



GOTS ADVISORY

ACCESSORY APPROVAL PROCEDURE UNDER GOTS

December 20, 2023

- 1.1 GOTS has received a number of requests from Approved Certifiers and accessory manufacturers seeking clarification regarding the voluntary approval procedure of accessories through the issuance of a GOTS Letter of Approval.
- 1.2 The purpose of this advisory is to provide guidance on the current requirements for applications and assessments of accessory approvals by GOTS Approved Certifiers.
- 1.3 Accessory approval through a GOTS Letter of Approval (LoA) is not mandatory. However, accessory producers who wish to obtain GOTS Letters of Approval may apply to a GOTS Approved Certifiers to be assessed under the relevant GOTS requirements.
- 1.4 In accordance with GOTS, accessories used on GOTS Goods shall meet certain criteria as defined in Sections 3.3.1 and 5.2.8 of GOTS V 7.0¹.
- 1.5 Accordingly, the following procedure shall be followed for the accessory approvals:
 - a) Applications shall be submitted to any GOTS Approved Certifier accredited to GOTS Scope 1 (*certification of mechanical textile processing and manufacturing operations and their products*).
 - b) Applications shall be assessed as per Section 3.3.1 - *Allowed and Prohibited Accessories* and Section 5.2.8 - *Limit Values for Residues in Additional Fibres and Accessories*, in [GOTS 7.0](#).
 - c) For the layout and format of the Letter of Approval, general guidelines provided in the relevant sections of the [Policy for Issuing Letters of Approval for GOTS Additives](#) shall be referred to and the [Template for Issuing Letters of Approval for Accessories](#) shall be used.
- 1.6 Please note that accessories cannot be certified but can only be approved under GOTS. Therefore, relevant Sections 5.1.1.2, a and g; 5.1.2.2, e and f; 5.2.1.1, from a to d and f; 5.3.2.2, d in [Approval Procedure and Requirements for Certification Bodies V3.0](#) shall be applicable.
- 1.7 Unlike chemical approval procedure, there is no requirement for onsite inspection or audit of an accessory manufacturer at this time.
- 1.8 This advisory is effective as of the date of release on the GOTS Website.
- 1.9 GOTS will continue to review and improve the accessory approval procedure.

In case of questions or further clarification please contact kalayci@global-standard.org.

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¹ Latest versions of all referred documents shall always be applied.