



**Materials
Matter™**

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MATERIALS MATTER
STANDARD



MATERIALS MATTER SCOPE AND ELIGIBILITY POLICY

Document information

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A. About the document

TE-MM-POL-101 Materials Matter Scope and Eligibility Policy applies to organizations seeking Materials Matter certification, which includes certification to the *TE-MM-STN-101 Materials Matter Standard* and/or the *CCS-101 Content Claim Standard* (CCS) to track Materials Matter Certified™ materials. This policy defines the eligibility criteria, certification scope, certification options, core responsibilities, as well as other essential information for understanding and effectively implementing the *Materials Matter Standard* system.

About Materials Matter

Materials Matter is a standards system owned by the global non-profit Textile Exchange. It sets out to incentivize a world in which the materials in our clothing and textiles are produced in a way that respects climate, nature, people, and animals.

For over a decade, Textile Exchange's system of material-specific standards has guided the fashion, textile, and apparel industry toward more sustainable production. Materials Matter unifies and simplifies this approach, building on the strengths of what came before while offering a more streamlined pathway forward.

At the heart of this global certification system, the *Materials Matter Standard* represents a significant evolution of Textile Exchange's standards system. It sets detailed requirements for the production and primary processing of raw materials—from how land, water, and energy are used, to how working conditions, animal welfare, emissions, chemicals, and waste are managed. Its purpose is to provide a common language and shared direction for the industry, while recognizing the unique contexts of different material producers, processors, and the communities and landscapes they depend on.

By focusing on the earliest stages of the supply chain, the standard helps clarify both the risks and opportunities related to raw material production. Combining practice-based and outcome-based criteria, it recognizes the work of participating organizations that meet its requirements and ensures fairness and consistency between them. Certification also provides brands and retailers with an accessible and transparent framework for substantiating claims about their materials.

In the long term, the *Materials Matter Standard* is designed as a practical tool for producers and primary processors, helping them to better understand how their activities affect people and ecosystems, take action to manage and mitigate risks, and identify opportunities to deliver beneficial outcomes. Through partnering with programs that share our vision for climate, nature, people, and animals, we aim to accelerate measurable progress across the industry, while reducing duplication and easing the burden on suppliers.

Beyond certification, optional recommended practices and leadership criteria invite participating organizations to raise the bar further through actions such as outcome measurement, renewable energy use, and textile-to-textile recycling.

About Textile Exchange

Textile Exchange is a global non-profit with the mission to transform how we produce, choose, and reuse materials to benefit the people and places at the source.

Our vision is a world where materials have lasting value, leading to thriving communities and landscapes. To get there, we are keeping our focus holistic and interconnected, addressing not only greenhouse gas emissions but also the health of our freshwater, soil, and biodiversity, while respecting human rights and animal welfare.

For more than 20 years, our internationally recognized fiber and raw material production standards have built integrity and accountability across the industry. We are committed to continuously improving our standards system and ensuring its alignment with the ISEAL Code of Good Practice for Sustainability Systems. This globally recognized framework defines practices for effective and credible sustainability systems, and the ISEAL Code underpins much of our work—from governance and strategy to engagement, assurance, and claims. This makes sure that our standards system provides value, rigor, accessibility, and transparency.

All of our standards are implemented and verified by independent third parties, which means that certified organizations are regularly assessed to ensure they consistently demonstrate and maintain the relevant requirements. This impartial certification process ensures fairness, consistency, and trust.

A1. Implementation

The following implementation timelines apply:

A1.1.1 *TE-MM-POL-101-V1.0 Materials Matter Scope and Eligibility Policy* is effective **December 31, 2026** and may be used as of that date.

NOTE:

1) Information regarding the transition period from applicable existing standard systems (*RAF-101a Responsible Wool Standard, RAF-101b Responsible Mohair Standard, RAF-101c Responsible Alpaca Standard, GRS-101 Global Recycled Standard* and *RCS-101 Recycled Claim Standard*) to the *Materials Matter Standard* system is available in *TE-MM-STN-102 Materials Matter Transition Policy*.

A1.1.2 All *Materials Matter Standard* and *Content Claim Standard* audits and assessments shall be conducted using *TE-MM-POL-101-V1.0 Materials Matter Scope and Eligibility Policy* as of **December 31, 2026**.

A1.1.3 *TE-MM-POL-101-V1.0 Materials Matter Scope and Eligibility Policy* supersedes *ASR-225-V2.0 Certification Eligibility Policy*.

A2. Document references

Textile Exchange provides additional policies, guidance documents, and templates to support the implementation of this document. All documents relevant to the standards system are available at the [Textile Exchange Knowledge Center](#). The latest version (or code) of referenced documents, including any amendments (for example, calibrations), applies.

