



Supply Chain Certification for the Responsible Wool Standard (RWS) + Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS)

The **Responsible Wool Standard** is a voluntary global standard that addresses the welfare of sheep and of the land they graze on.

The **Responsible Mohair Standard** is currently being developed alongside the revision of the Responsible Wool Standard and is due to be released in early 2020.

This document provides an overview of the Responsible Wool Standard supply chain certification. The Responsible Mohair Standard will follow the same approach.

Responsible Wool Standard Certification

The RWS requires all sites to be certified, beginning with the wool farmers and through to the seller in the final business to business transaction.

Farms are certified to the Animal Welfare and Land Management Modules of the RWS.

Subsequent stages of the wool supply chain are required to be certified against the requirements of the [Content Claim Standard \(CCS\)](#), up to the seller in the last business-to-business transaction.

The Content Claim Standard

The Content Claim Standard is a chain of custody standard that verifies the amount of a given raw material in a product. It forms the chain of custody requirements for all TE standards.

The aim of chain of custody, is to preserve the identity of the claimed material, and to track its movement through the supply chain up to the final product. This is done through Scope Certificates (SC) and Transaction Certificates (TC).

Facilities are certified to the standard, and each shipment of goods must be accompanied by a transaction certificate.





What do you need to do to comply with the Content Claim Standard?

The Content Claim Standard is based on three principles: Product identification, Product Segregation and Volume Reconciliation.

Product Identification

- Certified products are accurately identified.
- Content percentages of claimed materials are accurate.

Product Segregation

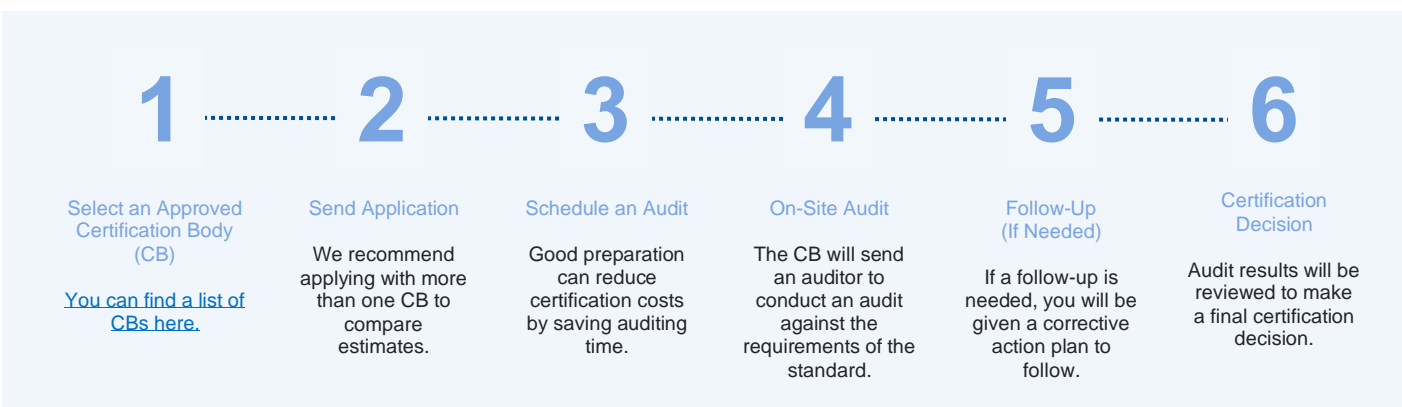
- Certified goods are not mixed with non-certified goods.
- Certified goods are stored separately from non-certified goods.

Volume Reconciliation

- Certified outgoing products match the incoming certified goods.
- $(\text{Input}) \pm (\text{production loss}) = (\text{output})$

Certification to the CCS verifies the Chain of Custody principles are followed in each stage of production.

How to Get Certified



What are Scope Certificates?

After being audited by a Certification Body (and meeting the requirements of the Content Claim Standard) a company is issued with a Scope Certificate (SC). This document verifies that the company is qualified to produce goods to a given standard.

An RWS SC is valid for 14 months and audits are conducted annually.

What are Transaction Certificates?

Transaction Certificates (TCs) are issued by a certification body and verify that the wool being shipped from one company to the next conform to the RWS. TCs are issued each time goods change ownership, and details will match invoices and shipping documents.

TCs are requested from the Certification Body by the selling company. The TC request will include details of the shipment (i.e. shipping documents, invoices and TCs of certified inputs). The Certification Body will ensure that the company has sufficient certified inputs to produce the order on the TC.

What does it cost?

The cost of certification is made up of the Textile Exchange fee (\$250 per certified unit) and the certification body cost. The pricing structure of the different certification bodies varies, and should be available on their website or by request. In addition to the price structure of the certification body, the cost of certification will also be influenced by the location of the site and the complexity of the site operations. As an estimate, an RWS supply chain scope certification for a simple site should cost in the range of \$1,500 to \$3,000 for the initial inspection (excluding travel), while subsequent inspections will be less.

Where can I get help and support?

Supply Chain Certification Toolkit: This toolkit provides information on certification process for the RWS, the chain of custody for the CCS, how to ensure compliance and information on costs.

Visit <http://responsiblewool.org/tools-and-support/for-supply-chains/> for further tools and resources. If you can't find what you need there, please contact responsiblewool@textileexchange.org

