



Glossary of Terms Frequently Used in Environmental Marketing Claims

Developed by the [Specialty Sleep Association \(SSA\)](http://www.sleepinformation.org). Special thanks to the members and friends who contributed to the development of this document through critical review. Visit www.sleepinformation.org for more information on the SSA’s BEDFAX consumer disclosure labeling program for mattresses and bedding.

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Introduction

Many terms are used to describe the environmental attributes of various mattress materials and finished products. Some of these are well-recognized and understood, objective terms. Others can be more ambiguous, depending on their context. As a result, confusion and in some cases “greenwashing” can occur from the use and often unintentional misuse of these terms. To help the mattress industry (suppliers, manufacturers and retailers) describe its products more accurately and to assist consumers in better understanding these terms, the Specialty Sleep Association (SSA) has prepared this FREE Glossary. This Glossary provides general information on broadly accepted terminology and definitions related to environmental marketing claims in the mattress industry, with a link to the source for such definitions. On occasion, the Glossary

indicates those definitions that have been developed for one purpose and that might have relevance for use in environmental claims regarding mattresses.

The Glossary, which also includes sections on Acronyms and Organizations as well as Certifications, Standards and Government References is intended to provide general resources that all participants in the mattress manufacturing and retail supply chain can use to communicate more accurately regarding the environmental attributes of their products and component materials. The Glossary is intended as a general reference tool only, and is not intended to provide legal or other official advice of any kind, and is not intended to set any kind of industry standard or guidelines, voluntary or otherwise, for the marketing of specific mattresses or related products. Readers should refer to the source documents cited within each definition before using a particular term. Drafting accurate and balanced environmental claims for a particular product or material can involve a number of complex and technical considerations. Companies that intend to make claims regarding the environmental performance of specific products or materials should not rely solely on the information set forth in this Glossary, but are encouraged to consult with qualified legal counsel and other experts before doing so to confirm that the proposed claims meet applicable laws, regulations, and other relevant requirements. **SSA is not responsible for any erroneous use or misuse of these terms.**

We recognize that the Glossary may contain errors or omissions, and that new terms will evolve to describe the environmental attributes of mattresses. Readers are encouraged to inform SSA of any errors in the Glossary that require correction, or to provide feedback on other terms that should be added in the Glossary. To submit information for inclusion in updates or future iterations of this report, please send inquiries to SSA at info@sleepinformation.org.

Acronyms

The following acronyms address organization names, standards, certifications, agencies, and scientific citations that companies and consumers may encounter in the discussion of claims related to mattresses.

ANSI	American National Standards Institute
ASTM	ASTM International, formerly known as the American Society for Testing and Materials
ATFS	American Tree Farm System
BBB	Better Business Bureau
BIFMA	Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturer's Association
CE Marking	CE Marking European Commission
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CDL	Consumer Disclosure Label
CPSC	Consumer Products Safety Commission
CPSIA	Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act
CREL	Chronic Reference Exposure Level

CSA	Canadian Standards Association
CU	Control Union
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPD	Environmental Product Declaration
ETL	ETL Listed Mark, Intertek
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
FSRIA	Farm Security and Rural Investment Act
FTC	Federal Trade Commission
GBI	Green Building Initiative
GCI	Green Chemistry Institute
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GHRI	Good Housekeeping Research Institute
GOLS	Global Organic Latex Standard
GOTS	Global Organic Textile Standard
ICEA	Instituto Certificazione Etica e Ambientale
ISO	International Standards Organization
ISPA	International Sleep Products Association
IWG	International Working Group
LCA	life cycle assessment
LCI	life cycle inventory
LEED	USGBC's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program
NAD	National Advertising Division of the Better Business Bureau
NOP	National Organic Program
NSF	NSF International, formerly National Sanitation Foundation
OE	Organic Exchange, now Textile Exchange
OTA	Organic Trade Association
PAACO	Professional Animal Auditor Certification Organization, Inc.
PCR	product category rules
RECs	renewable energy certificates
RDS	Responsible Down Standard
SBD	Sustainable by Design
SCS	Scientific Certification Systems
SFC	Sustainable Furniture Council
SFI	Sustainable Forestry Initiative
SSA	Specialty Sleep Association
SVOC	semi-volatile organic compound
TE	Textile Exchange, formerly Organic Exchange
TVOC	total volatile organic compound
UL	Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (GREEN GUARD Certification)
ULE	UL Environment, a wholly owned subsidiary of Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USGBC	U.S. Green Building Council
VOC	volatile organic compounds

Glossary

biobased product: 1. commercial or industrial product (other than food or feed) composed in whole or in significant part of biological products, forestry materials, or renewable domestic agricultural materials, including plant, animal, or marine materials. 2. product that meets the requirements of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Biobased Products Procurement Program. *Source:* [7 CFR § 2902.2 \(2011\)](#). USDA promotes the use of biobased products by both the federal government and consumers. The program uses radiocarbon analysis to distinguish between contemporary carbon input and carbon derived from fossil-based input, and recognizes products based on levels of contemporary carbon input. *Source:* [7 CFR § 2902.7\(c\) \(2011\)](#).

biodegradable: term used to describe a product or package that will completely break down and return to nature, i.e., decompose into elements found in nature within a reasonably short period of time after customary disposal. The Federal Trade Commission's current Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims (the so-called "FTC Green Guides") require that such claims be substantiated by competent and reliable scientific evidence and qualified to the extent necessary to avoid consumer deception about: (1) the product or package's ability to degrade in the environment where it is customarily disposed; and (2) the rate and extent of degradation. *Source:* [16 C.F.R. § 260.6](#). The FTC has proposed that the term "a reasonably short period of time" be interpreted to mean no more than one year. *Source:* [16 C.F.R. § 260.8](#) FTC's Green Guides.

chemicals of concern: a chemical that makes a significant contribution to one or more of the following life cycle impact categories: 1) persistent, bio-accumulative, and toxic (PBT); 2) reproductive toxicant; 3) carcinogen; and/or 4) endocrine disruptor. *Source:* [BIFMA e3-2008, § 3.5](#) Furniture Sustainability Standard.

claims about a product: a claim is a statement, promise, or offer to consumers regarding a product. Claims must be verified at the producer's expense, and the producer must have documentation that the product meets the requirements for the claim. The documentation must include independent third-party verification or other relevant traceability documentation for the claim.

degradable: see *biodegradable*

eco-friendly: see *general environmental claim*

eco-safe: see *general environmental claim*

environmentally friendly: see *general environmental claim*

environmental product declarations (EPDs): quantified environmental data for a product with pre-set categories of parameters based on the ISO 14040 series of standards, but not excluding

additional environmental information. *Source:* [ISO 14025](#). In short, EPDs are eco-labels that disclose environmental performance of products and services over their life cycle. EPDs address and declare information about: 1) manufacturing - what raw materials, other resources and energy are used and what emissions are generated. 2) distribution - is a significant amount of energy used getting the product to market. 3) use - does the product consume energy and water when used, or does it generate emissions. 4) end-of-life - can the product be reused, recovered or recycled, or if it goes to landfill, what is its environmental impact? EPDs present qualified environmental data based on information from a life cycle assessment (LCA) conducted according to the ISO standards for LCA (ISO 14025).

general environmental benefit claim (e.g. “*environmentally friendly*,” “*eco-safe*,” “*eco-friendly*,” “*green*,” etc.): unqualified and **discouraged term** used in product advertising or promotion because it is difficult, if not impossible, to substantiate and can imply deceptive environmental claims. Instead, qualifications regarding environmental claims should be clear and prominent, and should limit the claim to a specific benefit. *Source:* [e-CFR §260.4\(c\) \(2013\)](#), FTC’s Green Guides, General Environmental Benefit Claims.