The following documents are integral to understanding and implementing this document. This list is for reference only and is a non-exhaustive list:

A2.1.1 *TE-MM-STN-101 Materials Matter Standard* (TE-MM-STN-101)

A2.1.2 *CCS-101 Content Claim Standard* (CCS)

A2.1.3 *TE-MM-POL-301 Materials Matter Claims and Labeling Policy* (TE-MM-POL-301)

A2.1.4 *TE-TXL-POL-201 General Criteria for Certification Bodies* (TE-TXL-POL-201)

A2.1.5 *TE-MM-POL-201 Materials Matter Criteria for Certification Bodies* (TE-MM-POL-201)

A2.1.6 *TE-TXL-POL-203 Policy for Scope and Transaction Certificates* (TE-TXL-POL-203)

A2.1.7 *TE-TXL-LOG-225 Banned Entities Log* (TE-TXL-LOG-225)

A3. Document definitions

Refer to the [Textile Exchange Glossary](#) for definitions of terms used in this document.

NOTE: *TE-101 Terms and Definitions for Textile Exchange Standards and Related Documents* will not be updated going forward and will become obsolete (that is, retired) alongside the mandatory implementation date of the *Materials Matter Standard*. The Textile Exchange Glossary takes precedence in case of any contradiction or omission.

Throughout this policy, we refer to the supply chain tier definitions as outlined in [Supply Chain Taxonomy for the textile, apparel, and fashion industry](#).

A4. Document interpretation and feedback

Points of clarification may be incorporated into supplementary and guidance documents prior to the next revision of this document, where applicable. More substantive feedback or suggested changes will be collected and assessed as part of the next review (and if applicable, revision) of this document.

Any uncertainty regarding the correct interpretation of a criterion should be resolved by the “**Notes**” and “**Examples**” sections, where possible. You may submit feedback to Textile Exchange’s standards system at any time via [this form](#) or by sending an email to standards@textileexchange.org.

B. How to understand the document

B1. Terminology

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- B1.1.1** In this policy, the following terms are used to indicate requirements, recommendations, permissions, and possibilities or capabilities:
- a. “Shall” indicates a requirement.
 - b. “Should” indicates a recommendation (non-binding).
 - c. “May” indicates a permission (non-binding). And
 - d. “Can” indicates a possibility or a capability.
-

Section 1: Eligibility for the Materials Matter System

Materials Matter is a standards system that includes *TE-MM-STN-101 Materials Matter Standard*, *CCS-101 Content Claim Standard*, and all related policies, procedures, and guidance (for example, the assurance framework, the certified supply chain tracking platform, and claims and labeling).

This section defines eligibility based on the intended Materials Matter certification scope.

1.1. Eligibility for Materials Matter animal materials

- 1.1.1** The animal material inputs eligible for Materials Matter certification are:
- a. Alpaca;
 - b. Mohair;
 - c. Wool;
 - d. By-products of the processing of alpaca, mohair, and wool (see note 1); and
 - e. Hide/raw hide (see note 2)
-

NOTES:

- 1) See 1.1.4.
 - 2) Hide/raw hide is only eligible for certification when it originates from species on farms that produce fiber from those species in accordance with *TT-MM-STN-101 Materials Matter Standard*. See Section 3.2 *Materials Matter Standard* certification.
-

- 1.1.2** All supply chain sites of alpaca, mohair, and wool are eligible for certification under the *Materials Matter Standard* system. The raw material production and primary processing of alpaca, mohair, and wool are included in the scope of *TT-MM-STN-101 Materials Matter Standard*, while downstream material processing and product assembly (Tiers 0–3) are included in the scope of the *CCS-101 Content Claim Standard* (1).
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NOTES:

- 1) Additional criteria apply to primary processors. See Section 3.
-

- 1.1.3** In the *Materials Matter Standard*, primary processing for animal materials includes all pre-spinning processes. Where applicable, this includes—but is not limited to—all steps between sorting and grading and combed-top or carded-sliver output. For example, scouring, carbonizing, drying, carding, combing, and top making.
-

NOTES:

- 1) Textile Exchange’s standardized classification of raw materials, process categories, and product details is available in *ASR-213 Materials, Processes, & Products Classification*.
 - 2) All the processes mentioned are covered under the scope of primary processing, irrespective of their geographic location, whether carried out at a single site or across multiple locations.
-

- 1.1.4** By-products of alpaca processing (for example, grease), mohair processing (for example, mohair grease), and wool processing (for example, lanolin or wool grease), are eligible materials when 100% of the by-products of the respective fiber processing come from Materials Matter Certified origin.
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- 1.1.5** Recycled alpaca, mohair, and wool are eligible for certification under the scope of recycled materials (see Section 1.2).
-

1.2. Eligibility for Materials Matter recycled materials

1.2.1 The recycled material inputs eligible for Materials Matter certification are:

- a. Plant fibers;
 - b. Animal fibers (see note 1);
 - c. Down;
 - d. Synthetic materials (synthetic fibers);
 - e. Man-made cellulosic fibers (MMCF) (see note 2); and
 - f. Non-textile inputs (see note 3).
-

NOTES:

- 1) Mixing Materials Matter Certified animal fibers with Materials Matter Certified recycled animal fibers of the same type is possible for making final product claims. See *TE-MM-POL-301 Materials Matter Claims and Labeling Policy*.
 - 2) Reclaimed textiles and other reclaimed cellulose-based products recycled into textiles.
 - 3) Eligibility requirements for non-textile inputs and outputs will be published in a subsequent version of this policy.
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1.2.2 Organizations involved in material recycling shall be certified to the *Materials Matter Standard* and the CCS.

