THE INDEPENDENT CERTIFICATION SYSTEM FOR TRANSPARENT AND SUSTAINABLE TEXTILE AND LEATHER PRODUCTION.
Consumers and NGOs not only want high-quality textiles and leather goods that are harmless to health, but also increasingly expect environmentally friendly and socially responsible production. This is why OEKO-TEX® has developed STeP – Sustainable Textile & Leather Production.

The goal of this modular certification system is the permanent implementation of environmentally friendly production processes, the improvement of health and safety and the promotion of socially responsible working conditions in companies along the entire supply chain. By regularly updating the STeP criteria, certified companies are able to continuously improve their environmental performance and social responsibility in order to strengthen their economic situation and competitiveness.

Prerequisite for the STeP certification is the fulfilment of minimum requirements in 6 different modules.
Brands and retail companies
STeP offers the opportunity for a worldwide search of suppliers who meet their requirements in terms of environmental protection and social responsibility. This enables them to document their joint commitment to sustainability together with the supply chain in a clear and comprehensive manner for the end consumer.

Textile and leather manufacturers
Textile and leather manufacturers can significantly increase the efficiency of their production processes on the basis of a STeP certification. Our system helps them to position themselves in terms of sustainability and identifies areas where they can improve. STeP as an independent proof of sustainable production conditions contributes to an image enhancement that allows companies to develop new markets and supplier relationships.

Advantages
- Independence
- Standardised worldwide
- Textile & Leather expertise
- Transparency
- Credibility
PRODUCTION FACILITIES

STeP by OEKO-TEX® ASSESSES THE PERFORMANCE FOR THE ENTIRE PRODUCTION CHAIN.

TEXTILE PRODUCTION.

- Dry and wet spinning, twisting and related processes
- Weaving, knitting, production of non-woven and related processes
- Pretreatment, dyeing, printing, finishing and related processes
- Making up of textile products

- Manufacturing of accessories (e.g., zippers, buttons, labels)
- Manufacturing of foam and mattresses
- Textile logistics
- Other (e.g., non agricultural fibre manufacturing)

LEATHER PRODUCTION.

- Beamhouse
- Tanning
- Retanning, dyeing, fatliquoring
- Finishing of leather
- Making up of leather products
- Leather logistics
CERTIFICATION

THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS.
THE FOLLOWING STEPS ARE NECESSARY FOR A STeP CERTIFICATION.

1. CERTIFICATION APPLICATION.
   Application form on OEKO-TEX® website

2. ONLINE ASSESSMENT TOOL.
   Electronic Online Questionnaire

3. ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION.
   Evaluation by trained OEKO-TEX® STeP auditors

4. ON-SITE AUDIT.
   STeP auditor verifies data from assessment tool

5. EVALUATION.
   Corrective actions & support by STeP auditor

6. CERTIFICATE & FINAL REPORT.
   OEKO-TEX® prepares a detailed final report

STeP by OEKO-TEX® enables a holistic consideration of manufacturing conditions from a sustainable point of view.