



CHANGE LOG: CONDITIONS FOR USE OF GOTS SIGNS V 3.0 JULY 2021

Section	Change type	Change detail	Comments
Cover page	Structural	Document name changed to "Conditions for the Use of GOTS Signs"	Required to emphasise that these are binding conditions and not guidance. Also, the word 'Signs' include the GOTS logo and wordmarks "Global Organic Textile Standard" and "GOTS".
Cover page	Structural	Note about change in document name added	
1	Wording	"Guide" changed to "Document". "Logo" changed to "Signs" Added "webpages, websites" Changed "Chapter" to "Section"	Explained above. To include e-commerce use of GOTS Signs Consistency with other GOTS documents.
2	Content	Added new definitions of "Brand", "Brand Owners", "Facility", "Global Standard gGmbH", "GOTS Goods", "GOTS Signs", "Retailer's Declaration for the use of GOTS Signs". Changed "Logo" to "Signs"	As required within this document.
3	Wording	Changed section title to "Labelling Conditions and Fees"	The word "licence" when it comes to fees has implications of commercial enterprise while GOTS is a non-profit
3,2	Content	Newly added section. To allow the possibility of use of the GOTS Signs (conditional) by companies that hold GOTS Letters of Approval.	New concept for GOTS Additives – annual fees will be charged and they will be able to use the GOTS Signs (subject to conditions).
3,3	Content	Cobranding with GOTS Signs	Conditions for the use of GOTS Signs alongside brand owners logos introduced. This section shall not be implemented until an appropriate system for the same is set up by GOTS.
4	Wording	Nomenclature of Fees have been changed to 'Entity Annual Fees', 'Certification Body Annual Fees', 'Additives Registration Fees' and 'Additives Annual Fees'	For better understanding and consistency of purpose as explained earlier.
4,1,1	Content	Added explanation on payment of fees by certified entities who may be listed as subcontractors on multiple SCs	Inclusion of existing interpretation within this document
4,1,2	Content	Added subsection to clarify payment of fees for inspected facilities that may not process textiles	Inclusion of existing interpretation within this document.
4,1,3	Content	Fees updated to currently applicable ones. Footnote added to refer to relevant document that governs fees	A new document for the fee structure has been introduced, which may be updated in the future exclusive of this document.
4,1,5	Content	Modified to reflect quarterly payment to GOTS by CBs	Update of current payment schedule.
4,1,7	Content	New subsection to clarify and ensure that certified entities are fully informed about fees payable to GOTS by them and what are to be paid by CBs	Included because it was noticed that CBs did not always clarify that CB Annual fees were payable by CBs and not Certified Entities.



4,2,2	Content	Added subsection to reflect quarterly payment to GOTS by CBs	Update of current payment schedule.
4,3,1	Content	Modified terminology from 'chemical inputs' to 'additives'. Added "A holder of GOTS Letter of Approval that resigns and reapplies in the same GOTS Version (to same or different Scope 4 <i>Approved Certifier</i>) shall pay the applicable Additives Registration Fee again."	Included accessories within the purview of registration fees reflecting current interpretation. Clarified fees payable by a LoA holder who resigns and reapplies for new approval.
4.3.3	Content	Modified to reflect quarterly payment to GOTS by CBs. Added "Certifier invoices that are sent out to their clients shall include the phrase "payable to GOTS" in parenthesis to distinguish this item from any other fees payable to the <i>Approved Certifier</i> "	Update of current payment schedule. Requirement to inform CB clients about GOTS Fees in their invoices.
4,4	Content	New conditions for GOTS LoA holders. Mandatory annual fee introduced for LoA holders (based on the number of approved inputs) which will allow them to use the GOTS Signs as governed by Section 7 of the document.	This now permits LoA holders to use GOTS signs, governed further by Section 7 of the document upon payment of fees.
5	Wording	Few editorial modifications made for better understanding.	
5,1,2	Content	Subsection added to reiterate the new GOTS v 6.0 requirement that Labelling of GOTS Goods in retail is now mandatory.	To align with requirement as per Section 4.1 of GOTS V 6.0
5,1,5	Wording	Editorial modifications to clarify purpose	
5,2,2	Content	Included subsection regarding alternative placement of information in a GOTS Label	Existing interpretation included in the document.
5,3,1	Content	Added a footnote clarifying that composition % of certified material is optional on a label.	Existing interpretation included in the document.
5,3,2	Content	Included subsection regarding alternative placement of information in a GOTS Label. Added clarification "Labelling shall be placed in the proximity of the GOTS product where it remains visible in direct relation to the product"	Existing interpretation included in the document.
5,4,1	Content	Added a footnote clarifying that composition % of certified material is optional on a label.	Existing interpretation included in the document.
5,4,2	Content	Included subsection regarding alternative placement of information in a GOTS Label Added clarification: "Labelling shall be placed in the proximity of the GOTS product where it remains visible in direct relation to the product"	Existing interpretation included in the document.
5,5	Wording	Wording of this section has been modified to reflect the new permissions for use of GOTS Signs by suppliers of GOTS Additives.	
5,6	Content	New section added regarding the use of other languages in GOTS labelling.	This section was created as a common unified labelling requirement taking individual statements from other sections.



