

Trademark Regulation

for the
Certification Mark



Section 1

(Name and registered office of the trademark owner)

(1) Owner of the "OEKO-TEX" trademark (logo)



is OEKO-TEX AG, located at Gutenbergstrasse 1, 8002 Zurich, Switzerland.

(2) The business purpose of the trademark owner is the development, maintenance and further development of testing, certification and labeling standards (OEKO-TEX standards), in particular in the field of human, textile and leather ecology. Furthermore, the trademark owner aims to grant rights of use to trademarks, labels and other identifying marks, especially in connection with the OEKO-TEX standards.

Section 2

(OEKO-TEX certification system)

- (1) The trademark owner awards the internationally recognized certification mark.



to companies and businesses, based on a certification system for the textile and leather industry.

- (2) The requirements of the OEKO-TEX certification system for certification are developed by the trademark owner in consultation with relevant experts and stakeholders on the basis of scientific findings and are continuously updated on the basis of new scientific findings.
- (3) The certification system shall be open to all businesses that are willing and able to meet the requirements of the OEKO-TEX certification system under transparent, fair and non-discriminatory conditions.
- (4) The trademark owner's certification system meets strict requirements for objectivity, competence, credibility, independence and transparency and includes, among other things, objective monitoring of compliance with the system's requirements by independent conformity assessment bodies (independent third parties).
- (5) Violations of the requirements of the OEKO-TEX certification system will be sanctioned.

Section 3

(Conformity assessment bodies as independent third parties)

- (1) The trademark owner works together with independent testing institutes (conformity assessment bodies) accredited according to recognized international or national standards to ensure compliance with testing, certification and labeling standards. Both the trademark owner and the accredited testing institutes are legally, organizationally, personnel-wise and financially independent of each other and make their decisions independently, objectively and freely.

- 2) The independent testing institutes involved in the testing must meet the requirements for independent conformity assessment bodies according to recognized standards and, in particular, be accredited according to ISO/IEC 17025 for accredited testing laboratories and, in accordance with ISO/IEC 17065, meet the requirements for bodies certifying products and processes.

The trademark owner maintains a documented regime to avoid conflicts of interest and to ensure the independence of the conformity assessment bodies involved and their decision-makers. It comprises, in particular, integrity principles, disclosure obligations, rules on bias, the functional separation of standard-setting, consulting and certification decisions, and an independent complaints procedure. Compliance is monitored through accreditation according to ISO/IEC 17025 and, where applicable, ISO/IEC 17065. Principles and authorized testing institutes are currently published on the website of the trademark owner.

- (3) Currently, these conformity assessment bodies consist of 17 independent research and testing institutes in Europe and Japan, which carry out laboratory tests and company audits in accordance with the respective OEKO-TEX standards on the basis of accreditation agreements. The trademark owner may admit further testing institutes that meet the independence requirement according to the aforementioned criteria as additional testing institutes for its certification system.
- (4) The trademark owner's certification system thus meets the requirements of Directive (EU) 2024/825 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 February on empowering consumers for the green transition by providing better protection against unfair practices and better information (“EmpCo Directive”).

Section 4

Declaration regarding the neutrality of the trademark owner

The trademark owner OEKO-TEX AG hereby declares that it does not engage in any commercial activities that include the supply of goods or services that are tested in accordance with this regulation and for which a guarantee is given with this Certification Mark.

Section 5

(Reproduction of the certification mark)

The certification mark reads as follows:



Section 6

List of Goods and Services

(1) The filed list of goods and services is as follows:

Class 1:

Chemical substances, chemical materials and chemical preparations, and natural elements; Plasticizers; fillers [chemical substances]; Antimicrobial agents for use in manufacture; Chemicals having antimicrobial properties [other than medical or veterinary]; Bleach [chemical] for use in manufacturing processes; Chemicals for treating textile fabrics; Chemical compositions for finishing textiles; Textile finishing chemicals having water repellant properties; Reducing agents for the textile industry; Textile-waterproofing and/or leather-waterproofing chemicals; Enzyme preparations for the textile and leather industry; Detergents for use in manufacture and industry; Unprocessed plastics; Salts for industrial purposes; Filtering materials [chemical, mineral, vegetable and other unprocessed materials]; Chemical substances for making adhesives; Chemicals for use in sticking [other than for household or stationery purposes]; putty [glue], other than for stationery or household purposes; Glues for sticking leather or textiles [other than for household purposes]; glue [Gluten], other than for stationery or household purposes; adhesive powder for coatings [for commercial purposes]; All the aforesaid goods for the textile and leather industry.

Class 2:

Dyes, colorants, pigments and inks, Fabric paints, Printing pastes, printing ink preparations; Drying additives for printing inks; Thinners and thickeners for paints, dyes and inks; Binding agents for paints; Organic binding agents for paints; Lacquers and varnishes; Binders for lacquers and binders for varnishes; paints; Protective coatings for repelling water [paint]; Raw natural resins; All the aforesaid goods for the textile and leather industry.

Class 3:

Cleaning and fragrancng preparations; Laundry preparations, Bleaching preparations; All the aforesaid goods for the textile and leather industry.

Class 4:

Lubricants and industrial greases, waxes and fluids; All the aforesaid goods for the textile and leather industry.

Class 5:

Disinfectants and antiseptics; Anti-microbial preparations; Aseptic cotton; All the aforesaid goods for the textile and leather industry; Medical dressings, coverings and applicators; Dressings, medical; Elastic bandages [dressings]; Nappies for babies and incontinents; Babies' swim diapers; All the aforesaid goods wholly or partly of textile materials.

