BUYER-SIDE WORKING REFERENCE

Turkey Textile & Apparel Manufacturer Due Diligence Checklist

A working reference for evaluating Turkish textile and apparel manufacturers before supplier approval, sampling, purchase order, bulk production and shipment release.

For buyers, founders, brand owners, procurement teams, importers, distributors, retailers and e-commerce businesses sourcing textile and apparel products from Turkey.

RESEARCH CHECKED: 9 AUGUST 2026

This checklist does not replace legal advice, regulatory interpretation, accredited laboratory testing, certification, product-safety assessment, customs advice or the responsibilities of the importer or economic operator in the destination market.

Why This Document Exists

A textile or apparel manufacturer should not be approved simply because it produces a similar product, presents a factory website, provides a certificate or offers an attractive price.

Before commercial commitment, the buyer should establish four things:

1. Who is the legal counterparty?
2. Who and where will actually manufacture the goods?
3. Can that production structure consistently make the buyer's defined requirement?
4. What evidence supports the supplier's commercial, technical, certification and shipment-readiness claims?

The same discipline should continue after supplier selection. Sample approval does not automatically establish bulk conformity, and a supplier statement that production is complete does not establish that the order is ready for shipment.

> **WORKING STATUS**
> Mark each control as it is reviewed:
> ☐ PASS — adequately established
> ☐ OPEN — information or action still required
> ☐ HOLD — do not progress through the relevant release gate
> ☐ N/A — not applicable to this product, order or destination

Contents

Buyer Rule

A supplier claim is not a control until the buyer can connect it to identifiable evidence.

Project Control Record

Record the exact requirement before evaluating manufacturers. Many supplier questions cannot be answered correctly without a controlled product + manufacturer + destination combination.

Project / Buyer	
Product / SKU / Style No.	
Product Category	
Supplier Legal Name	
Quoting Entity	
Actual Manufacturer	
Manufacturing Facility Address	
Destination Country	
Intended Sales Channel	*Retail / Wholesale / E-commerce / Marketplace / Other*
Private Label	*Yes / No*
Specification / Tech Pack Revision	
Main Fabric / Material	
Fibre Composition	
Construction	*Knit / Woven / Other*
GSM / Weight	*Where relevant*
Finish / Treatment	
Critical Trims / Components / BOM Revision	
Colour / Colour Reference	
Size Range	
Order Quantity	
Style / Colour Quantity Split	
Supplier MOQ	
Incoterm + Named Place	
Target Bulk Start	
Target Shipment Date	
Required Certification / Claim	
Required Testing / Buyer Standard	
Approved Sample Reference	
Approved Artwork Revision	
RFQ Revision	
PO Revision	

CONTROL NOTE

A complete tech pack is not always necessary to begin an initial manufacturer search. However, specification maturity must increase before meaningful quotation comparison and must be sufficiently controlled before bulk production is released.

1 Supplier Identity & Contracting Counterparty

01 Verify the exact legal supplier

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Confirm the supplier's complete registered legal name, company type, registration details and registered address.
WHY IT MATTERS	A brand name, website name or salesperson's trading name does not establish the legal counterparty responsible for the transaction.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Current company registration information; MERSİS details where available; relevant Turkish Trade Registry records; tax/company details appropriate to the transaction; quotation issued in the legal company name.
VERIFY	Compare the legal name and address against the quotation, pro-forma invoice, contract and other supplier documentation.
RED FLAG	The supplier avoids providing its legal name or repeatedly changes the company named on commercial documents.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	MERSİS is Turkey's central commercial registry system; Turkish Trade Registry announcements provide an additional legal-entity record.

02 Identify the contracting party

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Establish which legal entity will sign the agreement, accept the PO and carry contractual responsibility.
WHY IT MATTERS	The manufacturer, exporter and contracting seller may be different companies.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Draft agreement or PO acknowledgement; supplier confirmation of contracting entity; authorized-signatory details where commercially justified.
VERIFY	The contracting party should be explicitly identifiable before deposit or other binding commitment.
RED FLAG	Commercial discussions refer to one company but the supplier asks the buyer to contract with another without a clear explanation.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	Buyer commercial due diligence.

03 Match the invoicing entity

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Confirm which entity will issue the commercial invoice.
WHY IT MATTERS	An unexplained difference between seller, invoice issuer and manufacturer can create payment, customs, warranty and dispute-control problems.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Pro-forma invoice or draft commercial invoice.
VERIFY	Reconcile the invoicing entity with the agreed contractual structure.
RED FLAG	Invoice entity changes immediately before payment or shipment without documented commercial reason.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	Buyer commercial control.

04 Check the payment beneficiary

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Establish whether the requested bank beneficiary is consistent with the contracting structure.
WHY IT MATTERS	Payment to an unexplained individual, unrelated company or third-country entity creates significant counterparty risk.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Controlled bank details; pro-forma invoice; written explanation and contractual basis for any third-party payment arrangement.
VERIFY	Beneficiary name, bank country and commercial relationship.
RED FLAG	Last-minute bank-account change, personal account or unrelated beneficiary with no documentary explanation.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	Buyer payment control.

05 Establish the exporter of record on the Turkey side

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Identify which entity is expected to appear as exporter on the shipment documentation.
WHY IT MATTERS	The manufacturer and exporter do not have to be the same company, but the relationship should be understood before shipment.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Supplier confirmation; proposed commercial invoice/export documentation structure.
VERIFY	Manufacturer, seller and exporter relationships should be commercially coherent.
RED FLAG	The proposed exporter appears only after production and cannot explain its relationship with the seller or factory.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	Transaction and customs-document control.

06 Do not treat legal existence as proof of manufacturing capability

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Separate confirmation that the company legally exists from confirmation that it can manufacture the required product.
WHY IT MATTERS	A valid Turkish company registration does not establish machinery, technical capability, available capacity, product experience or control over the proposed production facility.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Legal evidence separately from facility and capability evidence.
VERIFY	Record two different conclusions: • Legal entity verified: Yes / No • Manufacturing capability verified: Yes / No / Pending
AUTHORITY / BASIS	MERSİS and Trade Registry establish company-registration information; manufacturing capability requires separate evidence.

Buyer Rule

REGISTERED COMPANY ≠ SUITABLE MANUFACTURER

2 Actual Manufacturer, Facility & Subcontracting

07 Establish whether the seller is the manufacturer

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Determine whether the quoting company operates the production facility, commissions production elsewhere, acts as an exporter/trader or uses another manufacturing entity.
WHY IT MATTERS	A trader or exporter is not automatically unsuitable. The risk arises when the buyer believes it is contracting directly with a manufacturer while production actually occurs elsewhere.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Actual manufacturer legal name; physical production address; written description of seller–factory relationship; site evidence.
RED FLAG	Supplier describes itself as “the factory” but refuses to provide the manufacturing address.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	Buyer supplier-verification control.

08 Confirm the exact manufacturing facility

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Identify the physical facility proposed for the buyer’s production.
WHY IT MATTERS	A company may operate multiple facilities with different equipment, workforce, certifications or production activities.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Facility name and full address; recent photographs or video where appropriate; facility documents; buyer-appointed site verification where risk justifies it.
VERIFY	The facility should correspond with the capability and certification evidence relied upon during supplier approval.
RED FLAG	Production location remains vague or changes after supplier selection.

