

STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® test criteria: New regulations in 2021

At the start of the year, the OEKO-TEX® Association as usual updates the applicable test criteria, limit values and requirements for its range of certifications and labels. The following new regulations for STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® come into effect on April 1, 2021 after a three-month transition period:

Changes of limit values

- The **PFOA** (perfluorooctanoic acid) and **salts** belonging to the perfluorinated and polyfluorinated alkyl compounds, as well as **PFOA-related substances** that were still under observation in 2020, are newly included in the criteria catalogs Appendices 4 and 6 of the STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX®.

- PFOA and salts Sum: 0.025 mg/kg

- PFOA relates substances Sum: 1.0 mg/kg

Note: already in effect since 9th of September 2020.

- The limit value for **Bisphenol-A** (PC I-IV) in the criteria catalogues Annex 4 and 6 of STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® is reduced to the following:

- Bisphenol-A: 100 mg/kg (PC I-IV)

- pH value: For film materials with incorporated Calciumbicarbonate/carbonate **or talc**, which do not have direct skin contact, the pH value range is 4.0-10.0

- A limit value for total heavy metal content and extractable (heavy) metal content in **accessories made from glass** (PC II-IV) of 0.1 % is introduced. This affects **Lead** and **Cadmium**. The new footnote 3 is the following:

For accessories made from glass: 0.1 %

Overall, the strict requirements for residues in textile materials also lead to a lower burden on the environment, employees and consumers. In many cases the limit values for the STANDARD 100 go beyond national and international requirements. Therefore, the OEKO-TEX® strategy has been to be proactive in the field of consumer protection as a pioneer and not to wait for legislation. This makes any article or product certified with the STANDARD 100, LEATHER STANDARD and ECO PASSPORT by OEKO-TEX® also compliant with the limit values of the Appendix XVII of the REACH Regulation.

Recycled materials

Starting this year, a unified approach to integrate recycled materials within the framework of the STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® is introduced. This uniform approach requires a minimum amount of recycled content, different test programs depending on the origin of the material and definition of needed background information. A hangtag that is issued can be used to inform consumers on the recycling efforts that went into the product. Recycled materials are difficult to certify. With their previous life, these materials pose different challenges than regular virgin material. For this reason, these materials are treated differently within the STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® and receive a special mention in the scope of the certificate.

Self-Assessment

Due to the COVID 19 related travel restrictions, personal On-Site Visits are almost impossible. To bridge this situation temporarily, a Self-Assessment process was implemented. Self-Assessments are a temporary solution for our customers to get a certification without neglecting the On-Site Visit.

For more information on the new OEKO-TEX® test criteria, please contact OEKO-TEX® (info@oeko-tex.com) or your responsible OEKO-TEX® Institute (www.oeko-tex.com/institutes).



After a three-month transition period, the new STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® test criteria and limit values will become binding for all certifications on April 1, 2021.