

Product information

Made in Green by OEKO-TEX®

Introduction

"Made in Green by OEKO-TEX®" is an independent textile label for highlighting consumer products and semi-finished products at all levels of the textile chain that are made from materials tested for harmful substances and that have been manufactured by using environmentally friendly processes and under safe and socially responsible working conditions.

The "Made in Green by OEKO-TEX®" label replaces both the current OEKO-TEX® Standard 100plus and the Spanish green seal "Made in Green by Aitex".

Where it can be used

Basically, any finished textile items and semi-finished products at all levels of the textile supply chain can be granted the Made in Green by OEKO-TEX® label, including all kinds of items of clothing and furnishings.

Added value for the consumer

The Made in Green by OEKO-TEX® label shows the consumer that the textiles concerned are tested for harmful substances and sustainably produced in accordance with OEKO-TEX® guidelines.

Each item certified with the Made in Green label also features a unique product ID and/or a QR code, which provides full traceability and transparency for the consumer. The labelling system gives them access to information regarding the production facilities along the textile chain in which the textile was produced, the stage of production in which the fabrics were employed and the countries in which the product was manufactured.

Added value for industry and retail

- Innovation leaders who want to promote new functions and features can use the label directly on their products to document and highlight the close partnerships they have with their suppliers to the outside world.
- Reliable supplier relationships are often a key factor in the successful implementation of sustainable aspects such as product quality, regular education and training of employees and improving working conditions. The Made in Green label makes all of this visible to the consumer.
- Companies who wish to make their entire supply chain transparent can use the Made in Green label as a



trustworthy sign that their suppliers in countries such as China, India and Bangladesh also adhere to agreed quality standards and working ethics.

- The Made in Green label provides information regarding the current sustainability of their entire supply chain. Companies can also use the designation to demonstrate continuous improvement as they work to achieve greater sustainability at their individual production sites.

Validity

For the label issuer, the validity of the label ends after one year. It must then be renewed.

Criteria and award process

- As proof that awarded products are tested for harmful substances, they must successfully pass a laboratory test and certification based on the OEKO-TEX® Standard 100.
- Proof that the production conditions in the participating production facilities are environmentally friendly and socially responsible is provided through an extensive assessment and subsequent company audits in line with certification according to STeP by OEKO-TEX®.

Requirements and criteria for marketing Made in Green on textile products that consumers buy at retail:

1. Any single component that equals or exceeds 5% of the total weight of the textile product must be supplied by STeP by OEKO-TEX® certified production facilities.
At least 85% of the weight of a single piece of textile must be supplied by STeP by OEKO-TEX® certified production facilities.
2. The general rule for the above mentioned criteria is that all the making up and wet /chemical processing facilities have to be STeP by OEKO-TEX® certified.
3. The product must be OEKO-TEX® Standard 100 certified.

Requirements and criteria for intermediate products sold to business within the supply chain:

The label issuer must be STeP by OEKO-TEX® certified and fulfil all of the above mentioned criteria.

For the Made in Green by OEKO-TEX® label, the making up of products and any chemical or wet processing, which are the two stages regarded as "hot-spots" for their possible environmental impact and the critical nature of their working conditions, must comply with the requirements of the STeP by OEKO-TEX® Standard, as these stages have the biggest impact on sustainable production.

However, a medium-term aim of the OEKO-TEX® Association when issuing the Made in Green label is also to ensure that all facilities in the remaining production chain (spinning, weaving and knitting mills, accessories, fibre production and the production of raw materials) meet the requirements for STeP certification.

For more information on which components and facilities must be certified with the guidelines of both certifications, please see chapter “Criteria” in the Made in Green by OEKO-TEX® Standard.

Company audits

Auditing of the participating production facilities is a vital part of each certification process for both the OEKO-TEX® Standard 100 and STeP certification.

All STeP certified production facilities are audited before OEKO-TEX® issues the certificate. After that, regular conformity audits are carried out on all STeP facilities, as well as additional unannounced audits of companies. With production facilities that could reach only level 1 of the 3-level scoring system two unannounced audits will take place within three years. At level 2 companies one unannounced audit will be carried out.

Control tests

As is the case with all textiles that are certified according to the OEKO-TEX® Standard 100, there are also control tests of products with the Made in Green label that are available on the market, as well as random checks during unannounced company visits.

Unannounced company audits, for instance, are carried out in order to verify that an existing STeP certification is in compliance with the environmental and social criteria (see above).

Publisher and contact

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