# Q&A Webcast: Consumer Safety at its Best. Product stewardship with STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX®

Q: When a supplier is OEKO-TEX certified, does it mean that all the materials used in its plant are under OEKO-TEX certifications? And also that the all manufacturing site/plant has been assessed and considered in conformance with OEKO-TEX standards requirement?

A: One STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® certificate can cover a group of articles with physical differences only. For example articles made out of the same fabric in different colours can be combined on one certificate. Further details can be found in the STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® Standard document which can be downloaded here. Part of the STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX(R) certification procedure is an on-site-visit of the manufacturing site/plant where the production of the certified articles is checked and if all the information provided by the customer is correct. During the on-site-visit the auditor also has the option to take control samples directly from the production. For a detailed facility assessment, which covers chemical management, environmental performance & management, social responsibility, quality management and health protection and safety at work, we offer the STeP by OEKO-TEX® certification, details can be found here.

Q: How to easily distinguish recyle yarn from non recyle yarn, do these have certified?

A: From 1st of April 2021 onwards, articles with more than 20% recycled content have to be on a separate certificate. An identification is possible via the certificate scope, which you can view by entering the certificate number into our Label Check. Only for materials containing more than 20% recycled content, it is allowed to be mentioned “recycled material” in the certificate scope.

Q: What are the risk with recycled material (which harmful chemical can be found in these materials compared to Virgin material?)

A: The risks depend on the type of material, how well its sorted, its origin and the recycling process. If the origin is unknown, there is a higher risk of contamination from e.g. old textiles which have harmful substances applied. Therefore, for such materials we apply a higher test frequency and specific test matrixes.

Q: How do Ökotex/ institutes will handle the Validation of certificates in the next month? Regarding the pandemic. As said actually they have been waved for 3 months, but how it will go on, what should we expect?

A: We have created the option of virtual audits for the validation of certificates, this serves currently as a full replacement of an on-site-visit.

Q: We have a lot of customers asking for compliance with the REACH and POP regulations. Can we be sure that an oeko-tex std. 100 certified product will also be compliant with the REACH regulation and the POP regulation?

A: OEKO-TEX® is closely and regularly monitoring the REACh and POP regulations and their updates and changes and is usually ahead with the introduction of new limit values and the development of corresponding methods to test for them in the framework of the STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® certification. This makes any article or product certified with the STANDARD 100, LEATHER STANDARD and ECO PASSPORT by

OEKO-TEX® also compliant with the limit values of the Appendix XIV and XVII of the REACH Regulation as well as the limit values of the POP regulation.

Q: What Steps are OEKO-TEX taking to encourage brands to accept the STANDARD 1oo instead of their own?

A: With the STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® as well as our other standards we offer globally harmonized standards which are updated regularly, cover multiple regulations and have a global network of testing laboratories, auditors and many quality control mechanisms to ensure high quality services. In addition we are continuously working on improving our services for our customers.

Q: Will you be emailing a recording of this pls?

A: The webinar is publicly available on our YouTube channel. You can watch it again here.

Q: If 97% of asian cotton is GMO, are there stats to indicate that this % will drop significantly as consumer demand for organics rises?

A: Although the demand for organic cotton rises significantly, it is still only a small portion of all cotton grown worldwide. The organic trade association is publishing stats on the production and growth of organic cotton which you can find here.
In addition, if GMO cotton, e.g. with embedded pesticide tolerance, has been grown for years with pesticide use, it is difficult to grow organic cotton on the same ground.