Class 9:

Covers for Mobile telephones, for Tablet computers, for Electronic book readers, for Computer discs, for Cameras [photography], and for Photographic equipment; Protective and safety equipment; protective helmets; Protective masks; Boots [protective footwear]; Protective clothing [body armor]; Head protection [helmets]; Articles of protective clothing for wear by motorcyclists for protection against accident or injury; Protective clothing made from ballistic resistant materials; Ventilation suits; Gloves for protection against accidents; Gloves for protection against injuries; Footwear for protection against accidents; All the aforesaid goods wholly or partly of textile materials or leather.

Class 10:

Clothing, headgear and footwear for medical personnel and patients, Therapeutic garments for people; Clothing, headgear and footwear, as well as braces and supports, for medical purposes, Sterile clothing for surgical use; Orthoses; Covers for baby feeding bottles; All the aforesaid goods wholly or partly of textile materials or leather.

Class 12:

Parts and fittings for vehicles; Car seats; Coverings for car seats; Seat cushions for the seats of vehicles; Head-rests for car seats; Children's car seats; Safety seats for babies for use in vehicles; Pushchair hoods; Stroller covers; Pushchair covers and hoods; All the aforesaid goods wholly or partly of textile materials or leather.

Class 18:

Luggage, bags, wallets and other carriers; travel bags and suitcases, Key bags, Backpacks, shopping bags, Drawstring pouches; Umbrellas, parasols and walking sticks; Saddlery, slings for babies and Backpacks for carrying babies and infants, Slings for carrying infants; clothing for animals; Parts and accessories for all the aforesaid goods, included in this class; All the aforesaid goods wholly or partly of textile materials or leather.

Class 20:

Furniture and furnishings; Mattresses, Under-mattresses, Mattress toppers, Mattress springs, Nap mats [cushions or mattresses]; Bedding-, (except linen); Cushions; Babies' bouncing chairs; Seats adapted for babies; Moses baskets; Sleeping bags; Furniture and furnishings, Freestanding partitions (furniture), Interior venetian blinds, Blinds of textile (furnishings), Capsules [non-metallic containers]; Knobs (handles), not of metal, Decorative objects-, and Objets d'art, of fabric; Animal housing and beds; Fasteners, [non-metallic]; All the aforesaid goods wholly or partly of textile materials or leather.

Class 22:

Raw textile fibers and substitutes; Slings and bands; Bags and sacks for packaging, storage and transport; Tarpaulins, awnings, tents, and unfitted coverings; Sails; Ropes and strings; Nets; Padding and stuffing

materials, Down feathers and feathers for stuffing; Raw cotton.

Class 23:

Yarns and threads; Cotton for darning; Threads made of spun cotton.

Class 24:

Textile goods, and substitutes for textile goods, Textile fabrics as piece goods, Textile fabrics for use in the manufacture of clothing, headgear and footwear; Textile material, Knitted fabric, Taffeta [cloth], Lingerie fabric, Woven fabrics and their substitutes, Canvas for tapestry or embroidery, Interfacings [textile fabrics]; Filtering materials of textile; Drapes and Curtains, Indoor and outdoor curtains of textile material; Linens, Bath linen-, (except clothing), Hooded towels, Towels of textile, Face towels of textile, Beach towels, Handkerchiefs of textile, Felt piece goods [home textiles]; Bed linen and blankets; Diaper changing cloths for babies; Kitchen and table linens; Furnishings, namely, covers-, of textile material, Covers for cushions, Covers for eiderdown and duvets, Mattress covers; Coverings for furniture, Throws; sleeping bags and sleeping bag liners, Bags for sleeping bags [specifically adapted], Bivouac sacks being covers for sleeping bags; Labels of textile material; Flags, pennants [not of paper].

Class 25:

Clothing, footwear, headgear.

Class 26:

Accessories for apparel, sewing articles and decorative textile articles; Zip fasteners; Buttons, Stud buttons [fasteners] for duvets, Snap fasteners [fasteners] for clothing and shoes, Fasteners for brassieres; Hook and loop fasteners [haberdashery]; Clothing hooks [fasteners]; Shoe laces; Haberdashery, Heat adhesive patches for decoration of textile articles [haberdashery], Hooks [haberdashery], Appliqués [haberdashery], bows [haberdashery].

Class 27:

Carpets, rugs and mats, Carpet tiles, Carpet underlay, Yoga mats, Gymnastic mats; Textile bath mats; Textile wallcoverings; exercise mats for gymnastics; Vehicle mats and carpets; Floor coverings and artificial ground coverings; Wall and ceiling coverings, textile wallpaper; All the aforesaid goods wholly or partly of textile materials or leather.

Class 28:

Toys, games, and playthings; Sporting articles and equipment; All the aforesaid goods wholly or partly of textile materials or leather.

Class 35:

Retail or wholesale services relating to chemical substances, chemical materials and chemical preparations, as well as natural elements, impregnating agents, detergents, colouring agents, dyes, textile and leather dyes, cleaning and fragrance preparations, washing powders, bleaching agents, lubricants, industrial greases, waxes and fluids, disinfectants, dressing materials, orthoses, protective and safety equipment, parts and accessories for vehicles made of leather or textile materials; retail or wholesale services relating to car seats, car seat covers, luggage, bags, wallets and other carrying cases, umbrellas and parasols; retail or wholesale services relating to baby carriers and slings, furniture and furnishings, mattresses, mattress bases, mattress toppers, mattress springs, sleeping mats, bedding, pillows, raw textile fibres and their substitutes; Retail or wholesale services relating to straps and ribbons, bags and sacks for packaging, tarpaulins, awnings, tents, upholstery and filling materials, down and feathers as filling materials; Raw cotton, yarns and threads, textile fabrics, textile goods and goods made from textile substitutes, household linen, bath linen,

bed linen and blankets, articles of clothing, clothing accessories, footwear, headgear; Retail or wholesale services relating to sewing supplies, zips, buttons, haberdashery, carpets, rugs and mats, yoga mats, textile wall coverings, toys, games and playthings, sports goods and equipment.

