

International Working Group on Global Organic Textile Standard
- Technical Committee -



List of relevant changes from GOTS 2.0 to GOTS 3.0

This document provides for a short summary of the relevant changes made to the content / meaning / interpretation of the criteria in GOTS version 3.0 and the corresponding Manual compare to the previous GOTS Version 2.0 and the previous Manual (issue of 1st Dec 2008). The changes are ordered chronologically by chapter.

The list cannot be used as a fully comprehensive and complete list of all changes but as a supportive working document only. Decisive is only the final wording in the new GOTS Version 3.0 and the Manual (issue of 1st March 2011).

Document	Chapter	Relevant change
GOTS	1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correction made that GOTS covers processing, manufacturing and labelling of textiles made from min. 70% organic natural fibres (not of natural fibres itself). • Clarified that GOTS contains criteria relevant to the whole facility where GOTS Goods are processed as well as for the GOTS Goods itself. • Clarification added that the approach of GOTS is to define criteria in processing for low impact and low residual chemicals, as it is to date technically hardly possible to produce any textiles in an industrial way without the use of chemical inputs.
Manual	1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification added that GOTS does not cover non-fibre products, such as leather.
GOTS	1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter with reference to the version number of GOTS deleted (this information is provided for on the cover side already). • New content of the chapter which is now named 'conformity certificate' and related wording introduced to comply with the wording of other organic standard systems and ISO norms. • Clarification added that textile processors, manufactures and traders as well as their products are subject to certification according to GOTS.
GOTS	1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labelling of 'in conversion': Requirement dropped, that "certification of 'in conversion' is only possible if the equivalent organic fibres are not commercially available in sufficient quantity, quality or type" to support the use of 'in conversion fibre', where certifiable to the applicable organic standard. • Further the labelling requirements have been made consistent with the provisions of the Licensing & Labelling Guide.
GOTS	1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New chapter introducing the valid released GOTS reference documents added.

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Manual	2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification added that farming standards based on IFOAM Basic Standards are approved for fibre certification.
GOTS	2.2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification added that the additional (non-organic) fibres must be non GM. Accessories are no longer to be calculated to the fibre content for the 95% level (in line now with 2.2.2 and the 70% level).
GOTS	2.2.1 & 2.2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification added that percentage figures for material composition refer to weight.
GOTS	2.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification added that the list of prohibited and restricted chemicals that are explicitly listed is not to be seen as a comprehensive and inclusive list but that in last instance the basic assessment criteria (reg. toxicity, biodegradation etc.) are decisive for GOTS approval. Further prohibited inputs explicitly mentioned (nonylphenol, octylphenol, PFOS, PFOA, Organotin compounds, all APEOs, NTA, nano particles, plasticizers). Total ban on biocides dropped (still banned as (finishing) application but use e.g. as in-can preservatives to a certain level permitted now). Total ban on qac's dropped (still explicitly banned are DTDMAC, DSDMAC and DHTDMAC). Substances listed in regulation EC 552/2009 or on the ECHA 'candidate list of substances of very high concern for authorisation' are prohibited.
Manual	2.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parameters that should be considered to determine 'permanent AOX' content introduced. References to the mentioned regulations and lists added.
GOTS	2.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear distinction made in assessment between risk phrases (hazardous statements) that are referring to substances and those referring to preparations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Substances and preparations are banned if assigned to listed risk phrases related to health hazards - Preparations are also banned if assigned to listed risk phrases related to environmental hazards Resulting concrete changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Newly preparations are banned if assigned to R51/53, R55, R56 - Newly preparations are no longer banned if a contained substance is assigned to R50, R50/53, R58, R59 as long as this does not trigger a classification of the preparation itself Accepted test methods for toxicity and biodegradability reviewed New animal / fish tests to determine environmental data (LD / LC 50 values) prohibited
Manual	2.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> References to the mentioned regulations and norms added.
GOTS	2.3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Chapter added referring to the adequate basis for assessment of chemical inputs and clarifying that any chemicals used must have been approved by a certifier prior to its usage.

