

Standard Inspection Program for Organic Textiles

according to the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) and BEST

As a minimum, the inspection of organic textile companies will cover the following aspects:

1	Review	of the organic management plan and its implementation.
2	Physical inspection	<p>Visit to all processing lines, places of raw material reception, storage rooms for raw material, semi-finished and finished products, packaging units, wastewater treatment and waste disposal facilities, etc., including subcontracted units, focussing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Origin of organic raw materials • Separation (in time or space) from non-certified products throughout the whole process, from product reception to final sale or delivery • Use of processing aids, dyes, additives, and other chemical and natural substances • Possible contact with prohibited or otherwise polluting substances • Disposal of solid and liquid waste • Emmissions to the environment • Working conditions • Sanitary facilities, resting and eating areas • Cleaning and pest control procedures • GMO (genetically modified organisms) • Labelling and traceability <p>It is very important, that all parts of your operation involved in organic production – including possible subcontractors – are included in the inspection!</p>
3	Worker interviews	A representative number of workers / employees has to be interviewed during the inspection, to get to know their opinion about working conditions, payment etc. Worker interviews have to be conducted in the absence of management representants!
4	Records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic management plan, duely filled in and reviewed before the inspection • Drawing of the unit(s), including eventual subcontracted units • Subcontracts with eventual subcontracted units, defining responsibility for the “organic integrity” • Flow chart, describing the process(es), including all materials and substances used for the respective process • List of raw material providers • Copies of valid certificates of all raw material providers • Records on all purchases of organic raw material • Material Safety Datasheets for all chemicals, which are used • Storage books • Processing records • Bookkeeping • Records on waste disposal • Pest control records, list of products used for cleaning, disinfections, pest control • Non-GMO declarations for processing aids or raw materials, which could potentially be produced with the help of GMO

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Records on outgoing organic products • Records on worker health and safety training • Wagebooks, worker contracts, records on vacation, social security benefits, etc. • Chapters on organic processing from quality management handbook (if existing) • An explicit environmental policy, addressing, as a minimum, the points listed in 2.4.10 of the GOTS / BEST • A written risk analysis concerning possible residues in your finished textiles, according to 4.2 of the GOTS / BEST • Test results on relevant chemical parameters, from an accredited laboratory. • Test results from an approved laboratory concerning technical quality parameters of your finished products.
	<p><i>This is a list of aspects usually covered during an audit. Each audit, however, sets different priorities, and in some cases, aspects may be addressed, which are not listed here.</i></p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>See also</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief Information on GOTS / BEST • Organic Management Plan GOTS / BEST