



GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD

ECOLOGY & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Brands Fashion



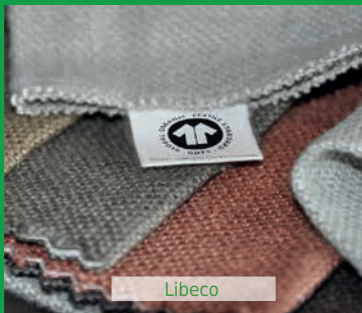
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Maas



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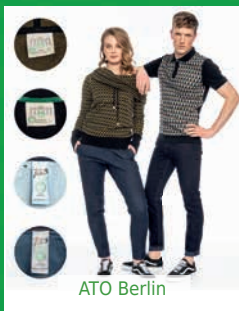
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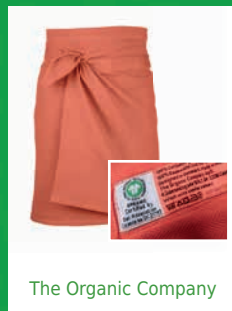
Socksweat



ATO Berlin



Grözinger



The Organic Company



Hartmann Bel nature



Naturepedic

HIGHLIGHTS 2018

➔ 5,760 certified facilities reported (an increase of 14,6% from 5,024 facilities in 2017)

➔ Impact: number of workers reported in GOTS certified facilities over 2.02 million (1.84 million in 2017)

➔ 20,331 approved chemical inputs including 8,242 colourants from 778 suppliers (31 Dec 2018) which corresponds to an increase of 13% (17,905 chemical inputs, 6,897 colourants from 720 suppliers) over 2017

➔ GOTS represented by 7 Regional Representatives

➔ As part of the GOTS capacity building SAI conducted the second series of the two-day training in 5 different countries for 60 certifiers/auditors

➔ Increase of page views at the GOTS database of more than 50% (736.855 compared to 363.171 in 2017)

➔ Proceeded with development of the Centralised Database System with Textile Exchange

➔ New policy for Change of Certifiers released

➔ Chinese Certification Body approved for all four scopes of GOTS

➔ GOTS signed UN Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action

➔ ISO IWA Protocol for GM Testing of Cotton and Textiles published April 2019

➔ Modernised GOTS Logo released



DEVELOPMENT

GOTS Version 5.0 was fully implemented on 1 March 2018. Standard revisions are undertaken every three years. Accordingly, the next revision process will start during 2019. The revision procedure foresees that a first revision draft will be presented by the Standards Committee to the members of the Advisory Council, certifiers and invited stakeholders, in spring 2019 and followed through to the release of

GOTS version 6.0 in March 2020. In 2017, GOTS proposed a project to determine reliable and repeatable GMO testing in cotton products, after test results for GMO presence received in 2016, showed inconsistency and were unreliable in cotton fibre. The project is now the basis of an International Workshop Agreement (ISO-IWA). This has been developed under the Dutch National Standards body (NEN)

and received funds from the Organic Cotton Accelerator (OCA). A formal report with the official release of the Protocol was done in April 2019. GOTS will mandate the use of this test method and findings for GMO testing that is required and will incorporate the relevant references into the Standard and the Manual.



IMPLEMENTATION

Development of businesses

The number of GOTS certified facilities showed yet another increase from 5,024 to 5,760 facilities in 2018, the highest figure so far and an increase of 14,6%. GOTS certified facilities are in 64 countries around the globe with continuous growth in both production and consumption regions.

Countries and regions with the largest growth in GOTS certifications in 2018 (rank order in percent) are: Bangladesh (+29%), North America (+25%), Pakistan (+23%) and South Korea (+23%). In terms of total numbers, the highest increase was reported from

India (+315), followed by Bangladesh (+155) and Europe (+98).

The top ten countries in terms of total number of certified facilities are: India (1973), Bangladesh (689), Turkey (519), Germany (500), Italy (340), China (301), Pakistan (238), Portugal (215), USA (127), and South Korea (85).

In 2018, the 18 GOTS accredited independent Certification Bodies reported more than 2.02 million people working in GOTS certified facilities.

