



1st International GOTS Conference

Strong Partnerships for Success



CONFERENCE GUIDE

Friday, 22nd May 2015, The Lalit, Sahar, Mumbai, India

shirts **for** life

NEW STREETWEAR LABEL



 Bündnis für
nachhaltige
Textilien



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SHIRTS FOR LIFE supports the UNESCO praised project SCHOOL FOR LIFE.

The garments are produced under social and ecological conditions along the whole textile supply chain in line with GOTS standard.

For more information www.shirtsforlife.biz

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GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD

ECOLOGY & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) was developed by leading international standard setters in order to define world-wide recognised requirements that ensure organic status of textiles, from harvesting of the raw materials, through environmentally and socially responsible manufacturing up to labelling – in order to provide credible assurance to the consumer.

Supported by the growth in consumption of organic fibres and by the remarkable demand for unified processing criteria from the industry and retail sector, the Global Organic Textile Standard has already gained universal recognition. It enables processors and manufacturers to supply their textiles made from organic fibres with one certification accepted in all major selling markets.

ABOUT US

The International Working Group on Global Organic Textile Standard is comprised of four reputed member organisations, namely OTA (USA), IVN (Germany), Soil Association (UK) and JOCA (Japan). They contribute to the GOTS, together with further international stakeholder organizations and experts, their respective expertise in organic farming and environmentally and socially responsible textile processing.

INFORMATION CENTRE

The Information Centre on the GOTS website provides news on GOTS, answers to Frequently Asked Questions and downloads of all official documents released by the International Working Group on Global Organic Textile Standard.

 WWW.GLOBAL-STANDARD.ORG



GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD



THE STANDARD

The Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) is recognised as the leading processing standard for textiles made from organic fibres worldwide. It defines high level environmental criteria along the entire supply chain of organic textiles and requires compliance with social criteria as well.



CERTIFICATION

On-site inspection and certification of processors, manufacturers and traders performed by independent specially accredited bodies is the basis of the GOTS monitoring system. This assures the integrity of GOTS certified textiles.



LICENCING & LABELLING

With completion of GOTS certification, the certified entity acquires a licence which entitles it to participate in the GOTS program, including use of the standard and the GOTS logo on its respective GOTS goods. Details including the amount of the respective licence fee are defined in the "Licensing & Labelling Guide".



PUBLIC DATABASE

The GOTS public data base is a practical tool that enables its user to search, according to his individual needs, for GOTS certified entities in the supply chain, their location, field of operation, and GOTS certified products.



GOTS

COMPARE From Field to Fashion

➔ **What is GOTS?** The Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) is recognized as the world's leading processing standard for textiles (clothing, home textiles, and personal care products) made from certified organically produced raw materials. It includes strict environmental and social criteria for operations along the entire textile supply chain. GOTS is recognized in all markets around the globe and the numbers are growing; in 2014 more than 3600 facilities worldwide were certified to GOTS.

➔ **What's the problem with textile processing?** Textile processing results in the often inadequately treated discharge of toxic chemicals into the air and water, as well as hazardous workplace situations. We all "live downstream" and share the same water and air, and workers making products for us deserve our respect. GOTS prohibits the use of the kinds of chemicals commonly used in textile processing that can cause cancer, birth defects and other serious illnesses. Chemicals, like persistent hormone-disrupting substances, also destroy eco-systems and biodiversity on an international scale. GOTS requires that all dyes and auxiliaries assessed to its strict criteria and approved prior to their usage.

➔ **Why is certification to GOTS a good idea?** While an important step in the right direction, the use of organic materials alone is not enough. When using organically produced materials, farm workers and environment are protected. When manufactured without using hazardous chemicals, factory workers and the environment are protected. When there are no harmful residues in the end product, consumers are protected.

➔ **What are organic raw materials?** Organic is a system of production with national standards for environmental protection and animal welfare. Organic raw materials include organic cotton, silk, flax (linen), and wool.

➔ **Can only organic raw materials be used in GOTS-certified products?** As a textile processing standard, GOTS does not set its own criteria for organic farming but rather

requires that the materials used must be of certified organic origin according to a recognized farming standard. Only textile products made from at least 70 percent (label grade "made with organic") or 95 percent (label grade "organic") certified organic raw materials can become GOTS certified.

