



GOTS certification: from requirements to verification

GOTS provides a defined framework of environmental and social requirements for certified textile processing, supported by independent third-party certification and traceability.



Robust, verifiable requirements:

GOTS sets environmental and social requirements for the entire textile supply chain, including criteria relating to human rights, working conditions and business conduct.



Due diligence process:

GOTS includes requirements and guidance relating to the establishment and implementation of due diligence processes.



Responding to regulatory developments:

GOTS requirements and tools are regularly reviewed and updated, including in response to relevant regulatory developments.



Global certification programme:

GOTS provides a consistent certification framework for certified textile processing across different markets.



Independent verification:

Independent third-party Certification Bodies verify compliance with applicable GOTS requirements within the scope of certification.



Traceability:

GOTS provides for traceability from certified organic raw material through the relevant stages of the certified textile supply chain to the final GOTS-certified product.



Join the 17,000 GOTS certified companies leading sustainability in textiles!



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EU legislation relevant to the textile industry

The EU regulatory framework affecting the textile industry continues to develop. Textile companies may be subject to requirements in areas including product design, due diligence, traceability, transparency and waste management, depending on the applicable legislation and the company or product concerned.

Initiatives such as the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles also form part of the broader EU policy framework for the textile sector.

Legal requirements and GOTS certification are separate. Companies remain responsible for identifying and complying with the legislation applicable to their activities and products.

GOTS sets its own environmental and social requirements for certified textile processing, including criteria relating to fibres, environmental management, human rights, working conditions, due diligence and business conduct.

Some GOTS requirements may address subject areas that are also covered by applicable legislation. GOTS certification verifies compliance with applicable GOTS requirements within the scope of certification; it does not by itself establish compliance with all applicable legal requirements.



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EU legislation and regulatory initiatives relevant to the textile industry

Non-exhaustive overview



Product design, production methods, circularity and end of product life

- ▮ Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation
- ▮ Product Environmental Footprint Guide
- ▮ Revision of REACH regulation incl. PFAS restriction
- ▮ Microplastics Regulation
- ▮ Forced Labour Regulation and Guidance
- ▮ Revision of Waste Framework Directive for Textiles incl. mandatory Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes



Traceability, transparency, and labelling

- ▮ Digital Product Passport
- ▮ EU textile labelling requirements and related initiatives
- ▮ Directive on Green Claims
- ▮ Empowering consumers for the green transition
- ▮ Revision of EU Ecolabel



Corporate responsibility and non-financial reporting

- ▮ Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive
- ▮ Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive
- ▮ EU Taxonomy

