

Role of Sustainable Standard Certification in Textiles

Mr. Narayanasamy GM Technical
Armstrong Spinning Mills (P) Ltd



Various Sustainable Standards

Global Organic Textile Standard - GOTS



CU800477

Aim of the standard

- The aim of this standard is to define requirements to ensure organic status of textiles, from harvesting of the raw materials, through environmentally and socially responsible manufacturing up to labelling in order to provide a credible assurance to the end consumer.

1) Requirements for organic fibre production - 'organic' or 'organic - in conversion' according to Regulation (EC) 834/2007, USDA National Organic Program (NOP), or any (other) standard approved in the IFOAM Family of Standards for the relevant scope of production (crop or animal production).

2) Requirements for fibre material composition

"organic" or "organic – in conversion" - Minimum 95% Organic cotton or Organic in-conversion

“made with x % organic materials” or “made with x % organic – in conversion materials” -

Minimum 70% Organic cotton or Organic in-conversion.

3) General requirements for chemical inputs in all processing stages

4) Specific requirements and test parameters

Spinning - Any paraffin products used must be fully refined with a limited value for residual oil of 0,5% .

Sizing - Allowed sizing agents include starch, starch derivatives, other natural *substances* and CMC (carboxymethylcellulose). Synthetic sizes no more than 25% of the total sizing in combination with natural *substances* only, calculated for the chemical without water.

weaving / knitting - Knitting / weaving oils must not contain heavy metals. Etc.

- 5) Environmental management** - They must have a written environmental policy and procedures in place to allow monitoring and improving relevant environmental performances in their facilities .
- 6) Wastewater treatment** - Wastewater from all wet processing units must be treated in an internal or external functional wastewater treatment plant before discharged to environment. The applicable national and local legal requirements for waste water treatment must be fulfilled.
- 7) Storage, packaging and transport** - Organic textile products must be stored and transported in such a manner as to prevent contamination by prohibited *substances* and commingling with conventional products or substitution of the contents. Packaging material must not contain chlorinated plastics (e.g. PVC). Any paper or cardboard used in packaging material for the re-tail trade of *GOTS Goods* (incl. labelling items such as hang tags or swing tags) must be recycled from *pre-* or *post-consumer waste* or certified according to a program that verifies compliance with sustainable forestry management principles.
- 8) Record keeping & internal quality assurance** - All operational procedures and practices must be supported by effective documented control systems and records that enable to traceability.

9) Technical quality parameters –

- * Rubbing fastness, wet - 2 - ISO 105x12 etc.

10) Limit values for residues in GOTS Goods –

- * **AOX** - < 5 mg/kg - Extraction with boiling water, adsorption on charcoal; AOX analyzer based on ISO 9562
- * **Formaldehyde** - < 16 mg/kg - Japanese Law 112, or ISO 14184-1; Etc.

11) Limit values for residues in additional fibre materials and accessories

- * **Chlorophenols (PCP, TeCP)** - < 0.05 mg/kg - LFGB 82-02-08 (GC/MS) Etc.

12) Minimum social criteria –

- * Employment is freely chosen
- * Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining are respected
- * Child labour must not be used etc.
- * Social Compliance Management - Companies must have a policy for social accountability to ensure that the social criteria can be met. They must support the implementation and monitoring of the social criteria.

Organic Content Standard



- Minimum 5% Organically grown cotton.

Global Recycled Standard



- Applies to products that contain 20% or more recycled content.

Social Requirements -

- Employment is freely chosen
- Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining are respected
- Child labour must not be used etc.

Environmental Management System -

- Energy Use
- Water Use
- Wastewater / Effluent
- Emissions to Air
- Waste Management

Chemical Requirements -

- Exclusion of inherently problematic substances that are classified as dangerous to human health and/or to the environment by REACH.
- Exclusion of groups of substances with established concern to health and the environment.
- Exclusion of substances and mixtures classified with particular hazard codes or risk phrases.

Recycled Claim Standard – RCS



- Minimum 5% Recycled Material

Content Claim Standard - CCS



- The Standard applies to products that contain 5% to 100% of a Claimed Material.
- The Standard can be used with any input material, and can apply to any supply chain.
- The CCS should be used in cases where a claim cannot be backed up by another standard or recognised testing method, or when other verification methods are not in place (internal track and track systems, genetic markers etc).



