



GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD
ECOLOGY & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

GOTS 6.0

LIST OF RELEVANT CHANGES IN GOTS 6.0 AND THE IMPLEMENTATION MANUAL AS COMPARED TO GOTS 5.0

Relevant changes and specifications to the content are listed, but not each detail and/or explanation is provided in this overview. Accordingly, it cannot be used as a fully comprehensive and complete list of changes but only as an indicative supporting new GOTS version 6.0 and the corresponding Manual for exact and binding changes.

DOCUMENT	SECTION	RELEVANT CHANGE
GOTS & Manual	Various	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter' has been replaced with 'Section'. • The text has been edited for consistency in writing style, with minor linguistic changes. • 'International Working Group' changed to 'Global Standard gGmbH'
GOTS & Manual	Various	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following verbal forms are used to indicate requirements, recommendations, permissions, or capabilities in this policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “shall” indicates a mandatory requirement • “should” indicates a recommendation • “may” indicates a permission • “can” indicates a possibility or capability
GOTS	1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethical Business Behaviour moved from Section 3.12 to (new) Section 5.0 • An overarching statement on following the stringent of legal or GOTS requirements added, which is applicable across all sections.
GOTS & Manual	1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The text "Considering that the core function of this Standard is verifying and certifying processing of certified organic fibres, where a particularly high level of assurance of labour conditions is needed, applying a compatible specialised social standard or scheme is recommended." moved to Manual from Standard since it is an interpretation of the previous sentence.
GOTS	1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added mandatory requirement on Labelling of GOTS goods sold in retail.
GOTS	1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under 'Licensing and Labelling Guide', text updated to reflect the change in terminology with regards to GOTS registered trademarks, in line with the upcoming version of GOTS Licensing and Labelling Guide. • Reference to document 'Policy for Change or Migration of Certifier' added. The document has already been released and is available on GOTS website
GOTS	2.2.1 & 2.2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included reference to ‘mulesing’ within animal welfare standards
GOTS	2.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirements on Flame Retardants expanded in line with legal and market updates. • Specifically mentioned chlorinated toluenes for clarity, which were already included as a part of chlorinated benzenes. • Specifically mentioned glyoxal for clarity, which was already included as a part of 'Formaldehyde and other short-chain aldehydes'. • Added Glycol Derivatives to prohibited substances. • Specified 'traceability markers' among prohibited GMO based substances. • Esters of phthalic acid included among Plasticizers. • Medium-chain chlorinated paraffins (MCCPs, C14-17) included among Chlorinated Paraffins, in line with legal and market updates.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyclic Siloxanes (D4, D5, D6) that lead to ≥ 1000 ppm of cyclic siloxanes in processed GOTS Goods prohibited. • Intentionally added synthetic microplastics prohibited. • Reference to European biocidal products regulation (BPR 528/2012) added for in-can preservatives.
GOTS	2.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R - phrases replaced with corresponding H - phrases since GHS is fully implemented now.
GOTS	2.3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added more examples of documents that can possibly be asked for by a <i>GOTS Approved Certifier</i> for assessment of chemical inputs.
GOTS	2.3.4 (new)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New section added for approval of <i>chemical inputs</i>, related to product stewardship.
GOTS	2.3.5 (new)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New section added for approval of <i>chemical inputs</i>, related to environment, health and safety at the production facility for formulators. • Requirement for on-site inspection of chemical formulators added.
GOTS	2.4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirement for <i>heavy metal free</i> machine oil expanded to include spinning. • Synthetic fibres, which are to be dissolved at a later processing stage, are not allowed to be used anymore.
GOTS	2.4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Weaving / Knitting Oil</i> replaced with a neutral term '<i>Machine Oil</i>'.
GOTS	2.4.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The generic term 'alkaline treatment' removed and specific term 'Mercerization' has been retained. This is to avoid confusion on the criteria for recycling of alkali.
GOTS	2.4.6 / 2.4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibited are colourants classified as carcinogenic or suspected carcinogenic (H350 / H351). This requirement is now applicable across different classes of dyes/pigments/inks.
GOTS	2.4.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title renamed to 'Finishing & Manufacturing'. • Requirement for heavy metal free machine oil expanded to include finishing and manufacturing.
GOTS	2.4.9.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section restructured for clarity. • Fibres allowed upto (\leq) 30% and \leq 10% grouped together. • Examples of prohibited fibres included. • PLA (polylactic acid) fibre added among allowed fibres. • elastomultiester (elasterell-p) fibre added among allowed fibres. • Mulesed wool added among prohibited fibres
GOTS	2.4.9.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of examples of common accessories expanded. • Criteria for 'Supports and frames' extended to other 'textile bedding products' as well, besides mattresses, which was already covered.
GOTS	2.4.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment policy shall be shared with all employees. • Staff training for proper handling of chemicals included. • Requirement on collecting information on sources and identifying means of reduction of green house gases (GHG) added.