NOTES:

- 1) The *Materials Matter Standard* applies to the primary processing of certified recycled materials. See 1.2.3.
 - 2) Additional criteria apply to primary processors. See Section 3.
 - 3) Reclaimed material collectors and concentrators do not require Materials Matter certification. However, they may opt to obtain it (see Section 3.4).
-

1.2.3 *Materials Matter Standard* primary processing for recycled materials includes all processing steps that transform reclaimed feedstock into a recycled intermediate or output material and that are not part of conventional industrial processes used to manufacture conventional (virgin) products.

In vertically integrated facilities, recycled materials may enter a continuous production line where no clear handover point exists between recycling activities and conventional manufacturing processes. In such cases, all processing steps shall be considered primary processing until the end of the continuous process in which the recycled material is converted into a recycled output.

Therefore, primary processing for recycled materials includes, but is not limited to, the following processes and steps:

- a. **Mechanical recycling:** all steps between reclaimed feedstock (for example, textiles) and recycled output (staple fibers); for example, collection and concentration, shredding/opening/garneting (1).
 - b. **Thermo-mechanical recycling:** all steps between reclaimed feedstock (for example, PET bottles) and recycled output—chips (pellets), staple fiber, and filament (for example, draw textured yarn [DTY], fully drawn yarn [FDY], and partially oriented yarn [POY]) of polyester). Examples of steps include collection and concentration, washing, popcorn-making and/or flaking, melting, filtration, (melt/dry/wet) extrusion, and draw twist/crimping/texturizing (1) (2).
 - c. **Chemical recycling:**
 - i. **Dissolution:** all steps between reclaimed feedstock (for example, cotton linter/gin notes) and recycled output— pulp, staple fiber, filament (for example, DTY, FDY, POY) of MMCFs (for example, lyocell and rayon). Examples of steps include collection and concentration, pre-treatment, chemical use, (melt/dry/wet) extrusion, and draw twist/crimping/texturizing (1) (2).
 - ii. **Solvent-based purification/solvent-based separation:** all steps between reclaimed feedstock (for example, textile) and recycled output—polymers (polyester), staple fiber, filament (for example, DTY, FDY, POY). Examples of steps include collection and concentration, pre-treatment, solvent-based purification/separation, polymer recovery (via
-

distillation/evaporation), followed by (melt/dry/wet) extrusion, and draw twist/crimping/texturizing (1) (2). And

- iii. **Chemical depolymerization:** all steps between reclaimed feedstock (for example, textile) and recycled output—monomers (BHET), polymers (PET), chips, staple fiber, filament (for example, DTY, FDY, POY) of polyester. Examples of steps include collection and concentration, pre-treatment, solvolysis, repolymerization, (melt/dry/wet) extrusion, and draw twist/crimping/texturizing (1) (2).
- d. **Thermo-chemical recycling or thermal depolymerization:** all steps between reclaimed feedstock (for example, mixed plastic) and recycled output—syngas (primarily hydrogen and carbon monoxide) or fuel (pyrolysis oil), monomers (TPA/EG), polymers (PET), chips, staple fiber, filament (for example, DTY, FDY, POY) of polyester. Examples of steps include collection and concentration, cracking thermal depolymerization, breaking down into pyrolysis oil or syngas (primarily hydrogen and carbon monoxide); or other controlled thermal depolymerization processes that break materials down into monomers, followed by polymerization, (melt/dry/wet) extrusion, and draw twist/crimping/texturizing (1) (2) (3). And
- e. **Biological recycling:** all steps between reclaimed biodegradable plastic waste and recycled outputs—monomers, polymers (polyester), chips, staple fiber, filament (for example, DTY, FDY, POY). Examples of steps include collection and concentration, biodegradation, and organic recycling use microorganisms in a controlled environment to break down biodegradable plastic waste into monomers, followed by polymerization, (melt/dry/wet) extrusion, and draw twist/crimping/texturizing (1) (2).

NOTES:

- 1) Voluntary certification of collection and concentration applies. Collection and concentration covers: collection, sorting/concentration, shredding, and baling.
 - 2) All processes outlined are covered under the scope of primary processing irrespective of their geographic location, whether carried out at a single site, multiple sites, or across separate facilities.
 - 3) In the case of cracking thermal depolymerization, the molecules produced are like petroleum fractions, although the process can potentially produce synthetic polymers that replace virgin polymers.
 - 4) Textile Exchange’s standardized classification of raw materials, process categories, and product details is available in *ASR-213 Materials, Processes, & Products Classification*.
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1.3. Eligibility for the *Content Claim Standard*

The *CCS-101 Content Claim Standard (CCS)* forms the chain of custody requirements for the Materials Matter system. The goal of the CCS is to ensure the accuracy of content claims, which is accomplished by maintaining a system of documentation and monitoring throughout the supply chain.

