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# **POLICY ON THE USE OF COTTON FIBRES**

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# 1. Introduction

This document, intended for Suppliers, formalises the Group's standards and requirements relating to cotton sourcing. This dedicated policy aims to ensure socially responsible cotton sourcing and applies to all products from the Group's brands containing cotton.

## 2. Scope

This policy applies fully and mandatorily to all Tier 1 suppliers of the Group's merchandise and sets out their responsibilities with regard to cotton sourcing. Suppliers are responsible for cascading and enforcing these requirements throughout their supply chain.

These requirements do not apply to certified recycled cotton fibres. Where a product is made from a blend of virgin and recycled cotton, these requirements apply only to virgin cotton fibres.

Any updates to this document will be notified by the Group and shall be applied immediately.

## 3. Our standards

### Authorised sourcing areas for cotton fibre

The areas authorised by the Group for cotton sourcing are:

- Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Uganda, Tanzania
- Americas: Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Peru, United States,
- Asia: Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, India, Pakistan
- Europe: Spain, Greece, Turkey
- Oceania: Australia

Two exceptions apply to this list:

- Where the cotton fibre is GOTS-certified, it is authorised.
- Sourcing from Chinese spinners nominated by the Group is authorised (see list in the Appendix).

Any procurement of cotton fibres outside the cases specified in this list is prohibited.

The Supplier is responsible for systematically verifying the origin of its cotton fibre sourcing.

## 4. Evidence

- Where the finished product is GOTS-certified:
  - The Supplier must provide, for each order and each product reference, its *Scope Certificate (SC)* and *Transaction Certificate (TC)*.

- Where the main fabric or lining contains OCS- or Regenagri-certified cotton:
  - The Supplier must provide, for each order and each product reference, their *Scope Certificate (SC)* and *Transaction Certificate (TC)*.
- Where the main fabric or lining contains conventional cotton:
  - The Supplier must provide, for each order and each product reference, the completed traceability declaration provided by the Group, the purchase invoice for the yarn, and the certificate of origin of the fibre.

## 5. Controls

Compliance with this policy is subject to controls based on systematic document review. The Supplier must therefore provide all supporting documents required by the Group.

For all cotton products where the order exceeds 50,000 units per product reference per season, the Supplier must, at the time of material ordering and at its own expense, have a DNA test carried out to verify the geographical origin of the cotton. The test must be conducted by an independent laboratory using the isotope testing methodology.

The laboratory nominated by the Group for this test is GenuTrace (<https://www.genutrace.com/>).

Where the DNA test is carried out by another laboratory, the Supplier must ensure that its test report is recognised by the main international customs authorities.

The Supplier is responsible for verifying that the test report complies with this policy. In the event of non-compliance, the Supplier must rectify the situation in accordance with the deadlines set for the delivery of the Group's order.

The Supplier must submit the test report to the Group within 30 days.

The Group also monitors compliance with this policy through random DNA testing of finished products containing cotton.

## 6. Non-compliance and sanctions

In the event of a breach of this policy, and depending on its severity, the Group reserves the right to take one or more of the following measures against the Supplier:

- **Return or withdrawal of products:** the products concerned will be immediately withdrawn from sale at the Supplier's expense. The Supplier must reimburse the full amount of the order and pay a penalty equivalent to the loss of turnover incurred.
- **Formal notice / exclusion:** depending on the severity of the breach, the Supplier may be formally notified (served with notice) and, where appropriate, excluded from the Group's list of suppliers.
- **Review of the partnership:** the Group may initiate a review of the partnership, which may lead to the termination of the contractual relationship.

# 7. Appendix

## Chinese spinners nominated by the Group

The Chinese spinners nominated by the Group are:

- Jiangsu Lianfa Textile Co., Ltd (Haian Lianfa Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd)
  - Address: No. 88, Henglian Road, Haian City, Jiangsu, China (226600)
  - Contact: <http://www.lianfa.cn/en/mianfan.aspx?id=59>
  - Specialising in woven fabrics.
  
- Zhejiang Danx Industrial Co., Ltd. (浙江丹克斯实业有限公司)
  - Address: Room 2807, Building 3, Xingqi Building, No. 1916, Jiangling Road, Xixing Street, Binjiang District, Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, China
  - Contact: <https://www.danxvogue.com/>
  - Specialising in knitwear.