GOTS	2.4.12.1 (new)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earlier section 2.4.12 on 'Storage, packaging and transport' split into two to differentiate between requirements for B2B and B2C activities.
GOTS	2.4.12.2 (new)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single use virgin plastic hangers prohibited. • Clarified that GOTS Goods can be transported with other goods under certain situations. • Recommendation to reduce plastic packaging materials added. • Criteria for textiles used as packaging materials defined.
GOTS	2.4.13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record keeping requirements for <i>Certified Entities</i> purchasing organic fibres added. • Requirement added to share data with GOTS for impact assessment.
GOTS	2.4.14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changed this requirement from recommendation (should) to mandatory (shall). • Qualifying criteria for some tests updated. • Test methods for some tests updated.
GOTS	2.4.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HpP, PeP specified under APEOs for clarity. • Specified that test method for Aniline is without reductive cleavage. • Manganese (Mn), Zinc (Zn) and Barium (Ba) added to RSL and their limits defined to align with GOTS MRSL requirements for <i>Heavy Metal Free</i>. • Limit values for PFOA, PFOS FTOH updated. • Test method for PAH updated. • Sum parameter for PAH made stringent. • Chlorinated Paraffins added to RSL and limit defined, to align with GOTS MRSL. • Cyclic Siloxanes added with a limit value of 1000 mg/kg. • Chlorinated benzenes and toluenes added to RSL and limit defined, to align with GOTS MRSL. • ADCA added under other chemical residues.
GOTS	2.4.16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant limit values for some accessories updated.
GOTS	3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • References to UNGP and OECD added. • Requirement to add local considerations in risk assessment added for Certifiers. • Added requirement that <i>Certified Entities</i> shall create awareness on GOTS social criteria.
GOTS	3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific reference to forced labour and trafficked labour added. • Added that workers not required to pay to enter employment. • Added that workers are not forced to use accommodation provided by the company.
GOTS	3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employers' attitude to collective bargaining - changed from 'open' to 'open and supportive'. • Possibility to represent workers redefined by category of employees. • Reference to collective bargaining agreements and trade unions on site added.
GOTS	3.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added that child labour shall not be used regardless of gender.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added that a young worker cannot work for more than 8 hours a day.
GOTS	3.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added 'pregnancy' among listed examples of discrimination.
GOTS	3.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The title updated to include the wording 'Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)' Companies shall not charge workers for PPE Trainings in workers' language to be provided by employer.
GOTS	3.7 (revised)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 3.7 changed to 'No Harassment and Violence'. New requirements added as per stakeholder inputs. Existing requirements relevant to this title moved under 3.7.
GOTS	3.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The section on 'Fair Wages' renamed as 'Remuneration and Assessment of Living Wage Gap' and moved to 3.8 Specified that Certified Entities shall calculate <i>Living Wage</i> and assess '<i>Wage Gap</i>' for their workers. Added that Workers shall receive wages directly. Payments as per 'piece rate' regulated.
GOTS	3.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The section 'Working hours are not excessive' renamed to 'Working Time' and moved to 3.9
GOTS	3.10 (revised)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The section 'No precarious employment is provided' is now 3.10
GOTS	3.10 (old)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Section 'Harsh or inhumane treatment is prohibited' is amalgamated with (new) section 3.7 'No Harassment and Violence'.
GOTS	3.11 (new)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Section introduced on 'Migrant Workers' Requirements defined for adequate protection
GOTS	3.12 (revised)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section on 'Social Compliance Management' moved to 3.12. Requirement to consider 'Potential adverse impacts' added. Providing time and space to workers to organise and engage in collective bargaining. Anonymous complaint mechanism shall be followed to the maximum possible extent. Upon request, Certified Entities shall provide information about complaint records to their Certified Buyers should complaints possibly be related to the business practices of such Certified Buyers.
GOTS	3.12 (old)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethical Business Behaviour moved to (new) Section 5.0
GOTS	4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceptions for audit for subcontractors and other conditions removed from Standard (moved to Manual).
GOTS	5.0 (new)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethical Business Behaviour moved to (new) Section 5.0 Specified that it is cross cutting prerequisite and not limited to social compliance. Added that Companies shall neither participate in falsifying such information, nor in any act of misrepresentation in the supply chain. personal information shall comply with privacy and information security laws and regulatory requirements. establish an anonymous non-discriminatory whistleblower mechanism