09 Establish the production-process map

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Map where each material production or garment-making stage relevant to the order will occur. Possible processes include: • knitting • weaving • dyeing • printing • embroidery • washing • fabric finishing • cutting • sewing • ironing/finishing • packing
WHY IT MATTERS	A final sewing factory may not control all processes that determine fabric, colour, finish or product performance.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Simple process map identifying in-house and external operations.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	Buyer manufacturing-structure control.

10 Identify every material subcontracted process

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Record which processes will be performed by external companies.
WHY IT MATTERS	Subcontracting is common in textile production and is not inherently negative. Risk increases when it is undisclosed, uncontrolled or outside an agreed certification or quality scope.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Subcontractor name; address; process performed; quality responsibility; relevant certification/audit evidence where required.
VERIFY	Confirm whether subcontracting was disclosed before PO and whether the buyer's critical requirements extend to the subcontracted operation.
RED FLAG	Supplier refuses to identify where dyeing, printing, washing or another critical process occurs.

11 Assess product-specific manufacturing capability

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Determine whether the actual facility has relevant experience, equipment, processes and technical capability for the required product.
WHY IT MATTERS	"Apparel manufacturer" or "home-textile factory" is too broad to establish fit for a particular construction, fabric or finish.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Relevant production examples; equipment/process information; line capability; quality-control structure; technically comparable products where confidentiality permits.
VERIFY	Assess against the buyer's exact product rather than the supplier's general catalogue.
RED FLAG	Supplier repeatedly substitutes examples from unrelated categories for evidence of capability.

12 Use capacity documents as supporting evidence, not a production-slot guarantee

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Where useful, review a current Turkish capacity report or other capacity evidence alongside the factory's actual production schedule.
WHY IT MATTERS	A capacity report may support evidence of industrial production capability, but it does not establish that sufficient capacity is available during the buyer's required production window.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Current capacity evidence where relevant; line allocation; production schedule; planned start and finish dates.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	TOBB describes the Turkish capacity report as evidence of the production strength of manufacturing entities. Available order capacity must still be assessed separately.

Buyer Rule

UNDISCLOSED + UNCONTROLLED + OUT-OF-SCOPE SUBCONTRACTING = HOLD

3 Product, Fabric & Technical Specification

13 Define the product before comparing manufacturers

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Create a controlled description of the product and intended use.
WHY IT MATTERS	Supplier capability and price cannot be compared meaningfully when each supplier is interpreting a different product.
EVIDENCE / CONTROL RECORD	Product category; style/SKU; reference image or sample where relevant; intended use; destination; private-label requirement; key performance expectations.
VERIFY	All shortlisted manufacturers should be responding to the same controlled requirement.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	Buyer specification control.

14 Lock fibre composition

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Define required fibre composition and allowable tolerance or alternative, where appropriate.
WHY IT MATTERS	A nominally similar fabric can differ materially in cost, handle, performance, durability and destination-market labelling.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Fabric specification; supplier composition declaration; applicable test evidence where verification is required.
VERIFY	RFQ, sample, bulk and final label should describe the same approved composition.
RED FLAG	Supplier changes blend percentages without highlighting the change.

15 Define fabric construction

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Record the construction characteristics necessary to reproduce the intended product. Depending on product, this may include: • knit or woven construction • yarn specification • fabric structure • stretch characteristics • thread count or density • fabric width • other construction parameters
WHY IT MATTERS	Composition alone does not define fabric performance.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Technical fabric sheet, swatch, sample or supplier construction specification.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	Product-specific technical control.

16 Control GSM or other weight parameter where relevant

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Specify the agreed fabric or finished-product weight and tolerance where it materially affects the product.
WHY IT MATTERS	A lower weight can reduce cost while materially changing opacity, hand feel, durability, warmth or performance.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Approved specification and relevant material measurement.
RED FLAG	A significantly cheaper quotation is based on a materially different GSM or weight.

17 Define colour, finish and treatment

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Specify the approved colour reference and any required wash, dye, coating, softener, wrinkle-resistant, water-repellent, print, surface or other finishing requirement.
WHY IT MATTERS	Finishing can affect appearance, performance, chemical position, hand feel and cost.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Colour standard; lab dip where appropriate; finish specification; approved swatch/sample.
VERIFY	Sample and bulk references should use the approved treatment.

18 Define measurements, grading and tolerances

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Establish the dimensions or garment measurements that require control.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Measurement chart; grading rules where applicable; measurement points; allowable tolerances; controlled revision.
WHY IT MATTERS	“Size M” or “standard European sizing” is not an adequate production specification.
RED FLAG	Factory begins bulk production while major fit dimensions or grading remain unresolved.

Specification Readiness Rule

Manufacturer Search — enough information to identify plausible production capability.
RFQ Comparison — enough information to ensure suppliers are pricing comparable requirements.
Bulk Production — a controlled, approved specification sufficiently complete to manufacture and inspect the order.

NO TECH PACK ≠ NO SOURCING — BUT UNCONTROLLED SPECIFICATION = UNCONTROLLED BULK PRODUCTION

18A Technical test & evidence plan

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Define which product-performance, material-safety or destination-market tests are required for the actual product before RFQ, bulk production or shipment release, as applicable.
WHY IT MATTERS	A generic or historic test report may be technically valid while providing little evidence for the material, construction or production being purchased.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Applicable test requirement; test method/standard; laboratory; sample/product identification; material/style reference; test date; result; lot/batch reference where lot-specific evidence is required.
VERIFY	Confirm whether the evidence is intended as development/reference evidence or as evidence for the actual bulk material/product.
RED FLAG	A supplier relies on a test report for another fabric, another construction or an unidentified sample without explaining its relevance.

Buyer Rule

VALID TEST REPORT ≠ RELEVANT TEST EVIDENCE

18B Define critical trims and components

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Identify the approved zipper, button, elastic, thread, interlining, lining, label, fastening and other material specifications that could materially affect fit, performance, appearance, compliance or cost.
WHY IT MATTERS	An unapproved substitute component can pass casual inspection while changing durability, safety or compliance position, particularly at bulk stage.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Trim/component specification sheet with supplier, material and approved reference for each critical item; BOM revision identifier.
RED FLAG	Bulk production uses an unapproved trim or component substitute without disclosed buyer authorization.

4 MOQ, Capacity, Lead Time & RFQ Comparability

19 Break down the MOQ

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Identify what the stated MOQ actually represents. Ask separately for: • fabric MOQ • colour MOQ • style MOQ • size breakdown • trim/accessory MOQ • print/embroidery MOQ • bulk-order MOQ
WHY IT MATTERS	A manufacturer may accept the total quantity but later discover that fabric or colour minima make the order commercially impractical.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Written MOQ structure and assumptions.

20 Assess commercially available capacity

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Determine whether the factory has realistic capacity during the required production period.
WHY IT MATTERS	Installed or annual capacity does not establish an available production slot.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Planned production start; line allocation where appropriate; major upstream dependencies; expected completion date.
RED FLAG	Factory simultaneously claims to be fully booked and to be able to start immediately without explaining how.