Class 37:

Cleaning and care of fabric, textile, leather, fur and goods made thereof; laundry of textiles; ironing of textile goods; Maintenance and repair of textile goods; Leather care, Cleaning of leather; Stain removal from leather; Furniture maintenance and repair (for furniture of textile or leather material); All the aforesaid services in the context of manufacturing processes and processing in the textile and leather industry.

Class 39:

Transport and logistics in the field of manufacturing and processing of textile and leather goods.

Class 40:

Textile, leather and fur treatment; treatment and processing in relation to the following goods: Fabrics, Clothing, Leather and Furs; customized production of clothing, contract manufacture of ready-made clothing, of shoes and of headgear as well as of home textiles; Cutting of textiles, Dressmaking, Embroidering, Weaving; Pleating; Alteration, hot pressing [forming], water proofing and dyeing of textile materials, clothing and headgear and the providing of information relating thereto; Dyeing of clothing; Textile printing; Shrinking of clothing; Applying finishes to textiles, Chemical treatment of textile; Saddlery working; Cutting of leather; Tanning of leather; Leather dyeing; Embossing of leather; Application of protective coatings to leather; Custom manufacture of furniture and furnishings (all of textile or leather material), material treatment in the manufacture of furniture and furnishings of textile or leather material.

Class 42:

Technological services and designer services in the context of manufacturing processes and processing in the textile and leather industry.

- (2) In some countries, trademark protection may be sought for a limited number of classes, depending on the specific needs for trademark protection in that country. The wording of the list of goods and services may be adapted for trademark registrations in some countries, depending on the national requirements of the respective country.

Section 7

(Group of those authorized to use the trademark)

- (1) The certification mark  may be used for tested and certified goods or tested and certified processes for the manufacture of these goods (services) after the issuance of an OEKO-TEX® test certificate by any natural or legal person who trades in or manufactures these products or contributes to the manufacture and trade of these products.

- (2) Basic requirement for the right to use the certification mark  is compliance with the testing regulations for obtaining and maintaining an OEKO-TEX certificate in accordance with the defined testing criteria. These are described in detail below in sections 8 et seqq. of these trademark Regulation.

The right to use the certification mark is granted by the trademark owner exclusively on the basis of the defined testing criteria and on the basis of a neutral and non-discriminatory testing by independent third parties.

Section 8

(Features of the goods and services, which are certified with the certification mark)

- (1) For the independent testing and certification of textile and leather goods, textile and leather chemicals, dyes and auxiliaries of all kinds, as well as for the independent testing of the manufacturing and processing conditions of these goods, the trademark owner has created a globally applicable, uniform and independent testing and certification system for the textile and leather industry, which comprises several different standards (so-called "OEKO-TEX" standards).¹
- (2) Certification of goods or services according to the following "OEKO-TEX" standards entitles the

holder to use the certification mark  :

- "OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100" (product standard, tests goods)
- "OEKO-TEX LEATHER STANDARD" (product standard, tests goods)
- "OEKO-TEX STeP" (services standard, tests services)
- "OEKO-TEX ECO PASSPORT" (product standard, tests goods)
- "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS" (services standard, tests services)

¹ The OEKO-TEX standards, which define the requirements of the OEKO-TEX certification system, are developed in co-operation with working groups in which experts from several European countries participate. The term "experts" refers to individuals who, based on their training and many years of experience in the relevant field, can provide an informed and qualified assessment based on objectivity and scientific methodology.

- "OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON" (product standard, tests goods)

The relevant standards are normative documents that define the technical conditions and objective criteria for the certification of goods and services that are tested under these standards. **The current version of these standards is transparent and can be viewed at any time**, and can be accessed on the trademark owner's website.²

a) Statement of "OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100" / "OEKO-TEX LEATHER STANDARD"

A test certificate according to "OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100" or "OEKO-TEX LEATHER STANDARD" states that a product has been tested for a variety of harmful substances and complies with the limit values defined in the standard.

"OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100" applies to textiles and textile components.

"OEKO-TEX LEATHER STANDARD" applies to leather products.

The maximum levels for pollutants in concerning concentrations are defined **objectively and bindingly** in these standards and are based on scientific findings.³

b) Statement of the "OEKO-TEX STeP" standard

Test certificates according to "OEKO-TEX STeP" guarantee environmentally friendly production and work processes as well as occupational safety and socially compatible working conditions in production facilities of the textile and leather industry. The target group for STeP certification includes textile and leather manufacturers as well as trademarks and trading companies which demonstrate that their processes for the manufacture of the goods (or their services provided in connection with these goods) meet the minimum requirements defined in the standard with regard to the environmental friendliness of the production and processing processes, occupational safety, and social compatibility of working conditions. To objectively test these criteria, reference is made to section 11 of the regulations and to the definition in the

² <https://www.oeko-tex.com/de/downloads>

³ The pollutant limit values that have been defined in an objective manner can be accessed at: https://www.oeko-tex.com/fileadmin/user_upload/New_Regulations/2026/New_regulations_2026_OEKO-TEX_Grenzwerte_DE.pdf.

corresponding "OEKO-TEX STeP" standard.⁴

The testing institutes responsible for the independent verification of the criteria subject the services of a specific company to an objective testing (compliance with a catalog of criteria) regarding compliance with the minimum requirements in the areas (modules) defined according to the "OEKO-TEX STeP" standard, namely "Chemicals Management", "Environmental Performance", "Environmental and Energy Management", "Social Responsibility", "Quality Management System", "Health and Safety".

c) Statement of the "OEKO-TEX ECO PASSPORT" standard

Test certificates according to "OEKO-TEX ECO PASSPORT" guarantee that the chemicals, dyes and auxiliaries used in the textile and leather industry or in other industries do not contain harmful substances in concerning concentrations.