Purpose

- Fairtrade is a strategy that aims to promote sustainable development and to reduce poverty through fairer trade.
- The main goals of Fairtrade are making changes to the conventional trading system that aim to benefit disadvantaged small producers and workers and increasing their access to markets. These actions can lead to improvements in small producers' and workers' social and economic well-being, as well as to their empowerment, and to environmental sustainability.
- Traders are welcome to join Fairtrade if they are committed to supporting these Fairtrade objective

Theory of Change

- A Theory of Change describes the change that an initiative such as Fairtrade wishes to see in the world and its understanding of how it will contribute to that change. Below is a brief explanation of Fairtrade's Theory of Change, highlighting the aspects most relevant for the Fairtrade Trader Standard. More information about Fairtrade's Theory of Change can be found Fairtrade International's webpage.
- Fairtrade aims to support small-scale producers and workers who are marginalized from the benefits of trade. Fairtrade's vision is a world in which all small producers and workers can enjoy secure and sustainable livelihoods, fulfil their potential and decide on their future. To fulfil this vision, Fairtrade has identified three long-term goals¹:
 - Make trade fair
 - Empower small producers and workers
 - Foster sustainable livelihoods.
- To achieve its goals, Fairtrade aims to bring about simultaneous change in four spheres:
 - Small producer and worker organizations
 - Supply chain business practices
 - Consumer behavior
 - Civil society action

The Fairtrade Cotton Program(FSP)



<http://www.fairtrade.net/fsp-cotton-mark.html>

Key elements of Fairtrade Sourcing Programs

- A new way to commit to Fairtrade producers, enabling commitments focused on sustainable sourcing at commodity level.
- The new FAIRTRADE Program Mark can be used by brand-owners to indicate the sourcing of Fairtrade cocoa or sugar. Flexible communications options include on pack product labelling and off pack in B2B or B2C communications.
- Composite products containing Fairtrade cocoa or sugar may now use the FAIRTRADE Program Mark, without other ingredients being Fairtrade Certified.
- Businesses may also choose to communicate their Fairtrade sourcing commitment through CSR reporting or other business-facing materials. This can be in addition to or as an alternative to on-pack labelling.
- Fairtrade Standards for producers and traders (including minimum price, Fairtrade Premium, and certification of supply chains) apply to all volumes sourced.
- A volume-based fee model payable by businesses to the Fairtrade system based on equivalent raw commodities sourced.

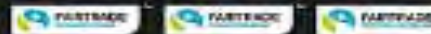
WHY HAVE WE INTRODUCED THE FAIRTRADE SOURCING PROGRAMS?



Farmers want to sell more Fairtrade cocoa, sugar and cotton



More and more companies recognise the needs of small-holder cocoa, sugar and cotton farmers



Fairtrade Sourcing Programs connect Fairtrade farmers with companies who want to source a key commodity fairly and sustainably

MORE BENEFITS FOR FARMERS



More opportunities for businesses to engage with Fairtrade

More Fairtrade for shoppers

MORE FAIRTRADE FOR EVERYONE

Bluesign[®]



<http://www.bluesign.com/>

The bluesign[®] standard is managed and owned by bluesign technologies, a private company that is based in St. Gallen (Switzerland).

The five principles of the bluesign® system

- 1) Resource productivity – sustainable use of energy and raw materials
- 2) Consumer safety – responsibility to people and environment
- 3) Water emission – improved protection of the natural circulation
- 4) Air emission – less air pollution for a better climate
- 5) Occupational health & safety – improve working conditions

Blue Angel



<https://www.blauer-engel.de/en>

The Blue Angel standard is owned by the [German Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety](#), based in Berlin

Blue Angel eco-label wants to provide guidance for the use of sustainable products:

- improved environmental standards for the manufacturing process,
- improved work safety and social conditions of manufacture,
- avoidance of harmful chemicals in the products,
- good serviceability.

Excluded from the award of the eco-label are:

- Upholstered furniture, mattresses and textile floor coverings,
- Textile footwear,
- PVC materials, accessories and applications,
- Textile products containing electronic components.

Cradle to Cradle™



- <http://www.c2ccertified.org/>
- The Cradle to Cradle Certified™ Products Program is an initiative developed by [McDonough Braungart Design Chemistry](#) (MBDC), a global sustainability consulting and product certification company, founded in 1995 by architect William McDonough and chemist Dr. Michael Braungart. In 2010, the not for profit Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute™ was created and MBDC transferred the license for the certification system, methodology, and the certification mark to the Institute.

Overall Product Scoring

- A product receives an achievement level in each category — Basic, Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Platinum — with the lowest achievement level representing the product's overall mark.