21 Separate sampling lead time from bulk lead time

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Break the timeline into relevant stages. Possible stages: • material sourcing • development sample • fit or size-set approval • lab dip / colour approval • pre-production sample • bulk material preparation • cutting / sewing • finishing • packing
WHY IT MATTERS	A single statement such as “30-day lead time” may hide dependencies that have not yet started.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Simple milestone schedule.

22 Normalize quotations before comparing price

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK

Confirm that competing suppliers are pricing the same requirement. Compare:

- fabric
- composition
- construction
- GSM / weight
- finish
- colour
- trims
- labels
- packaging
- quantity
- MOQ
- testing
- certification obligations
- Incoterm
- payment terms
- lead time
- included and excluded services

WHY IT MATTERS

A lower unit price may simply reflect a different product or commercial basis.

RED FLAG

Supplier changes a material assumption but leaves the quotation description substantially unchanged.

Buyer Rule

LOWEST PRICE ≠ BEST QUOTATION WHEN THE QUOTATION BASES DIFFER

23 Confirm Incoterm and named place

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Record both the Incoterm and the named place.
WHY IT MATTERS	“FOB price”, “EXW Turkey” or “delivered price” without a defined place can create different interpretations of included cost and responsibility.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Written quotation stating agreed Incoterm and place.
VERIFY	Compare quotations on the same logistics basis where price comparison is intended.

24 Compare payment terms with production risk

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Record deposit, progress payment and balance conditions together with the release milestones they trigger.
WHY IT MATTERS	Payment structure determines the buyer’s leverage and exposure during sampling, material commitment, production and shipment.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Written payment schedule and milestone conditions.
RED FLAG	Supplier requests materially accelerated payment while critical specifications or evidence remain unresolved.

5 Sample Development & Approval Control

25 Define the purpose of each sample

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Record what each sample is intended to prove. Possible stages may include: • reference sample • development sample • fabric swatch • lab dip • fit sample • size set • salesman sample • pre-production sample • packaging sample
WHY IT MATTERS	Approval of one sample type does not automatically approve every material, size, colour, label or production parameter.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Sample ID; stage; date; specification revision; approval status.

26 Control the reference sample

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	If the buyer provides an existing garment or physical reference, define what characteristics the factory is expected to reproduce.
WHY IT MATTERS	A reference sample can otherwise be interpreted as inspiration rather than a controlled technical requirement.
EVIDENCE / CONTROL RECORD	Sample ID; photos; measurements; fabric characteristics; features to copy; features intentionally changed.

27 Record fabric and colour approvals separately

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Where relevant, record fabric, colour and finish approvals independently from garment fit.
WHY IT MATTERS	A fit sample made from substitute fabric does not necessarily approve the production fabric.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Approved swatch; lab dip; material code; colour reference; approval date.

28 Establish the approved production reference

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Before bulk production, define the physical and documentary reference against which the bulk order will be judged.
EVIDENCE	• Approved sample ID • Specification revision • Fabric/material reference • Colour reference • Approved measurements • Approved trims • Approved labels/artwork • Approval date • Approver
WHY IT MATTERS	“Sample approved” has limited control value if nobody can identify which sample and specification were approved.

29 Freeze the specification revision at approval

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Ensure the factory, buyer and any intermediary are working from the same approved revision.
WHY IT MATTERS	Email attachments and revised tech packs can leave different parties manufacturing from different versions.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Revision-controlled specification with date/version identifier.
RED FLAG	Factory cannot identify the production revision.

30 Establish post-approval change control

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Require supplier disclosure before changing approved: • fabric • composition • weight • finish • colour • trims • artwork • manufacturing facility • critical subcontractor • packaging
WHY IT MATTERS	A commercially minor supplier substitution can materially alter performance, certification coverage or buyer acceptance.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Written change request and buyer disposition.

Buyer Rule

NO MATERIAL CHANGE AFTER APPROVAL WITHOUT CONTROLLED BUYER REVIEW

6 Certification, Claims & Social Evidence

Important Distinction

A certification logo, audit platform membership, social-audit report, management-system certificate and product certificate do not establish the same thing. For every piece of supplier evidence, ask:

- WHO holds it?
- WHAT does it cover?
- WHICH facility or product does it relate to?
- WHAT period is valid?
- DOES it actually support this buyer requirement?

31 Verify certificate authenticity

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Do not rely only on a PDF supplied by the manufacturer.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Complete current certificate including certificate number, holder, scope, dates and certification body.
VERIFY	Use the scheme owner’s database or verification system where available.
RED FLAG	Certificate number cannot be verified, key pages are omitted or dates have been altered.

32 Match certificate holder to the commercial structure

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Identify which legal entity holds the certificate.
WHY IT MATTERS	Supplier-group membership does not automatically mean every group company or factory is covered.
VERIFY	Certificate holder → supplier → manufacturer → facility relationship.

33 Review scope, not logo

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Determine exactly what product, process, facility, material or management system is within scope.
RED FLAG	A certificate relating to yarn or fabric is presented as evidence that the finished garment itself carries the same certification.

Buyer Rule

CERTIFICATE NAME / LOGO ≠ RELEVANT CERTIFICATE COVERAGE

34 Verify OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100 correctly

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Where STANDARD 100 is required or claimed, verify: • certificate number • current validity • certificate holder • product description/scope • relevant product class • applicable production or subcontractor information where material to the certificate • whether the buyer's finished product or only an input is covered
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Current certificate and official Label Check result.
WHY IT MATTERS	OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100 is product-oriented harmful-substance certification from yarn through finished products; the buyer should verify the exact certified scope instead of assuming a supplier logo covers every product. Official 2026 requirements took effect on 1 June 2026.
RED FLAG	Supplier presents an upstream fabric certificate as proof that a finished garment is certified when the finished product is not within that certificate scope.

35 Verify GOTS claim through scope and transaction evidence

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Where goods are being purchased, represented or supplied as GOTS certified: • verify the certified entity; • review current Scope Certificate; • confirm relevant product categories/processes; • review subcontractor scope where applicable; • obtain the applicable valid Transaction Certificate covering those specific goods/transactions.
WHY IT MATTERS	A Scope Certificate establishes the certified entity and its qualified scope; it does not by itself prove that the delivered goods are GOTS certified. Only a valid Transaction Certificate covering the specific goods establishes that those goods are certified.
CURRENT STATUS — AUGUST 2026	GOTS Version 8.1 was released on 22 July 2026, following Version 8.0 released in March 2026. The implementation deadline for Version 8.1 remains 1 March 2027, consistent with the Version 8.0 timeline; therefore, do not reject otherwise valid current certification merely because it has not yet transitioned to Version 8.1.

36 Verify recycled-content claims under the correct current standard

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	For GRS, RCS or related Textile Exchange claims, establish: • current certification status • claim type • material/product scope • actual recycled-content claim • supply-chain evidence required for the transaction
CURRENT STATUS — AUGUST 2026	Textile Exchange published final Materials Matter Standard criteria on 12 December 2025. The standard becomes effective on 31 December 2026 and mandatory for eligible Tier 4 (raw material / primary processing) scope certificates from 31 December 2027. Claims and labels follow a separate transition timetable, with full transition required by 30 June 2029. Existing standards including GRS 4.0 and RCS 2.0 remain valid within this transition framework in August 2026.
RED FLAG	Supplier presents "Materials Matter certified" as a current mandatory certification in August 2026.