1.3.1 Certification under the CCS applies to all supply chain sites that own or take physical possession of the certified material up to and including the brand of the final product. For more information, refer to the CCS.

1.3.2 The *TE-TXL-POL-204 Standard Specific Details for Scope and Transaction Certificates* lists the eligible standards that may be used for the CCS.

1.4. Materials, processes, and products classification

1.4.1 Textile Exchange has a standardized classification system of raw materials, process categories, product categories, and product details for its standards, including the *Materials Matter Standard* system in *ASR-213 Materials, Processes, & Products Classification*.

1.5. Geographic scope

- 1.5.1** The *Materials Matter Standard* system is designed for global application. It incorporates flexibility to accommodate regional variations and specific local requirements without compromising the integrity of its global standards.
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1.6. Eligibility restrictions and bans

- 1.6.1** Entities listed in the *TE-TXL-LOG-225 Banned Entities Log* have been banned from becoming or remaining certified to Textile Exchange standards or from becoming or remaining authorized to provide services for Textile Exchange standards. Bans are imposed on entities based on a recommendation from an authorized accreditation body or an accredited certification body, when there is a gross violation of standards system requirements, such as fraudulent activity, falsified data, human rights violations, or other severe breaches, or by unauthorized entities.
- Bans may also be imposed as a resolution to a complaint (see *ASR-110 Complaints and Feedback Policy*) or at Textile Exchange’s own discretion to protect the integrity of the Textile Exchange Standard(s) system.

NOTE:

- 1) Questions about TE-TXL-LOG-225 may be sent to assurance@textileexchange.org.
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- 1.6.2** Any entity restricted under any of the laws of the United States, or any products made in whole or in part by entities that are restricted by the United States, or any products that are restricted from entry based on the laws of the United States, shall not be certified to Textile Exchange standards. This includes, but is not limited to, [U.S. Department of Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control \(OFAC\)](#) regulations and [U.S. Customs and Border Protection \(CBP\)](#) restrictions. Authorized certification bodies may carry out audits in any country within their accredited scope that is not subject to sanctions from the United States government, as indicated in the Office of Foreign Assets Control.
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- 1.6.3** Any entity named in *TE-TXL-LOG-225 Banned Entities Log* with an active ban shall not:
- Be certified or listed as a site or subcontractor on a scope certificate for any Textile Exchange standard;
 - Act as or on behalf of any Textile Exchange certification body (for example, as a subcontractor);
 - Use Textile Exchange trademarks and make any claims regarding any Textile Exchange standard, including claims of being able to offer certification services or certified product; or
 - Be eligible for Textile Exchange membership. For active members, membership benefits shall be revoked when the ban is enacted.

EXAMPLE:

- 1) Bans imposed by other certification schemes, such as the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) would pose risks to the integrity of the Organic Content Standard (OCS) as GOTS certified materials are permitted to be used as inputs into the OCS and, therefore, may result in a similar ban from certification to all Textile Exchange standards.

NOTE:

- 1) For the avoidance of doubt, if an entity is named in *TE-TXL-LOG-225 Banned Entities Log*, it is not eligible for certification to Textile Exchange standards or authorization to provide accreditation or certification services to any Textile Exchange standard while the entity’s ban is active. An entity includes but is not limited to: accreditation bodies, certification bodies, consultants, farms, producers, traders, brands, retailers, and distributors.
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Section 2: Materials Matter system certification options

Organizations may become certified under one of the certificate options described in this section, summarized in the following table:

Certificate type		Applicability			
		Animal materials		Recycled materials	
		<i>Materials Matter Standard</i>	<i>Content Claim Standard</i>	<i>Materials Matter Standard</i>	<i>Content Claim Standard</i>
Individual		Applicable	Applicable	Applicable	Applicable
Group	Farm group	Applicable (including small-scale farmer group)	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Supply chain group	N/A	Applicable, with conditions. See Section 2.3 below.	N/A	N/A
Multi-site		Applicable, with conditions. See Section 2.3 below.	Applicable, with conditions. See Section 2.3 below.	N/A	Applicable, with conditions. See Section 2.3 below.

2.1. Individual certification

2.1.1 Individual certification applies to organizations (farms and supply chain sites) wishing to become certified independently.
 In case of animal materials, farms may also be certified independently when the qualifications for farm group certification are not met.

2.1.2 Individual animal fiber farm certification to the *Materials Matter Standard* shall be issued to only one farm and shall not extend to additional farms.

NOTE:

1) Where this condition is not fully met, the farms shall be certified under group certification options, as applicable.

2.1.3 An animal fiber farm may be part of one individual farm scope certificate, one small-scale farmer group, or up to two farm groups. If the farm is part of two different farm groups, the farm shall not be listed as the main site for either one.

2.2. Farm group certification

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- 2.2.1** For animal materials, *Materials Matter Standard* farm group certification applies to farm groups with a defined group management system in place for the group. The small-scale farmer group certification option is a subset of farm group certification.

