GOTS Criteria:
Fibre Composition & Technical Requirements

GOTS Bangladesh Seminar 2019

Dhaka, Bangladesh
8th September 2019

Sumit Gupta
Deputy Director Standards Development & Quality Assurance
Representative in India & Bangladesh
Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)
Main Considerations in GOTS

- Fibre Requirements
- Chemical Inputs & Processing Requirements
- Environmental Criteria
- Social Criteria
- Traceability
- Labelling
Approved organic standards are the ones that are Approved in the IFOAM Family of Standards for the relevant scope of production (crop or animal production):

- Regulation (EC) 834/2007
- USDA National Organic Program (NOP)
- APEDA’s National Program for Organic Production (NPOP)
- other IFOAM approved standard

CBs must at least have one of the following qualifications:

- ISO 65 / 17065 accreditation
- NOP accreditation
- IFOAM accreditation
Criteria for Fibres

Certified Organic Fibres (EC/NOP/NPOP/IFOAM): Minimum 70%
- Residue testing limits (RSL) as indicated in Section 2.4.15 must be met for processed organic fibres.

Additional Fibres (in blend with organic fibres): Balance 30% or 5% content, as per Label Grade.

Accessories: Textile Fibres / non-fibre accessories.
- Residue testing limits (RSL) as indicated in Section 2.4.16 must be met for additional fibres and accessories.
# Additional Fibres (in blends): Up to 30%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Natural Fibres</strong></td>
<td>Vegetable Fibres and animal fibres (e.g. linen, hemp, wool, silk, mohair, etc.) (upto 30%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sustainable Regenerated Fibres</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lyocell &amp; Protein</strong> based fibres: from Organic / FSC / PEFC / Recycled raw materials (upto 30%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sustainable Synthetic fibres</strong></td>
<td>Certified <strong>Recycled</strong> synthetic fibres (polyester, polyamide, polypropylene and polyurethane (elastane)) Certified as per • Recycled Claim Standard (RCS from Textile Exchange), • Global Recycle Standard (GRS from Textile Exchange), • Recycled Content Standard (from SCS)) (up to 30%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Additional Fibres (in blends): Up to 10%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Virgin Synthetic</td>
<td><strong>polyamide, elastane, polypropylene</strong> (Max 10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regenerated Fibres</td>
<td><strong>lyocell</strong> from non-sustainable sources, <strong>viscose, modal</strong>, (Max 10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Conditions (in Restricted Fibres)</td>
<td>For <strong>socks, leggings &amp; Sportswear</strong>, including <strong>Yogawear</strong> (Max 25%, instead of 10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stainless Steel Fibres</td>
<td>Max 10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional Fibres (in blends): Not permitted

- Conventional Cotton
- Polyester (Virgin)
- Conventional Angora Hair
- Acrylic
- Asbestos
- Carbon
- Silver
Examples for Fibre Composition in GOTS Goods

Permitted

• 70% organic cotton, 30% lyocell from organic plantation
• 75% organic cotton, 20% recycled polyamide, 5% elastane
• 65% organic cotton, 10% organic wool, 25% conventional silk
• 50% organic-in-conversion cotton, 20% organic silk, 30% conventional wool.
• Socks made of: 75% organic cotton, 22% polyamide, 3% elastane
• Socks made of: 75% organic cotton, 25% lyocell from conventional wood.
Examples for Fibre Composition in GOTS Goods

**Not Permitted**

- 70% organic cotton, 30% lyocell from conventional wood
- 70% organic cotton, 30% viscose from organic plantation
- 95% organic wool, 5% conventional wool
- 90% organic wool, 10% polyester
- 88% organic cotton, 10% polyamide, 2% polypropylene
- Leggings made of: 72% organic wool, 25% polyamide, 3% elastane

Organic and conventional fibres of same type **cannot be mixed** in same product.
Accessories for GOTS Goods

- applique
- borders
- buckles
- buttons and press-studs
- cords
- edgings
- elastic bands and yarns
- embroidery yarns
- fasteners and closing systems
- hatbands
- laces
- linings
- inlays
- interface
- labels
- interlinings
- pockets
- seam bindings
- sewing threads
- shoulder pads
- trims
- zippers
## Material Composition for Accessories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural Fibres</td>
<td>Vegetable Fibres (e.g., <strong>Cotton</strong>, <strong>linen</strong>, <strong>hemp</strong>, <strong>bamboo</strong>, etc.) &amp; Animal Fibres (e.g. <strong>wool</strong>, <strong>silk</strong>, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic &amp; Regenerated</td>
<td>Virgin or Recycled Synthetic (e.g., <strong>polyester</strong>, <strong>polyamide</strong>, <strong>acrylic</strong>, <strong>polypropylene</strong>, <strong>elastane</strong>, etc.) and Regenerated (e.g. <strong>viscose</strong>, <strong>modal</strong>, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other natural materials</td>
<td>wood, leather, horn, bone, shell and non-biotic material (such as minerals, metals, stone) etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials <strong>NOT</strong> Permitted</td>
<td>- Asbestos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Carbon fibres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Silver (filament, treated) fibres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Chromium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Nickel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Material from threatened animals, plant and timber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Chlorinated plastics (e.g. PVC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Examples for Accessories

Permitted
• Conventional cotton laces
• Polyester (virgin) sewing thread
• Plastic or Metallic Zippers
• Viscose embroidery yarn
• Polyester buttons

Not Permitted
• Embellishment made from Asbestos fibres
• Accessories from threatened animals / plants.
Chemical Inputs & Processing Requirements

- All chemical inputs used in processing of GOTS goods must be approved prior to use.
- **Excel Sheet** with Trade Names of GOTS Approved Chemical Inputs available to Certified Entities.
- Chemical inputs for processing from Natural Sources must also be approved prior to use.
- **Hazardous processing steps** are prohibited (e.g. Sand Blasting).
- Chemical inputs that release hazardous substances **during processing** are prohibited.
Environment Criteria- Textile Facilities

- Air pollution
- Effluent Treatment
- Testing of waste water
- Sludge Disposal
- Other Environmental Criteria


➢ Environmental Criteria is applicable to the whole processing facility for the whole year.
Social Criteria

- Detailed criteria in Section 3.0
- ILO Key conventions
- Consideration for existing social certificates
- Ethical Business Behaviour
- Social Compliance Management

Social Criteria is applicable to the **whole processing facility** for the **whole year**.
Traceability in GOTS

- In Built into GOTS system
- Volume reconciliation and waste consideration at every processing step.
- SC / TC Policies are used instruments
- Products are traceable in the GOTS value chain

➢ GOTS was Acclaimed Test Winner for full traceability by Stiftung Warentest in a market survey of 5 different standards (PR Link).
Labelling - a visible commitment to the consumer
On product labelling (Section 4.1)

• A GOTS logo applied on *GOTS Goods* in such a way that it is **visible** to the **buyer** / consignee in the textile supply chain and to the **end consumer** at the time of purchase.

• To identify GOTS Goods
  - Packaging
  - Hangtag
  - Label
Label Grades

Using 95 - 100% organic fibers:

Organic
Certified by [certifier’s ref.]
License no. [12345]

Using 70 - 94% organic fibers:

Made with (x%) organic materials
Certified by [certifier’s ref]
License no. [12345]
Examples of Combined Product Labels

Representative photograph only.
Thank You!

Sumit Gupta
Deputy Director Standards Development & Quality Assurance Representative in India & Bangladesh
Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)
gupta@global-standard.org