➔ **If I see the GOTS logo, what does it mean?** To be sure a product really is GOTS-certified you should be able to see reference to the GOTS label grade ('organic' or 'made with organic'), the reference to the independent certification body, and the license number of the certified entity. Consumers can trace the certified company by entering the license number (or company name) provided on the GOTS labelling in the 'free text field' of our public data base. Look for the label - don't accept self-claims.

➔ **What about a statement that the yarn (or fabric) in a finished product is GOTS certified?** This is only a self-claim as only finished products may be certified to GOTS (see above). Thus, you cannot be sure this claim is true.

➔ **What kinds of worker-oriented provisions are in GOTS?** Workers are not exposed to toxic chemicals when working with GOTS-certified inputs and practices. In addition, the GOTS social criteria are based on the International Labor Organization (ILO) key conventions which include a ban on child and forced labor and include provisions such as having systems in place to prove they are addressing social concerns, such as grievances. Furthermore, GOTS requires fire prevention training and evacuation drills.

➔ **What about animal husbandry?** As it is a textile processing standard, GOTS does not set its own criteria for organic farming. Rather it requires that at least 70% of the fibers used must be of organically-certified materials that would have had to be managed to organic animal husbandry standards. Those rules can be found in the applicable national standards - the EC Organic Regulation 834/2007 (incl. implementation regulation EC 889/2008), the USDA National Organic Program

regulations, and other standards in the IFOAM Family of Standards.

➔ **Is GOTS an official standard?** GOTS is a voluntary standard so it is not regulated by a governmental body but rather managed by a nonprofit organization. However, it is supported by the U.S. government which requires that textile products claiming to be organic in the U.S. be certified to the organic food standard or GOTS.

➔ **How do products/companies become certified to GOTS?** GOTS is a product certification meaning that finished products claiming to be GOTS certified must meet all GOTS criteria. In addition all facilities involved in the production of such goods must be certified. The certification is undertaken by an independent GOTS-approved certification body and facilities are inspected regularly.

➔ **What can I do to improve the problems with textile processing?** Become a "change agent!" Choose GOTS-certified products when making your purchases. If you can't find such products at your favourite stores, ask the manager to carry such products, or contact your favourite brands or retailers directly to ask them to "GO GOTS!"

➔ **Watch the new GOTS Simple Show Clip (< 4 min)**





COMPARE!

From Field To Fashion!



95% of cotton seed market is controlled by GM giants

Farmers are locked into costly contracts and have little control

Cotton is usually grown as a monocrop, **destroying soil quality**

Farmers are free to save seeds and choose what they grow

Soil is nurtured, making it viable for the long term

Organic cotton is grown alongside food which **feeds the farmers**

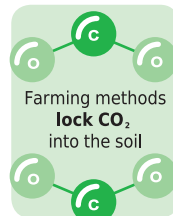
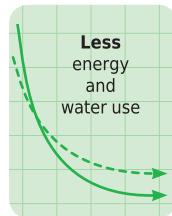
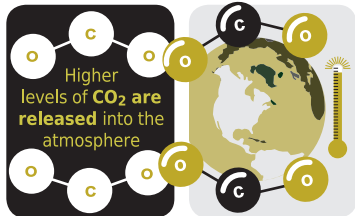
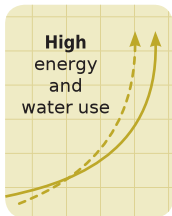


16% of the world's insecticides, and 10% of total pesticides, are used in cotton production, poisoning people and the environment
77 million agricultural workers suffer poisoning from pesticides each year
83% of manufactured nitrogen fertilisers used on crops end up in the environment

On The Farm



Hazardous pesticides are banned in organic cotton production, making it safer for growers



Growing organic cotton produces up to **94% less greenhouse gas emissions**

There are **no mandatory checks**

At **conventional factories** which...