The number of chemicals in the Positive List showed an increase of 13% to

20.331 from 778 suppliers. The GOTS Positive List contains tradenames of approved chemicals that must be used by all textile processors for their GOTS certified production.

The GOTS logo was updated in 2018 including all documents, the Website and the Simple Show Clips.

To promote the use of the GOTS logo amongst approved additive suppliers, an incentive of a 50% reduction in fees was offered till mid 2018 for chemical companies.

Due to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018 data in our



Countries or regions with the largest increase in GOTS certification in 2018.



Top ten countries in terms of total number of certified entities.

public database had to be blocked. To publish commercial contact data Certification Bodies must obtain fresh permission from their clients. The Centralised Database (CDS) project for GOTS and Textile Exchange

(TE) was initiated and is nearing completion of development. After negotiations, Chainpoint BV was selected as the vendor for this system and the project received the go-ahead mid-2018. Development has progressed to

pilot stage testing that commenced January 2019. It is expected that we will have an operational system by the end of 2019, with full system functionality being mandated to the Certification Bodies in 2020.



VERIFICATION

Third Party Certification

With China Quality Certification Centre (CQC), Beijing, PR China approved as GOTS Certification Body in November 2018, to date there are 17 Certification Bodies working as GOTS-approved certifiers.

As a part of GOTS' commitment to

constantly upgrade the auditors' skills for improved quality assurance of GOTS programme, GOTS organised the second round of joint Social Accountability International (SAI)-GOTS Auditor Training Programme which took place in Charleston, Bangalore,

Izmir, Frankfurt and Shenzhen. GOTS requires the auditors involved in assessing social compliance aspect of GOTS (Section 3) must be qualified as per SAI Basic Auditor Training Course or Equivalent.



PROTECTION

In the European Union GOTS was among the first applicants on the first day of application for the "EU Certification Mark", a new kind of trade mark at EU level which provides a stronger protection of GOTS.

54 complaints were received through the complaint procedure in 2018 (up from 35 in 2017 and 39 in 2016). As in previous years most of the complaints concerned unauthorised use of our logo (trademark violations), false references to GOTS (certification)

and fraudulent representations that companies or products were GOTS certified. Most cases of unauthorised trademark usage or false references continue to arise from the ignorance of traders and retailers of the GOTS labelling system. They removed the GOTS logo and/or incorrect statements from their advertising material after our intervention. As a result, several companies decided to apply for certification in order to be able to make correct references.

GOTS instituted a Certification Ban on one entity in 2018 for obtaining GOTS certification by misrepresentation, concealing important information about its legality.

Enforcement efforts will be continued to ensure reliability and accuracy in use of the GOTS certification mark for the textile industry, including mattresses, fashion and all textile products globally.



GOTS STORIES

ARMSTRONG KNITTING MILLS INDIA

Armstrong Spinning Mills (P) Ltd, date back to the year 1969 when Mr. E. Palanisamy, Group Chairman started a Knitting Mill in the town of Tirupur in India. Mr. P. Vivekanand, Managing Director: "In the beginning we started with conventional cotton and in the meantime, we slowly began learning about organic cotton and its uses. As the founder is a farmer himself, he got interested in organic cotton due to multiple reasons: cotton farmers in India committed suicide because they were not able to meet debt payments, as the costs of pesticides, fertilizers and seeds were increasing while price for conventional cotton was falling. Organic cotton allows to fight the negative environmental impact of conventional farming, and to be environmentally, socially and ethically fashionable.