NOTE:

- 1) The Glossary: Textile Exchange provides definitions relative to farm group certification (for example, farm group, small-scale farmer group, small farm, medium farm, large farm, and group member). Principle 7 Group Certification of the *Materials Matter Standard* applies to organizations that implement a group certification model.

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- 2.2.2** A farm group shall consist of a minimum of two member farms.
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Small-scale farmer group certification

- 2.2.3** For animal materials, small-scale farmer group certification is for those farmers who face significant constraints as described in criterion 7.1.3 of the *Materials Matter Standard* and, as such, cannot meet certification requirements in the same manner as individual farmers or members of farm groups that do not face such constraints. To be eligible under this certification option, all farms of the group shall meet the specific qualification criteria defined in the *Materials Matter Standard* criterion 7.1.3.

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- 2.2.4** A farm, farmer, or herder may be part of only one small-scale farmer group, and shall not be part of any other scope certificates. Where a small-scale farmer group includes multiple animal material species, the farm, farmer, or herder may be covered for more than one animal material type under the same group and scope certificate, but shall not be covered for the same animal material under any other group or scope certificate.
-

2.3. Supply chain multi-site and group certification

- 2.3.1** For the *Materials Matter Standard*, a primary processor may include multiple sites in the scope of a scope certificate, provided that one of the following options applies:
- All sites are under common ownership with the organization (multi-site certification);
 - The organization is managing a supply chain group certification, in which case *CCS-106 Policy for Supply Chain Group Certification* shall apply; or
 - The scope certificate has a primary scope, and the primary standard allows for sites without common ownership (e.g. farm groups).
 - An individual site shall not be part of more than one scope certificate for the *Materials Matter Standard*.

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- 2.3.2** For the *Content Claim Standard* (CCS), an organization may include multiple sites in the scope of a scope certificate. For more information, refer to CCS Section F.
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Section 3: Materials Matter scope

This section describes the conditions for establishing certification and audit scopes under the *Materials Matter Standard* (and the *Content Claim Standard* (CCS), where applicable).

The *Materials Matter Standard* provides an overview of the general, applicable criteria for organizations in sections B2 and B6. Additional criteria for specific contexts are provided in the following sections.

3.1. *Materials Matter Standard* certification: General criteria

The criteria in this section are applicable to all *Materials Matter Standard* certified organizations and are therefore noted as “general.”

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- 3.1.1** In the *Materials Matter Standard*, the organization is the legal entity that holds certification and is responsible for demonstrating conformance with all applicable Textile Exchange certification requirements. Organization refers to:
- a. The farm that is certified individually;
 - b. The farm group (including its group members as well as small-scale farmer groups); or
 - c. The main or only primary processing facility for certification.

NOTES:

- 1) Refer to the [Textile Exchange Glossary](#) for definitions.
- 2) In farm group certification, the responsibility for demonstrating conformance with all *Materials Matter Standard* applicable criteria extends to the group manager and the group members. See *Materials Matter Standard* Section B3.

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- 3.1.2** The *Materials Matter Standard* certification scope covers the entire management unit of the certified organization, including all activities, farm and group infrastructure, land, workers, and certified/noncertified materials within the legal entity, where applicable and except as otherwise specified. Additionally, the following scope elements apply based on the material pathway of the certified organization:
- a. Primary processors: the scope additionally covers all vertically integrated upstream processing stages (Tiers 0–3) where the certified organization controls or operates beyond Tier 4. Accordingly, the organization shall meet the criteria specified in Section 3.2; and
 - b. Animal fiber farms and slaughterhouses: the scope additionally covers all land and animal species present on the farm and accordingly, shall meet the criteria specified in Section 3.3.

3.2. Primary processors

Please refer to the *Materials Matter Standard* requirements in sections B2 and B6 applicable to primary processors (of animal materials and recycled materials).

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- 3.2.1** In addition to the applicable *Materials Matter Standard* criteria and conditions as presented in sections B2 and B6 of the standard, to become certified, a primary processor shall conform to the CCS except for the following criteria:
- a. Section C: C1.1, C1.4, and C.1.6; and
 - b. Section E: all criteria.
-

- 3.2.2** *Materials Matter Standard* certification of vertically integrated primary processing facilities shall include within the certification scope all processing stages and workers (1). Accordingly, the following conditions shall be met:
- a. Vertically integrated primary processing facilities that hold the scope certificate shall sign the TE-MM-TEM-120-V1.0 Materials Matter Commitment Statement; and
 - b. The management system of vertically integrated primary processing facilities shall be established and implemented for the whole organization (2).

 NOTES:

- 1) Vertically integrated primary processing facilities are those that perform processing steps in Tiers 0–3, beyond primary processing as defined in Section 1 of this document for the respective material.
- 2) The management system includes, at minimum, the policies, procedures, assigned responsibilities, training, monitoring, and other elements.
- 3) Certification and audit scope is centered on primary processing activities as defined in Section 1, Textile Exchange shall define additional auditing procedures for vertically integrated primary processors covering Tiers 0–3. Certification bodies shall follow these procedures, which may include management system review, facility inspection, and limited sampling and interviews.