37 Interpret amfori BSCI correctly

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	If a supplier says it is “BSCI certified”, clarify what current amfori BSCI monitoring/audit evidence exists for the actual facility.
WHY IT MATTERS	amfori expressly states that amfori BSCI is not a certification.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Relevant facility monitoring information, audit result/status and corrective-action position as accessible to the buyer through the appropriate amfori process.
VERIFY	Actual production site, date and unresolved findings.

38 Separate Sedex membership from SMETA audit evidence

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Ask separately: Is the company a Sedex member? Has the actual production site undergone a SMETA audit? When? Under what scope? What significant findings remain open?
WHY IT MATTERS	Sedex membership itself does not establish that a site has undergone an audit. SMETA is Sedex’s social-audit methodology, with SMETA 7 the current methodology in 2026.
RECENCY CHECK	Sedex’s 2025 guidance states that a SMETA audit more than 24 months old should no longer be treated as a robust assessment of current workplace conditions. Review the audit date and current corrective-action status accordingly.
RED FLAG	“Sedex certified” is offered without identifiable site audit evidence, or the only available SMETA audit is more than 24 months old.

39 Verify WRAP as facility certification

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	If WRAP is required or claimed, verify the actual production facility and current certification status.
WHY IT MATTERS	Unlike BSCI or SMETA, WRAP operates a facility certification program based on its 12 Principles and provides a facility-verification route.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Current certificate and facility verification.

Social Evidence Rule

Do not group amfori BSCI, Sedex membership, SMETA audit and WRAP certification under one generic heading such as “social certificates.” They are different forms of evidence.

7 Private Label, Artwork & Market Information

40 Define private-label responsibility

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK

Assign responsibility for:

- brand artwork
- woven/printed labels
- composition information
- care information
- hangtags
- barcodes
- packaging
- retailer-specific information
- destination-market review

WHY IT MATTERS

The factory can physically print a label without being responsible for determining whether every legal statement on it is correct.

EVIDENCE TO REQUEST

Written responsibility matrix.

41 Freeze artwork through revision control

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK

Approve a controlled artwork version before printing.

EVIDENCE

- Artwork filename/revision
- approval date
- approver
- printer proof where justified

WHY IT MATTERS

Buyer, factory, design agency and printer can otherwise use different files.

RED FLAG

Supplier modifies text, fibre composition, care information, logo position or barcode without documented approval.

42 Verify brand and artwork authorization

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK

Ensure the supplier is authorized to reproduce the buyer’s trademarks, graphics and branded packaging solely for the agreed production.

WHY IT MATTERS

Private-label production creates intellectual-property and inventory-control considerations beyond ordinary unbranded manufacturing.

EVIDENCE TO REQUEST

Contract/PO terms controlling artwork use, overruns, rejected branded goods, printing plates/files and remaining branded materials where commercially relevant.

AUTHORITY / BASIS

Buyer commercial/IP governance; obtain qualified legal advice where needed.

43 Review the actual destination-market label

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Review the artwork intended for the final destination rather than relying on the supplier's standard Turkish or other customer label.
WHY IT MATTERS	Required fibre, origin, responsible-party, product-safety or other information depends on destination and product category.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Final market-specific label artwork.
VERIFY	Composition, product identity, country of origin, responsible-party information and applicable category-specific information.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	See Destination-Market Gate Checks.

44 Control care information

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Define the care method the buyer intends to communicate and verify it against the approved material/product.
WHY IT MATTERS	Care instructions should not be copied from another garment where fabric, print, coating, trim or construction differs.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Approved care specification and supporting wash/care validation where required.
NOTE	Do not treat care-labelling requirements as internationally uniform. For example, the United States has a specific FTC Care Labeling Rule for covered wearing apparel.

45 Lock packaging and channel requirements

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Define the packaging required for the buyer's actual commercial channel. Possible controls: • individual bag • folding method • size sticker • barcode • SKU label • carton quantity • carton dimensions • carton marks • polybag warnings where required • retailer/marketplace routing labels
WHY IT MATTERS	Factory-standard packing may not satisfy the buyer's warehouse, retailer or marketplace process.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Approved pack specification and packaging sample where justified.

8 Production & Sample-to-Bulk Control

46 Confirm production starts against the approved reference

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK
Before cutting or other irreversible bulk work, confirm the factory has the approved production basis.

EVIDENCE
- Approved sample/reference
- Specification revision
- Material approval
- Artwork revision
- PO revision

WHY IT MATTERS
Supplier possession of the files does not establish that the production team is using the correct version.

47 Confirm bulk material before irreversible production

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK
Where material characteristics are critical, establish that bulk fabric/material corresponds with the approved requirement before significant cutting or manufacturing. Compare where relevant:
- composition
- construction
- GSM / weight
- colour
- finish
- appearance
- hand feel
- performance parameters
- dye lot / material lot identity where relevant
- shade continuity across bulk material

EVIDENCE TO REQUEST
Bulk material reference, supplier QC evidence and buyer-appointed testing/inspection where risk justifies it.

RED FLAG
Factory states that the fabric differs from the sample only after cutting has begun.

48 Maintain visibility over critical subcontracting during production

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK
Confirm that production remains within the previously disclosed process map.

WHY IT MATTERS
Factories can change dyehouse, printer, embroiderer, washer or other process supplier because of timing or capacity.

EVIDENCE TO REQUEST
Supplier update on changes to critical production locations.

RED FLAG
Previously approved production is transferred to another facility without notification.

49 Compare bulk production to the approved reference

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK

Review the characteristics material to the order. Possible comparison points:

- fabric
- composition
- weight
- construction
- colour
- finish
- measurements
- grading
- stitching/workmanship
- trims
- prints/embroidery
- labels
- packaging

WHY IT MATTERS

A good development sample does not establish that bulk production has reproduced it.

50 Define inspection and defect acceptance before final inspection

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK

Agree the buyer’s inspection basis, defect classification and acceptance logic before final release where formal QC is required.

WHY IT MATTERS

A final inspection becomes difficult to resolve if buyer and supplier have never agreed what constitutes an unacceptable defect.

EVIDENCE TO REQUEST

Buyer QC checklist; agreed acceptance criteria; product-specific tolerances.

SAMPLING BASIS

Where acceptance sampling is used, record the agreed sampling standard/version, inspection level, AQL or other acceptance criteria, sample size and acceptance/rejection basis.

AUTHORITY / BASIS

ISO 2859-1:2026 is the current ISO standard for AQL-indexed lot-by-lot inspection by attributes. A specific AQL should not be treated as a universal requirement; the buyer’s agreed quality plan governs the commercial acceptance basis.

51 Control deviations and rework

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK

Record any known departure from the approved specification or quality requirement.