Because of the above, we started GOTS organic certification, the entire production changed to organic cotton and sustainability became a way of life at the Armstrong Mills. *GOTS allowed us to increase work environment safety, sales opportunities, strengthen our public image, reduce impact on the environment, benefit farmers and to save 35 million pet bottles from land fill by using recycled polyester for the last 3 years."*



Inside Armstrong factory



100% green power at Armstrong factory

KOBAYASHI MERIYASU CO. JAPAN

"Kobayashi Meriyasu Co. has 70 years of experience as a knitting factory and a brand, 20 years ago they began to make baby products. About 10 years ago, Mr. Kimura, the president of Kobayashi Meriyasu Co., heard about organic cotton for baby clothing. Mr. Kimura was impressed by the story of organic cotton, he joined the Japan Organic Cotton Association (JOCA) and decided to use organic yarn. Organic cotton became popular in the Japanese market, but there were no recognised standards yet. When he learned about the Global Organic Textile Standard, he believed it is reliable and decided to apply for GOTS. *GOTS certification assures that his facility is run sustainably.*" Akira Kimura, President of Kobayashi Meriyasu.



Kobayashi baby products



Hemp Field - from field to factory, Hemp Fortex

HEMP FORTEX CHINA

"In 1999, Hemp Fortex was founded with the idea to create luxurious textiles of high quality and at the same time sustainable and eco-friendly. We call it conscience without compromise. We only work with our own manufacturing facilities or facilities that were carefully audited, long-lasting relationships and our own OC staff insure that our strict standards are met. In our dyeing and finishing process we use GOTS approved dyes and chemicals and we carefully monitor and control waste water. *10 years ago, we found that the high standards that GOTS set up could help us achieve our goals.* With the great support from GOTS, outstanding products are made with our own designed organic cotton fabric, and we became the leading hemp/organic cotton textile company in the world." Hongliang Ding, President Hemp Fortex Industries.

NATUREPEDIC USA

Barry A. Cik, Co-Founder says "In 2003 I went to a baby store to buy a crib mattress for my first grandchild and got concerned by what I found in the products: a wide variety of toxic chemicals. That's when Naturepedic was founded, starting with baby mattresses, moving on to adult mattresses, sheets, mattress pads/toppers and pillows in response to consumer demand. *The finished products are certified to the most stringent organic textile processing standards that exist - the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) for the cotton, kapok and wool, and the Global Organic Latex Standard (GOLS) for the latex.* They prohibit the use of toxic inputs during the manufacturing stages and ensure that workers throughout the Naturepedic supply chain are taken care of. Naturepedic opened a store in Montgomery County, Maryland. The county adopted GOTS in their Green Business Certification Program - becoming the first U.S. jurisdiction to do so - and Naturepedic became certified to the program based on their GOTS certification."



Naturepedic mattress and bedding design



Kitikate baby clothes

MERKEZ BEBEK TURKEY

"In 1988, Merkez Bebek began as a company producing baby clothing. In 2015, the company started organic production, with the goal that 95% will be organic by 2020, counting 92% by the end of 2018. Our company applies criteria like quality, variety, fashion, comfort, aesthetic and trust to its products. For certification of our products, we chose GOTS. Our GOTS certified and Kitikate branded products received great interest at every fair we attended, which lead to exporting to more than 50 countries. *GOTS does not only help to certify our products but also to prove that we are fulfilling our social and ecological responsibilities.*" Tamer Merden, Company Owner.

BRANDS FASHION GERMANY

"Our goal is to achieve perfect textiles and efficient project management for maximum customer satisfaction in alliance with our slogan Social.Green.Fashion. Brands Fashion stands for excellent products and services in the areas of workwear, merchandising, private label fashion and promotions. *The Global Organic Textile Standard is part of our company profile and plays a big role in our long-term strategy.* Since 2014, Brands Fashion offers its customers GOTS-certified collections. Workwear made of GOTS has the natural characteristics of the fibres, is comfortable to wear, is colour-retaining, and washable up to 60°C. We are glad to say that we have a steady growing volume of GOTS-certified products. As transparency and traceability are core values for us, we are pleased to work closely with GOTS as a reliable partner." Anna Johansen, Project Manager Sustainability.