green: see *general environmental claim*

greenwash: the act of intentionally or unintentionally misleading consumers regarding the environmental practices of a company or the environmental benefits of a product or service. *Source:* [Terrachoice Environmental Marketing, Inc.](#)

life cycle impact: the total impact of a system, function, product or service from the extraction of raw materials through its end-of-life management. *Source:* [EPA](#).

life cycle assessment (LCA): a quantification of the level of energy and raw materials used as well as the solid, liquid and gaseous wastes produced at every stage of a product's life. Life cycle assessments or LCAs can be conducted for the whole life cycle or part of a life cycle. *Source:* [EPA](#).

natural: the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) cites the following:

- The Textile Products Identification Act defines a “natural fiber” as “any fiber that exists as such in the natural state.” *Source:* [15 U.S.C. § 70b, Sec. 4 \(2013\)](#), The Textile Products Identification Act.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture defines “natural” meat and poultry as “a product containing no artificial ingredient or added color” and which “is only minimally processed.” *Source:* [USDA](#), Meat and Poultry Labeling Terms.
- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) defines “natural flavor or natural flavorings” as substances containing the flavoring constituents derived from specified items, such as spices, fruits, vegetables, herbs, plant materials, meat, seafood, and eggs. The FDA informally considers “natural” to mean that nothing artificial or synthetic (including colors regardless of source, including the addition of beet juice) is included in, or has been added to, the product that would not normally be expected to be there. *Source:* [FDA](#), “CFR – Code of Federal Regulations Title 21.”

Given the difficulties in developing a definition of “natural” that would be appropriate in multiple contexts beyond the fiber and food categories, the FDA and the FTC have declined to establish a general definition of this term. Likewise, the FTC states that it lacks a basis to provide general guidance on the use of the term. Nevertheless, the agency states that in theory a marketer may use the term, provided that, as with all environmental marketing claims, **the marketer can substantiate the environmental benefit claimed**, including implied claims. The FTC cautions that adequate substantiation is especially important to the extent that reasonable consumers perceive “natural” claims as general environmental benefit claims or comparative claims. *Source:* [16 CFR Part 260](#), FTC’s Green Guides. **See also: *general environmental claim and substantiation of claim.***

organic: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/nop>; <https://ota.com/what-ota-does/public-policy/fiber-and-textiles>; <http://www.global-standard.org/the-standard.html/>
http://textileexchange.org/sites/default/files/te_pdfs/integrity/Organic%20Content%20Standard%20v1.pdf

1. **(specific to U.S. food/fiber)** marketing label that indicates that the food or other agricultural product has been produced and certified under the authority of the U. S. Department of Agriculture National Organic Program (NOP) using approved methods that integrate cultural, biological, and mechanical practices that foster cycling of resources, promote ecological balance, and conserve biodiversity. *Source:* [USDA](#). Also, the primary goal of organic agriculture is to optimize the health and productivity of interdependent communities of soil life, plants, animals and people. *Source:* <https://ota.com/what-ota-does/public-policy/fiber-and-textiles>
2. **(specific to finished textile products)** Marketing label that denotes finished textile products that have earned certification under the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS). GOTS ensures the organic status of textiles, from harvesting of the raw materials, through environmentally and socially responsible manufacturing up to labeling to provide credible assurance to the consumer. *Source:* [GOTS](#).

It is important for marketers to use caution when approaching use of the term “organic.” Using an organic label on a product requires understanding of complex distinctions between certifying organizations to ensure that marketers do not contribute to consumer confusion around the term organic. For instance, the NOP allows marketers to identify specific organic fibers in textile products and use of statements identifying the percentage of organic fibers. However, most finished textile products (including mattresses) cannot use the USDA organic seal or imply that the finished product is certified by NOP. The NOP seal is reserved for use by those that farm or harvest the crop or livestock and that meet the NOP requirements for certification. For products that require additional manufacturing and processing of the organic fibers, a third-party organization has been recognized by NOP—GOTS—for certification of those finished products. The NOP’s May 20, 2011 Policy Memo (PM) titled “Labeling of Textiles that Contain Organic Ingredients” (revised October 31, 2011), provides clarification on use of the term organic and states that, “Textile products that are produced in accordance with the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) may be sold as organic in the U.S. but may not refer to NOP certification or display the USDA organic seal.” *Source:* [PM 11-14 Labeling of Textiles that Contain Organic](#)

[Ingredients Rev02 10 31 11](#). Textile manufacturers and a limited number of mattress manufacturers have been successful in achieving GOTS certification and earning the opportunity to market their finished product as organic or certified organic through GOTS, which has its own nuances related to marketing and using the GOTS label and seal. *Source:* [GOTS](#). Manufacturers of most finished products, including mattresses, that do not earn GOTS certification for the entire product may not refer to the entire product as an "organic" product, but may reference the type(s) of organic fiber, together with the percentages of the specific organic fiber(s) that are contained in the finished product. *Source:* [PM 11-14 Labeling of Textiles that Contain Organic Ingredients Rev02 10 31 11](#).

While the FTC examined the term organic in its recent “Proposed Revisions to Green Guides,” they did not add instruction on labeling beyond referring readers back to the NOP. Therefore, ensuring proper substantiation of claims around use of the highly regulated term “organic,” requires careful consideration of the requirements of the previously mentioned certification and labeling organizations. One retailer that mistakenly advertised a mattress containing organic cotton fiber as a “USDA organic” mattress in its store catalog and its advertising was the subject of a complaint and NOP investigation. *Source:* Complaint Case NOPC-107-10, resolved 4-4-11, link not available. The investigation resulted in the store having to remove all such claims and provide substantiation that the crop components used in the mattress had indeed been certified as organic by NOP. **The mattress store was warned that future violations of the NOP regulations could result in civil penalties of up to \$11,000 per violation.**

Since this complaint was resolved, NOP has recognized GOTS and provided clarifications on how to properly market textile products giving marketers better resources for ensuring that they will not be in violation of these strict marketing requirements. See also: in the “Organizations...” section of this document, *National Organic Program* and *Global Organic Textile Standard*.

photodegradable: see *biodegradable*

pre-consumer recycled materials: materials that have been recovered or otherwise diverted from the solid waste stream during the manufacturing process, excluding spilled raw materials and scraps that undergo only a minimal amount of reprocessing and are normally reused in the original manufacturing process. *Source:* [16 C.F.R. § 260.13, FTC’s Green Guides](#).

product category rules (PCRs): a set of rules for developing an environmental product declaration for a given product category and that determine the scope, boundaries, functional unit, assessment criteria, product and environmental performance information, etc., that all manufacturers must use to help ensure consistency with regards to data, calculations and methodology. PCRs are introduced in ISO 14025. *Source:* [ISO 14025](#).

post-consumer recycled material: materials that have been recovered or otherwise diverted from the solid waste stream after consumer use. *Source:* [16 C.F.R. § 260.13, FTC’s Green Guides](#).

qualification: a clear, prominent and understandable use of language and relative type size in proximity to an environmental marketing claim intended to prevent potential confusion or deception. *Source:* [16 CFR § 260.6\(a\), FTC’s Green Guides](#).

renewable: a material that is replenishable and replenished on some reasonable time scale, including but not limited to wood, fibers, plant-based plastics, and biobased fuels. *Source:* paraphrased from [BIFMA e3-2008 Furniture Sustainability Standard § 3.39](#). FTC states that renewable material should be quantified (what it is, how it is sourced, why it is renewable). For product that contains less than 100% renewable materials (excluding minor, incidental components), quantify the percent renewable. *Source:* [16 C.F.R. § 260.15](#), FTC’s Green Guides.

recyclable: identifies material that can be collected, separated, or otherwise recovered from the solid waste stream for reuse, or in the manufacture or assembly of another package or product, through an established recycling program. *Source:* [16 C.R.F. § 260.7\(d\), FTC’s Green Guides](#).