EVIDENCE TO REQUEST

- Deviation/NCR description
- quantity affected
- root cause where relevant
- rework plan
- corrective action
- buyer disposition

WHY IT MATTERS

An unresolved deviation should remain visible rather than disappear into email or messaging traffic.

RED FLAG

Supplier asks to ship first and resolve a known quality discrepancy later.

Buyer Rule

APPROVED SAMPLE ≠ BULK CONFORMITY

9 Destination-Market Gate Checks

EUROPEAN UNION

52 Confirm EU textile fibre information requirements

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

ASK THIS	Does Regulation (EU) No 1007/2011 apply to this textile product, and has the final fibre-composition information been prepared accordingly?
REQUEST THIS	Final fibre composition and market artwork.
VERIFY THIS	Declared fibre names and composition against the approved product specification. Where applicable, confirm whether the product contains non-textile parts of animal origin (for example leather patches, fur trim, down, feathers, horn or bone components) requiring the prescribed indication.
WHY IT MATTERS	Regulation (EU) No 1007/2011 establishes EU rules on textile fibre names and related labelling/marking of fibre composition, and separately requires products containing non-textile parts of animal origin to carry the mandatory phrase “Contains non-textile parts of animal origin.”
ESCALATE	If the product or material falls outside ordinary textile-product assumptions or contains unusual components requiring interpretation.

53 Establish the EU product-safety responsibility chain

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

ASK THIS	Who is the relevant EU economic operator/responsible party for the product and who owns the product-safety file?
REQUEST THIS	Importer/economic-operator instructions; product identification; safety documentation appropriate to the product.
VERIFY THIS	That the importer, brand owner or other relevant actor has identified the General Product Safety Regulation obligations applicable to the product and sales channel.
WHY IT MATTERS	Regulation (EU) 2023/988 applies to covered consumer products and includes obligations relevant to direct imports and online sales. It has applied since 13 December 2024.
ONLINE / DISTANCE SALES	For distance/online sales, verify that the required product identification, manufacturer/responsible-person name and contact details, and applicable warning or safety information can be provided clearly and visibly in the online offer, per Article 19.

54 Apply EU chemical restrictions by product, not by generic certificate

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

ASK THIS	Which REACH Annex XVII restrictions apply to the actual materials, treatments and intended use?
REQUEST THIS	Material declarations; supplier RSL evidence; relevant test evidence where justified by product risk and buyer/importer requirements.
VERIFY THIS	That test scope and material identity match the product being sourced.
CURRENT AUGUST 2026 NOTE	REACH Annex XVII contains textile-relevant restrictions including CMR restrictions for specified clothing/textile/footwear articles. A new formaldehyde-release restriction under Entry 77 became applicable to articles within its scope on 6 August 2026; critically, the entry expressly excludes articles for which Entry 72 applies. Do not convert this into a blanket statement that every textile product must pass the same formaldehyde test. Exact applicability must be established from the current Annex XVII.

GREAT BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND

55 Distinguish Great Britain from Northern Ireland

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	First identify whether the destination is Great Britain — England, Scotland or Wales — or Northern Ireland.
WHY IT MATTERS	They should not be treated as one uniform consumer-product safety regime. The General Product Safety Regulations 2005 continue in Great Britain, while Regulation (EU) 2023/988 applies in Northern Ireland from 13 December 2024.

56 Verify Great Britain textile and chemical requirements

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

ASK THIS	Has the importer identified applicable GB textile-labelling, product-safety and UK REACH requirements?
REQUEST THIS	Final fibre-content label; importer product-safety instruction; material/chemical evidence required for the specific product.
VERIFY THIS	Approved composition against final label.
AUTHORITY	GOV.UK states textile labels must show fibre content; UK REACH can apply to substances present in articles including clothing. GB textile-labelling rules are aligned with the EU framework and also require the mandatory phrase for non-textile parts of animal origin, where applicable.

57 Identify special GB nightwear requirements before sourcing

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	If the product is nightwear, determine whether the Nightwear (Safety) Regulations 1985 apply before confirming product design, fabric or labelling.
WHY IT MATTERS	Nightwear is not simply ordinary apparel under the GB framework; specific flammability and labelling requirements can apply.
HOLD	If regulatory category and required performance have not been established before production commitment.

UNITED STATES

58 Verify U.S. textile identity labelling

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

ASK THIS	Has the U.S. buyer/importer established the required textile label content for this product?
VERIFY	As applicable: fibre names and percentages; country of origin; manufacturer/importer/marketer identity or permitted RN structure.
WHY IT MATTERS	FTC guidance states that covered textile products generally require fibre content, country of origin and responsible-company identification.
RED FLAG	The final label states a composition or origin inconsistent with the controlled product record.

59 Verify U.S. care-labelling requirements

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	For covered wearing apparel, ensure a care instruction has been established and can be supported for the product.
WHY IT MATTERS	The FTC Care Labeling Rule requires manufacturers and importers to attach care instructions to covered garments.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Approved care method and supporting product/material basis.

60 Identify U.S. CPSC textile-category requirements

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Determine whether the product is governed by general clothing-textile flammability requirements or a more specific CPSC textile category. Examples can include: general wearing apparel; children's sleepwear; carpets/rugs; mattresses/mattress pads.
WHY IT MATTERS	CPSC applies different flammability standards to different textile product categories. Children's sleepwear, for example, is addressed separately under 16 CFR Parts 1615 and 1616.
HOLD	If a regulated category has been treated as ordinary apparel without confirming its specific requirements.

61 For U.S.-bound cotton products, assess upstream traceability risk

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Where relevant to the order, establish traceability beyond final sewing location for cotton, yarn, fabric and other upstream supply-chain stages.
WHY IT MATTERS	A final “Made in Turkey” manufacturing step does not by itself resolve upstream forced-labour traceability risk.
CURRENT U.S. NOTE	CBP’s June 2026 UFLPA operational guidance identifies apparel, cotton and cotton products among priority sectors and discusses enhanced supply-chain tracing evidence.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Upstream supplier information and traceability documentation proportionate to importer requirements and risk.

62 Treat MENA requirements as country-specific

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Identify the actual importing country and applicable conformity route before describing a textile product as “Middle East compliant” or “GCC compliant.”
ASK THIS	Which authority/regulation applies? Does product registration or conformity certification apply? What label information is required? Which tests or documents are required?
EXAMPLE — SAUDI ARABIA	Saudi Arabia maintains a specific Technical Regulation for Textile Products and operates conformity procedures through its national product-safety system.

Buyer Rule

A Saudi requirement should not be presented as automatically applicable to every MENA destination.

63 Treat Balkan destinations as jurisdiction-specific

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Determine first whether the destination is an EU Member State or operates under a separate national product regime.
WHY IT MATTERS	“Balkans compliant” has no single regulatory meaning.
EXAMPLE — SERBIA	Serbia maintains national rules on textile product marking and labelling aligned substantially with EU textile-fibre rules.
REQUEST THIS	Importer/broker confirmation of exact national requirements where the destination is outside the EU.

