

## What is **GOTS** and **OCS**?

**GOTS** (Global Organic Textile Standard) certified company. GOTS is recognized as the worldwide leading standard for the manufacture of organically produced natural fibers and contains both highest environmental and social requirements throughout the textile production chain. A product can only be certified when the entire production chain, from cultivation to the finished product, is certified. That includes the material extraction, ginning, spinning, knitting, cutting and sewing, dyeing (all pre-treatment and wet processing), silk screen printing and/ or embroidery.

### What criteria are covered by the **GOTS** certificate?

#### **Fiber use**

All fiber must be 95% certified organic in content. Only a minimal fiber impurity may be GOTS certified. For organic cotton, only 5% synthetic material can be mixed in otherwise the product cannot be certified. All fabrics are required to show proof of origin and organic content.

#### **No toxic chemical use**

Most chemicals used in traditional dyeing process are considered harmful to the skin and the environment, such as aromatic solvents, chlorinated benzenes, formaldehyde, genetically modified organisms, pesticides, heavy metals, per fluorinated and polyfluorinated chemicals (PFCs), azodyes and pigments, softeners and many more. All are forbidden under GOTS

#### Extensive Social criteria

GOTS incorporates the tenets of SA8000, so the highest social criteria that must be complied with. These include the following points:

- Employment is voluntary
- Employees have freedom of association and the right to negotiate
- No child labors
- No discrimination
- Safe and hygienic working conditions
- Fair payment
- Regulated working times
- No precarious employment
- Humane treatment
- Socially responsible management
- Ethical business practice

**Designated storage, packaging and transport**

Organic textile must be stored in designated areas and transported such that cross contamination with forbidden substances and conventional products is avoided. Only non-PVC poly and/or recycled post-consumer waste paper and cardboard can be used as packaging for GOTS products. Packaging must be certified according to a program for sustainable forest management. Transportation and storage must be documented.

**Wastewater treatment**

The wastewater from all wet finishing production sites must be cleaned in a functional internal or external treatment plant before it is released into the environment or public water works.

**Testing for harmful substance**

Products and all constituent substances must be tested on a regular basis (every 6 months) by independent laboratories.

Regular checks to make sure that standards are maintained, on-site inspections and the certification of processing facilities, manufacturers and distributors will be carried out by independent, specially accredited testing institutes according to the GOTS monitoring framework. This guarantees complete security and accountability for GOTS certified textiles.

**What is OCS?**

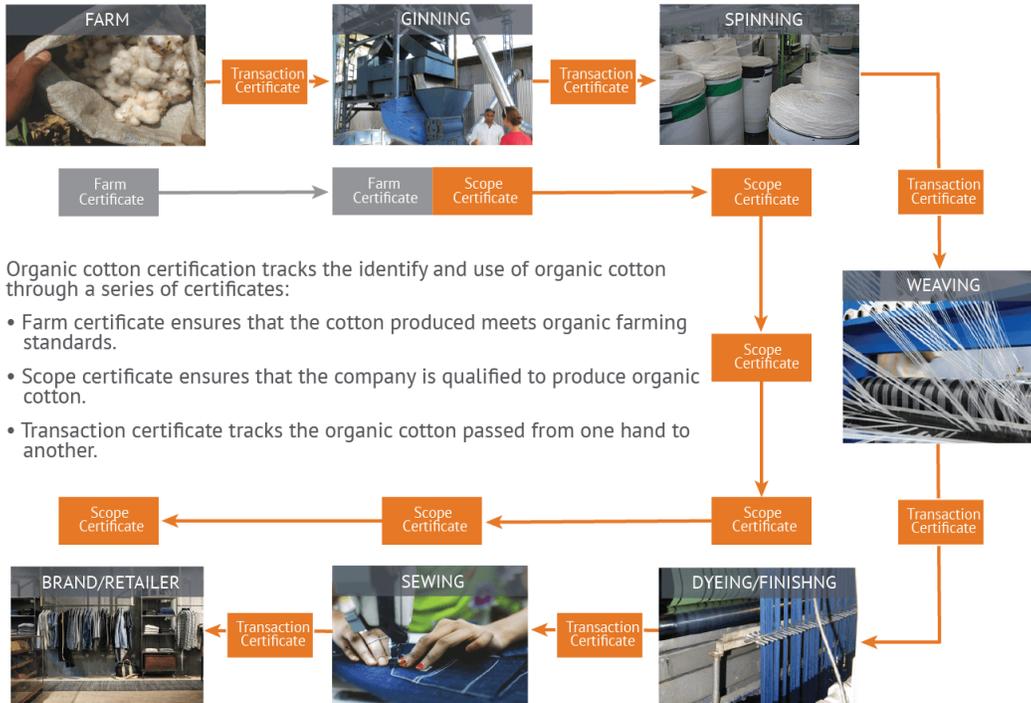
The Organic Content Standard (OCS) applies to any non-food product containing 95-100 percent organic material. It verifies the presence and amount of organic material in a final product and tracks the flow of the raw material from the source to the final product.

**The Goal of the Organic Content Standard (OCS) is to ensure trust in organic content claims.**

The OCS accomplishes this goal by verifying the presence and amount of Organic Material in a final product. It provides a strong chain of custody system from the source of the organic raw material to the final product through certification. It allows for transparent, consistent, and comprehensive independent evaluation! and! Verification of Organic Material content claims on products by an accredited Third-party Certification Body (CB). As a business to business tool, the OCS may be used to ensure that products companies purchase actually contain Organic Material.

**Principles of OCS Certification**

The OCS provides third party verification of Organic Material content in a product and options for corresponding consumer facing claims. It addresses the flow of product within and between companies, raw material verification, post-harvest processing, manufacturing, packaging and labeling, storage, handling, and shipping through the seller in the last business to business transaction.



Organic cotton certification tracks the identify and use of organic cotton through a series of certificates:

- Farm certificate ensures that the cotton produced meets organic farming standards.
- Scope certificate ensures that the company is qualified to produce organic cotton.
- Transaction certificate tracks the organic cotton passed from one hand to another.