

Textile Exchange Standards Allowed Claims – DRAFT for Stakeholder Input

Introduction

Textile Exchange is currently reviewing the Claims Framework for all of our standards. Under the new Framework, we will merge the Logo Use and Claims Guides from all standards into one, easy to use document. As we develop the new framework, we want to share our progress with you to get your feedback. We are aiming to release the new Framework later this year, and users of the standards will be given a full year to bring their labeling and claims under the new framework.

One key area of the Claims Framework will be the introduction of “allowed claims.” This means that instead of providing guidelines around permitted language, Textile Exchange will provide prescriptive language for you to use to communicate your commitments, progress, and use of Textile Exchange standards. This will create more consistency behind the language, rules that are easier to follow, and less room for interpretation that may put the credibility of the standards or your company at risk.

Because this will impact your communication, we want to hear from you! Please review the language and [tell us what you think in our online survey](#). This language is the current draft and is subject to change before release.

A. Making Commitments to Textile Exchange Standards

The following allowed claims are intended for companies that want to communicate their commitments and goals for the Textile Exchange standards. Any reasonable combination of similar language will be permitted to be used for communication around commitments.

A1. [Claimant] commits to source [x%] of our [material] from [Standard Name] certified sources by [date].

Example: Brand ABC commits to source 100% of our down from RDS certified sources by 2023.

A2. [Claimant] commits to achieve [Standard Name] certification at [x%] of our [production facility type] by [date].

Example: Brand ABC commits to achieve RWS certification at 100% of our wool suppliers by 2025.

- A3. We are committed to sourcing [x%] of our [material] from [Standard Name] certified sources by [date].

Example: We are committed to sourcing 50% of our polyester from GRS certified sources by 2025.

- A4. We are committed to achieving [Standard Name] certification at [x%] of our [production facility type] by [date].

Example: We are committed to achieving OCS certification at 75% of our garment manufacturers by 2025.

B. Communicating Progress towards Commitments

The following allowed claims are intended for companies that want to communicate progress towards their public commitments and goals for the Textile Exchange standards. Use of these types of claims will be subject to disclosure by the company. Any reasonable combination of similar language will be permitted to be used for communication around commitments.

- B1. [Claimant] has achieved [x%] of its goal to source [x%] of our [material] from [Standard Name] certified sources by [date].

Example: Brand ABC has achieved 50% of its goal to source 100% of our down from RDS certified sources by 2025.

- B2. [Claimant] is [verifiable progress indicator] to its goal of sourcing [x%] of our [material] from [Standard Name] certified sources by [date].

Example: Brand ABC is halfway to its goal of sourcing 100% of our wool from RWS certified sources by 2025.

- B3. This year, we have met [verifiable qty/progress] toward our goal of achieving [Standard Name] certification at [x%] of our [production facility type] by [date].

Example: This year, we have met 75% toward our goal of achieving RWS certification at 100% of our wool suppliers by 2025.

C. Communicating about the Standards

The following allowed claims are intended to be used to describe the goals or intent of the standards.

Global Recycled Standard (GRS)

- C1. The GRS verifies recycled content and tracks it from the source to the final product.
- C2. Products certified to the GRS contain verified recycled content and have met social, environmental, and chemical requirements (through the supply chain OR at each stage of the supply chain, from the recycler to the finished product.)
- C.3 The purchase of GRS certified products helps generate demand for recycled content and best practices in the supply chain.

Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)

- C4. The RCS verifies recycled content and tracks it from the source to the final product.
- C5. Products certified to the RCS contain recycled content that has been verified at each stage of the supply chain, from the recycler to the finished product.
- C6. The purchase of RCS certified products helps generate demand for recycled content.

Organic Content Standard (OCS)

- C7. The OCS verifies organically grown content and tracks it from the source to the final product.
- C8. Products certified to the OCS contain organically grown content that has been verified at each stage of the supply chain, from the farm to the finished product.
- C9. The purchase of OCS certified products helps generate demand for organic agriculture.

(Optional to also include: Organic cotton is cotton that is produced and certified to organic agricultural standards. Its production sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people by using natural processes rather than artificial inputs.)

Responsible Down Standard (RDS)

- C10. The RDS verifies responsible down and tracks it from the source to the final product.
- C11. Products certified to the RDS contain down or feathers from farms certified to animal welfare requirements.

- C12. The RDS describes and certifies animal welfare practices in down and feather production from the farm to the final product.
- C13. The RDS requires animal welfare practices at the duck and goose farms in the down and feather supply chain.
- C14. The purchase of RDS certified products helps generate demand for animal welfare in the duck and goose supply chain.

Responsible Wool Standard (RWS) and the Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS)

- C15. The [RWS/RMS] verifies responsible [wool/mohair] and tracks it from the source to the final product.
- C16. Products certified to the [RWS/RMS] contain [wool/mohair] from farms certified to animal welfare and land management requirements.
- C17. The [RWS/RMS] describes and certifies animal welfare practices in [wool/mohair] production from the farm to the final product.
- C18. The [RWS/RMS] requires animal welfare practices at the [wool/mohair] farm and tracks it to the finished product.
- C19. The purchase of [RWS/RMS] certified products helps generate demand for animal welfare and responsible land management in the [wool/mohair] supply chain.

D. Claims for Certified Organizations

The following allowed claims are limited to use by companies (producers, manufacturers, or brands) that have a valid certification to the standard.

- D1. [%/All] of our [organically grown content/recycled content/wool/down/mohair] is independently certified to the [Standard Name].

Example: 123 Mill is certified to the RWS, which verifies animal welfare and land management practices on the farm, then tracks through the supply chain.

- D2. Our [material] supply chain is certified to the [Standard Name].

Example: Our down supply chain is certified to the RDS.

- D3. [Entity] is certified to the [Standard Name], which verifies [organically grown content/recycled content/animal welfare /animal welfare and land management].

Example: We are certified to the OCS, which verifies organically grown product content from source to final product.

D4. We are certified to the [Standard Name], which verifies [material] from source to final product.

Example: We are certified to the GRS, which verifies recycled content and social, environmental and chemical requirements in production from source to final product.

E. On-Product Claims

The following allowed claims are limited to use on products that have met the full requirements of the standards and may be subject to additional information such as last certified organization.

E1. (This product is c/)Certified to the [Standard Name] by [CB].¹

Example: Certified to GRS by CB XYZ.

E2. (This product c/)Contains/is [%] [Standard Name certified] [material type], certified by [CB].

Example: This product contains 98% RCS polyester, certified by ABC Cert.

E3. [%] [material type], certified by [CB]

Example: 20% RCS certified polyester, certified by CB XYZ.

E4. The [component/ingredient/material type] in this product is [applicable product claim].²

Example: The wool in this product is RWS certified.

¹ This claim is only allowed for GRS, RDS, RWS, and RMS.

² This claim is only allowed for GRS, RDS, RWS, and RMS.