10 Special Product Categories

64 Treat childrenswear and sleepwear as requirement-specific

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Before approving a children's product, identify whether age, sleepwear classification, cords/drawstrings, small parts, chemical, flammability or other product-specific controls apply in the destination market.
WHY IT MATTERS	Requirements can differ materially from ordinary adult apparel.
HOLD	If the supplier is using an ordinary apparel specification for a regulated children's category without buyer/importer review.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	Destination-specific product-safety regime. U.S. children's sleepwear is one clear example of separate regulatory treatment.

U.S. CHILDREN'S PRODUCT GATE

For products primarily designed or intended for children, confirm whether applicable CPSC rules require third-party testing by a CPSC-accepted laboratory, a Children's Product Certificate (CPC), permanent tracking labels and any component-specific testing or restrictions. Do not assume that children's sleepwear flammability is the only U.S. children's-apparel requirement.

65 Do not treat protective workwear or PPE as ordinary apparel

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Determine whether the product is merely occupational clothing or is being sold with protective performance claims that place it within a specialist regulatory/conformity regime.
WHY IT MATTERS	Protective performance claims can trigger technical standards, conformity assessment, testing, marking and documentation requirements not applicable to ordinary garments.
HOLD	If the product is marketed as protective before the applicable conformity regime has been identified.

Specialist Product

REQUIREMENT-SPECIFIC REGULATORY REVIEW NEEDED

66 Check special home-textile categories

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Determine whether the product falls into a separately regulated category such as carpet/rug, mattress/mattress pad or another specialist home-textile use in the destination market.
WHY IT MATTERS	Not all home textiles are regulated like ordinary towels, bedding or decorative textile articles.
EXAMPLE	U.S. CPSC maintains separate flammability requirements for carpets/rugs and mattresses/mattress pads.

11 Shipment Readiness & Export Documentation

67 Reconcile physically completed quantity

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Confirm the quantity physically completed and packed.
COMPARE	• PO quantity • style breakdown • colour breakdown • size breakdown • packed quantity • carton quantity
WHY IT MATTERS	"Production complete" does not necessarily mean the ordered quantity exists in finished, packed form.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Final quantity reconciliation; packing list; physical verification or production evidence where justified.

68 Confirm final labels and packaging

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Verify finished goods use the approved: brand label; composition label; care label; size label; hangtag; barcode; individual packaging; carton mark.
WHY IT MATTERS	Label or packaging errors can make physically acceptable goods commercially unusable.
RED FLAG	Supplier proposes to correct significant labelling discrepancies after export.

69 Establish final QC status

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Record whether the required final QC, inspection or buyer acceptance has occurred.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Internal final QC; buyer-appointed inspection where required; defect/rework status; buyer release decision.
VERIFY	Any inspection sample should relate to the actual finished order.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	Buyer shipment-control procedure.

70 Close open deviations before shipment decision

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK

List every unresolved issue at the time shipment release is requested. Possible items:

- quality deviation
- short quantity
- rework
- label discrepancy
- packaging discrepancy
- test evidence pending
- certificate/document pending

WHY IT MATTERS

Shipment should not become the mechanism used to force acceptance of an unresolved problem.

71 Reconcile the commercial invoice and packing list

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK

Compare: seller/exporter; buyer/consignee; product description; style/SKU; quantity; cartons; net/gross weight; Incoterm; named place; destination.

WHY IT MATTERS

Individually valid documents can still form an inconsistent shipment file.

72 Confirm booking and physical handover position

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK

Establish: freight responsibility; booking status; collection location; collection date; cargo-ready date; handover responsibility under the Incoterm.

WHY IT MATTERS

“Ready for shipment” should describe a verified operational position, not only completion of manufacturing.

73 Use the correct origin or preference document

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Determine which document is actually required for the destination and customs treatment. Possible documents can include: Certificate of Origin; A.TR; EUR.1; other preference/origin evidence applicable to the trade route.

Critical Buyer Rule

A.TR DOES NOT PROVE TURKISH ORIGIN

Turkey's Ministry of Trade states that A.TR demonstrates that goods are in free circulation for the relevant EU–Türkiye customs-union treatment; it does not establish the origin of the goods. EUR.1 performs a different function under applicable preferential-origin arrangements.

74 Do not assume final assembly determines all origin questions

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Where origin affects tariff treatment, marking, buyer requirements or claims, have the competent importer/customs adviser determine the applicable origin rule.
WHY IT MATTERS	Textile supply chains can include imported fibre, yarn, fabric and components before manufacturing in Turkey.
EVIDENCE TO REQUEST	Supplier origin declarations and upstream information appropriate to the actual customs requirement.
AUTHORITY / BASIS	Destination customs/origin rules; qualified customs review where required.

75 Reconcile origin documentation with the actual shipment

STATUS ☐ PASS ☐ OPEN ☐ HOLD ☐ N/A

CHECK	Ensure origin/preference documentation corresponds to the goods, exporter and destination in the shipment.
VERIFY	Document type; exporter; product description; quantity; destination; supporting transaction.
RED FLAG	Supplier uses the same explanation — "we always issue A.TR" — regardless of the destination or actual origin requirement.

Shipment Rule

SHIPMENT READINESS ≠ CUSTOMS OR LEGAL CLEARANCE GUARANTEE

12 High-Value Red Flags

These are triggers for clarification, enhanced verification or a HOLD decision. They are not automatic proof of misconduct.

RED FLAG	BUYER RESPONSE
Supplier refuses to identify the actual manufacturing facility	HOLD supplier approval until production location is established.
Quoting company and claimed manufacturer relationship cannot be explained	Clarify legal, commercial and quality responsibility before payment.
Production facility changes after approval	Stop and assess the replacement facility before continuing.
Critical subcontractor will not be identified	Treat production structure as unverified.
Supplier certificate relates to a different company or production structure	Determine whether the evidence genuinely covers the order.
Certificate number cannot be verified	Record as unverified, not valid.
Fabric/yarn certificate is presented as finished-garment certification	Check the exact product scope.
Supplier says “BSCI certified”	Request actual amfori BSCI monitoring evidence; BSCI is not a certification.
Supplier says “Sedex certified”	Separate Sedex membership from current SMETA/site audit evidence.
GOTS Scope Certificate is offered as proof every delivered item is GOTS certified	Request transaction/product evidence appropriate to the certified transaction.
Recycled claim cannot be linked to current certification/supply-chain evidence	Treat claim as unverified.
Supplier claims Materials Matter certification is already mandatory in August 2026	Correct the transition logic; effective date is 31 December 2026.
Quote is materially cheaper because fabric/GSM/construction changed	Normalize the specification before comparing price.
MOQ changes after order because fabric/colour minima were not disclosed	Re-open commercial-fit assessment.
Supplier will not identify its available production slot	Treat lead-time claim as unverified.
Bulk material differs from approved sample without buyer authorization	HOLD production/release and review deviation.
Factory cannot identify the approved specification revision	Stop irreversible production until production basis is controlled.
Private-label artwork changed after approval	Stop printing/packing until revised artwork is approved.
Major QC issue remains open while shipment is being pushed	HOLD SHIPMENT.
Bank beneficiary changes to an unrelated entity/person	Obtain documentary explanation before payment.
A.TR is presented as proof of Turkish origin	Correct the origin-document logic before customs reliance.
Supplier says “we export this everywhere”	Verify the exact destination-market requirements.
U.S.-bound cotton product has no upstream traceability position where importer requires it	Escalate supply-chain traceability review.
Specialist product is treated as ordinary apparel	Identify the specific regulatory/conformity regime before proceeding.