The **maximum levels for harmful substances** for the tested ingredients are based on scientific findings and are defined in this standard **objectively and bindingly**.⁵

d) Statement of the standard "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS"

Test certificates according to the "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS" standard guarantee that a certified company complies with the requirements for its corporate due diligence obligations with regard to human rights and compliance with environmental standards.

The test institutes responsible for independently testing the criteria subject the services of a specific company to an **objective verification** (compliance with a criteria catalog) and **evaluate the extent to which the company's due diligence obligations regarding human rights and environmental risks** are implemented within the company and throughout its supply chains (including transportation routes). Certification is based on the due diligence approach of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights ("UN Guiding Principles") and the OECD Guidelines on Due Diligence to Promote Responsible Supply Chains in the Clothing and Footwear Industry and the OECD Guidelines on Due Diligence for Responsible

⁴ The objectively defined criteria catalog can be accessed at: <https://www.oeko-tex.com/de/downloads> (See item 4 of the standard for a detailed explanation of the various modules to be tested).

⁵ The objectively defined limit values of harmful substances can be accessed at https://www.oeko-tex.com/fileadmin/user_upload/New_Regulations/2026/New_regulations_2026_OEKO-TEX_Grenzwerte_DE.pdf (Limit values of harmful substances in accordance with Annex 4 of the standard "OEKO-TEX ECOPASSPORT").

Business Conduct ("OECD Guidelines").⁶

e) Statement of the "OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON" standard

Test certificates according to "OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON" guarantee transparency for cotton products by allowing manufacturers, processors and suppliers of certified textiles to objectively demonstrate that their products,

- in accordance with to laboratory analysis, contain no harmful substances in concerning concentrations (compliance with binding limit values in accordance with the "OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100", see footnote 2),
- in accordance with laboratory analysis, contain no more than 5% genetically modified materials, and
- meet the requirements for organically grown cotton according to the generally recognized IFOAM-Organics International Standard (International Standard for Forest Garden Products) in the cotton content of a textile product or in raw cotton.⁷ The criteria are defined in this standard **objectively and bindingly**.

- (3) The certification mark  certifies, in accordance with the applicable "OEKO-TEX" standard,
- that the textile or leather goods marked with the certification mark, or goods with a predominant textile or leather content—measured objectively—contain no harmful substances in concerning concentrations and the pollutant limits are complied with in accordance with "OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100" or "OEKO-TEX LEATHER STANDARD" ,

or

- that the processes related to the manufacture and processing of textile and leather goods (or goods containing textile or leather)—measured objectively—were performed sustainably, i.e. they were manufactured and processed in compliance with environmentally friendly production processes and with due regard for optimum health and safety at work, as well as in compliance with socially compatible conditions for the workforce ("OEKO-TEX STeP").

or

⁶The objectively defined criteria catalog can be accessed under item 4 of the standard "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS" at <https://www.oeko-tex.com/de/downloads>.

⁷ The objectively defined pollutant limits and certification requirements can be found at: https://www.oeko-tex.com/fileadmin/user_upload/New_Regulations/2026/New_regulations_2026_OEKO-TEX_Grenzwerte_DE.pdf and <https://www.oeko-tex.com/de/downloads>.

- that the textile and leather chemicals, dyes and auxiliaries marked with the certification mark, which are used in the manufacture of textile or leather goods—measured objectively—are low in harmful substances ("OEKO-TEX ECO PASSPORT") ,

or

- that the services provided in the supply chain relating to textile and leather goods (or goods containing textiles or leather) originate from a company which—measured objectively—has implemented and applies due diligence obligations with regard to human rights and environmental criteria ("OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS")

or

- that cotton textiles and raw cotton—measured objectively—contain no harmful substances in concerning concentrations, contain no more than 5% genetically modified materials, and furthermore, that the generally accepted requirements for organically grown cotton are met ("OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON").

Details can be found in section 9 of these trademark Regulation and in the relevant standards, which objectively define the certification requirements and are available for download in their current version at any time on the trademark owner's website⁸.

Section 9

(Conditions for the use of the certification mark, applicable to all OEKO-TEX standards)

- (1) The right to use the certification mark  depends on the validity of a certificate issued according to one of the OEKO-TEX standards. Details regarding the duration of the right to use the mark are set out in section 13 of these Regulation.
- (2) The objective testing criteria specified in the respective standard apply exclusively to verifying compliance with the requirements stated therein. All limit values of harmful substances and other criteria for issuing an "OEKO-TEX" certificate are binding and can be viewed at any time in the

⁸ <https://www.oeko-tex.com/de/downloads> and https://www.oeko-tex.com/fileadmin/user_upload/New_Regulations/2026/New_regulations_2026_OEKO-TEX_Grenzwerte_DE.pdf.

respective standard.⁹



- (3) The right to use the certification mark is deemed granted if the applicant's goods and/or services have been certified according to at least one of the "OEKO-TEX" standards listed below by a testing institute (conformity assessment body) entrusted with the testing, and the certificate is valid.