5,7	Wording	Title modified to "Referencing of Products which are not (completely) produced in compliance with GOTS".	
5,7,2	Content	Added sentence "Cutting fabric is a processing step requiring certification if sold via an online-shop."	Existing interpretation included in the document.
5,8	Content	New Section added to include conditions for Cobranding with GOTS Signs	In conjunction with Section 3.3 of the document.
6,1,1	Content	Updated small trader exemption condition (annual turnover < €20,000) in line with current Standard / Implementation Manual.	Existing interpretation included in the document.
6,1,3	Content	Subsection added to include the obligation of a seller of GOTS Goods to inform their buyers about GOTS Labelling Release.	
6,1,4	Content	Added subsection: "If the buyer of final GOTS Goods (e.g., white T-shirts) further processes these articles (e.g., printing), it shall be considered as a processor. Such a processor shall not use any GOTS Signs unless it becomes a Certified Entity and follows applicable labelling rules."	To clarify the obligation of processor of finished products existing interpretation included in the document.
6,2	Content	Section modified to cover obligation of a seller when selling final, labelled GOTS Goods which are meant for resale.	
6,2,1	Content	Subsection added: "The importer, wholesaler, retailer or reseller buyer holds a valid Scope Certificate issued by an Approved Certifier (viz. is certified) or is properly registered with an Approved Certifier"	Buyers' requirements regarding GOTS should be verified by certified entities who sell labelled final GOTS Goods.
6,2,2	Content	Subsection added: "If the GOTS on-product labelling contains license number of the Certified Entity which manufactured the product, that Certified Entity shall provide proof to their Approved Certifier that its buyer is properly registered or certified."	To ensure verification of Buyers' licence numbers if they appear on the labelled final GOTS goods.
6,3	Wording	Few editorial changes made within this Section for clearer interpretation and updated with latest requirements.	
6,3,3	Content	Added Subsection: "An uncertified retailer shall obtain permission to use GOTS Signs from Global Standard gGmbH after submitting 'Retailer's Declaration for Use of GOTS Signs' "	GOTS now requires uncertified retailers to obtain permission to use GOTS Signs in their advertising material (not product labelling). Retailers can now directly contact GOTS for the GOTS logo files and not request this from CBs.
7	Wording	Some modifications made in this section to reflect the new situation related to permission to use the GOTS Signs by GOTS Additive suppliers. No new condition has been created.	
9	Content	New Section added "Use of GOTS Signs on consumer focussed webpages / marketplaces / catalogues / advertising materials"	These conditions were not part of the earlier document and were required for uniform interpretation by all. The sections reflect the current explanations and interpretation being regularly provided by GOTS to queries from the industry.
10,1,3	Wording	Added "during the validity of their Scope Certificate"	For uniform interpretation and clarification. Not a new condition.



10,1,4	Content	Added subsection: “Suppliers of <i>GOTS Additives</i> with reference to their approved additives that are released on Letters of Approval by an <i>Approved Certifier</i> , during validity of their Letter of Approval.”	To reflect new permissions to use the GOTS Signs by LoA holders.
11	Content	New Section added to allow the use of GOTS signs by Approved Consultants	
12,1,3	Content	Added subsection: “The Certified Entity shall always recognise the title of Global Standard gGmbH to the <i>GOTS signs</i> and shall not at any time impair the rights of Global Standard gGmbH to any of the <i>GOTS signs</i> .”	To protect GOTS trademarks – included on the advice of our trademark lawyers
12,1,4	Content	Added subsection: “Should a Certified Entity initiate or threaten to initiate cancellation action or otherwise attack the validity of the <i>GOTS signs</i> , Global Standard gGmbH may terminate the rights of the Certified Entity to use <i>GOTS Signs</i> without notice”	To protect GOTS trademarks – included on the advice of our trademark lawyers
13	Wording	Editorial changes for clarity of purpose and throughout the subsection. Nomenclature of the logo elements has been revised. ‘Writing’ revised to ‘Lettering’; ‘Face’ revised to ‘Symbol’ and ‘Design Mark’ revised to ‘Circle Element’	
13,1,1 b)	Content	Added Secondary option for Labelling with dark background.	At the request of some users and CBs
13,1,2	Wording	Section title changed to “Black and White Option”	To reflect actual option
13,1,3	Content	New section added to include true monochrome design specifications, with preferred option and two secondary options.	To allow use of true monochrome logos of GOTS in labelling – included based on requests of some users
14	Wording	Included GOTS contact details for Brand Owners and uncertified retailers	
Notes	Content	Explanation of verbal forms used in document added	
Appendix	Content	Added new Section to illustrate examples of correct and incorrect GOTS labelling	For the benefit of users.