GOTS	6.1.2.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only paper or cardboard tampon applicators are permitted. • Additionally, applicator materials shall satisfy chemical residue requirements of Section 2.4.16. [An extended implementation deadline of 1st March 2022 provided for this new requirement.] • Synthetic security veils are not permitted.
GOTS	6.2 (new)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Section on Food Contact Textiles (FCT) added. • Added subsection (6.2.1) on Scope • Added subsection (6.2.2) on Specific criteria for FCT
GOTS	7 (new)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annex on Definitions is now Section 7. • Definitions added for Food Contact Textiles; Formulator; Wage Gap; Migrant Worker; Home Worker; Facility; Machine Oil; Microplastics; Young Worker • Definition for Sportswear removed as it is no longer relevant. Relaxation for fibre composition for sportswear removed in Version 6.0
GOTS	8 (new)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of Abbreviations is now Section 8. • B2C added as an abbreviation.
Manual	1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarified that products that can be certified as a whole like mattresses, ear buds etc. cannot be certified as a 'combined product'.
Manual	1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarified that local laws of GOTS criteria, which ever provides higher protection, will be applicable. This criteria and interpretation are a part of the Principles and Scope now, hence applicable across different kinds of criteria.
Manual	2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reference to 'IFOAM Global Organic System Accreditation' removed, as it no longer valid.
Manual	2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification added, "GOTS supports and recommends the implementation and use of animal welfare standards in animal fibre production."
Manual	2.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRS� Expanded to include newly added Flame Retardants. • MRS� Expanded to include relevant substances. • CAS Numbers added where specific substances have been indicated in Manual. • Added that in-can preservatives shall be declared by the chemical input suppliers during approval process.
Manual	2.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directive 67/548/EEC removed from References as it no longer relevant. • Directive 1999/45/EC removed from References as it no longer relevant. • Equivalent R phrases removed as GHS is fully implemented now.
Manual	2.3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC 2001/58 replaced with EC 2015/830 • Clarified that Basic chemicals (such as salt, alkali, acid, etc.) used do not need to be released on Letters of Approval. • Additional Interpretation Advise provided as, "Certifiers responsible for approval of chemical products shall ensure that all valid approval decisions are made on the basis of valid MSDS, based on knowledge of all relevant endpoints for each