Designation of the "OEKO-TEX" certification standard	Statement:	Certified goods/services
"OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100"	Tests and certifies <u>textile</u> goods (or goods with a predominant textile content) regarding concentration of harmful substances¹⁰ (Compliance with the limit values of harmful substances defined in the relevant standard must be verified in the product by laboratory analysis).	Textile goods or accessories for such goods (goods classes) 5, 9, 10, 12, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28)
"OEKO-TEX LEATHER STANDARD "	Tests and certifies <u>leather</u> goods (or goods with a predominant leather content) regarding concentration of harmful substances¹¹ (Compliance with the limit values of harmful substances defined in the relevant standard must be verified in the product by laboratory analysis).	Leather goods or accessories for such goods (goods classes) 9, 10, 12, 16, 18, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28)

⁹ All OEKO-TEX standards are publicly available and can be accessed online at <https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/downloads>.

¹⁰ The binding list of tested harmful substances and the maximum permissible concentration of harmful substances are set out in Annex 4 of the standard (see current link: https://www.oeko-tex.com/fileadmin/user_upload/New_Regulations/2026/New_regulations_2026_OEKO-TEX_Grenzwerte_DE.pdf).

¹¹ The binding list of tested harmful substances and the maximum permissible concentration of harmful substances are set out in Annex 4 of the standard (see current link: https://www.oeko-tex.com/fileadmin/user_upload/New_Regulations/2026/New_regulations_2026_OEKO-TEX_Grenzwerte_DE.pdf).

"OEKO-TEX STeP"	Tests and certifies the manufacture and processing of textile and leather goods (or accessories) regarding - Compliance with environmentally friendly production processes, - Health and safety at work, - Compliance with socially compatible conditions for the workforce (The production process must be verified and documented by conducting company-internal audits based on individual modules such as the existence of effective "chemicals management", "environmental management", "social responsibility", etc., in accordance with this standard)¹².	Services in the textile and leather production and processing industries (services classes 37, 39, 40, 42)
"OEKO-TEX ECO PASSPORT"	Certified textile and leather chemicals, dyes and auxiliaries are suitable for low-emission production, especially of textile and leather goods or their accessories. regarding concentration of harmful substances¹³ (Compliance with the limit values of harmful substances defined in the relevant standard must be verified in the product by laboratory analysis).	Textile and leather chemicals, dyes and auxiliaries for the textile and leather industry (commodity classes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
"OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS"	Tests and certifies the manufacture, processing and trade of textile and leather goods (or accessories) regarding the implementation and application of due diligence processes within the company and in the supply chains of the textile and leather industry with the aim of identifying, avoiding and mitigating human rights and environmental risks.¹⁴ (Compliance with corporate due diligence and monitoring of the risk areas defined in the relevant standard must be verified and documented by conducting company-internal audits).	Services in the textile and leather production and processing industries (services classes 35, 37, 39, 40, 42)

¹² The objectively defined test criteria and test procedures can be found under items 4 and 5 of the standard (see currently valid link: <https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/downloads>).

¹³ The binding list of tested harmful substances and the maximum permissible concentration of harmful substances (see https://www.oeko-tex.com/fileadmin/user_upload/New_Regulations/2026/New_regulations_2026_OEKO-TEX_Grenzwerte_DE.pdf).

¹⁴ The objectively defined test criteria and test procedures can be found under items 4 and 5 of the standard (see currently valid link: <https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/downloads>).

"OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON"	Tests and certifies cotton products or products with a predominant cotton content regarding - Harmful substances concentration (no harmful substances in concerning concentrations), - Genetically modified materials in the product (containing not more than 5% genetically modified materials), - Organic cultivation of the cotton used (requirements for organically grown cotton must be met).¹⁵ (Compliance with the pollutant limits defined in the relevant standard and the proportion of genetically modified materials must be verified in the product by laboratory analysis. In addition, the origin of the cotton raw material must be verified as coming from a company certified for organic cotton cultivation.)	Goods made of textiles with a cotton content > 70% or raw cotton (goods classes 5, 9, 10, 12, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28)
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- (4) To obtain certification and issue a test certificate in accordance with the standards listed above, an application must be submitted to the trademark owner or to an independent testing institute authorized to carry out testing in accordance with the "OEKO-TEX" standards, specifying the exact goods or services and the standard to which testing is to be carried out.
- 5) In addition, the applicant company must agree to the general terms and conditions (GTC) of the trademark owner. The current version of the general terms and conditions can be accessed on the OEKO-TEX website.¹⁶
- (6) To conduct the certification process, the independent testing institute responsible for the testing charges reasonable, time-based fees based on the number of hours required, as well as the costs for analyzing the samples provided for testing in accordance with the requirements of the criteria catalog. Every company that intends to become certified receives a cost estimate before the certification process begins.

¹⁵ The objectively defined limit values of harmful substances and other test criteria and test procedures can be found under items 4 and 5 of the standard (see currently valid link: <https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/downloads>).

¹⁶ <https://www.oeko-tex.com/de/allgemeine-nutzungsbedingungen> .

Section 10

(Right to use the certification mark

based on an OEKO-TEX certification for goods)

(1) Before testing and issuing certificates for certification according to one of the product standards

- "OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100",
- "OEKO-TEX LEATHER STANDARD",
- "OEKO-TEX ECO PASSPORT" or
- "OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON"

the applicant company is required to submit a declaration of conformity. In this declaration, the company guarantees that the manufactured or distributed products will correspond to the tested samples for the entire duration of the certificate, i.e., they will be compliant in type, material composition and production. The application form and the declaration of conformity can be downloaded from the trademark owner's website. The application for certification can be submitted online to the trademark owner or the authorized testing institutes.

(2) In order to obtain a certificate in accordance with one of these product standards, the tested products must demonstrably comply with the limit values of harmful substances which are specified in the respective standard (depending on the type of product).