The FTC’s Green Guides state that proper qualification of a *recyclable* marketing claim may or may not be necessary under the following circumstances.

- Marketer may make an unqualified *recyclable* claim if a “substantial majority” of consumers/communities have access to recycling facilities\
- Marketer should qualify recyclable claim (e.g. package may not be *recyclable* in your area) if only a “significant percentage” of consumers/communities have access to recycling facilities.
- Marketer should qualify recyclable claim (e.g. product is *recyclable* only in the few communities that have recycling programs) if less than a “significant percentage” of consumers/communities have access to recycling facilities. *Sources:* [16 C.R.F. § 260.16](#), FTC’s Green Guides.

recycled content: materials recovered or otherwise diverted from the solid waste stream, either during the manufacturing process (pre-consumer), or after consumer use (post-consumer) that are used in a new product. Spilled raw materials and scraps that undergo only a minimal amount of reprocessing and are normally reused in the original manufacturing process (as opposed to being diverted from the solid waste stream) do not qualify as recycled content. See also: *pre-consumer* and *post-consumer recycled content*. *Source:* [16 C.R.F. § 260.7\(e\), FTC’s Green Guides](#).

substantiation of claims: providing back up for marketing claims that may include using competent and reliable scientific evidence, defined as tests, analyses, research, studies or other evidence based on the expertise of professionals in the relevant area, conducted and evaluated in an objective manner by (third party) professional persons qualified to do so, using procedures generally accepted in the profession to yield accurate and reliable results. *Source:* [16 C.R.F. § 260.5, FTC’s Green Guides](#).

sustainable: 1. practices that meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. *Source:* [Brundtland Report, World Commission on](#)

[Environment and Development, 1987](#); 2. General environmental claim used by some marketers to promote the environmental attributes of a product. See also: *general environmental claims*.

sustainable forest management: a set of processes and practices that permits the goods and services derived from the forest to meet present-day needs while at the same time securing their continued availability and contribution to long-term development. *Source*: [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#). Examples of forest certification programs include American Tree Farm System (ATFS), Canadian Standards Association (CSA), Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), and the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

unqualified claims : express or implied environmental and renewable energy claims referring to a particular product, which in turn lack specification. *Source*: [BCP](#), Environmental Claims: Summary of the Green Guides. See also: *general environmental claims*

volatile organic compounds (VOCs): any compound of carbon, excluding carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, carbonic acid, metallic carbides or carbonates, and ammonium carbonate, which participates in atmospheric photochemical reactions or whose composition makes it possible for them to evaporate under normal indoor atmospheric conditions of temperature and pressure. *Sources*: [40 CFR 51.100\(s\)](#) and [EPA VOCs Definition](#).

EPA notes that information about VOCs present at low concentrations normally found in indoor air is highly dependent on how the VOCs are measured. The range of VOC measurement methods and analytical instruments is large, and none can measure all VOCs. Therefore, marketing claims regarding VOCs should be substantiated with a description of how the VOCs were measured so that a professional may correctly interpret the results. EPA states that without such a description, the statement would have little practical meaning. *Source*: EPA: [An Introduction to Indoor Air Quality \(IAQ\)](#).

Organizations, Certifications, Standards, Testing and Government References

The items below are provided for information only. Inclusion of these organizations and certification programs does not imply endorsement in any way by the SSA.

American National Standards Institute (ANSI)

http://www.ansi.org/about_ansi/overview/o.aspx?menuid=1: oversees the creation, promulgation and use of thousands of norms and guidelines that directly impact businesses in nearly every sector. ANSI is also actively engaged in accrediting programs that assess conformance to standards – including globally-recognized cross-sector programs such as the ISO 9000 (quality) and ISO 14000 (environmental) management systems. Many sustainability

standards have been taken through ANSI accredited consensus processes, including some product-specific standards and several national green building standards.

American Humane Certified: a voluntary, fee-based service available to producers of animals in agriculture. The program provides independent, third party audited verification that the care and handling of animals on enrolled farms meet the animal welfare standards set forth by American Humane Certified. Producers who meet the standards may use the American Humane Certified label on their products. **Certifies wool products are produced humanely. Annual independent on-site audits of more than 200 science-based standards and measures conducted by Professional Animal Auditor Certified Organization (PAACO) trained and certified auditors.** Online Compliance Resources to provide regular mandatory audit updates, and monitoring throughout the year. State-of-the-art, web-based independent video monitoring that provides 24/7, real-time monitoring and instant alerts of potential problems to the producer and American Humane. <http://www.americanhumane.org/animals/programs/farm-animal-welfare.html>

Assembled in USA: See *Made in USA* below.

B Corporation: <http://www.bcorporation.net>

B Corp is to business what Fair Trade certification is to coffee or USDA Organic certification is to milk. B Corps are certified by the nonprofit B Lab to meet rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency. Today, there is a growing community of more than 1,000 Certified B Corps from 33 countries and over 60 industries working together toward 1 unifying goal: to redefine success in business.

BedFax: (www.bedfax.org) : Service provided by the Specialty Sleep Association (SSA) to fulfill consumer demand for information and education of what is inside mattresses. SSA's BedFax Registered™ program allows manufacturers to demonstrate their commitment to transparency in marketing.

Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association (BIFMA)

<http://www.bifma.org/> : A non-profit organization that develops voluntary product and industry standards that support safe, healthy and sustainable environments; publishes key industry statistics; and advocates for legislation and government regulation. BIFMA International and NSF International have released a consensus based sustainability standard that allows manufacturers to certify products and earn recognition. The standard includes criteria for evaluating materials selection and usage; energy and atmosphere; human and ecosystem health; and social responsibility impacts. A corresponding product certification program also exists called "level". It is a product labeling program based on the ANSI/BIFMA e3-2011e Furniture Sustainability Standard.

CSA: Canadian Standards development is the foundation of CSA Group. From our initial charter in 1919, we have grown to become the largest standards development organization (SDO) in Canada, with the widest subject area recognition. We also work with other SDOs around the world as a key contributor to international and harmonized standards activities. Our library of more than 3,000 standards and codes address subjects that affect the interests of industry, consumers, regulators and the public at large. <http://www.csagroup.org/us/en/home>

Learn about CSA Group's accreditations, our recognized balanced matrix process, and how many of our codes and standards are used by industries and regulators to help make the world a better, safer, more sustainable place.

Standards Development: We are accredited in the U.S. and Canada to develop standards in a wide range of subject areas that speak to product safety and performance, process improvement, best practices and safer work environments.

CE Marking

Basics: The CE marking indicates a product's compliance with EU legislation and so enables the free movement of products within the European market. By affixing the CE marking to a product, a manufacturer declares, on his sole responsibility, that the product meets all the legal requirements for the CE marking, which means that the product can be sold throughout the European Economic Area (EEA, the 28 Member States of the EU and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein). This also applies to products made in other countries which are sold in the EEA.

However, not all products must bear the CE marking, only product categories mentioned in specific EU directives on the CE marking. CE marking does not indicate that a product was made in the EEA, but merely states that the product has been assessed before being placed on the market and thus satisfies the applicable legislative requirements (e.g. a harmonized level of safety) enabling it to be sold there. It means that the manufacturer has:

- verified that the product complies with all relevant essential requirements (e.g. health and safety or environmental requirements) laid down in the applicable directive(s) and
- if stipulated in the directive(s), had it examined by an independent conformity assessment body.

It is the manufacturer's responsibility to carry out the conformity assessment, to set up the technical file, to issue the declaration of conformity and to affix the CE marking to a product. Distributors must check that the product bears the CE marking and that the requisite supporting documentation is in order. If the product is being imported from outside the EEA, the importer has to verify that the manufacturer has undertaken the necessary steps and that the documentation is available upon request.