Brands Fashion GOTS certified work and casual wear



Frugi Love organic cotton field India

FRUGI UK

"As the UK's leading ethical and organic cotton children's clothing brand, selling through our website and through a network of over 500 retailers in 34 countries, we believe in business. It is those companies that dare to care that will thrive, as the world switches on to the damage that we are inflicting upon it in so many ways. GOTS lays down a framework of standards to achieve - from the organic cotton farm where our raw cotton is produced, all the way through the clothing manufacture and transportation. *GOTS allows us to prove that everything has been done right and to the highest environmental and social standard.* Nothing else gives that guarantee. Our motivation going forward is a continuing desire to seek, and be the catalyst for, change within the clothing industry and the wider business community." Helene Weston, Marketing Coordinator.



PROMOTION

Development cooperation and environmental protection

With common consensus of GOTS personnel we released our modernised GOTS Logo in February. The transition from the older logo will be sustainable. All labels and printed material that are in stock with the older logo can still be used to avoid waste or additional cost since it continues to be a GOTS trademark. We requested digital logo applications to be changed to the new logo within a year.

The new GOTS Factsheets “Why GOTS certification helps to obtain leadership position with regard to the UN Sustainable Development Goals” and “Are you allowed to label GOTS goods or mention GOTS in your advertising” (English, German and Japanese) are available on the website.

Our GOTS web analysing tool Matomo recorded a higher number of visitors (262.121) compared to last year (2017: 243.518) with more than 1.129.743 page-views (2017: 1.082.650). It counted 38.824 (2017: 36.137) downloads, most of them Standard documents followed by the Annual Report 2017. On the GOTS Database 736.855 (2017: 363.171) page-views were counted. This increase of more than 50% confirms that the GOTS Database serves as a central instrument for verification and sourcing.

MEDIA

Numerous media worldwide covered GOTS in articles, blogs, YouTube videos, textbooks, radio and television programmes. We were featured by industry media such as Eco Textile News, the Sourcing Journal, Just-Style, Fibre2Fashion and many more. In China, GOTS-mentions on WeChat are on the rise and in Europe, contacts with social media influencers and bloggers were further established to increase visibility and consumer awareness. First steps about GOTS social media accounts and the according strategy were taken, GOTS social media communication will start in 2019.

APPROACHING RELEVANT TEXTILE OPERATORS AND INITIAL CONSULTANCY FOR GOTS CERTIFICATION

In May 2018, a seminar with the theme “Sustainability as Key to Business Efficiency” was organised by GOTS in Coimbatore, India. More than 180 stakeholders participated including international brands & retailers, Indian fashion brands, textile manufacturers, chemical suppliers, accreditation bodies, industry organisations, certification bodies, media, consultants, and other important participants from the field of organic textiles and sustainability from 5 countries, to discuss efficiency through sustainability in fashion and textile manufacturing.

During the Intertextile Autumn Edition in September 2018, the “Scale Up GOTS in China” seminar was organised at the National Exhibition and Convention Centre (Shanghai). Over 80 high level stakeholders from the field of organic textiles, amongst them brands and retailers like C&A, H&M, joined the event. Panel discussions, presentations on latest GOTS figures and keynote speeches on ‘China’s progress on sustainable consumption, green procurement in retail’, ‘Organic farming worldwide and in China’, ‘How GOTS improves the market competence’ and ‘Organic standard and certification worldwide and in China’ established the framework of the seminar.

To share best practices and experiences and to strengthen existing contacts we attended and addressed numerous international conferences and fairs like the Control Union GOTS Seminar, Tirupur; the Control Union GOTS Seminar, Dhaka; the OCA/C&A Foundation workshop, Bhopal; the T4SD conference, Geneva; the Green Fashion India Conference, Goa; TE International Conference, Milan; the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Tag 2018, Mumbai as well as the Centre for Responsible Business India Sustainability Standards Conference, New Delhi.



