

Products from Nearchimica approved by IMO for organic cotton



Textile auxiliaries that meet
Global Organic Textile Standard

There has been a proliferation of inspection and certification organisations for the organic textile industry. These include Oeko Tex 1000, Skal, run by the Control Union Group, COOP Naturaline, Eco-label, the Italian-based ICEA organisation, and Swiss company Blue Sign Technologies.

It is widely acknowledged that there are too many standards resulting in consumer confusion. We have found that our customers, textile suppliers, are unsure about which standard to apply for, and the costs of labelling a garment as being composed of “Organic Cotton” can spiral out of control.

To counter this potential confusion, the Organic Trade Association (OTA), USA, together with Soil Association (UK) and Japanese Organic Cotton Association (Japan), IVN (Germany) and IMO (CH) have adopted the "Global Organic Textiles Standard (GOTS)". The standard works on a strict minimal criteria for fabric standards and social criteria.

The Institute for Marketecology (IMO) has been officially approved as the first certification body to offer certification according to the "Global Organic Textiles Standard (GOTS)" for ecological textiles.

Products sold, labelled or represented as “organic” or “organic - in conversion”

95% or more of the fibres – excluding non-textile accessories – must be of certified organic origin or from “in conversion” period (with conversion nature of fibres being stated and restricted as specified in the chapters 1.4 and 2.1 of the GOTS standards). The remaining balance up to 5% may be made on non-organic fibres including regenerated and synthetic fibres as defined in the annex to the standards. The remaining balance may not contain any conventional fibres of the same raw material that is used in organic quality in the same product (= no blending).

Basic requirements for auxiliary agents and dyestuffs used in all processing stages are then specified. The criteria are rigorous and include features such as metal content, AOX, toxicity and biodegradability.

Many dyeing and finishing technologists may not be aware of some of the wet processing criteria, for example:

- ammonia treatment prohibited, except for pre-washing of wool.
- bleaching only on basis of oxygen (peroxides, ozone)
- chlorination of wools prohibited
- desizing with enzymes allowed only with GMO-free enzymes
- optical brightening agents prohibited (exception made for USA)
- quaternary ammonium compounds prohibited – exception for auxiliaries used as fixing agents in the dyeing process. Pretreatment for cationisation is not allowed.
- dyeing only with selection of dyes and auxiliaries meeting requirements of GOTS.



Nearchimica S.p.A. textile auxiliaries approved by IMO for the processing of organic cotton.

Auxiliaries in Pre-treatment

Nearfil FT-BS - wetting agent in pretreatment and dyeing

Nearpon BW-LF50 – low foam detergent

Nearpon MK-91 S – washing agent

Nearstabil V

Nearstabil MG

Nearstabil GTS NEW

} as peroxide stabilisers

Nearchel TMC – sequestering agent, preparation & dyeing

Nearchel SA – sequestering/demineralising agent

Nearstone BA Conc – acid enzyme biopolish/antipilling

Auxiliaries in Dyeing

Neareduxol PAB – non-enzymatic hydrogen peroxide killer

Neariserve DSW – anti-backstaining for enzyme stone wash

Neargal LU-SRV – levelling agent for cellulosic dyes

Lubrifil TFS – dyebath lubricant/antcrease at all stages

Greensoap CO-SM – soaping agent

Auxiliaries in Finishing

Nearsopht JS100 – concentrated cationic softener

Nearsopht NI – concentrated non-ionic softener

Nearfinish S-60 – concentrated silicone microemulsion

Nearfinish CF511 – hydrophilic silicone softener

Textile suppliers interested in labelling their garments as “Organic cotton”, refer to:
American Organic Standards

Fiber: Post Harvest Handling, Processing, Record Keeping, & Labeling

www.fairtradezone.jhc-cdca.org/pdfdocs/FiberStandardsv6.14.Board%20Approved.pdf

Global Organic Textile Standard

<http://www.global-standard.org/>

Limitations on Organic Cotton Production - THE ICAC RECORDER, Mar.'03

http://www.icac.org/cotton_info/tis/organic_cotton/documents/2003/e_march.pdf

Sales of organic cotton are set to triple to \$2.6 billion at the end of 2008 from its current \$900 million level as retailers and brands make significant new commitments to sustainable textile and apparel production.



In order to be classified as “organic”, a crop must be cultivated in soil whose fertility is maintained and replenished without the use of toxic and persistent pesticides and fertilisers. Furthermore, the soil needs to have been kept free from such substances for at least three years.

Cotton has always been extremely prone to insect attack and, since insects started building

immunity to pesticides, the situation has worsened. This means growers have increased their use of chemical pesticides

simply to ensure crop survival. Cotton crops in India, America and China demand thousands of tonnes of pesticides, which are sprayed on fields from the air. Just one T-shirt takes an estimated 150g of pesticide to cultivate (Pesticide Action Network).



**Approved Textile Auxiliaries
 for the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS), Version 1.1**

Nearchimica S.p.A.

Issue 1, dated 12th April 2008

Textile Auxiliaries

TEXTILE AUXILIARY	COMMENTS / RESTRICTIONS	DATE OF APPROVAL
Greensoap CO-SM		12.04.2008
Lubrifiil TFS		12.04.2008
Nearchel SA		12.04.2008
Nearchel TMC		12.04.2008
Neareduxol PAB		12.04.2008
Nearfil FT-BS		12.04.2008
Nearfinish CF511		12.04.2008
Nearfinish S60		12.04.2008
Neargal LU-SRV		12.04.2008
Nearserve DSW		12.04.2008
Nearpon BW-LF 50		12.04.2008
Nearpon MK 91/S		12.04.2008
Nearsopht JS100		12.04.2008
Nearsopht NI		12.04.2008
Nearstabil GTS NEW		12.04.2008
Nearstabil MG		12.04.2008
Nearstabil V		12.04.2008
Nearstone BA Conc		12.04.2008

This list does only contain textile auxiliaries, for which Nearchimica S.p.A. applied for approval according to the Global Organic Textile Standard (Version 1.1) and which have been confirmed by IMO for this application. Assessment is mainly based on the current version of the material safety data sheet (MSDS) and further product documentation provided by the supplier. Nearchimica S.p.A. is responsible for the correctness and completeness of the provided data.

Nearchimica S.p.A. products which are not mentioned on this list may only be used by IMO clients for Global Organic Textile Standard production with approval by IMO prior to its usage.

This list is valid until it is recalled or until a new issue is published.

Institute for Marketecology,
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