[More information for professionals](#)

[More information for consumers](#)

CERES - Certification of Environmental Standards, GmbH:

Certification

CERES offers certification for organic farming and food processing, for Good Agricultural and Good Manufacturing Practices in the food industry, and for organic textiles and biofuels:

- [Organic Farming and Food Processing](#)
- [Inputs \(materials\) for organic farming](#)
- [GLOBALG.A.P. \(Good agricultural practice\)](#)
- [UTZ CERTIFIED \(Sustainable coffee, cocoa and tea production\)](#)
- [C.A.F.E. Practices \(Sustainable coffee production for Starbucks\)](#)
- [GOTS \(Organic textiles\)](#)
- [Bird Friendly® Coffee](#)

Certified Biobased Product: is a USDA program that provides minimum percentages of biobased content for certain products. USDA has set no minimum biobased content requirements for finished mattresses, but has set a 12% minimum biobased content for “Bedding, Bed Linen, and Towels.” *Source:* [7 CFR § 2902.17 \(2011\)](#). USDA considers finished mattresses to be a complex product for which it may define a minimum biobased content limit at some point in the future.

Certified Humane: <http://certifiedhumane.org/> Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC) is the leading non-profit certification organization dedicated to improving the lives of farm animals in food production from birth through slaughter.

The goal of the program is to improve the lives of farm animals by driving consumer demand for kinder and more responsible farm animal practices.

When you see the Certified Humane Raised and Handled® label on a product you can be assured that the food products have come from facilities that meet precise, objective standards for farm animal treatment.

CertiPUR-US®: <http://certipur.us/pages/about-certipur-us/>
 CertiPUR-US® foam certification program: a voluntary testing, analysis and certification program for flexible polyurethane foam used as a cushioning material in home furnishings such as adult mattresses, crib mattresses, upholstered furniture and some accessory comfort products. Certified flexible polyurethane foams have been independently laboratory tested and certified to be made without ozone depleters; made without PBDE flame retardants; made without mercury, lead and other heavy metals; made without formaldehyde; made without phthalates regulated by the Consumer Product Safety Commission; and low VOC (Volatile Organic Compound) emissions for indoor air quality (less than 0.5 parts per million). Learn more at www.certipur.us.

Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC): The federal government agency charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death from thousands of types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. The CPSC is charged with protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard or can injure children. CPSC laws impacting mattress manufacturers include CPSC 1632 and 1633 flammability testing requirements and the new CPSIA lead and phthalates testing requirements.

16 CFR Part 1632: CPSC-administered mattress flammability standard issued pursuant to the Flammable Fabrics Act that requires new mattresses sold in the United States (including Puerto Rico) to resist ignition from a smoldering heat source (such as a lit cigarette).

16 CFR Part 1633: CPSC-administered mattress flammability standard issued pursuant to the Flammable Fabrics Act that requires mattresses sold in the United States (including Puerto Rico) to resist ignition from an open-flame heat source (such as a lit match, lighter or candle).

Consumer Products Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA): signed into law on August 14, 2008, set new content requirements and other requirements for certain children's products.

Source: [Codified at 15 U.S.C. §§ 2051–2089](#), October 18, 2008 version.

Lead

For children's products sold on or after August 14, 2009, no component may contain more than [300 parts per million \(ppm\) of lead](#). (The lead limit may be reduced to 100 ppm by August 14, 2011, if technologically feasible.) The law [defines a children's product](#) as a consumer product designed or intended primarily for children 12 years of age or younger.

In addition to the lead content limits noted above, the law requires that certain components be tested for lead content and that such testing information be included on the [certificates of conformity](#) that manufacturers are already required to issue with their products with regard to Part 1632, 1633 and other applicable standards (if any). The CPSC, however, [has stayed enforcement](#) of these new lead testing and certification requirements until February 10, 2011. This stay will allow the CPSC (and possibly Congress) time to clarify a number of complex issues involved with enforcing the new lead content provisions.

It is important to understand that the CPSC's stay DOES NOT apply to the lead content requirement itself, and does not affect a manufacturer's existing obligation to meet other lead content limits set in 16 CFR part 1303 (discussed below).

The CPSIA has exempted from the lead content limits and the lead testing/certification requirements [internal mattress components that are physically inaccessible](#) to a child and [certain fabrics, fibers and other components](#). Specifically, CPSC regulation 16 CFR Part 1500.91 exempts the following textile materials:

- (i) Natural fibers (dyed or undyed) including, but not limited to, cotton, kapok, flax, linen, jute, ramie, hemp, kenaf, bamboo, coir, sisal, silk, wool (sheep), alpaca, llama, goat (mohair, cashmere), rabbit (angora), camel, horse, yak, vicuna, qiviut, guanaco;
- (ii) Manufactured fibers (dyed or undyed) including, but not limited to, rayon, azlon, lyocell, acetate, triacetate, rubber, polyester, olefin, nylon, acrylic, modacrylic, aramid, spandex.

Aside from textiles that contain dyed fibers, the CPSC's regulation notes that textiles with "after-treatment applications, including screen prints, transfers, decals, or other prints" are excluded from this exemption.

Other exemptions from the CPSIA lead requirements that could be relevant to mattress producers include wood, paper and similar materials made from wood or other cellulosic fiber, and certain types of printing inks.

Note that these exemptions will not apply if a material, component, or product is altered in a way that may introduce lead in excess of the content limit to the product.

The combined impact of these exemptions will save mattress manufactures thousands of dollars in testing and compliance costs.

The CPSC is conducting a separate rulemaking to define testing and certification procedures for components in children's products that do not qualify for these exemptions.

The CPSC has issued an [enforcement policy](#) for the lead requirements which details how the Commission will initially use its enforcement discretion to implement these new rules.

For those products and components that must be tested for lead, the CPSIA requires manufacturers to use a CPSC-accredited third party or in house testing labs. The CPSC has released its [criteria for obtaining accreditation](#). See also: [list of accredited labs](#).

Phthalates

A second requirement that also took effect on February 10, 2009, [bans the use of certain categories of phthalates](#) in "child care articles." (It is unclear at this time whether a mattress designed or intended for use by children three years of age or younger is a child care article for these purposes). A "child care article" may not contain more than 0.1% of DEHP, DBP, and BBP, which are banned on a permanent basis, or DINP, DIDP, and DnOP, which are banned pending further review. Like lead, the phthalates provision requires manufacturers to use a CPSC-accredited third party or in-house lab to meet testing and certification requirements. Like lead, the CPSC has advised that physically inaccessible parts in finished products are exempt from the testing requirement.

Also in February 2009, the CPSC requested public comment on whether a mattress (and several other products) intended for children three and under is used to "facilitate sleep." ISPA submitted comments to the CPSC requesting that the agency find that mattresses are not child care articles for these purposes. If the CPSC determines that a mattress does not meet this definition, the new phthalates requirements would not apply to that product. At this time, the CPSC has not ruled on ISPA's request.

CPSC-accredited testing labs.

The following is a list of labs that have been accredited by the Consumer Product Safety Commission as qualified to conduct 16 CFR 1632 and/or 16 CFR 1633 flammability testing for children's and adult mattresses and bedding. Also highlighted are those companies within this group that are qualified to conduct lead and phthalates testing-an additional requirement for products sold for use by children ages 12 and younger.

Bureau Veritas Consumer Products Services

Phone: 716-505-3641

www.bureauveritas.com

16 CFR 1632 tests, plus lead & phthalates testing

Consumer Testing Laboratories Inc.