- 3.2.3** Vertically integrated primary processing facilities may choose to obtain full product certification to the *Materials Matter Standard* for all material processing stages conducted on site. By doing so, the organization shall be subject to the same certification and audit requirements applicable to primary processing for the subsequent processing stages.

3.3. Animal fiber farms and slaughterhouses

Please refer to the *Materials Matter Standard* requirements in sections B2 and B6 applicable to animal materials. Additional criteria are presented below.

- 3.3.1** The certification scope of the *Materials Matter Standard* for mohair, alpaca, wool, and hide/raw hide covers all activities, land, animal species, workers, and certified and noncertified materials within the farm and the group (where applicable), with primary focus on activities directly connected to the certified materials within the scope certificate (1). Accordingly, the following conditions shall be met:
- a. The organization that holds the scope certificate shall sign the TE-MM-TEM-120-V1.0 Materials Matter Commitment Statement; and
 - b. The management system shall be established and implemented for the whole organization (2).

 NOTES:

- 1) Other activities not directly connected to the certified materials may include, but are not limited to, other species, crops, operations, and/or workers.
- 2) The management system includes, at minimum, the policies, procedures, assigned responsibilities, training, monitoring, and other elements.
- 3) Certification and audit scope is centered on the certified materials within the scope certificate as defined in Section 1. Textile Exchange shall define additional auditing procedures covering activities, workers, and land not directly connected to the materials in scope. Certification bodies shall follow these procedures, which may include management system review, inspection of the entire farm and/or facility, and limited sampling and interviews.

3.4. Voluntary certification of suppliers of reclaimed materials

Material collectors and concentrators

- 3.4.1** A collector or concentrator may opt for *Materials Matter Standard* certification. Under this voluntary certification, the collector or concentrator shall conform with the applicable *Materials Matter Standard* criteria in Principle 1 – Organizational Management, Principle 2 – Human Rights and Livelihoods, and

Principle 6 – Chain of Custody, as well as the CCS, except Section E – Brand Criteria, whereby the “Claimed Material” is replaced with “*Materials Matter Standard Reclaimed Material*”.

- 3.4.2** Where collectors and/or concentrators are not certified, they shall be eligible for reclaimed material supplier verification conducted by the certification body, which may include on-site visits.

NOTE:

- 1) On-site visits may occur at any time during the year. Please refer to *TE-MM-POL-201 Materials Matter Criteria for Certification Bodies*.
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- 3.4.3** When a collector or concentrator is certified to the *Materials Matter Standard*, the Reclaimed Material Supplier Agreement with their suppliers and the Reclaimed Material Declaration Form are required to be filled in and submitted to the certification body by the certified collector or concentrator as the first certified entity in the recycled supply chain. Issuing transaction certificates from collector and concentrator sites would then be required for the sale of certified reclaimed material. A Reclaimed Material Supplier Agreement between the supplier and the first certified entity is exempt if the suppliers of reclaimed material are government entities (for example, municipalities) or operate solely through donations.
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3.5. Other facilities

- 3.5.1** Where certified organizations own or subcontract storage facilities and implement Principle 6 of the *Materials Matter Standard* rather than the full CCS, those facilities shall be included in the scope certificate and shall be audited by the certification body in accordance with sections 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 of this policy and the *TE-MM-POL-201 Materials Matter Criteria for Certification Bodies*.

EXAMPLES:

- 1) Certified organizations within the group certification option shall include their storage facilities at the group level.
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3.6. Subcontractors

Subcontracting criteria are covered in the *Materials Matter Standard* Principle 6 and the CCS Section C5 Outsourcing. If the organization outsources services to a subcontractor, the organization is considered a contracting organization. The certified organization retains responsibility for material handling when such material is handled by a subcontractor without taking legal ownership of the certified material.

- 3.6.1** A facility may appear on any number of scope certificates as a subcontractor. If the facility is independently certified to the same standard, it shall be listed as an independently certified subcontractor.

- 3.6.2** Primary processors are not eligible to operate as a subcontractor within the Materials Matter system, unless the site is an independently certified subcontractor.
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3.7. Scope certificates and transaction certificates

The detailed criteria and guidance for the issuance of scope and transaction certificates is available in the *TE-TXL-POL-203 Policy for Scope and Transaction Certificates*.

Section 4: Responsibilities of organizations pursuing and maintaining certification

4.1. Compliance with applicable laws

4.1.1 All organizations participating in Materials Matter certification shall comply with applicable laws and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions, and agreements.

4.1.2 Conformance with this standard does not guarantee compliance with applicable laws. The standard criteria may be more or less strict, or equivalent to applicable laws. If a law, nationally ratified international treaty, convention, or agreement, is stricter than the requirements of the Textile Exchange certification program or vice versa, the strictest rule always prevails unless it would result in a conflict. If there is any conflict between the requirements of this document and other documents or with an applicable law, the certification body shall contact Textile Exchange to consider the implications for the standard system.

