FAQ: Application

HOHENSTEIN

OEKO TEX®
STANDARD 100

Certificate Cost

Please contact your Hohenstein representative for details on your specific case.

Fixed costs:
- OEKO-TEX® licensing fee: Annual
- Audit fee: 1st year then every 3rd year

Variable costs:
Testing and administrative costs depend on which tests are required. Quote is issued after all samples and paperwork have been received.

Confidentiality

Testing and certification data is always confidential.
The applicant has control over the amount of information that is publicly shared through the OEKO-TEX® Buying Guide.

Laboratory Location

OEKO-TEX® testing is performed at the Hohenstein headquarters lab in Germany.
The U.S. office facilitates the application process and billing. Our U.S. team receives and prepares the testing samples then ships them to the lab in Germany.

Annual Updates

OEKO-TEX® updates the STANDARD annually based on current scientific research and global regulations. Updated standards are published in early January and are used for testing and certification effective April 1.

Annual Renewal

Annual renewal is required.
The expiration date is printed in every certificate.
Renewal application should be submitted **up to 90 days before** the expiration date.

Multiple Production Sites

Each factory location needs its own certification.
Deviations can be discussed with the institute.

Brands & Retailers with Third-party Manufacturers

3 options for products manufactured by third parties:

- Supplier Certification - Brand/retailer asks suppliers to become certified and labels the product(s) with the manufacturer's certificate number.
- Marketing Certificate - Brand/retailer owns a certificate in their own name that covers the certificates from suppliers, used for marketing and to control disclosure of supply chains. Any products that are pre-certified by OEKO-TEX® do not incur additional testing fees - only audits, license and admin fees.
- Certification - Brand/retailer initiates, manages and pays for its own certification process. Certificate owner maintains upstream quality control and mitigates costs by using pre-certified components.

Certification Timeline

Normally 4 to 6 weeks from receipt of samples and completed paperwork.
Variations may occur depending on workload of the lab and any pending answers to lab questions.
The on-site quality assurance meeting, which is required every 3rd year, typically occurs within 6 months of certification, but is not required prior to issuing the certificate.

Application & Supporting Documents

- Complete, original, signed Application
- Declaration of Conformity (Note: Please include company name with address on p. 3)

* These documents are updated annually, so please always use the current documents

Supporting documents: (download this spreadsheet to track information)

- Description of the product(s)
- Description of company's operational quality assurance/management program, (e.g., ISO, internal protocols)
- Details of the processing steps for producing the product(s)
- List of all colorants & auxiliary agents used, including dyeing/printing/washing recipes
- Safety data sheets for all chemicals used (colorants, auxiliary agents, etc.)
- Names of the suppliers of every component of the product (material, inserts, accessories, etc.)
- OEKO-TEX® certificates for all pre-certified input materials (to mitigate testing costs)

Appendix 4/5 vs. Appendix 6/7

Specified on pg. 3 of application.

The parameters in Appendix 4/5 (the traditional RSL) and the defined limit values are reliable, advised and sensible from a human ecological point of view.

The expanded criteria catalogue in Appendix 6/7 has been developed specifically for companies who are focused on the Greenpeace DETOX campaign.

Component & Product Samples

Testing sample requirements depend on how many of the product's components have been pre-certified with valid OEKO-TEX® certificates. Please follow our sample guidelines carefully.

Completed applications, supporting documents and samples should be shipped to the attention of Abby Mead in our U.S. office.

Color Variations & Seasonal Updates

All dyestuffs included in the color palette must be covered in our testing protocol and listed in the application. Use these instructions to prepare samples for testing and ensure that each dyestuff or ink is covered.

To reduce lab costs:
- Include a spreadsheet summary of all colors & the generic dyestuff recipes
- Use chemicals that are OEKO-TEX® ECO PASSPORT certified

If there is a change in supplier(s) during the year, please inform us immediately.
The certificate can be extended by submitting new samples.

Marketing & Labeling

Please see our Labeling Guide and contact USA@hohenstein.com for approvals or idea collaboration.

Billing

- Costing is defined after review of the documents and samples and definition of testing plan
- The invoice is sent to the applicant's accounting contact
- Testing can start once funds are received

Contact

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