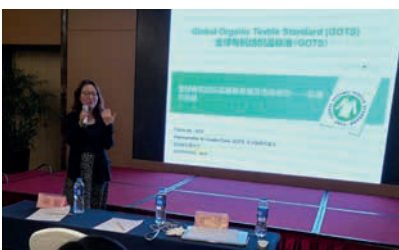
Around the globe, GOTS Representatives had booths at leading fairs, at the Heimtextil India 2018, the Interdyer & Textile Printing Fair in Turkey, the Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics Spring and Autumn Edition, where Felicia Shi participated in a panel discussion at the Intertextile Shanghai Sustainability Forum. In Germany, GOTS was present at the Neonyt and XOOM in Berlin (January and July), the Munich Fabric Start and the InnaTex in Wallau. Besides the GOTS booth, Lina Pfeifer organised panels, themes included sustainable garment sourcing, she talked about ‘How to communicate GOTS to your customers’ and joined the

panel on 'How can future technologies embrace sustainability?' organised by Sourcebook/Responsible Innovators for Fashion and Textiles (RIFT).

In India, Sumit Gupta attended and contributed as speaker to numerous events such as Eco Textile & Fast Fashion Seminar and the Bestseller Sustainability Seminar India. He joined the Intellectap's '10th Sankalp Global Summit', Mumbai, participating in a Round Table Discussion on 'Runway to Circularity', the Indian Council of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) International Conference on Eco-Agriculture on Organic Cotton Farming in India and the International Convention on Sustainable Trade and Standards (ICSTS) by Quality Council of India (QCI) & United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), both in New Delhi. He was invited to the International Expert Workshop: "Maintaining Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Worldwide through Sustainable Consumption", talking about the role of Eco-Labels to foster sustainability, at the Isle of Vilm, Germany. In October 2018, he participated in the State Bank of India (SBI) Green Marathon in Mumbai, where all runners received GOTS certified T-Shirts.

In Bangladesh, Sumit provided initial individual consultancy to more than 70 companies and held a personal meeting with the local sourcing office of Stanley & Stella, Belgium. In India, he consulted over 200 companies, including textile and chemical input companies, and brands like Soul Space, from the house of Rajlaxmi Cotton Mills (RCM), Tata Trent (Westside), and Raymond. GOTS is now listed on Tradeindia.com, a local B2B portal connecting buyers and suppliers. He conducted a webinar on the newly released 'GOTS Water/Energy Monitor Version 2.0' for GOTS Approved Certification Bodies and GOTS Representatives.

In China, Felicia Shi attended the ZhengGu Organic Consumption Forum 2018 organised by China Chain Store and Franchise Association (CCFA), IFOAM Asia and China Certification



and Accreditation Institute. She gave an exclusive interview to Klee Klee, a leading eco-friendly brand in Shanghai, held a lecture at the Annual Seminar on Organic Textile Certification, organised by ECOCERT China, joined a documentary screening of the True Cost hosted by Chinese NGOs, followed by a discussion on fast fashion and participated in the workshop on Communicating Product Sustainability co-hosted by UN Environment and CCFA. Additionally, she conducted trainings on GOTS and in-person meetings with H&M, C&A, the Target Sourcing office and John Lewis in Hong Kong.

In Germany, Lina Pfeifer organised promotion events for the industry and moderated a GOTS Round Table with German GOTS certified printers during TV TecStyle Visions (Europe's biggest fair for textile finishing), gave a presentation about GOTS at the PSI in Duesseldorf and was on the panel on 'sustainability - what else?' during TV Tec Style Vision in Stuttgart. She conducted webinars for Fond of bags/Funktionsschnitt, Kuyichi (Dutch brand, re-certification), Jako-O and El Corte Inglés (Spanish Retailer), an in-house training on GOTS for the B2B sourcing platform Foursource (Berlin), and numerous consultations for C&A, Ernesting's Family, Aldi Nord, and Rewe Group to better understand and answer general questions of logo releases.

In Turkey, Elif Yaraşık attended the event promoting 'organic lifestyle' Istanbul. As Turkish delegate, she spoke at the TE conference in Milan and participated in a discussion for the Turkey Middle East Table. She discussed GOTS activities with team members of the GAP project, joined the Ecological Agricultural Organisation (ETO) Organic agriculture workshop and the "Zero Discharge" symposium by Ekoteks, and worked on the promotion of ZDHC MRSL level 1. She conducted in-person meetings with IKEA, the Hermes-Otto-Team, LC Waikiki and Decathlon Turkey about GOTS and organic sourcing, responded to international inquiries and organised individual

consultancy for manufacturers and brands like OLISTIC organic and Avrupa Pasifik Tekstil.