If any violation of applicable laws or nationally ratified international treaties, conventions, and agreements is brought to the knowledge of certification bodies, they have the authority to withdraw certification, and Textile Exchange has the authority to ban such organizations from future certification.

4.2. Obligations to Textile Exchange policies

4.2.1 Organizations participating in Materials Matter certification shall conform with applicable Textile Exchange policies.

4.3. Access to sites, people, and information

4.3.1 The organization shall provide the certification body with full access to all sites, people, and information as required in the *Materials Matter Standard* and/or the *Content Claim Standard (CCS)* as applicable. In addition, it shall provide full access to the accreditation body and Textile Exchange personnel in connection with auditing or other activities (for example, investigations).

4.3.2 Farms shall inform certification bodies of any biosecurity measures prior to the audit.

4.3.3 The organization shall appoint a management representative with authority and responsibility for overall conformity with Materials Matter certification. Consultants shall not be considered management representatives and may not assume this role.

4.3.4 The organization shall ensure that the appointed management representative responsible for overall conformity with Materials Matter certification is fully aligned with, and able to demonstrate, the organization's accurate and truthful records and practices. Records shall provide a true, complete, and verifiable representation of the operations of the organization. Falsification, intentional misrepresentation, or creation of misleading records and contact information provided to and stored in Textile Exchange's system shall result in a major nonconformity and the organization may be banned in accordance with Section 1.6 of this policy.

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- 4.3.5** The organization shall ensure that all communications with the certification body and Textile Exchange are conducted directly by the organization and not through consultants, including but not limited to communications related to audit planning and scheduling.
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4.4. Public information

- 4.4.1** Each facility (main site, subsequent site, or subcontractor) listed on a scope certificate and each buyer or seller on a transaction certificate shall be assigned a unique identifier by Textile Exchange, known as the Textile Exchange-ID or TE-ID, prior to being listed on a valid certificate. The TE-ID shall be treated as public information and made publicly available on the Textile Exchange website.
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- 4.4.2** All information that appears on the scope certificate shall be provided to Textile Exchange. This will be considered to be public information, with the following exceptions:
- a. Names and addresses of farms, provided that the farm is not the certified organization; and
 - b. Identities of the certified organization's subcontractors.
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NOTES:

- 1) Textile Exchange may share scope certificate information with other certification bodies, who will treat confidential information as such where specified.
 - 2) Scope certificate data is publicly available for all entities, including suspended, expired, and withdrawn status.
 - 3) Subcontractors may be publicly listed, but not in association with the certified organization(s) they subcontract for.
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- 4.4.3** All information that appears on the transaction certificate shall be provided to Textile Exchange. The following information may be shared publicly based on transaction certificates and eTransactions related to products sold by an organization:
- a. For each specific transaction certificate:
 - i. Transaction certificate number;
 - ii. Issuing certification body;
 - iii. Date of issue;
 - iv. Date updated;
 - v. Status (for example, valid, amended, invalidated); and
 - vi. Standard(s). And
 - b. Product information in aggregate for all transaction certificates issued to a specific seller, associated with that seller's identity. Product information is as follows:
 - i. Product category;
 - ii. Product detail;
 - iii. Material composition, including percentages;
 - iv. Any user-specific terms; and
 - v. Calendar year of sale.
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NOTE:

- 1) This does not include sharing information identifying weights, buyers, or the number of transactions.
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- 4.4.4** In accordance with the *TE-TXL-POL-206 Complaints Policy*, on a regular basis, Textile Exchange publishes the *ASR-229 Standards System Complaints Report*, which contains a summary of all concluded complaints, and resulting actions, ensuring confidentiality of complainants or aggrieved parties, where requested or prudent.
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4.5. Responsibility for conformity

- 4.5.1** The organization is subject to nonconformities issued by the certification body where it fails to meet the criteria of the *TE-MM-POL-101 Materials Matter Scope and Eligibility Policy* or other certification requirements.
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NOTES:

- 1) Full criteria for issuing nonconformities are found in the *TE-TXL-POL-201 General Criteria for Certification Bodies*.
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- 4.5.2** The organization is responsible for establishing and implementing corrective actions to address nonconformities identified in Materials Matter system audits. In doing so, the organization shall:
- a. Identify and document nonconformities;
 - b. Determine the root cause(s) of nonconformities;
 - c. Correct the identified issues;
 - d. Assess whether additional actions are needed to prevent recurrence;
 - e. Implement necessary actions in a timely manner;
 - f. Retain records of actions taken; and
 - g. Evaluate whether the corrective actions have achieved the intended outcome.
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- 4.5.3** Corrective actions shall be proportionate to the nature, significance, and potential impact of the nonconformities.
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- 4.5.4** For animal material scope, member farms of group certification shall disclose to the certified group if they are members of another certified group. In turn and as applicable, the certified group shall disclose to other certified groups and the certification body any farms that are part of another certified group or are certified by another certification body, including the applicable certification status and scope. The organization shall ensure that relevant certification information may be shared between certification bodies and Textile Exchange to verify eligibility and prevent conflicting certification decisions.
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Section 5: Minimum certification threshold in the Materials Matter system