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Manual	2.3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic principles and requirements for approval of chemicals added (under consideration of the provisions of the accreditation document).
GOTS	2.4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additives are allowed now in spinning if they meet the basic requirements as set in chapter 2.3.1. and 2.3.2. New requirement added that any paraffin products used must be fully refined with a limited value for residual oil of 0,5%.
GOTS	2.4.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requirement added that washing detergents must be free of phosphates. Corrected that ammonia treatment is exceptionally permitted for after treatment of wool (not for pre-washing). Clarification added that exceptions for bleaches not based on oxygen can only be granted for non-cotton fibre products where oxygen bleaches are not sufficiently functional.
GOTS	2.4.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarified that disperse dyes classified as allergenic are prohibited.
Manual	2.4.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAC III arylamines and prohibited disperse dyes listed
GOTS	2.4.6 & 2.4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of natural dyes to the obligation to meet the basic requirements 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 Requirement added that the use of natural dyes and auxiliaries that are derived from a threatened species listed on the Red List of the IUCN is prohibited.
Manual	2.4.6 & 2.4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reference to the list of the IUCN is provided
GOTS	2.4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specified that also pigments that release carcinogenic arylamine compounds (MAC III, category 1,2,3) are prohibited Specification added that ammonia is allowed as required buffer in pigment printing pastes. Flock printing is allowed with natural and regenerated fibres.
Manual	2.4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reference to prohibited azo pigments provided
GOTS	2.4.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General ban on synthetic finishing additives lifted; the use of synthetic <i>inputs</i> for anti-microbial finishing (including biocides), coating, filling and stiffening, lustring and matting as well as weighting remains prohibited. New requirement added that garment finishing methods that are considered to be harmful to the workers (such as sand blasting of denim) are prohibited.
GOTS	2.4.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria for accessories in general much simplified. Two remaining categories introduced with one group for which only natural materials (or material compositions that are permitted for the applicable label grade of the <i>GOTS Good</i> as defined in chapter 2.2.1 respective 2.2.2) are permitted and the second group for which also the other materials as specified in the line 'materials in general' are permitted. Requirements for additional fibres transferred from annex B) to 2.4.9. and regulated in more detail. Polyester used must be made from postconsumer recycled material from 1st January 2014 onwards. Polypropylene introduced as an accepted 'additional fibre material'.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criterion added that (in addition to threatened timber) also material from threatened animals and plants is prohibited.
GOTS	2.4.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirement added that data on energy and water consumption per kg of textile output as well as target goals and procedures to reduce energy and water consumption per kg of textile output need to be available by operators.
GOTS	2.4.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific requirements added for wastewater from wool scouring and bast retting sites. • Permitted COD / kg textile output of treated water reduced to 20 g/kg. • COD/BOD ratio requirement deleted (as not applicable in this context).
Manual	2.4.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test and calculation method to determine COD in g/kg of textile output added. • Test method to determine copper in wastewater added.
GOTS	2.4.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legally required treatments of raw materials permitted under restrictions (limited to a max. of two years). Requirement added that from 1st January 2014 onwards any paper or cardboard used in packaging material, hang tags, swing tags etc. must be post-consumer recycled or certified according to FSC or PEFC.
GOTS	2.4.13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirement to obtain a proof for the whole quantity of purchased GOTS Goods added.
GOTS	2.4.14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirements for technical quality parameters for fibre blends specified / revised. • Washing temperature for dimensional change test introduced and specified that requirement is only valid for the garment sector.
Manual	2.4.14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternate acceptable test methods from the US and Japan for the technical quality parameters introduced.
GOTS	2.4.15& 2.4.16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit value for AOX changed from 0.5 to a more appropriate and realistic level of 5.0mg/kg • Limit value for arylamines changed from 30mg/kg to 20mg/kg • pH level for products with skin contact limited to 4.5-7.5 • Limit values for tin, TphT, DOT, PAH, phthalates as well as for cadmium and lead in digested sample (in accordance with CPSIA) introduced.
Manual	3.1-3.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicable ILO reference conventions introduced as basis for interpretation.
GOTS	3.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New chapter containing social compliance management requirements introduced.
GOTS	4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certification obligation for trade operations specified. All traders with more than 5000€ annual turnover with GOTS Goods must participate. Traders with less than 5000€ annual turnover need to register with an Approved Certifier. • Approval requirements for certifiers have been made consistent with the provisions of the accreditation document.
Manual	4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First processing step that must be GOTS certified prescribed (ginning for cotton, retting for bast fibres, boiling and washing of cocoons for silk, grading resp. scouring of wool).

Document	Chapter	Relevant change
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary for the annual on-site inspection and certification obligation for the different stages in the supply chain (processors, manufacturers, traders and retailers) added. • Obligation for performing a minimum amount of 2% unannounced inspections introduced. • Minimum inspection protocol in line with the provisions of the accreditation document introduced. • Requirements for minimum content of operational certificates in line with the provisions of the accreditation document added. • 'Low risk' clause specified in which the certifier can decide on exceptions from the annual on-site inspection.
Manual	4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk factors that should be considered in risk assessment for contamination and corresponding testing introduced.
GOTS	Annex A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of new definitions. Terms written in the standard in <i>cursive letters</i> are defined in this annex.

 Marcus Bruegel, GOTS Technical Director
 01 March 2011