In Japan, Miyoshi Satoko attended and spoke at different events such as the Sustainable Development Goals study seminar, the Organic Cotton advisory seminar, and the Organic Lifestyle Expo. She gave interviews to Global Environment Outreach Center (GEOC) and to the Nippon Association of Consumer Specialists (NACS), for their publication explaining organic textiles and GOTS. She supported the Japan Sustainable Label association building the website and helped Rakuten, a big e-commerce platform, launching “earth mall” with ethical brands, like “zootie”, selling GOTS products. At the launch of earth mall, attendees received T-shirts and eco bags both GOTS certified.

Following the GOTS Round Table in Charleston, which brought together manufacturers, brands, certifiers and scholars developing and discussing a Business Case for GOTS Certification, Lori Wyman organised a GOTS inspector training in collaboration with the International Organic Inspection Association. She gave a presentation on the beneficial health effects for organic cotton farm-workers and organic

wool ranchers in the USA, for The Organic Center, Baltimore. Together with the Organic Trade Association (OTA) and TE, she held a webinar on Organic Textile Labelling in the U.S., which counted over 223 participants from around the world. Additionally, she organised initial consultancies, including visits to companies like J.Crew.

In the UK, Christopher Stopes attended different conferences like Re-inventing Fashion, Sustainable Clothing Action Plan (SCAP), and Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) 10th Anniversary Responsible Supply Chains. At the ISEAL Standards impacts monitoring and evaluation workshop he engaged in the Q&A sessions, referring to GOTS’ relevance. He participated in the Fashion SVP London show, supporting the Q&A session of Common Objective (CO), a platform for better fashion featuring GOTS and GOTS certified businesses on their website. Initial consultancy was organised for different brands including Debenhams, Burton’s Menswear and Burberry.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES
UNIVERSITY AND SCHOOL EDUCATION
In India, Sumit Gupta gave lectures at the National Institute of Fashion Technology, Mumbai, and the Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai.



Lina Pfeifer supported Bachelor and Master students' research and was teaching a Master class in Global development at the University of Freiburg.

POLITICS

In December 2018, GOTS was one of the initial signatories to the Fashion Climate Charter Under the auspices of UN Climate Change. The Charter contains the vision for the industry to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 and defines issues that will be addressed by the signatories, ranging from decarbonisation of the production phase, selection of climate friendly and sustainable materials, low-carbon transport, improved consumer dialogue and awareness, working with the financing community and policymakers to catalyse scalable solutions, and exploring circular business models. Six working groups will define steps for the implementation of these commitments. We set our focus on promoting organic production and processing, to contribute to the reduction of carbon since organic soil serves as a carbon sink.

In China, Felicia Shi further developed the cooperation relationship with CCFA. To find solutions for the current barrier of GOTS labelling in the Chinese retail market, initial connection with the responsible person at Certification

and Accreditation Administration of China (CNCA) was made. The UN Environment Economy Division provides information for governments and consumers on sustainable labelling schemes, thus contacts were further established. Felicia attended meetings of the Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Committee (MAC) in Shanghai and Hong Kong, to discuss activities for 2018 and to confirm the first MAC publication (September 2018): 'China MAC Meeting Summary and Best Practice Handbook'.

Claudia Kersten is still serving in the Steering Committee of the German Textile Partnership, elected by and representing all Partnership Standards. The most important task was to work on the standard recognition in the reporting procedure of the industry. GOTS is recognised widely to fulfilling the criteria now which substantially reduces the workload for the GOTS certified operations in their reporting. Lina Pfeifer and Christopher Stopes contributed to the organic cotton sourcing guide "how to go organic", initiated by the Partnership and published early January 2019.

In Japan, Miyoshi Satoko met with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery (MAFF), to discuss the Japan Agriculture Standard (JAS) regulation and the need of an organic cotton

standard. She also introduced GOTS to the Ministry of Environment (MOE).

