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**IOAS EU Equivalence scheme applications currently on hold.**

Please note that IOAS is currently not accepting new applications for the EU Equivalence scheme as of October 30, 2019. Applications will be accepted again in 2020 under the new EU Compliance program once all the rules pertaining to the new regulations are published.

**Come and talk to the IOAS - Biofach 2020**

We will be attending Biofach 12-15th February 2020 Hall 1 / 1-447. Please send an appointment request along with an outline of the topic(s) you wish to discuss to info@ioas.org.

**IOAS changes to application, contract processes and annual fee calculations.**

We have continued our work to streamline the IOAS accreditation process to make it more efficient and effective for both our clients and ourselves. Earlier this year we introduced some clarifications on how we classify findings,
and set a consistent response timeline of 6 weeks for all. We have now recently introduced some changes to our application and contract processes, as well as our annual fee calculations. Please read the full News post on our website for a comprehensive explanation of the changes.

**IOAS thanks Debbie Miller for her contribution to IOAS accreditation committee.**

IOAS wish to thank Debbie Miller who has completed two full terms on the IOAS Accreditation Committee. Thank you, Debbie for your contribution and all your hard work.

**Textile Exchange - New Accreditation & Certification Procedures and Global Recycled Standard v4.2 and Recycled Content Standard v2.2 implementation manuals released.**

TE have released the new Accreditation & Certification Procedures for Textile Exchange Standards (ACP) V2. along with the following documents and the new Global Recycled Standard v4.2 and Recycled Content Standard v2.2 implementation manuals these replace the previous manuals and are effective as of 21st Nov 2019.

- Policy for Scope Certificates and Scope Certificate Template
- Policy for Transaction Certificates and Transaction Certificate Template
- Terms and Definitions for Textile Exchange Standards and Related Documents
- Global Recycled Standard GRS-v4.2-Implementation-Manual
- Recycled Content Standard RCS-v2.2-Implementation-Manual

All documents are available from the Textile Exchange Information Hub.

The Textile exchange OCS and RWS consultations continue.

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**EU- FAQ published**

The European Commission have published a broad list of answers to 86 frequently asked questions on the organic rules.

Download here or from the EU COMM website.

Please note that this list is not a legally binding document.

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**IFOAM - October 2019 edited version of the IFOAM Norms July 2014 published.**

IFOAM has recently published an edited version of the IFOAM Norms July 2014. The edits concern the addition
of the preamble to the IFOAM Accreditation Requirements.

GOTS-The Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) Round Tables for successful industry connections

The GOTS regional Representatives organize events around the world to bring together stakeholders and to receive feedback on the specific needs of market participants.

This December, GOTS Representatives Franziska Dormann and Christopher Stopes, hosted two round table events, one in Germany and one in the UK. Participants from the German-speaking region discussed consumer communication and developed strategies and tools to improve such.

At the UK round table, including GOTS-certified businesses and those thinking about getting certified, Sustainable Cotton Expert Simon Ferrigno, writer for EcoTextile News and author of the forthcoming insiders-guide to cotton sustainability, gave an inspiring account of the urgent need for change in the industry, alongside the challenges and opportunities.

The next US round table will take place alongside the LA Textile Show on 6th March 2020. Detailed information and other upcoming event dates will follow on the GOTS website and Social Media @globalorganictextilestandard (LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook).

GOTS 6.0 Revision Process progress.

The second phase of the GOTS 6.0 revision process has been completed and the second revision draft will be open for consultation until 8th November. GOTS Version 6.0 is scheduled to be released in spring 2020. Further information on the revision process and timetable is available from the GOTS website.

GLOBALG.A.P - IFA VERSION 5.2 UPDATE (Integrated Farm Assurance)

The IFA V5.2 replaces the previous V5.1 (V5.1-1_AQ). and reflect the requirement of compliance with the new GFSI guidance Document version 7.2.
Bench marked schemes and approved modified checklists (AMCs) and National Interpretation Guidelines (NIGs) must incorporate the applicable changes before 1 January 2020.
https://www.globalgap.org/content/.galleries/documents/190201_Summary_of_Changes_V5_1_to_V5_2_en.pdf

NATRUE – new documentation on the raw material approval scheme
NATRUE has issued new documentation related to the raw material Approval scheme which will come into effect in January 2020:

– Requirements for Certifications Bodies version 3 – 2020
– Annexe 1 CBs annual Fee 2020
– Annexe 2 Template for certificate 2020
– Annexe 3 RM approval scheme: decision tree
– NATRUE Label Usage agreement for RM approval

Key changes to Requirements for Certifications Bodies are:

– definition of responsibilities of operators and control of inputs and outputs in the relevant supply chain.
– New scope – Approval for raw materials and formulas
– Grace period for applicant CB
– compliance with ISO/IEC17065 requirements by accredited NACs
– Approval agreement with licensees

Updated documents will be available on NATRUE website www.natrue.org.

**IOAS Out and about...**

Iris Rendon from the IOAS attended the Canada Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) COR Conformity Verification Body meeting in October to meet with the scheme owner to calibrate and share knowledge about the COR scheme and associated standards. [More information on IOAS website](#).