



Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) Grows

Press release GOTS-JAPAN

For Immediate Release

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Tokyo, Japan. (May 10, 2012) – The [Global Organic Textile Standard](#) (GOTS) turned five years old in 2011, adding 80 new companies to the list of those with GOTS-certified facilities. By end of the year 2,714 facilities in 57 countries around the world were certified to the organic apparel and textile standard. The ten countries with the greatest increase in facilities gaining GOTS certification in 2011 were: Germany, India, U.S., Austria, Bangladesh, Switzerland, Greece, France, Belgium and Denmark.

In Japan, GOTS is well recognized by organic textile industry. Many of the leading companies were certified by GOTS: Avanti, Fair trade company, HEART, ITOCHU, SHINFUJI, Taishoboseki, Kowa company, and many others. These GOTS-certified products are fully traceable in the [GOTS - Public Database](#). The GOTS label gives independently certified assurance to organic textiles produced locally and globally.

GOTS is the most stringent voluntary global standard that covers the entire post-harvest processing and manufacture (including spinning, knitting, weaving, dyeing and manufacturing) of apparel and home textiles made with organic fiber. The Standard includes both environmental and social provisions.

Key provisions include a ban on the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), highly hazardous chemicals and child labor, while requiring social compliance management systems and strict waste water treatment practices.

All B2B- activities are covered by the certification system of GOTS and it is **forbidden** for wholesalers to market GOTS certified textiles **without** being certified by GOTS. Only wholesalers with a total turnover of less than 5000 euros annually are exempted from full certification but must be registered with an officially GOTS accredited Certification Body

GOTS has representative in the USA, UK, Scandinavia, Australia, Germany as well as in Japan. For more information on the Global Organic Textile Standard contact GOTS-Japan (ikoma@global-standard.org) or visit www.global-standard.org. A trailer for the short film “The Global Organic Textile Standard – Ecology and Social Responsibility” is available at <http://global-standard.org/information-centre/gotsfilm.html>. The free DVD can be ordered on-line by businesses, organizations and individuals.