Phone: 479-636-8782

www.consumertesting.com

16 CFR 1632 tests, plus lead & phthalates testing.

Diversified Testing Laboratories

Phone: 336-227-7710

www.diversifiedtestinglabs.com

16 CFR 1632 tests

Element Materials Technology

Phone: 651-659-7521

www.element.com

16 CFR 1632 & 1633 tests, plus lead testing

Govmark Organization

Phone: 631-293-8944

www.govmark.com

16 CFR 1632 & 1633 tests

Intertek Testing Services

Phone: 616-656-1347

www.intertek.com

16 CFR 1632 & 1633 tests, plus lead & phthalates testing

Intertek Testing Services

Phone: 210-635-8100

www.intertek.com

16 CFR 1632 & 1633 tests, plus lead & phthalates testing

Milliken Pyroanalytical Center

Phone: 888-723-2876

www.milliken.com

16 CFR 1633 tests

QAI Laboratories

Phone: 918-437-8333

www.qai.org

16 CFR 1632 & 1633 tests

Sealy Inc. Regulatory Compliance Laboratory

Phone: 336-861-3997

www.sealy.com

16 CFR 1632 & 1633 tests

SGS Life Science Services

Phone: 973-575-5252

www.us.sgs.com

16 CFR 1632 tests, plus lead & phthalates testing

TouchStone Systems & Services

Phone: 616-532-0060

www.touchstone-testing.com

16 CFR 1632 & 1633 tests

UL

Phone: 847-664-3281

www.ul.com

16 CFR 1632 & 1633 tests, plus lead & phthalates testing

Source: BedTimes Magazine, September 2014 Issue, Page 47

Original Source: www.cpsc.gov

Control Union (CU) <http://www.controlunion.com/en>

Control Union is a global network of inspection operations and dedicated laboratories. Our specialty: Independent worldwide cargo surveying and superintendence. Through innovative solutions, specialized services and product knowledge, we offer complete packages for logistics, quality and quantity management. From the country of origin to the final destination, and with an open mind towards clients' demands.

The **PCU Group** is a network of independently operating service companies that mainly operates under the trade name of Peterson and Control Union.

Control Union is a risk management expert, operating a global network of offices and laboratories. It is a privately owned company founded in 1956 by a group of companies, including Peterson in Rotterdam. Now, Control Union is fully owned by the Peterson and Control Union Group.

The specialist activities of the group's companies' compromise:

- Commodity inspections and laboratory analyses for agricultural, mineral and consumer products in dry or liquid form;
- Certification of processes and systems relating to food, feed, latex, fibres, textiles, forestry, biomass and biofuel products for traceability, safety and sustainability.
- Collateral management for financed goods.
- Industrial testing and inspection related to the oil and gas industry for production and exploration, both onshore and offshore.

Additional services:

- Logistics management, including 4th party concepts, distribution, storage and transshipment, customs formalities, documentation and ships' agencies.
- Non-toxic pest control and conditioning of goods and warehouses, gas measurements.
- Satellite based geo-information and automated data analyses.
- Projects in logistics management, commodity chains, project management, sustainability, risk control.
- Pre-shipment inspections.

Our certification services are performed under the name of Control Union Certifications when a centralized accreditation is involved. Laboratory services are executed by various Control Union operations. Our sister company, TLR International Laboratories in Rotterdam, operates the largest laboratory in the group and acts as a knowledge and competence center. Moreover, it assists in the development of other Control Union laboratories.

To guarantee swift and reliable service, we operate offices in most of the major ports and business areas, thus we offer a unique network to our clients. We firmly believe in a decentralized organization in order to give room for creativity and entrepreneurship. This approach enables the group to develop innovative and flexible solutions for our clients and avoid bureaucracy. Nevertheless, all business units need to comply with our safety, Quality, sustainability and financial management system.

For more details, please visit our website: <http://www.controlunion.com/en/certifications>

Eco3Home: an American Home Furnishings Alliance (AHFA) program that provides a roadmap for home furnishings companies to create a corporate culture of conservation and environmental stewardship. The first level is an environmental management system implemented at the facility level called Enhancing Furniture's Environmental Culture (EFEC). It results in improved management of resources and raw materials; reduced energy and water consumption; reduced waste disposal and increased recycling. The second level extends the corporate culture of conservation and environmental stewardship throughout a company's global supply chain and is called Sustainable by Design (SBD). It targets four key areas: environmental impact of the supply chain, global climate impact, overall environmental footprint and social responsibility. The third and final level is a product registration program resulting in the companies being able to use the Eco3Home hangtag. It requires manufacturers to provide safety, health and environmental information for each piece or collection of registered product.

ECO-INSTITUT <http://www.eco-institut.de/en/product-testing/>: Provider of product and emissions testing and quality assurance in regards to the legal national and international

requirements, trade and manufacturers associations, and consumer specialty requests. In respect to the mattress industry, the ECO-INSTITUT tests mattresses for the inner spring, latex, (viscoelastic) foam and polyurethane-type foam, and textiles. The ECO-INSTITUT services certification according to the criteria of the ECO-INSTITUT Label, Blue Angel (RAL-UZ 38/117/119/130/148), or QUL (Quality Association for Environmentally-Agreeable Latex mattresses).

ETL Listed Mark: Intertek's ETL Mark was born into a culture of innovation. It was in Thomas Edison's lighting laboratories where it all began, and to this day we still breathe the same air of innovation, safety and quality. We also understand a manufacturer's need to get new products to market quickly to achieve the greatest success, therefore we have built speed, responsiveness and urgency into our processes. Our commitment to helping customers gain the certifications they need quickly and efficiently has never been greater.

The ETL Mark is proof of product compliance to North American safety standards. Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJs) across the US and Canada accept the ETL Listed Mark as proof of product compliance to published industry standards. Retail buyers accept it on products they're sourcing. And every day, more and more consumers recognize it on products they purchase as a symbol of safety.

Today, the ETL Mark is the fastest growing safety certification in North America and is featured on millions of products sold by major retailers and distributors every day. Browse through our most [Frequently Asked Questions about the ETL Listed Mark](#).

Fair Trade International: <http://www.fairtrade.net/about-fairtrade.html>

Fair trade is an alternative approach to conventional trade based on a partnership between producers and traders, businesses and consumers. The international Fairtrade system - made up of Fairtrade International and its member organizations - represents the world's largest and most recognized fair trade system.

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) : <https://us.fsc.org/>

FSC is an independent, non-profit organization that protects forests for future generations.

We are an open, membership-led organization that sets standards under which forests and companies are certified. Our membership consists of three equally weighted chambers -- environmental, economic, and social -- to ensure the balance and the highest level of integrity.

FSC US is based in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and operates as a National Office of FSC International, which is based in Bonn, Germany.

Global Network of Laboratories

Intertek is one of the world's largest Testing, Inspection and Certification companies. We have a network of laboratories across North and South America, Europe and Asia to deliver safety testing and certification for your products. Our teams around the world provide Global Expertise with Local Service. No one partners with manufacturers better than Intertek to deliver the services you need, when you need them, and where you need them.

Check out our white paper *The Essential Guide to Product Testing & Certification* <http://www.intertek.com/services/essential-guide-wp-web/> for more information on the standards we test to for the North American market.

Federal Trade Commission (FTC): created in 1914 to prevent unfair methods of competition in commerce. The FTC now has greater authority to police anticompetitive practices. In 1938, Congress passed a broad prohibition against “unfair and deceptive acts or practices.” Since then, FTC also has been directed to administer a wide variety of other consumer protection laws. In 1975, Congress gave the FTC the authority to adopt industry-wide trade regulation rules. FTC’s jurisdiction includes issuing guidance to prevent deceptive environmental marketing claims, which has been issued in the form of the FTC’s [*Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims*](#) or “Green Guides.”

