTS Version 4.0 by 1st March 2015 the latest**
- ✓ **Textile products manufactured and labelled according to GOTS Version 3.0 retain their certified status**

GOTS: International Recognition



IFOAM (International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements):

- ✓ IFOAM endorses GOTS as the minimum reference for organic textile processing. The endorsement letter (April 23 2014) includes the recommendation to Governments, not to start development of redundant standards and regulations but to make references to GOTS as processing standard for textiles labelled 'organic'. <http://www.ifoam.org/en/node/2499>

USDA (United States Department of Agriculture):

- ✓ NOP (National Organic Program) policy memorandum (May 20, 2011) explicitly recognizes GOTS and its label grade 'organic': *"Textile products that are produced in accordance with the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) may be sold as organic in the U.S."* Note that this does of course not entitle to use the USDA seal. <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELPRDC5090967>

European Union (EC 834/2007)

- ✓ Use of the term 'organic' for textiles not legally addressed. GOTS labelling is possible of course.

Further Information



www.global-standard.org

- **GOTS Version 4.0, Manual, List of Relevant Changes, Licensing & Labelling Guide, Policies & Templates, etc. available for download**
- **Available soon: Animated training module explaining the changes (developed for the industry and interested parties)**
- **List and contact details of all 17 GOTS approved certifiers**
- **Public data base containing the GOTS certified entities, their products, fields of operation and contact information**



Questions?