

# **GOTS Criteria: Fibre Composition & Technical Requirements**

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# Main Considerations in GOTS



- **Fibre Requirements**
- **Chemical Inputs & Processing Requirements**
- **Environmental Criteria**
- **Social Criteria**
- **Traceability**
- **Labelling**

# Requirements for Organic Fibres



**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%



Criteria	Item
<b>Natural</b> Fibres	Vegetable Fibres and animal fibres (e.g. <b>linen, hemp, wool, silk, mohair</b> , etc.) (upto 30%)
Sustainable <b>Regenerated</b> Fibres	<b>Lyocell &amp; Protein</b> based fibres: from Organic / FSC / PEFC / Recycled raw materials (upto 30%)
Sustainable <b>Synthetic</b> fibres	Certified <b>Recycled</b> synthetic fibres ( <b>polyester, polyamide, polypropylene and polyurethane</b> (elastane)) Certified as per <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recycled Claim Standard (RCS from Textile Exchange),</li><li>• Global Recycle Standard (GRS from Textile Exchange),</li><li>• Recycled Content Standard (from SCS)</li></ul> (up to 30%)

# Additional Fibres (in blends): Up to 10%



Criteria	Item
Virgin Synthetic	<b>polyamide, elastane, polypropylene</b> (Max 10%)
Regenerated Fibres	<b>lyocell</b> from non-sustainable sources, <b>viscose, modal</b> , (Max 10%)
Special Conditions (in Restricted Fibres)	For <b>socks, leggings &amp; Sportswear</b> , including <b>Yogawear</b> (Max 25%, instead of 10%)
Stainless Steel Fibres	Max 10%

# 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



Criteria	Item
Natural Fibres	Vegetable Fibres (e.g., <b>Cotton, linen, hemp, bamboo,</b> etc.) & Animal Fibres (e.g. <b>wool, silk,</b> etc.)
Synthetic & Regenerated	Virgin or Recycled Synthetic (e.g., <b>polyester, polyamide, acrylic, polypropylene, elastane,</b> etc.) and Regenerated (e.g. <b>viscose, modal,</b> etc.)
Other natural materials	wood, leather, horn, bone, shell and non-biotic material (such as minerals, metals, stone) etc.
Materials <b>NOT</b> Permitted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Asbestos</li><li>- Carbon fibres</li><li>- Silver (filament, treated) fibres</li><li>- Chromium</li><li>- Nickel</li><li>- Material from threatened animals, plant and timber</li><li>- Chlorinated plastics (e.g. PVC)</li></ul>

# 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**

Use of **GOTS Monitor (Water/Energy)** is encouraged. Version 2.0 released in November 2018.

- **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:**



**Using 70 - 94%  
organic fibers:**



# Examples of Combined Product Labels



**COMBINED PRODUCT**  
[name of component]  
certified to GOTS



'Organic'  
Certified by [certifier's  
ref.] [licence number]

**COMBINED PRODUCT**  
[name of component]  
certified to GOTS



'Made with x%<sup>1</sup> organic  
in-conversion materials'  
Certified by [certifier's  
ref.] [licence number]



Representative photograph only.

**Thank You!**



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