The pollutant limits that must be met (depending on the product type) according to the OEKO-TEX product standards refer to various pollutants, such as *e.g. pH values, formaldehyde, heavy metals, pesticides, chlorinated phenols, phthalates, organotin compounds, other residue chemicals (e.g. carcinogenic arylamines), dyes, chlorinated benzenes and toluenes, etc.*) which demonstrably pose a health risk. The exact designations and the limit values objectively defined according to scientific criteria can be found in the aforementioned standards.

The product standards, including their limit value tables for harmful substances levels and certification procedures, can be accessed in their currently valid version on the trademark owner's website.¹⁷

¹⁷ See <https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/downloads> and a list of the tested pollutants and the maximum permissible pollutant concentration https://www.oeko-tex.com/fileadmin/user_upload/New_Regulations/2026/New_regulations_2026_OEKO-TEX_Grenzwerte_DE.pdf.



- (3) In order to obtain the right to use the certification mark based on the certification according to one of the above product standards, regular product tests must be carried out in the laboratories accredited according to ISO/IEC 17025 of a testing institute appointed by the trademark owner for the verification (conformity assessment body). The first product test must be carried out before the certificate is issued. Each value measured in the laboratory, which is specified in mg/kg, µg/m² or w-% on the product, must be below the defined limits in accordance with the standard applicable to the tested product, and a corresponding certificate according to one of the product standards must have been issued for the specific product.
- (4) In order to obtain a certificate according to "OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON", the product must, in addition to complying with the limit values of harmful substances, also be tested by laboratory analysis in the laboratories accredited according to ISO/IEC 17025 of a testing institute appointed by the trademark owner (conformity assessment body) to ensure that the limit value for genetically modified material (below 5%) is complied with.

To obtain a certificate according to "OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON", the testing institute appointed by the trademark owner (conformity assessment body) also verifies whether the cotton used in the product was organically grown.

A certificate according to "OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON" is only issued if the cotton used in the product comes from a company that produces organically grown raw cotton and is demonstrably (pre-)certified according to one of the following standards:

- 1) Regulation (EU) 834/2007 or Regulation (EU) 848/2018¹⁸,
- 2) USDA National Organic Program (NOP) - US Department of Agriculture's Organic Regulations,¹⁹
- 3) According to a standard that, in the IFOAM-Organics International family of standards²⁰, is recognized for the field of plant production.

Further details can be found in section 5 of the "OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON" standard.²¹

The control chain, i.e., the traceability of the certified goods to the production company for the cotton used in the goods, which must be organically grown, is monitored by the OEKO-TEX

¹⁸ Available at <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/>

¹⁹ Available at <https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/organic>

²⁰ See <https://www.ifoam.bio>

²¹ Available at <https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/downloads>

database system using a system of transaction certificates: A transaction certificate issued for cotton contains information about the certified products as well as shipping details, including the buyer's name and address. The transaction certificate ensures that cotton products sold along the supply chain can be assigned to the seller and buyer of the respective transaction. Transaction certificates can be issued for transactions that took place no more than 6 weeks ago.

Section 11

(Right to use the certification mark

based on an OEKO-TEX certification for services)

- (1) In order to obtain an authorization to use the certification mark  for services, i.e. for manufacturing and processing processes in the textile and leather industry according to the "OEKO-TEX STeP" standard, the testing institute appointed by the trademark owner for verification (conformity assessment body) is responsible for the review based on company audits to determine whether the companies manufacture and process the goods manufactured or processed by them
- a) environmentally friendly,
 - b) in compliance with optimum health and safety at work standards and under
 - c) socially compatible conditions

The criteria catalog applicable for testing in manufacturing and processing processes in the textile and leather industry according to the standard "OEKO-TEX STeP" is available on the trademark owner's homepage.²²

- (2) The certification of the services of manufacturing and processing facilities in accordance with the "OEKO-TEX STeP" standard shall be based on an assessment using six criteria (modules) which are defined in the standard:

- Chemicals management

²² <https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/downloads> .

This standard can be applied to garment manufacturers (without restrictions) and companies that manufacture components of the final product, provided that the components constitute a significant share (at least 85% of the total weight of the item in question) in the value chain (see standard for download at www.oeko-tex.com/de/downloads).

- Environmental performance
- Environmental management
- Social responsibility
- Quality management
- Health and safety at work

To obtain the right to use the certification mark , the goods to be certified must be manufactured in facilities that meet the required standards regarding environmental protection, health and safety at work and social responsibility in all the above-mentioned areas (modules) and have obtained a certificate for their services according to the "OEKO-TEX STeP" standard.

- (3) In order to obtain a right to use the certification mark  for services in trade and for the transport of goods from the textile and leather industry in accordance with the "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS" standard, the testing institute authorized by the trademark owner (conformity assessment body) verifies, based on company audits, whether a company has implemented and applies corporate due diligence obligations regarding compliance with human rights and environmental criteria within the company and its supply chains (including transport routes).

The applicable criteria catalog for testing according to the standard "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS" is available on the trademark owner's homepage.²³

- (4) In order to obtain and maintain the right to use the certification mark  based on the certification according to one of the standards applicable to services, "OEKO-TEX STeP" or "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS", the testing institute authorized by the trademark owner (conformity assessment body) conducts regular tests in the form of audits at the production facilities. The first audit must be carried out before the certificate is issued and must be repeated at least every three years.

²³ Available at <https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/downloads> .

Section 12

(Regular testing and monitoring)

- (1) The right to use the certification mark  depends on the presence of a valid OEKO-TEX certificate.