Lori Wyman got together with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)/National Organic Program (NOP) officials and legislators at the OTA Policy Conference and lobbying days on Capitol Hill in May in Washington D.C. The Green Business Association of Montgomery County, Maryland added GOTS as one of their pillar certifications for recognition as a "Green Business".




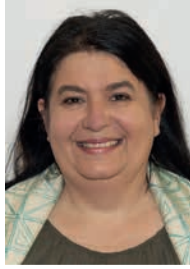












GOTS is a supporter of the UK Sustainable Clothing Action Plan (SCAP), the national, government supported scheme for improving the sustainability of the textile value chain, with the 2020 commitment to reduce the carbon, water and waste footprint of the UK textile sector. Christopher Stopes continues to take part in SCAP, besides the GOTS certified signatory (Mantis World), two signatories (Arcadia, ASOS) are exploring GOTS certification.

One of the improvement actions for signatories to take is the use of more sustainable fibre, with organic cotton fibre being one of the options. The UK parliament's Environmental Audit Committee launched an inquiry in June 2018 into the environmental and social impact of 'fast fashion' and the wider clothing industry in the UK.



ORGANISATION

Our organisation maintains a flat structure and aims to minimise administrative costs. The GOTS programme is self-financed. All income is used to reach our objectives. Accordingly, the operating unit has legal non-profit status (Global Standard gemeinnuetzige GmbH).

MANAGING DIRECTORS	 Rahul Bhajekar	 Claudia Kersten	POLICY & LEGAL ADVISOR	 Herbert Ladwig	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	 Jacqueline Schneider
REPRESENTATIVES	 Peter Born TO GLOBAL BRANDS	 Franziska Dormann IN GERMANY, AUSTRIA & SWITZERLAND	 Sumit Gupta IN INDIA & BANGLADESH, DEPUTY DIRECTOR STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT & QA	 Satoko Miyoshi IN JAPAN		
REPRESENTATIVES	 Felicia Shi IN CHINA	 Christopher Stopes IN UK & TO THE EU	 Lori Wyman IN NORTH AMERICA	 Elif Yaraşık IN TURKEY		
SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS	 Prachi Gupta EXPERT QUALITY ASSURANCE AND IMPACT	 Otto Kersten PROTECTION OFFICER	 Lina Pfeifer ORGANIC PRODUCTION SPECIALIST	 Juliane Ziegler COMMUNICATION EXECUTIVE		



GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD

ECOLOGY & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

GOTS is recognised as the world's leading processing standard for textiles made from organic fibres. It defines high-level environmental criteria along the entire supply chain of organic textiles and requires compliance with social criteria as well. GOTS was developed by leading international standard setters in order to define globally recognised requirements that ensure the organic status of textiles - from harvesting of the raw materials through environmentally and socially responsible manufacturing all the way to labelling - in order to provide credible assurance to the consumer. Supported by the growth in consumption of organic fibres and by the remarkable demand for standardised processing criteria from the industry and retail sector, GOTS has already gained universal recognition. It enables processors and manufacturers to supply their textiles made from organic fibres with one certification accepted in all major sel-

ling markets. GOTS is comprised of four well-respected member organisations: Organic Trade Association (OTA), USA, International Association of Natural Textile Industry (IVN), Germany, Soil Association, UK and the Japan Organic Cotton Association (JOCA), Japan. Together with international stakeholder organisations and experts, they contribute their respective expertise in organic farming and environmentally and socially responsible textile processing to GOTS. The monitoring system is based on on-site inspection and certification performed by independent, specially accredited bodies. This assures the integrity of GOTS-certified textiles.

The GOTS licence entitles value chain partners to participate in the GOTS programme, including the use of the GOTS logo on its respective GOTS goods.

OUR VISION

ORGANIC TEXTILES

WILL BECOME A SIGNIFICANT PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE,
ENHANCING PEOPLE'S LIVES AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

OUR MISSION

THE DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION,
VERIFICATION, PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE
GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD (GOTS).

from: GOTS Vision and Mission