5 Level of certifications are possible

- * Basic
- * Bronze
- * Silver
- * Gold
- * Platinum

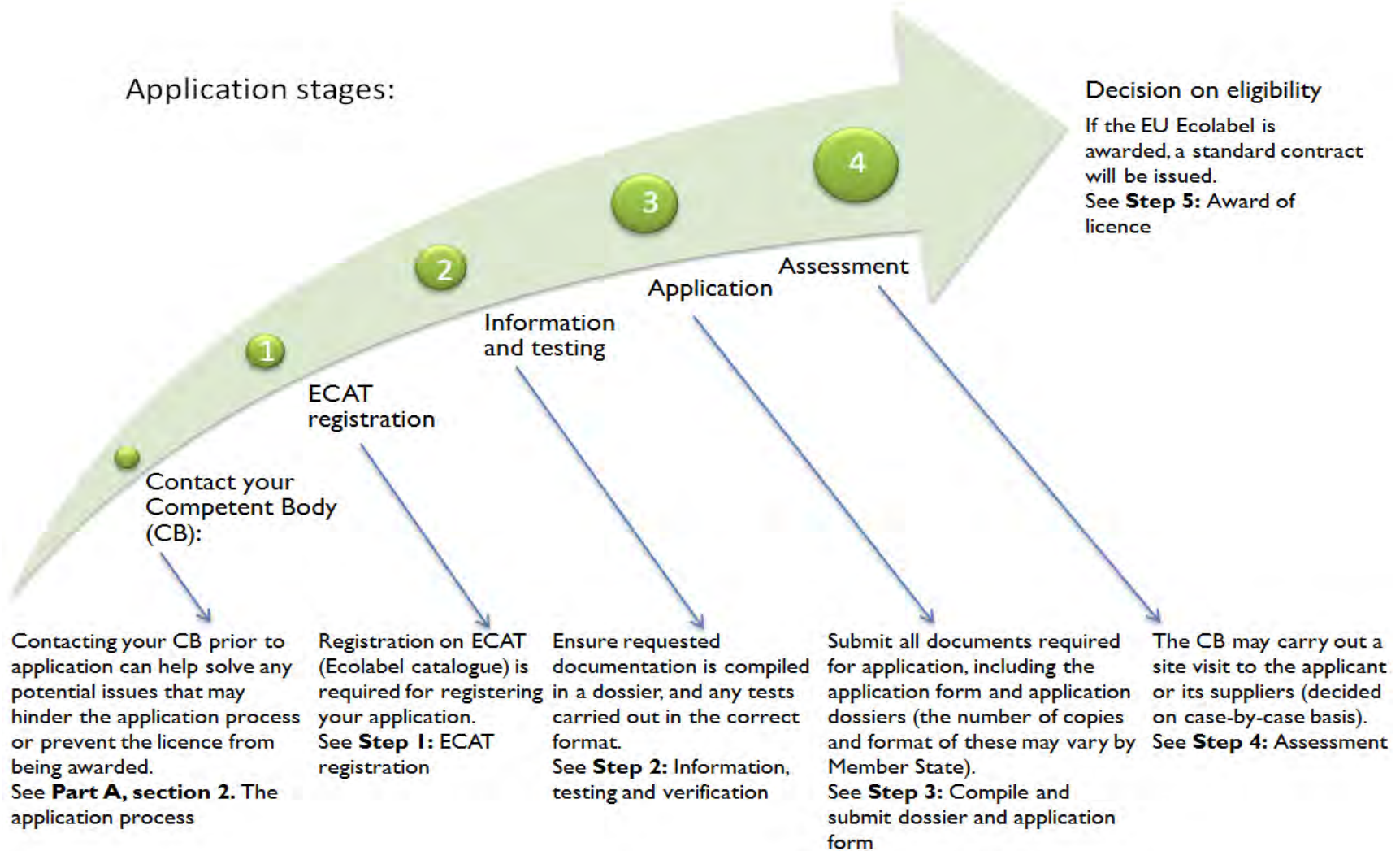
EU ECOLABEL



- ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/ecolabelled_products/categories/textiles_en.htm
- The EU Ecolabel is a multi-stakeholder scheme managed by the European Commission at the EU level, and together with independent and impartial organisations called Competent Bodies, it is responsible for implementing the EU Eco-label scheme at national level.

EU Ecolabel application stages

Application stages:



Overview of assessment and verification requirements

Criteria set		Verification source
(a) Textile fibre Criteria	The complete material composition of the product(s), identifying and showing compliance for textile fibres, components and accessories;	Fibre and component manufacturers, their raw material and chemical suppliers and testing laboratories working in accordance with the specified test methods.
(b) Chemicals and processes	The substances, production recipes and technologies used to manufacture and impart specific qualities and functions to the product at the spinning, pre-treatment, dyeing, printing and finishing stages and to treat air and wastewater emissions;	Production sites, their chemical suppliers and testing laboratories working in accordance with the specified test methods. Where required product analytical testing shall be carried out annually during the licence period and submitted to the appropriate Competent Body for verification.
(c) Fitness for use	The performance of the product(s) as defined by specific testing procedures which address colour fastness under specific conditions, resistance to pilling and abrasion, and the durability of repellency, easycare and flame retardancy functions;	Testing laboratories working in accordance with specified test methods.
(d) Corporate Social Responsibility	Compliance of the applicants' selected cut/make/trim suppliers with the defined ILO standards.	Independent verifiers or documentary evidence based on the auditing of cut/make/trim production sites.