		constituent of formulations. Relevant endpoints are, for example, values used for the formulation of H-phrases and / or their GHS equivalents, for individual constituent."
Manual	2.3.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation advice given for 'Product Stewardship Practices', including control on raw materials and quality assurance practices. • An extended implementation deadline of 1st March 2022 provided for this new requirement.
Manual	2.3.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added third party certifications that may be suitably considered during Environment, Health and Safety inspection of a chemical input formulator. • COD values for wastewater added (different from textile output based COD values for textile wet processing units). • An extended implementation deadline of 1st March 2022 provided for this new requirement.
Manual	2.4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation added that synthetic fibres (like PVA), that are dissolved at later processing stages, are not allowed to be used in spinning.
Manual	2.4.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added following dyes to allergenic disperse dyes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - C.I. Disperse Orange 11 - C.I. Disperse Red 23 - C.I. Disperse Red 151 - C.I. Disperse Yellow 7 - C.I. Disperse Yellow 54 - C.I. Disperse Yellow 56
Manual	2.4.6 & 2.4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • References added for colourants classified as carcinogenic or suspected carcinogenic (H350/H351) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IARC monographs • ECHA Restriction reports • Annex VI (Harmonized Classification) of the CLP regulation
Manual	2.4.9.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarified that 'Mohair', a fibre derived from angora goat is permitted as an additional fibre, provided it satisfies conditions given in sections 2.4.9.1 and 2.4.15. The aim is to differentiate Mohair fibre from the prohibited conventional angora hair, which is derived from angora rabbit. • Recommendation for animal welfare added for additional fibres produced from animals. Example of RWS added. • Example added of permissible fibre composition • Example added of fibre composition no longer permitted (sportswear/socks). • Prohibition of mulesed wool added.
Manual	2.4.9.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation added for organic latex. Example for Global Organic Latex Standard (GOLS) added.
Manual	2.4.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added interpretation that the local regulation or GOTS criteria, whichever is stricter, will be applicable. This is reiteration of criteria already added in the Principles Section. • Explained that 'Person Responsible' for environment policy shall be competent, trained and have resources available to discharge duties.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further Guidance and Reference added about the software tool GOTS Monitor (Water/Energy). It is free to use for GOTS certified facilities during license validity period. Certified entities can download a copy from GOTS website. Latest Version 2.0 has been released in November 2018.
Manual	2.4.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added interpretation that the local regulation or GOTS criteria, whichever is stricter, will be applicable. This is reiteration of criteria already added in the Principles Section. • Clarified that criteria in this section relate to compliance requirements for the entire facility. • Parameters for Wastewater testing added <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AOX - Heavy Metals
Manual	2.4.12.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation and examples for 'Textile fibre materials used for packaging' added.
Manual	2.4.13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specified that information about first certified organic fibre input is required to be collected and maintained by the Certified Entity. Specified format to be used, which is harmonised between GOTS and Textile Exchange. • Regarding data collection related to impact measurement, specified that sharing of commercial or sensitive data shall be voluntary.
Manual	2.4.14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colour Fastness to washing - test method updated to test at 40 °C • Test method for saliva fastness moved to Manual. • Further guidance added that where possible, environment friendly washing instructions should be used.
Manual	3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added interpretation that Approved Certifiers shall assess risk associated with operations based on local and sectorial parameters and document the same. • Added further guidance that for integrating better practices in the textile supply chains, the Approved Certifiers and Certified Entities may further refer to OECD Due Diligence Guidance and United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
Manual	3.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific reference added to R190 (Hazardous Working conditions), which is a part of ILO C182. • Reference added to C183 (Maternity Protection Convention).
Manual	3.7 (new)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The earlier Section 3.10 'Harsh or inhumane treatment is prohibited' is amalgamated with (new) section 3.7 'No Harassment and Violence'. Therefore, the related ILO Conventions in the Manual are also moved to Section 3.7 now. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - C29 - Forced Labour Convention - C105 - Abolition of Forced Labour Convention
Manual	3.8 (revised)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance added that where a Living Wage has been defined and applied, the Certified Entities should have a plan in place to paying such a living wage to their workers. • Reference added to a publication by the Partnership for Sustainable Textiles, Germany - "Implementing Living Wages – Practical Approach for Business". • Further Guidance added on steps to collect living wage data and calculating wage gap by a Certified Entity. Reference added to Living Wage Calculation Template (Fair Remuneration Quick Scan), published by amfori BSCI.



Manual	3.11 (new)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the new Section on 'Migrant Workers', relevant ILO Conventions added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - C97 - Migration for Employment Convention (Revised) - C143 - Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention
Manual	3.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explained that 'Person Responsible' for social compliance management policy shall be competent, trained and have resources available to discharge duties.
Manual	4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceptions for Traders and Retailers moved to Implementation Manual. Guidance added that If a gin has a valid certificate issued according to an accepted farm standard (Section 2.1), it should be accepted to maximum possible extent. Limit for B2B traders to avoid mandatory certification increased to 20,000 Euros from 5,000 Euros. Updated BSCI to amfori BSCI Added 'SMETA-Sedex report not older than 1 year' among acceptable social compliance audits. Added that 'Where verifiable audit reports are available under ISO 14001 or EMAS based on on-site inspection in the period of one year before the GOTS inspection, these should be considered to the widest possible extent towards compliance of GOTS environmental criteria.' Further Guidance on definition of developing countries added. For Risk Assessment, specific reference to OECD Due Diligence Guidance Document added.
Manual	4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reference to newly launched test method for organic cotton added (ISO/IWA 32).
Manual	5 (new)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reference added to document from OECD "Good Practice Guidance on Internal Controls, Ethics and Compliance".
Manual	Annex B (revised)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific requirements for Food Contact Textiles References added for applicable legislation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regulation (EC) 1935/2004 - Regulation (EC) 2023/2006 - 21 CFR § 177.2800

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