
Factsheet

RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS by OEKO-TEX®

EVALUATION AND CERTIFICATION FOR BUSINESS ENTERPRISES ON IMPLEMENTED RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS

The RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS by OEKO-TEX® is a tool that evaluates and supports the efforts of a business enterprise on implementing due diligence measures in regards to human rights and environmental criteria in their own business operations, their direct suppliers and extended textile and leather supply chain. It addresses Brands, Brand Groups, Retailers and Traders of the textile and leather industry and provides proof of due diligence measure integration into management processes through a third party certification.

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS by OEKO-TEX® responds to the upcoming EU-wide Human Rights Due Diligence Directive and the German Supply Chain Act.

RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS by OEKO-TEX® is structured by two subsections; an initial online self-assessment tool and a following certification process.

The initial online self-assessment allows companies to assess their status quo of their due diligence efforts.

As a second step and in order to publicly communicate a RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS by OEKO-TEX® certification, the self-assessment is evaluated by an OEKO-TEX® Testing Institute and completed by an audit. Upon successful completion, a validated report, certificate and label are issued.

- RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS by OEKO-TEX® certifies the business processes in regards to implemented due diligence measures. As such and as a stand-alone certification, it enables business enterprises to promote the certification and label within their business communications.
- In combination with an existing MADE IN GREEN by OEKO-TEX® product certification, the RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS by OEKO-TEX® certification and label can be communicated together with the related MADE IN GREEN certification on product level.

THE COMPELLING BENEFITS OF RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS BY OEKO-TEX®

- The modular structure of RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS by OEKO-TEX® allows business enterprises to assess their due diligence efforts in two steps: from an initial self-assessment until a validated report and certification.
- Through a systematic and guided approach RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS by OEKO-TEX® supports companies in their implementation of due diligence measures, such as but not limited to:
 - Anchoring due diligence for continuous improvement into management processes
 - Analysis and prioritisation of social, environmental and compliance risks
 - Understanding and adapting adequate purchasing and business practices
- Provision of a 3rd party verified report and certification through an OEKO-TEX® Testing Institute.

Business enterprises get enabled to publicly promote their reached RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS by OEKO-TEX® certification:

- either within their business communication (as a stand-alone certification)
- or on product level, in combination with an existing MADE IN GREEN product label.

THE PATH TO RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS BY OEKO-TEX® CERTIFICATION

1. Complete the application form online on the OEKO-TEX® website and confirm the terms of use.
2. Upon receipt of the access data from the responsible OEKO-TEX® institute, complete the web-based RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS assessment tool.
3. The OEKO-TEX® institute evaluates the information provided and the documents submitted.
4. The OEKO-TEX® institute verifies the data obtained in the form of an on-site audit at the business enterprise.
5. The OEKO-TEX® institute draws up a detailed audit report including a final assessment and issues the RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS by OEKO-TEX® certificate.

VALIDITY

The RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS by OEKO-TEX® certificate is valid for 3 years. Compliance audits need to be performed on an annual basis.