Buyer Principle

A RED FLAG DOES NOT REQUIRE AN ACCUSATION. IT REQUIRES A CONTROLLED RESPONSE.

13 Three Buyer Release Gates

The operational summary of this checklist.

GATE 1
Before PO / Deposit

Do not release commercial commitment until:

- ☐ legal seller identified
- ☐ contracting party identified
- ☐ payment beneficiary understood
- ☐ actual manufacturer identified
- ☐ manufacturing facility identified
- ☐ critical subcontracting disclosed
- ☐ product-specific capability assessed
- ☐ core specification sufficiently defined
- ☐ fabric/material basis defined
- ☐ MOQ structure understood
- ☐ quotation basis normalized
- ☐ production capacity/slot assessed
- ☐ lead time commercially credible
- ☐ critical certifications/claims checked
- ☐ destination-market critical requirements identified
- ☐ no unresolved HOLD item remains

DECISION: ☐ RELEASE ☐ CONDITIONAL RELEASE ☐ HOLD

GATE 2
Before Bulk Production

Do not release bulk until:

- ☐ specification revision locked
- ☐ approved production reference identified
- ☐ bulk material/fabric approved where required
- ☐ colour/finish approved where required
- ☐ measurements and tolerances approved
- ☐ grading approved where applicable
- ☐ trims/components approved
- ☐ artwork and labels approved
- ☐ packaging requirement confirmed
- ☐ test/verification plan agreed
- ☐ production facility remains approved
- ☐ critical subcontractors remain controlled
- ☐ production schedule confirmed
- ☐ post-approval changes resolved
- ☐ no unresolved HOLD item remains

DECISION: ☐ RELEASE BULK ☐ CONDITIONAL RELEASE ☐ HOLD BULK

GATE 3
Before Shipment Release

Do not release shipment until:

- ☐ finished quantity reconciled
- ☐ style/colour/size breakdown reconciled
- ☐ bulk aligned with approved reference
- ☐ required final QC/inspection completed
- ☐ required test/evidence position completed
- ☐ NCR/deviation/rework position recorded
- ☐ labels match approved artwork
- ☐ packaging and carton marks confirmed
- ☐ invoice and packing list aligned
- ☐ relevant origin/preference route confirmed
- ☐ booking/collection position confirmed
- ☐ Incoterm handover position understood
- ☐ all OPEN/HOLD issues are visible to buyer
- ☐ buyer has recorded a release decision

DECISION: ☐ RELEASE SHIPMENT ☐ CONDITIONAL RELEASE ☐ HOLD SHIPMENT

> *“Production complete” is a supplier status.*
> *“Shipment released” is a buyer decision.*

14 Supplier Comparison & Decision Record

Use this page after due diligence to prevent supplier selection from reverting to price alone.

Decision Area	Supplier A	Supplier B	Supplier C
Legal entity established			
Actual manufacturer established			
Facility established			
Critical subcontracting visible			
Product capability			
Specification fit			
MOQ fit			
Available capacity			
Lead-time credibility			
Normalized unit price			
Payment terms			
Certification evidence			
Social/facility evidence if required			
Destination-market readiness			
Sample quality / development fit			
Communication reliability			
Open risks			
HOLD items			
Overall commercial fit			
Final decision			

BUYER DECISION

Preferred supplier: ________________________________

Reason for preference: ________________________________

Conditions before PO: ________________________________

Remaining risks consciously accepted by buyer: ________________________________

Decision made by: ________________________________ Date: ________________________________

Decision Principle

The objective is not to identify a universally "best factory." The objective is to determine which verified production structure fits this buyer's requirement, commercial model and risk position best.

15 Scope Boundary

This checklist is a buyer-side supplier due-diligence and procurement working reference. Requirements can vary according to: product category, material/fibre, construction, consumer group, intended use, performance claim, certification claim, destination country, sales channel, importer structure, applicable tariff/origin rules.

Hana Solution LLC does not:

- manufacture textile or apparel products;
- trade or resell goods;
- hold supplier inventory;
- represent manufacturers;
- receive supplier commissions or supplier mark-ups;
- issue certificates;
- operate as a testing laboratory;
- issue regulatory approvals;
- guarantee customs clearance or market acceptance.

Where legal interpretation, certification, accredited testing, conformity assessment, customs classification, product-safety assessment or regulatory approval is required, the appropriate qualified specialist or competent authority should be used.

Buyer-Side Role

Hana Solution may support buyers by structuring requirements, mapping and assessing manufacturers, reviewing evidence, checking manufacturer identity, comparing quotations, identifying gaps, maintaining production visibility and supporting shipment-readiness decisions. The final supplier, commercial and release decisions remain with the buyer.

REGULATORY WATCH — DO NOT CONVERT FUTURE REQUIREMENTS INTO CURRENT CLAIMS

EU Ecodesign / Digital Product Passport — The EU Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation framework is in force, and textile/apparel is a priority product group under the 2025–2030 working plan. However, this does not mean that every textile or apparel product already requires a Digital Product Passport in August 2026. Product-specific requirements are being developed under the ESPR framework. *Buyer action:* monitor destination requirements during product development and before future market placement; do not print premature DPP claims into current supplier requirements.

EU Forced Labour Regulation — EU official guidance issued in 2026 states that the Forced Labour Regulation will apply to products placed or made available on the EU market from 14 December 2027 and covers forced labour at any stage of the supply chain. It should therefore inform future supply-chain readiness, but it is not presented here as an August 2026 textile shipment-release requirement.

Research Discipline

CURRENT REQUIREMENT must not be confused with PUBLISHED FUTURE REQUIREMENT or VOLUNTARY BUYER STANDARD.

Source Register — Verified Working Sources

TURKEY — COMPANY / MANUFACTURING / CUSTOMS

T1 — **T.C. Ministry of Trade — Merkezi Sicil Kayıt Sistemi (MERSİS)**
Primary reference for Turkey's central commercial registry system and the registration/storage of trade-registry information.
mersis.ticaret.gov.tr

T2 — **Türkiye Ticaret Sicili Gazetesi / Turkish Trade Registry Gazette**
Official trade-registry publication system used for company-registration announcements.
ticaretsicil.gov.tr

T3 — **Türkiye Odalar ve Borsalar Birliği (TOBB) — Capacity Reports**
Official reference explaining Turkish industrial capacity reports and their role in recording production strength.
tobb.org.tr

T4 — **T.C. Ministry of Trade — Origin / A.TR / EUR.1 Guidance**
Official guidance distinguishing free-circulation documentation from origin evidence; explicitly states that A.TR does not establish origin.
ticaret.gov.tr

EUROPEAN UNION

EU1 — **Regulation (EU) No 1007/2011 — Textile Fibre Names and Fibre-Composition Labelling**
Core EU textile fibre-composition framework; also covers non-textile parts of animal origin.
eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:32011R1007

EU2 — **Regulation (EU) 2023/988 — General Product Safety Regulation**
General consumer-product safety framework applicable from 13 December 2024, including Article 19 obligations for online/distance sales.
eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/988/oj