The conformity of the goods or services with one of the OEKO-TEX standards is ensured by the testing institute appointed by the trademark owner for verification (conformity assessment body) in accordance with the following criteria:

- (2) **Quality management**: Companies that are holders of a certificate or those applying for one must operate and maintain an effective quality assurance system to ensure that the products manufactured and/or sold correspond to the test samples or (in the case of "OEKO-TEX STeP" or "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS") meet the service requirements stipulated in the standard. This quality management system must be documented for the testing institute responsible for the testing (conformity assessment body). The company must describe to the testing institute the measures that have been taken within the company to ensure that all certified goods or services meet the conditions of the applicable OEKO-TEX standard.
- (3) **Regular audits**: The issuance of certificates according to one of the OEKO-TEX standards includes, as a mandatory part of the certification process, an on-site audit at the company that holds the respective certificate or has applied for one.²⁴

For all OEKO-TEX standards mentioned in section 9 of these Regulation, the testing institute appointed by the trademark owner for the verification (conformity assessment body) is entitled, in accordance with the following criteria, to verify on-site, even without prior notice, the measures taken by the applicant / certificate holder and set out in the points of quality assurance and quality control.

²⁴ For a certification of textile and leather chemicals, dyes and auxiliaries according to "OEKO-TEX ECO PASSPORT", the requirement of a company audit does, in exceptional cases, not necessarily have to be met. However, certification according to this standard requires a regular laboratory analysis of the goods to be certified, taking place at least once a year in a laboratory of a testing institute (conformity assessment body). For certification according to "OEKO-TEX ECO PASSPORT", the testing institute responsible for the testing and laboratory analysis may additionally carry out a random sample audit on site if it deems this appropriate.

Company monitoring in the form of an audit according to the applicable certification requirements (according to the chosen standard) takes place before the respective certificate is issued and is repeated at least every three years in the case of certification according to "OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100" or "OEKO-TEX LEATHER STANDARD" and "OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON", every 18 months in the case of certification according to "OEKO-TEX STeP", and every 12 months in the case of certification according to "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS". If the audit according to the applicable standard is not passed, the right to use the certification mark is revoked.



- (4) During the certification audit, the testing institute appointed by the trademark owner for verification (conformity assessment body) tests, in addition to the presence and functioning of the quality management of the applicant / certificate holder, all internal operational processes that provide evidence of compliance with the certification rules and thus also of compliance with the respective standard. The conditions found are documented by the auditors with photographs.

As part of the audit of internal operational processes, it is examined which materials originate from the company itself and which come from suppliers. During certification audits according to "OEKO-TEX STeP" and "RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS OEKO-TEX", it must be documented which production steps take place in the audited company and which production steps are outsourced.

Furthermore, the auditors are required to describe in detail in the audit report which parts of a production facility were inspected and which stocks or production steps were checked, whether the production of the goods/services to be certified was taking place during the audit and what the overall conditions were. Recommendations should be made by the auditors if necessary.

- (5) **Product testing regarding compliance with limit values of harmful substances for certification according to product standards:** Verification of compliance with limit values of harmful substances according to the certification rules of the product standards
"OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100",
"OEKO-TEX LEATHER STANDARD"
"OEKO TEX ECO PASSPORT" or
"OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON"

takes place on the basis of product tests on submitted samples and random checks during company-internal audits on site, at the respective company whose products are being tested and/or on the basis of the submitted samples.

The regular testing of the products for compliance with the limit values is carried out at least once a year in the laboratories of the testing institute appointed for the verification (conformity assessment body). Furthermore, as conformity assessment bodies, the testing institutes carry out annual control tests on certified products to a volume of at least 25% of all issued certificates. In addition to sample materials from the companies and submitted samples, commercially available items are also tested.

Samples taken by independent auditors during operational checks or acquired by employees in regular trade, as well as submitted samples, are tested in the relevant testing laboratories of the conformity assessment bodies for compliance with the pollutant limits specified in the applicable standard. A test report is prepared, and if the limit values specified in the respective standard are fully met, the applicant is granted or the certificate is extended.

In the certification process according to "OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON", the testing institute appointed for the verification (conformity assessment body) uses laboratory analyses to check, in addition to compliance with the pollutant limits, also compliance with the limit value for genetically modified material (less than 5%). In addition, the testing institute, acting as a conformity assessment body, uses suitable documents, which must be submitted by the applicant for the certificate, to check whether the requirements for organically grown cotton are met.

- (6) **Neutrality and responsibility of the conformity assessment bodies as testing institutes of the trademark owner:** All conformity assessment bodies involved in the testing are authorized to carry out regular tests and to ensure compliance with the certification requirements. All conformity assessment bodies of the trademark owner are state-accredited and supervised testing institutes that are obliged to maintain strict neutrality.
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Section 13

(Duration of the right to use the mark)

- (1) The right to use the certification mark  depends on the validity of the respective certificate on which the right is based. The validity period of the certificates according to the product standards
- "OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100",
- "OEKO-TEX LEATHER STANDARD"
- "OEKO TEX ECO PASSPORT" and
- "OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON",
- which grant the right for using the certification mark  for products is 1 year (12 months) from the date of issue. During this period, the testing procedures and limits of harmful substances that were valid at the time the right was granted shall apply. A renewal of the respective certificate can be requested no earlier than three months before its expiry date. When renewing the certificate, the certificate holder must submit samples again to the testing institute as the responsible conformity assessment body, or the testing institute must take samples on site at the company.
- (2) The validity period of certificates in accordance with the standards that verify the services of a company, namely "OEKO-TEX STeP" or "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS", shall be three years (36 months) from the date of issue. Before a certificate expires, the certificate holder is entitled to apply for a renewal of the certificate. To renew the certificate, a successful audit according to the requirements of the applicable standard is required.