FTC’s Green Guides: more formally known as the FTC’s *Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims*, specifically address the application of Section 5 of the FTC Act, which protects against unfair methods of competition or deceptive acts affecting commerce, *Source: 5 U.S.C. § 41-58*, as amended. The Green Guides apply to environmental claims included in labeling, advertising, promotional materials and all other forms of marketing, whether asserted directly or by implication, through words, symbols, emblems, logos, depictions, product brand names, or through any other means, including marketing through digital or electronic means, such as the Internet or electronic mail. *Source: 16 C.F.R. § 260.2*. The Green Guides were first issued in 1992 to help marketers ensure that the claims they are making are true and substantiated. The Guides were revised in 1996, 1998, and another proposed revision came out in 2010. The guidance they provide includes: 1) general principles that apply to all environmental marketing claims; 2) how consumers are likely to interpret particular claims and how marketers can substantiate these claims; and 3) how marketers can qualify their claims to avoid deceiving consumers

Global Organic Latex Standard (GOLS) <http://www.controlunion.com/en/home/>

A standard for the sustainable processing methods of latex products from their original organic material. This includes standards for processing, manufacturing, packing, labeling, trading and distribution of latex products. In addition this standard also focuses on human health, safety and welfare, and environment in the manufacturing process of latex products. *Source: GOLS.*

GOLS has been introduced to ensure a sound supervision procedure of the route from field level/farmer level to the certified organic latex product manufacturer.

There are several factors that should be mentioned with regards to this standard. The manufacturers that may produce organic products under the GOLS logo would have to follow the social and environmental regulations made mandatory through the standard. Moreover, this will make the final consumer socially and environmentally responsible indirectly,

Consistency of the quality is one of the key focuses of this standard. To prevent introduction of ‘falsely certified’ products in to the market is one of the prime objectives of this standard. It will

protect the final consumer from being exposed to bogus products, while on the other hand will safeguard the certified organic latex related manufacturers who follows the acceptable procedures in their manufacturing processes. This standard describes the minimum requirements to achieve GOLS certification for Latex collection points, Centrifuging, manufacturing and processing units, retailers and brand owners. The standard covers the requirements of processing, traceability, separation, identification, record keeping, quality control, environmental management, social compliance, labeling and distribution of semi-processed and processed final products made from certified natural rubber latex from organic origin.

Each Latex collection points, Centrifuging, manufacturing and processing units, retailers and brand owners shall be audited (on-site) according to the standard (GOLS) annually in order to maintain GOLS Certification.

For more details, please visit :

<http://www.controlunion.com/en/services/certifications/sustainability>

Global Organic Textiles Standard (GOTS): <http://www.global-standard.org/the-standard.html/>

The Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) is recognized as the world's leading processing standard for textiles made from organic fibers. It defines high-level environmental criteria along the entire organic textiles supply chain and requires compliance with social criteria as well.

Fiber Production

The key criteria for fiber production can be identified as:

- Organic certification of fibers on basis of recognized international or national standards (IFOAM family of standards, EEC 834/2007, USDA NOP)
- Certification of fibers from conversion period is possible if the applicable farming standard permits such certification
- A textile product carrying the GOTS label grade 'organic' must contain a minimum of 95% certified organic fibers whereas a product with the label grade 'made with organic' must contain a minimum of 70% certified organic fibers.

A standard developed to define world-wide recognized requirements about the organic status of textiles, from post-harvest handling of the raw materials, through environmentally and socially responsible manufacturing and labeling. Its purpose is to provide credible assurance to the consumer that a finished product is "certified organic." To achieve GOTS certification, a product must meet one of its definitions for organic products and be certified by an independent third-party certification organization approved by the GOTS International Working Group (IWG). Licensing and labeling are governed by the GOTS IWG. GOTS can be used to certify a finished product as "certified organic" if 95% of the product's ingredients (by weight) are certified organic and the manufacturer is in compliance with other GOTS requirements. GOTS also allows a claim of "made with x% organic material..." if 70% or more of the product's ingredients (by weight) have been certified organic and the manufacturer, likewise, is compliant with other requirements.

GOTS 4.0: The Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) is the worldwide leading textile processing standard for organic fibers, including ecological and social criteria, backed up by independent certification of the entire textile supply chain.

Version 4.0 was published on 1st of March 2014, 3 years after the Version 3.0 was introduced and 9 years after the launch of the 1st Version. The high ecological and social requirements as well as world-wide practicability and verifiability were considered in the revision work, in order to achieve a reliable and transparent set of criteria.

GREENGUARD® Certified: GREENGUARD Certification

GREENGUARD Certified products are scientifically proven to meet some of the world's highest chemical emissions standards, to help reduce the impact of indoor air pollution and the risks of chemical exposure in order to create a healthier indoor environment.

GREENGUARD Certification standards follow guidance of the US Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) testing protocol for furniture, the state of Washington's protocol for interior furnishings and construction materials, Germany's Blue Angel Program, and California Section 01350, among others. The GREENGUARD Certification Program has test methods and emission limits for three product groups: Building Materials and Furniture and Furnishings, Electronic Equipment, and Cleaning and Maintenance Products. GREENGUARD Gold Certification standard includes health based criteria for additional chemicals and requires lower total VOC emission levels for sensitive populations.

GREENGUARD Certification helps manufacturers create -- and helps buyers identify -- interior products and materials that have low chemical emissions, improving the quality of the air in which the products are used. UL Environment acquired the GREENGUARD Certification program in 2011, further advancing its mission of promoting global sustainability, environmental health, and safety. <http://www.greenguard.org/en/certificationprograms.aspx>

Green Housekeeping Seal of Approval: categories for the Green Good Housekeeping Seal now include cleaning and beauty products, paints and coatings, appliances, paper goods, and food and beverages; eventually the Green Good Housekeeping Seal will be introduced in more categories, including building products, home appliances, consumer electronics, textiles, and children's products. The seal was introduced in 2009 by *Good Housekeeping* magazine and the Good Housekeeping Research Institute (GHRI). A product must first be evaluated by the scientists and engineers at GHRI and earn the Good Housekeeping Seal. It then must meet the environmental performance requirements to earn the Green Good Housekeeping Seal. Reduction of water use in manufacturing, energy efficiency in manufacturing and product use, ingredient and product safety, packaging reduction, and the brand's corporate social responsibility are among the factors considered.

IABFLO : *International Association of Bedding and Furniture Law Officials:*
<http://iabflo.org>

ABFLO (Association of Bedding and Furniture Law Officials) was founded in 1936 and the name was changed to IABFLO (International Association of Bedding and Furniture Law Officials) in 2003. The association is made up of state officials who are responsible for the enforcement of consumer oriented bedding and furniture laws in their respective states. CLASSIFICATION OF FILLING MATERIALS PROVIDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BEDDING & FURNITURE LAW OFFICIALS, INC.
<http://iabflo.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Classification-and-Terminology-of-Materials.pdf>

Instituto Certificazione Etica e Ambientale (ICEA): <http://www.icea.info/en/>

ICEA, Environmental and Ethical Certification Institute, is a Consortium that control and certifies companies that carry out their activities in respect of people and nature, defending workers dignity and rights of consumers.

With around 13 thousand controlled companies with strong ethical, environmental and social value, 300 technicians and 28 Territorial Operative Structures in Italy and abroad, ICEA is among most important bodies of the sector in Italy and in Europe, where it operates to favour a fair and socially sustainable development that ranges from organic farming to other bio related sectors.

As a matter of fact ICEA certifications cover **Food** (organic food production and organic aquaculture) **Non-Food**, (organic cosmetics and detergents, ecological textile, ecologic furnishing, materials for eco-building, sustainable management of green areas, certification SA8000).

Moreover ICEA carries out **Research & Development** activities to promote ecological innovation of products and processes, **Training activity** meant for operators and technicians/professionals of the organic sector, and is active in different projects of **International Cooperation**, other than being active on the national level. ICEA together with BIOL Italia organizes **Prizes, Events and Campaigns** of awareness rising to spread and share culture, knowledge and values linked to organic.