EU3 — **Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 — REACH Annex XVII (consolidated)**
Primary EU chemical-restriction framework.
eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:02006R1907

EU3A — **Commission Regulation (EU) 2018/1513**
Textile/clothing/footwear CMR restriction framework under Annex XVII Entry 72.
eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32018R1513

EU3B — **Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/1464**
Formaldehyde/formaldehyde-releaser restriction introducing Annex XVII Entry 77 and the 6 August 2026 application date for articles within scope, including explicit exemptions.
eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32023R1464

EU4 — **European Commission — ESPR Working Plan 2025–2030 / Textile & Apparel**
Confirms textile/apparel as a priority group for future ecodesign requirements and Digital Product Passport development.
single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/industry/sustainability/sustainable-products/ecodesign-sustainable-products-regulation_en

EU5 — **European Commission — Forced Labour Regulation Guidance, 2026**
Current guidance on the EU forced-labour prohibition and its application from 14 December 2027.
single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/raw-materials/areas-specific-interest/forced-labour_en

GREAT BRITAIN / NORTHERN IRELAND

GB1 — **Business Companion / GOV.UK — Textile Labelling**
Official GB guidance on textile fibre-content labelling, including non-textile parts of animal origin.
businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/goods/labelling-of-textiles

GB2 — **General Product Safety Regulations 2005 (SI 2005/1803)**
Current GB baseline consumer-product safety framework.
legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2005/1803

GB3 — **UK Health and Safety Executive — UK REACH**
Official UK REACH guidance confirming applicability to substances in articles including clothing.
hse.gov.uk/reach/index.htm

GB4 — **Nightwear (Safety) Regulations 1985 (SI 1985/2043)**
Official legislation covering specific nightwear flammability and associated labelling requirements.
legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1985/2043

NI1 — **GOV.UK — EU Regulation 2023/988 on General Product Safety in Northern Ireland**
Confirms EU GPSR application in Northern Ireland from 13 December 2024.
gov.uk/government/publications/general-product-safety-regulations-northern-ireland

UNITED STATES

US1 — **U.S. Federal Trade Commission — Textile Fiber Products Identification Act Guidance**
Primary buyer reference for fibre content, country of origin and responsible-company/RN information on covered textile products.
ftc.gov/business-guidance/resources/threading-your-way-through-labeling-requirements-under-textile-wool-acts

US2 — **U.S. Federal Trade Commission — Care Labeling Rule**
Official care-instruction requirements for covered textile wearing apparel and certain piece goods.
ftc.gov/business-guidance/resources/care-labeling-textile-wearing-apparel-certain-piece-goods

US3 — **U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission — Flammable Fabrics Act**
Official reference covering general clothing textiles and separate product categories including children's sleepwear, carpets/rugs and mattresses.
cpsc.gov/Regulations-Laws--Standards/Statutes/Flammable-Fabrics-Act

US4 — **U.S. Customs and Border Protection — Forced Labor Enforcement Operational Guidance, 9 June 2026**
Current importer guidance identifying apparel, cotton and cotton products as priority sectors and addressing supply-chain tracing evidence.
cbp.gov/sites/default/files/2026-06/fld_importer_guidance_final_06092026_0.pdf

US5 — **U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission — Children's Product Certificate**
Official requirements for third-party testing at a CPSC-accepted laboratory, CPC issuance and tracking-label obligations (CPSIA §103; 16 CFR Part 1130).
cpsc.gov/Business--Manufacturing/Testing-Certification/Childrens-Product-Certificate

CERTIFICATION / STANDARDS / RESPONSIBLE SOURCING

C1 — **OEKO-TEX® — STANDARD 100**
Official product-certification information and Label Check verification route.
oeko-tex.com/en/our-standards/standard-100-by-oeko-tex

C2 — **OEKO-TEX® — News / New Regulations 2026**
Official 2026 update; new requirements effective 1 June 2026 following transition.
oeko-tex.com/en/news

C3 — **Global Standards / GOTS — Version 8.1**
Latest published GOTS update as of August 2026; released 22 July 2026, following Version 8.0 (March 2026). Implementation deadline remains 1 March 2027.
global-standards.org/news/announcing-standard-updates-in-gots-version-8-1

C3A — **Global Standards — Downloads (Standard Document, Implementation Manual, Changelog v8.0–8.1)**
Official document library hosting the current GOTS Version 8.1 Standard Document, Implementation Manual and Changelog from v8.0 to v8.1.
global-standards.org/downloads

C4 — **Global Standard / GOTS — Scope & Transaction Certificate Resources**
Official certification framework distinguishing certified-entity scope from transaction/product evidence.
global-standard.org/resource-library/standard-and-certification

C5 — **Textile Exchange — Materials Matter Transition Policy**
Official transition dates: published 12 December 2025, effective 31 December 2026, mandatory for eligible Tier 4 scope certificates from 31 December 2027, full claims/labels transition by 30 June 2029.
textileexchange.org/materials-matter-standards-transition

C6 — **amfori — amfori BSCI**
Official source explicitly confirming that amfori BSCI is not a certification.
amfori.org/en/solutions/social/amfori-bsci

C7 — **Sedex — SMETA**
Official source confirming SMETA as a social-audit methodology and SMETA 7 as the current version.
sedex.com/solutions/smeta-audit

C7A — **Sedex — Updates to SMETA Guidance, 2025**
Confirms the 24-month recency rule: a SMETA audit older than 24 months is no longer treated as a robust assessment of current workplace conditions.
sedex.com/knowledge-hub/news/updates-to-smeta-guidance-external-consultation-summary-report

C8 — **WRAP — 12 Principles / Certification**
Official facility social-compliance certification framework and verification route.
wrapcompliance.org

Q1 — **ISO 2859-1:2026**
Current ISO standard (3rd edition) for AQL-indexed sampling procedures for lot-by-lot inspection by attributes; replaces the 1999 edition.
iso.org/standard/85464.html

MENA / BALKANS

M1 — **Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization — Technical Regulation for Textile Products**
Primary Saudi technical-regulation reference for textile products (confirmed as the textile-specific regulation page, distinct from SASO's separate footwear regulation).
saso.gov.sa/en/laws-and-regulations/technical_regulations/pages/regulation22.aspx

B1 — **Republic of Serbia, Ministry of Economy / TEHNIS — Rulebook on the Marking and Labeling of Textile Products (Official Gazette No. 86/2019)**
Official Serbian technical-regulation text for textile labelling/marking, aligned with Regulation (EU) 1007/2011 and (EU) 2018/122.
tehnis.privreda.gov.rs/sw4i/download/files/article/RULEBOOK ON THE MARKING AND LABELING OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS.pdf

Better Evidence. Better Buyer Control.

A manufacturer should be assessed against the buyer's actual requirement — not simply against what the supplier already produces, promotes or wants to sell.

A quotation should be compared on a common commercial basis. A certificate should be relied upon only when its scope supports the relevant product, process or production structure. A sample should become a controlled production reference. A finished order should be released only after the buyer can establish what was actually produced, what remains open and whether the shipment is ready to move.

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