Section 14

(Limits of the right to use the mark)

- (1) In the event of non-renewal of an issued certificate, the right to further use the certification mark shall lapse  directly with the expiration of the label, without the requirement of a separate notification.

- (2) A certificate issued in accordance with one of the product standards

"OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100",
"LEATHER STANDARD"
"ECO PASSPORT" or
"OEKO-TEX ORGANIC COTTON"

and the associated right to use the certification mark  will be revoked by the trademark owner if, based on the submitted test samples, during an audit of the company, through random sampling on the market or otherwise by the testing institutes as the responsible conformity assessment bodies, it is determined that the limit values to be observed with regard to the harmful substances of the goods to be certified no longer comply with the conditions of the "OEKO-TEX" product standard.

The validity of the respective product certificate and the associated right to use the certification mark  ends with immediate effect if the previously certified product is modified without approval from a testing institute as the competent conformity assessment body. In these cases, a corresponding written notification to the certificate holder is expressly not necessary for the certificate to become invalid.

To avoid the expiry of a granted product certificate, if the product is changed, the certificate holder must notify the relevant testing institute (conformity assessment body) and again submit product samples.

- (3) A certificate issued in accordance with "OEKO-TEX STeP" or "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE

BUSINESS" and the associated right to use the certification mark  will be revoked by the trademark owner or by a testing institute conducting the testing (conformity assessment body) if the manufacturing and processing conditions of the goods to be certified no longer comply with the conditions of the "OEKO-TEX STeP" standard, or if the company holding a certificate according to "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS" no longer maintains the due diligence obligations that meet the requirements of the "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS" standard.

- (4) An issued "OEKO-TEX certificate" and the associated right to use the certification mark  will also be revoked if it is found that the information provided by the applicant company is or

was incorrect, or if a change in the applied technical or manufacturing-related criteria was not immediately reported.

- (5) Revoked certificates shall only be reinstated by the trademark owner or by a testing body (conformity assessment body) if the reason for the revoking has been rectified and the measures taken in this regard have been documented. The measures taken and their implementation will be reviewed on site if necessary. Only after the certificate has been reinstated may the certificate holder continue to use the certification mark.
- (6) The revoking of a certificate will be communicated to the applicant in writing at the address provided in the application.
- (7) Revoked certificates may be made public via the trademark owner's website (www.oeko-tex.com).

Section 15

(Arrangements for the use of the certification mark)

- (1) Environment-related statements and social responsibility statements must be transparent and verifiable. Therefore, statements relating to OEKO-TEX certified goods and services must be verifiable. When using the certification mark  the respective standard on which the authorization to use the mark is based must therefore be explicitly named. Further, the certification mark must include the certificate number and the number of the testing institute that carried out the test, provided that the certification mark is physically affixed to products or used digitally as well as on advertising materials in the vicinity of the product. This information can also be displayed using a QR code.
- (2) The verifiability of the statements is ensured via the label check available on the trademark owner's website (www.oeko-tex.com/label-check). This label check can make data from the certificate transparent, such as the validity period of the certificate, and the scope of the certificate (a specific list of the goods or services that are subject to conformity assessment).
- (3) The manner in which the mark is used must clearly distinguish between certified goods and

certified manufacturing, processing or other processes of a company (services). It must be evident (at least through suitable references) which goods or services have been certified according to which of the OEKO-TEX standards mentioned in section 9 of this regulation.

- (4) When using the certification mark in advertising or in connection with other public activities of the company using the mark, this company shall ensure that the mark is used only in connection with the goods or services that are actually certified. It is prohibited to use the certification mark for a finished product if certification exists only for individual components of the product (so-called "prohibition of component advertising", i.e., advertising with the certification mark that gives the impression that the entire product has been tested according to an OEKO-TEX standard, when in fact only individual components of the product have been tested and certified according to the OEKO-TEX standard). Furthermore, it is prohibited to use the certification mark in advertising or product presentation in, for example, online shops, if the physical product is not marked with the official label. It must be clear and verifiable for everyone at all times which products are certified and which are not.



If the right to use the certification mark based on the certification according to one of the standards applicable to services, "OEKO-TEX STeP" or "OEKO-TEX RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS", is granted, the certification mark may never be used in connection with products.

The company using the certification mark is solely responsible for the manner in which it is used, particularly in advertising.

Section 16 (Sanctions)

- (1) An expired or otherwise invalid OEKO-TEX certificate may no longer be used in commercial transactions and may no longer be referred to. This also terminates the right to use the certification mark .
- (2) The trademark owner and the independent conformity assessment bodies will prosecute any misuse of an issued certificate and the associated use of the certification mark by using all available legal means. A warning will be issued immediately for a first offense. To this end, the trademark owner conducts a case management and issues the warnings.

- (3) In the event of non-compliance with the modalities for the use of the certification mark under this regulation, the trademark owner reserves the right to pursue the infringement by all available legal means.
- (4) If, after the certificate has been revoked, products or services of a facility continue to be misused with the certification mark  despite a warning, the trademark owner has the right, after the cease-and-desist notice to publish the revoking of the trademark rights in an appropriate form. Furthermore, the trademark owner will immediately consider taking civil and/or criminal legal action and initiate such action if there is a prospect of success. The trademark owner reserves the right to assert further claims for damages arising from unauthorized use of the trademark.

Section 17

(Amendments and written form requirement)

Amendments to these trademark regulations must be in writing.

Section 18

(Severability clause)

If any provision of these terms and conditions is invalid, the validity of the remaining provisions shall remain unaffected. In this case, the ineffective provision shall be replaced by an effective provision that comes closest to the intended economic purpose.