NATURTEXTIL iVN certified BEST

<http://www.naturtextil.com/profile/quality-seals/best.html>



- The iVN certified BEST standard is managed as an association, based in Selzen in Germany.
- iVN is one of the four members of the [IWG \(International Working Group\)](#) which includes the [Global Organic Textile Standard \(GOTs\)](#), [Organic Trade Association \(OTA\)](#), [Soil Association](#) and [Japanese Organic Cotton Association \(JOCA\)](#).
- The association is a union of over 100 companies situated in different production levels of the textile industry.

NATURTEXTIL iVN certified BEST

- The standard requirements are similar to
GOTS

Nordic Swan



- Nordic Swan was introduced in 1989 by the Nordic Council of Ministers. It is managed by the [Nordic Ecolabelling Board](#), a non-profit organisation. The Nordic Ecolabelling Board is also a member of the [Global Ecolabelling Network \(GEN\)](#), which is an association of ecolabelling organisations worldwide.
- Each Nordic country has a local office that is responsible for criteria development, site visits, licensing and marketing. Despite working independently, they meet twice a year for common communications.
- The Nordic Swan label is administered by:
 - Denmark: [Ecolabeling Denmark](#);
 - Sweden: [Ecolabelling Sweden AB](#);
 - Finland: [Finnish Standards](#);
 - Norway: [Foundation for Ecolabelling](#); and
 - Iceland: [Environment Agency](#) operating under direction of the Ministry for the Environment.

Nordic Swan

RPS

- In order to select the product groups which are most suitable for the Nordic Ecolabelling scheme, a product is analysed for their relevance, potential and how they can be controlled or "steered". This is the RPS scheme.

Relevance is assessed according to the specific environmental problems relating to the product group and how great they are.

Potential is evaluated by looking at the possible environmental gains that can be made within the product group by having Nordic Ecolabel criteria.

Steerability is a measure of how the product, activity or problem might be affected by the requirements of the Nordic Ecolabel.

- If the Nordic Ecolabelling Board decides that these three parameters show that it would be an advantage to develop criteria for the particular product or service, then a study is started on developing criteria for this product group. This work takes on average three to four years, since it is a complex procedure.

OEKO-TEX® Standard 100



- https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/manufacturers/concept/oeko_tex_standard_100/oeko_tex_standard_100.xhtml
- The OEKO-TEX® standards series have been developed and are managed by the International [OEKO-TEX® Association](#), a group of 16 textile research and test institutes in Europe and Japan, with representative agencies and contact offices in over 60 countries worldwide.

OEKO-TEX® Standard 100

- The OEKO-TEX® Standard 100 is an independent testing and certification system for textile raw materials, intermediate and end products at all stages of production. Examples for items eligible for certification: Raw and dyed/finished yarns, raw and dyed/finished fabrics and knits, ready-made articles (all types of clothing, domestic and household textiles, bed linen, terry cloth items, textile toys and more).

Criteria

- Testing for harmful substances includes:
 - illegal substances
 - legally regulated substances
 - known harmful (but not legally regulated) chemicals
 - as well as parameters for health care
- In their entirety the requirements clearly exceed existing national legislation.

OEKO-TEX® Standard 100

Accordingly there are [four product classes](#):

- ***Product class I:***
Textile items for babies and toddlers up to 3 years (clothing, toys, bed linen, terry cloth items etc.)
- ***Product class II:***
Textiles used close to the skin (underwear, bed linen, T-shirts etc.)
- ***Product class III:***
Textiles used away from the skin (jackets, coats etc.)
- ***Product class IV:***
Furnishing materials (curtains, table cloths, upholstery materials etc.)

Sustainable Textile Production (STeP)



https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/manufacturers/concept/mystep_db/mystep_db.xhtml

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Sustainable Textile Production (STeP)

Modules

- Chemical Assessment and Management
- Environmental Performance
- Environmental Management
- Social Responsibility
- Quality Management Systems
- Occupational Health and safety

Ranking Performance

- Level 1 Compliance
- Level 2 Compliance
- Level 3 Compliance

Standard	Market Acceptance											
	Low	X	✓✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓✓	X	✓
	High	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
	Medium	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	X	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
	Medium	✓	✓✓	✓✓	X	X	✓	✓	X	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
	High	X	✓	✓✓	X	✓✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
	Medium	✓	✓✓	✓✓	X	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
	High	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓✓	✓✓	X	✓✓	X	✓✓



Low



Low



High



Low



Key:



No Engagement



General Engagement



Detailed Engagement

Filter:

Energy

Water

Chemicals

Air Emissions

Occupational Health & Safety

Management System

Environmental Policy

Social Responsibility

Audits & Validation

Implementation Tools

Labelling

Clear All

Show All

THANK YOU