5.1. Minimum certification thresholds

- 5.1.1** For all Materials Matter system materials, a minimum certification threshold of 5% certified content is required for a product or component to be included on a transaction certificate.
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5.2. Minimum certified weight

- 5.2.1** The minimum certified weight to be registered per product listed on a transaction certificate is 0.01 kg.
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Section 6: Claims and labeling

TE-MM-POL-301 Materials Matter Claims and Labeling Policy provides the criteria and guidance for entities looking to communicate about Materials Matter certification and/or Materials Matter Certified™ products, which includes claims about certification to the *Materials Matter Standard* and/or the CCS to track Materials Matter Certified materials. Product claims may be made in the form of an unfinished product claim (in business-to-business contexts, B2B) or final product claim (in business-to-consumer contexts, B2C).

Section 7: Chain of custody and tracking systems

Chain of custody describes the means by which inputs, outputs, and associated attributes are transferred, monitored, and controlled as they move forward through each step in the supply chain. There are various chain of custody models that vary in their functions and focus. Depending on its model, claims can be made on a product.

In the context of Textile Exchange's Trackit platform, Trackit enables the tracking and verification of the history and location of a material's movement through defined stages of production, processing, and distribution (Textile Exchange Glossary & ISEAL Chain of Custody Models and Definitions v2 2025).

Together, chain of custody and the certified supply chain tracking platform enable transparency, enhance credibility and operational efficiency, and support the prevention of volume fraud and volume mismatches throughout the supply chain.

7.1. Trackit

Trackit™ is a certified supply chain tracking platform developed to support Textile Exchange standards. It utilizes chain of custody certification through the CCS to track third-party certified materials across the supply chain. Trackit currently digitizes scope certificates and transaction certificates to enable digital tracking of transaction certificates. Textile Exchange plans to improve Trackit to enable near real-time, online tracking of certified materials.

Scope certificates and transaction certificates issued by certification bodies are sent to the Trackit as the centralized single source of truth. Trackit allows companies certified to Textile Exchange standards as well as certification bodies to access their scope certificates and transaction certificates in one central place for a single source of validation, authentication, and reconciliation with minimal disruption to the existing certification process. The objectives of Trackit are to:

- Centralize scope and transaction certification data from different certification bodies to create a single source of truth;
- Provide accurate, up-to-date, and more easily searchable public data on certified organizations and their product offerings;
- Allow certified organizations and certification bodies to view the balance of available certified volumes in inventory;
- Provide a single source of transactions for verification, volume reconciliation, and authentication; and
- Improve Textile Exchange's ability to monitor, evaluate, and continuously improve the impact of Textile Exchange standards.

Future Trackit improvements may allow the certified organization to enter their scope certificate and transaction certificate information directly into Trackit for certification body verification.

Trackit is built on the use of the Textile Exchange-ID (TE-ID). TE-ID is a unique identifier assigned to each facility within Textile Exchange's database. The TE-ID remains constant even if a facility changes certification bodies, ensuring continuity across the supply chain. Importantly, the TE-ID itself does not indicate certification status; certification is only confirmed through a valid scope certificate.

Trackit serves as the single, centralized platform for authenticating both scope certificates and transaction certificates. It provides brands certified to Textile Exchange standards with streamlined access to their certification and certified supply chain data—eliminating the need to collect documents manually from suppliers. Designed to enhance the overall integrity of the certification process, Trackit aims to help certified organizations track the volume of their supply chain fibers and materials certified to Textile Exchange standards with minimal disruption to their existing workflows.

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- 7.1.1** All organizations participating in Materials Matter certification shall provide the data necessary to meet certification recording requirements and to evaluate the effectiveness of the Materials Matter system. The information shall be recorded and maintained in Trackit.

EXAMPLES:

- 1) Examples of data may include, but are not limited to: TE-ID, scope certificate data, audit data such as audit dates, sites audited, nonconformity data, geospatial data, other monitoring, evaluation and learning data, material ledger data.

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- 7.1.2** The organization ensures that up-to-date data for all farms and/or sites within the scope certificate are recorded in Trackit at all times and shall notify the certification body of any changes.
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7.2. Textile Exchange-ID (TE-ID)

- 7.2.1** Each facility (main site, subsequent site, or subcontractor) listed on a scope certificate and each buyer or seller on a transaction certificate shall be assigned a TE-ID prior to being listed on a valid certificate.

NOTE:

- 1) An organization can register for a TE-ID at <https://www.textileexchange.org/te-id>. For more information, refer to *TE-TXL-POL-203 Policy for Scope and Transaction Certificates*.
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7.3. Transaction certificates

- 7.3.1** Licensed certification bodies may issue scope and transaction certificates for Textile Exchange standards in accordance with the criteria and guidance in the *TE-TXL-POL-203 Policy for Scope and Transaction Certificates*.
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