

FACT SHEET

# BETTER COTTON

## Chain of Custody (CoC) Certification

Better Cotton is not just about meeting a set of standards; it's about being part of a global movement to improve the cotton industry for people, the environment, and the future of the sector.

At Intertek, we are committed to fostering a more sustainable and responsible cotton industry. Better Cotton Standard System is designed to support farmers in ensuring that cotton production is not only beneficial for the environment but also for the people involved in its cultivation and the economies of producing countries.



The Chain of Custody certification provides supply chain traceability to maintain the integrity of the Better Cotton claim throughout the entire process, from farm to final product, fostering transparency and confidence among consumers and retailers.

Since October 1, 2023, the new Better Cotton CoC Standard has been in effect, allowing for the tracking of physical Better Cotton throughout global supply chains. This updated standard introduces physical models, such as segregation and controlled blending, alongside BC's existing mass balance system.

The Chain of Custody program applies to the following supply chain actors: ginners, spinning mills, fabric mills, manufacturers, traders, brands, retailers which are Better Cotton members or not, but are buying or selling physical Better Cotton.

### Our Certification Process

#### Before the Audit

- 1 Application Submission**  
The first step is to fill out our Client Information Form (CIF), to best evaluate your requirements.
- 2 Commercial Proposal**  
Then we provide you with a quotation.
- 3 Contract Signing & Payment**
- 4 Assessment Scheduling**  
Two weeks prior to the assessment, Intertek will schedule a site audit with the BC client, ensuring the involvement of BC's compliance desk in the process.

#### During the Audit

- 5 Assessment and Assessment Follow-Up (if applicable)**  
Assessment will be done onsite/ remotely. In cases where non-conformity is found, a follow-up assessment may be conducted.
- 6 Report Completion**  
Auditor completes report and technical review (0-9 days post-assessment)
- 7 Assessment Results**  
Assessment reports will be uploaded by Intertek auditor to Better Cotton's SharePoint site, within 10 days post-assessment.
- 8 Provide Assessment Results and Certificate of Standard Conformance**  
The auditor will share the results to BC Client within 4 weeks of the last day of the assessment. If the results are favorable, a Certificate of Standard Conformance will be shared to the client within 3 days.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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