...produce clothes for **high-st brands**

CHAIN STORE

All factories are regularly inspected

And certified to **strict social criteria**

Meaning **no forced labour**

And **no child labour**

At The Factory



The use of **toxic dyes** and processing substances is **widespread**, including chemicals **banned** in the EU
Greenpeace found local water ways **polluted** by hazardous and persistent hormone-disrupting chemicals
One-fifth of water used is to dilute **pollution**



With certification to the **Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)** the use of hazardous chemicals is **prohibited**, and all **waste water is treated**, protecting workers and their water supplies.
All chemicals must meet **strict toxicity and biodegradability rules**

Tests on clothes revealed traces of **toxic dyes**, which could be absorbed through the skin

These may cause **allergies, rashes and respiratory problems**

Babies are most vulnerable as they are still growing

Allergenic, carcinogenic or toxic chemical residues are not allowed in **GOTS certified clothes**

Certification covers **all stages** - from field to fashion

GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD - GOTS

Certifier + License Number + Labelgrade

Trust only GOTS goods with **Logo+License No. + Labelgrade** - verifiable by the GOTS database

On Your Skin

GOTS Management



Herbert Ladwig
Managing Director;
Coordinator GOTS International
Working Group
In charge for overall direction, standard
protection, politics and government affairs



Marcus Bruegel
Technical Director;
Coordinator, Technical Committee and
Certifiers Council;
In charge for standard development and
implementation



Claudia Kersten,
Marketing Director;
In charge for formulating and
implementing the strategic marketing
plan, coordination of GOTS
Representatives worldwide
GOTS Representative Germany,
Austria and Switzerland

GOTS Regional Representatives



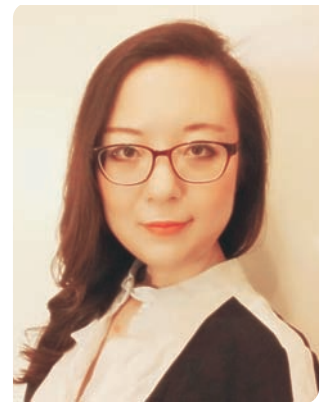
Christopher Stopes
United Kingdom



Claudia Kersten
Germany / Austria /
Switzerland



Dominique Pralon-Wissinger
EU Representative Brands



Felicia Shi
China



Sandra Marquardt
USA / Canada



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Japan



Sumit Gupta
India and Bangladesh

GOTS Certifiers Council



Dr Riccardo Cozzo
Bioagricert



Nicole Locher
bio.inspecta



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Maria Ungefuk
Ceres



Mahesh Nabadawewa
Control Union Certifications



Nukte Duman
Control Union Gozetim ve Belgelendirme



Dr Binay Kumar Choudhury
CU Inspections India



Vincent Duret
Ecocert Greenlife;
also representing IMOSwiss AG



Dr. Mustafa Akyüz
ETKO



Dr. Paolo Foglia
ICEA



Sabine Goetz
Kiwa BCS



Monica de Nicola
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International Association
Natural Textile Industry,
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Kazuhiko Mori
Japan Organic Cotton Association,
President



Chris Atkinson
Soil Association,
Head of Standards



Rahul Bhajekar
Hermes Eco Laboratories Pvt. Ltd.,
General Manager



Jan Furstenborg
Social Expert,
Member of GSCP and SAI (SA8000) Boards



Marcus Bruegel
GOTS Technical Director,
Coordinator of the GOTS Technical Committee

GOTS Advisory Council



Gabriele Kolompar
International Association
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Organic Trade
Association



Francis Blake
Soil Association



Herbert Ladwig
Managing Director;
Coordinator GOTS International
Working Group
In charge for overall direction,
standard protection,
politics and government affairs

“Certifications For the Complete Organic Textile Chain”



Textiles

ecological and organic

Controlled and Certified by ECOCERT Greenlife

Organic Textile Certification from The Fibre To The Finished Product

Faced with this mass of specifications, **Ecocert** chose to get involved in an international approach to harmonize standards and adopt the **GOTS** (Global Organic Textile Standard), **OCS** (Organic Content Standard), and **ERTS** (Ecological recycled standard) for the inspection of organic textiles.

The standard integrates all of the textile processing stages, from the fibre to the finished product: the raw fibre must be organic farming certified and all manufacturing processes involved must be inspected.



ECOCERT India Pvt. Ltd.

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Message from GOTS Managing Director

Dear delegates to the 1st International GOTS Conference,

On behalf of my entire team, I would like to welcome each of you to our flagship event.

India, as the country with the highest number of GOTS certified facilities worldwide, is the natural venue for this event.