IDFL Laboratory and Institute: <http://www.idfl.com/>

IDFL (International Down and Feather Testing Laboratory) is a global leader in down and feather and textile product testing. IDFL is the world's largest down and feather institute. Since 1978 we have expanded our expertise to include textiles, synthetic fills and natural fills. IDFL inspects and audits down and feather and textile factories and supply chains world-wide. [For more information about IDFL click here](#)

Mission of IDFL

IDFL is committed to be the premier global laboratory and testing institute for filled textile products. Our services will be cost effective and our client support will be the best in the industry. Our reputation will be accuracy and integrity.

IDFL will provide fair, honest and trustworthy testing to help the industry instill confidence in consumers that they are receiving quality products.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO): responsible for the *ISO 9000*, *ISO 14000*, *ISO 27000*, *ISO 22000* and other international management standards, including the *ISO 14000* series which deals with environmental management systems, eco-labeling, life cycle assessment, product category rules, and environmental product declarations. ISO is not a certification itself but rather a standard to which some certifications adhere.

<http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards.htm>

International Sleep Products Association (ISPA): The industry's trade organization representing mattress manufacturers and suppliers throughout the world. ISPA provides exclusive industry surveys and statistics, advocacy support, educational offerings, trade show, safety research through its Sleep Products Safety Council, consumer research and education through its Better Sleep Council, and publications – *BedTimes* and *Sleep Savvy* magazines. ISPA has been active on mattress end-of-life issues and has formed the Mattress Recycling Council, a non-profit corporation that is developing and implementing mattress recycling laws enacted by several states. ISPA provides information on mattress recycling and disposal facilities on its website. <http://www.sleepproducts.org/ispa-earth/>

Lanham Act: a federal law that provides for private litigation between competitors and governs advertising claims to prevent false advertising. Many states have laws analogous to the Lanham Act to protect consumers. *Source*: [15 U.S.C § 1125](#).

Made in USA: a label enforced by the FTC. Products using the Made in USA label without qualification must be “all or virtually all” made in America. Products may also be advertised using qualified claims, in accordance with the FTC standard, such as “Made in USA from imported parts” or “Assembled in USA.” Automobiles, textiles, wool and fur products must include a statement of U.S content; other products may voluntarily be advertised as containing U.S. content but only in accordance with the FTC Made in USA standard. *Source*: [62 Fed. Reg. no. 231, 63,756, Dec. 2, 1997](#).

National Advertising Division (NAD) of the Better Business Bureau: reviews national advertising for truthfulness and accuracy and to foster public confidence in the credibility of advertising. NAD provides an alternative to litigation for settling false advertising claims. While the final case decisions are made public by NAD, they cannot be used for advertising or promotional purposes. *Source*: [Better Business Bureau](#).

NSF International: an independent, not-for-profit organization that provides standards development, product certification, auditing, education and risk management for public health and the environment. NSF International is an accredited, third-party certification body that tests and certifies products to verify they meet these public health and safety standards. Products that meet these standards bear the NSF Mark. The NSF Sustainability division offers a range of sustainable business solutions, including standards development and certification for green products such as carpet, flooring, fabrics and other building materials; and process verification services such as greenhouse gas verification, environmental foot-printing, and environmental management systems registrations. <http://www.nsf.org/>

OE 100 / Now OCS 100: see Textile Exchange

OE Blended: see Textile Exchange

OEKO-TEX® Standard 100: https://www.oeko-tex.com/en/manufacturers/concept/oeko_tex_standard_100/oeko_tex_standard_100.xhtml

The OEKO-TEX® Standard 100 is an independent testing and certification system for textile raw materials, intermediate and end products at all stages of production. Examples for items eligible for certification: Raw and dyed/finished yarns, raw and dyed/finished fabrics and knits, ready-made articles (all types of clothing, domestic and household textiles, bed linen, terry cloth items, textile toys and more).

Criteria: Testing for harmful substances includes:

- illegal substances
- legally regulated substances
- known harmful (but not legally regulated) chemicals
- as well as parameters for health care

In their entirety the requirements clearly exceed existing national legislation.

Laboratory tests and product classes: OEKO-TEX® testing for harmful substances always focus on the actual use of the textile. The more intensive the skin contact of a product, the stricter the human ecological requirements to be met.

Accordingly there are [four product classes](#):

- **Product class I:**
Textile items for babies and toddlers up to 3 years (clothing, toys, bed linen, terry cloth items etc.)
- **Product class II:**
Textiles used close to the skin (underwear, bed linen, T-shirts etc.)
- **Product class III:**
Textiles used away from the skin (jackets, coats etc.)
- **Product class IV:**
Furnishing materials (curtains, table cloths, upholstery materials etc.)

Certification: The requirement for certification of textile products according to OEKO-TEX® Standard 100 is that all components of an item have to comply with the required criteria without exception – that means in addition to the outer material also sewing threads, linings, prints etc. as well as non-textile accessories such as buttons, zip fasteners, rivets etc.

OneCert® : certifies to major organic markets *email:* info@onecert.com

- USDA National Organic Program (NOP)
- European Organic Regulations (EC 834/2007)
- Japan Agricultural Standard (JAS)
- Indian National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP)
- US/Canada Organic Equivalency Arrangement (USCOEA)
- Export Certificates for Japan (NOP Equivalent)
- Export Certificates for Taiwan (NOP Equivalent)

OneCert certifies organic textiles and inputs

- Global Organic Textile Standards (GOTS)
- Organic Content Standards (OCS) 100 & Blended

Organic Trade Association (OTA): The Organic Trade Association (OTA) is the membership-based business association for the organic industry in North America. Founded in 1985, OTA is the leading voice for organic agriculture and trade in the United States, representing over 6,500 businesses across 49 states. Its members include growers, shippers, processors, certifiers, farmers associations, distributors, importers, exporters, consultants, retailers, and others. Organic products represented include organic foods, ingredients and beverages, as well as organic fibers, personal care products, pet foods, nutritional supplements, household cleaners and flowers.

Mission: OTA's mission is to promote and protect organic trade to benefit the environment, farmers, the public, and the economy. - See more at: <https://ota.com/about-ota#sthash.By00tk6z.dpuf>

SATRA Technology Centre: <http://www.satra.co.uk/portal/about.php>

SATRA is an independent research and testing organization established in 1919. It has technical facilities in the UK and China serving customers throughout the world. As well as testing products and components to European and international standards across a wide range of industry sectors, SATRA develops, manufactures and sells test equipment. SATRA is a Notified Body for various European directives including personal protection equipment (PPE), which is one of SATRA's largest sector operations. SATRA has its own chemicals analysis laboratory for testing restricted substances in accordance with European REACH, and US chemicals regulations for which it is CPSC-accredited.

SATRA is considered a leading technical authority for footwear and leather. Companies from these industries can become members of SATRA to gain exclusive access to SATRA test methods, accreditation, consultancy, research facilities, technical training and factory production management systems. A number of SATRA systems are recognised in the supply chain as setting industry standards for quality and production efficiency.

As well as the knowledge and experience of its technologists, what distinguishes SATRA is the volume of technical information it has published since 1935 in the form of magazines and books to help promote quality, excellence and professionalism throughout consumer products industries. Much of this information is now available online.

Scientific Certification Systems: SCS builds their own standards and acts as an independent third party verifier for a variety of certification programs. Examples of verification include: Recycled and Material Content, Biodegradable, No added formaldehyde, FSC Chain of Custody, and Pesticide Free. <http://www.scsglobalservices.com/about-scs>

SACERT Soil Association Certification: <http://www.sacert.org/>

Soil Association Certification Limited is the wholly owned subsidiary of the Soil Association. Over 70% of all organic products now sold in the UK carry the Soil Association symbol. We are the UK's largest organic certification body. Our team of certification officers,

technical staff and inspectors are experienced and dedicated. Working nationally and internationally, we provide unrivalled support, before, during and after certification.

The Soil Association's organic standards are more exacting than those set by either EU or UK authorities. These standards put our principles into action, and are based on respect and integrity - not profit.