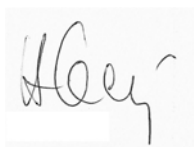
In welcoming you, I would like to share my dream of a New Concept of Quality: If ecological civilization and thus sustainable production has to become mainstream, a fundamental change of the concept of good product quality is necessary. While traditionally “good quality” of e.g. a piece of clothing refers to fine fibers, good fit, pleasant colors, and so on, its production conditions, concern with their effect on environment and people involved is only a luxurious add on for still few particularly conscious consumers and producers. This – incomplete – perception of good quality must be transformed into a holistic one, where a product not produced in a sustainable way, is considered bad quality even if it is fashionable, fitting, and colourful. Its sustainable production must become part of the product identity.

In contrast to those who think that it is mainly the consumers' role to demand sustainably produced products, I believe otherwise: It is the textile industry which is inherently and genuinely responsible for the environmental and social effects of its production activities. The textile companies must pull their suppliers and push their customers towards sustainability.

I am glad to note that about three fourth of the participants in our conference are textile and chemicals companies – more than 80 of which are already GOTS certified. You have already embarked on the road to my New Concept of Quality. And all of you, by attending our conference demonstrate your interest in and enthusiasm in the GOTS approach.

I wish all of us an inspiring day with lots of shared experience, new information and motivation. I personally and the Global Organic Textile Standard organization are prepared to further give any help and assistance on your path to sustainable production.

In your conference bags you will find an example of a GOTS certified product; actually the bag itself is one as well. Take it home with you and experience yourselves the New Concept of Quality.



Herbert Ladwig
Managing Director
Global Organic Textile Standard





Expoknits International

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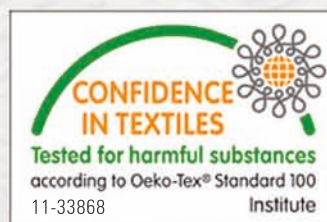
Email: devadas@expoknits.com

asha@expoknits.com

Expoknits International, a company founded in 1990 by C V Devadas and Asha Devadas in Tirupur is today, the largest manufacturers and exporters of knitted garments to the region of Scandinavia. The company houses two, well equipped factories, both approved for SA 8000, GOTS and OEKO-TEX and the third factory is on its way.



The company derives its strength from the well trained, dedicated and content workforce, committed to unflinching quality and production systems, high level of product safety and total service to its customers.



Message from IFOAM - Organics International

Welcome to India, dear participants!

I am happy to report that recent figures show that the organic sector continues to grow and now has 2 million certified organic farmers on 40 million hectares in 170 countries. The global market for organic produce is worth more than 70 billion US\$. More farmers cultivate organically and more land is certified organic than ever before and the outlook remains positive.

While organic food is the most obvious choice for organic products and awareness is high, many people don't think (yet) about the origin of the textiles they wear. Sadly, GMO, excessive use of toxic pesticides and artificial fertilizers are a reality in the production of our clothes.

Of course, you are not among the unaware! While the organic community highly welcomes fiber from organic fields and animals, you go even a step further. The "GOTS community" advocates for and at the same time implements organic processing on top of using organic raw materials. This is much more than offering clothes from organic cotton fields as often observed in the market. IFOAM - Organics International recently officially confirmed that it endorses GOTS as reference standard for organic textile processing.

Unfortunately, it could not yet approve GOTS as part of the "Family of Standards" since many synthetic substances that are allowed in GOTS are prohibited in organic food processing. Those substances still have to be used due to lack of more sustainable alternatives that are practicable for the industry and the consumers. IFOAM - Organics International described its envisaged production methods in the "Best Practice Guidelines" that can be downloaded from its website.

However, "Organic 3.0", the future system of organic agriculture that is presently developed, confirms that continuous improvements are more important than minimal requirements. And that is what you do during this conference!

'IFOAM - Organics International', wishes you every success and inspiration during this conference and hopes to welcome you soon in one of the events of the global organic community of which you are an appreciated member!



Markus Arbenz
Executive Director of IFOAM - Organics International



Above and *beyond*

Register
online
to visit

heimtextil

INDIA

25 – 27 June 2015

Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

www.heimtextil.in

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The jury that will decide the trendsetters of 2015

MILA 2015

INTERIOR LIFESTYLE AWARDS
an initiative by MFI & THE GDA



Platinum partner

DECOR
Live beautiful

Gold partner

DICITEX
FURNISHINGS
FURNISHING THE WORLD

Silver partner

RUMORS
THE CONFERENCE



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