Financial surplus from certification work is ploughed back into developing the organic movement - and its market, through our owning body Soil Association.

Our long-standing expertise is just one of the things that sets us apart from other certification bodies. We have been certifying product since 1973 and we are able to offer our licensees an unrivalled service, technical knowledge and guidance through - and beyond - the certification process.

With our symbol on your packaging, you are sending a clear message to consumers that your products meet a strict set of organic standards.

Specialty Sleep Association (SSA) www.sleepinformation.org : a non-profit association promoting the full spectrum of new technology bedding. SSA members are retailers, manufacturers and suppliers that develop, manufacture, market and sell innovative, new-technology mattress and bedding products including: visco-elastic memory foam beds; latex rubber beds; airbeds; flotation beds; gel beds; adjustable beds; futons and convertible beds; beds made from soy, bamboo, wool, 100% cotton; bed frames; and bedding. SSA's Bedfax™ program is a manufacturer self-declaration and labeling program designed to help consumers understand the environmental and safety attributes of mattresses. Participating manufacturers must display a "Consumer Disclosure Label" (CDL) describing the contents of components in percentages by weight and providing additional information about environmental claims made by the manufacturer.

Sustainable Furnishings Council: A green furnishings organization, Sustainable Furnishings Council (SFC) is a non-profit coalition of suppliers, manufacturers, retailers, and designers formed to promote sustainable practices within the furnishings industry. In 2008, SFC launched a public advertising and in-store tagging program for consumers to identify retailers and products that exceed SFC threshold sustainability standards. SFC maintains three levels: Standard for retailers and manufacturers committed to improve their sustainability performance, Exemplary for retailers and manufacturers meeting or exceeding proven levels of performance, and the Designer specifically aimed at furniture designers. The Exemplary Level addresses: reducing Stockholm chemicals throughout supply chain; life cycle certification; reuse and end of life management; social equity; independent third party audited Social Equity Supplier Conduct; educational content for climate change; use of Green-e certified renewable energy; tree-free approach to all documents; recycling and reduced packaging; and innovation credits.
<http://www.sustainablefurnishings.org/content/our-mission>

Textile Exchange

Textile Exchange is a membership-based non-profit organization dedicated to accelerating sustainable practices in the textile industry. We envision a textile industry that protects and restores the environment and enhances lives. Industry Integrity is foundational to the work of Textile Exchange, and seeks to support the transparency and integrity of sustainability claims in the marketplace. To learn more about Textile Exchange, visit our website:

www.textileexchange.org/

TE Standards

The Textile Exchange standards have been developed through a multi-stakeholder approach to support the integrity of product claims by providing verification from an independent third-party.

<http://textileexchange.org/standards>: <http://textileexchange.org/content/industry-integrity-textile-exchange>

Mission: Textile Exchange inspires and equips people to accelerate sustainable practices in the textile value chain. We focus on minimizing the harmful impacts of the global textile industry and maximizing its positive effects.

What We Do

- Convene, inform and build capacity in our membership base and across the industry
- Advocate product and industry integrity
- Help bring positive innovations to scale
- Improve organic farmers' visibility, access to stable markets, and better develop business capabilities through education
- Create partnerships that accelerate sustainable practices across the global textile industry

CONTENT CLAIM STANDARD

The Content Claim Standard (CCS) applies the two Textile Exchange principles of maintaining the identity of a raw material as well as tracking the raw material from input to the final product. It can be used for any raw material on a business-to-business basis.

<http://textileexchange.org/CCS>

GLOBAL RECYCLED STANDARD v3

The Global Recycled Standard is an international, voluntary, full product standard that sets requirements for third-party certification of recycled content, chain of custody, social and environmental practices, and chemical restrictions. The GRS is intended to meet the need of companies looking to verify the recycled content of their products (both finished and intermediate products) and to verify responsible social, environmental, and chemical practices in the production of these products. The objectives of the GRS are to define requirements to ensure accurate content claims, good working conditions, and that harmful environmental and chemical impacts are minimized. The standard covers processing, manufacturing, packaging, labeling, trading and distribution of all products made with a minimum of 20% recycled material (the minimum content percentage for labeling with the GRS v3 logo is 50%).

<http://textileexchange.org/GRS>

ORGANIC CONTENT STANDARD

The Organic Content Standard (OCS) is a standard for tracking and verifying the content of organically grown materials in a final product. The Organic Content Standard (OCS) applies to any non-food product containing 5-100% organic material. It verifies the presence and amount of organic material in a final product. It tracks the flow of a raw material from the source to the final product and this process is certified by an accredited third party. It allows for transparent, consistent and comprehensive independent evaluation and verification of organic material content claims on products. <http://textileexchange.org/OCS>

RECYCLED CLAIM STANDARD

The TE Recycled Claim Standard verifies the presence and amount of recycled material in a final product through input and chain-of-custody verification from a third party. It allows for transparent, consistent and comprehensive independent evaluation and verification of recycled material content claims on products. <http://textileexchange.org/RCS>

RESPONSIBLE DOWN STANDARD

The TE Responsible Down Standard (RDS) ensures that down or feathers are sourced from responsibly treated geese, ducks, or other waterfowl, and tracks the material through the supply chain. The chain of custody of the certified down is backed up by TE's Content Claim Standard. <http://textileexchange.org/RDS>

RESPONSIBLE WOOL STANDARD

The Responsible Wool Standard is currently in development. This is designed to be a global standard that will protect animal welfare, influence best practices, ensure traceability and ultimately give consumers clear and trustworthy information that will allow them to make responsible choices. <http://textileexchange.org/Wool>

Wool

Wool is an important fiber in the textile industry; it has a long history, and an even longer future. Its versatility, performance characteristics, and comfort give it great value in a range of applications, and keep it as a perennial favorite among consumers.

Wool owes its unique properties to the sheep that grow it, and we owe it to the sheep to ensure that their welfare is being protected. To this end, Textile Exchange has initiated the development of the **Responsible Wool Standard**. The RWS is designed to be a global standard that will protect animal welfare, influence best practices, ensure traceability, and ultimately give consumers clear and trustworthy information that will allow them to make responsible choices.

Work on the RWS began in February 2014, after H&M contacted TE about addressing their wool supply. The decision was made to involve the full industry, and as a result the development of the standard is being done through the International Working Group. This group represents the broad spectrum of interested parties, including animal welfare groups, brands, farmers, supply chain members, industry associations, as well as apparel, home, and carpeting brands.

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[Organic Content Standard \(OCS\)](#)

[TE Recycled Claim Standard](#)

[Responsible Down Standard \(new\)](#)

[Global Recycled Standard \(GRS\)](#)

[Content Claim Standard \(CCS\)](#)

UL: UL is a global independent safety science company with more than a century of expertise innovating safety solutions from the public adoption of electricity to new breakthroughs in sustainability, renewable energy and nanotechnology. Dedicated to promoting safe living and working environments, UL helps safeguard people, products and places in important ways, facilitating trade and providing peace of mind.

UL's global network provides performance and durability testing, chemical and emission testing, flammability and GREENGUARD Certification for furniture and bedding products. We provide the knowledge and expertise to help navigate growing complexities across the supply chain from compliance and regulatory issues to trade challenges, such as REACH and California Proposition 65.

USDA National Organic Program USDA-NOP: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/nop>

What is organic?

Organic is a labeling term that indicates that the food or other agricultural product has been produced through approved methods that integrate cultural, biological, and mechanical practices that foster cycling of resources, promote ecological balance, and conserve biodiversity. Synthetic fertilizers, sewage sludge, irradiation, and genetic engineering may not be used. [Consumer Information](#).

Our Mission

Ensuring the integrity of USDA organic products in the U.S. and throughout the world. [About Us + Reports](#) | [USDA Organic Seal](#)