

Testing and Certification of Technical Textiles

TESTEX AG

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Swiss Technical Textile Industry: Barriers for
Transitioning to a More Sustainable Economy

TESTEX – Swiss Textile Testing Institute



- Swiss quality testing, analysis and certification since 1846
- Our services:
 - Analytical tests to detect harmful substances in textiles & textile certification (i.e. OEKO-TEX®)
 - Testing textile physics and textile chemistry (fibres, yarns, fabrics, non-wovens & finished products, as well as personal protective equipment)
- More than 300 employees worldwide in 28 branch offices



Testex is the official OEKO-TEX® representative for Switzerland, Australia, Canada, China, South Korea and other countries.

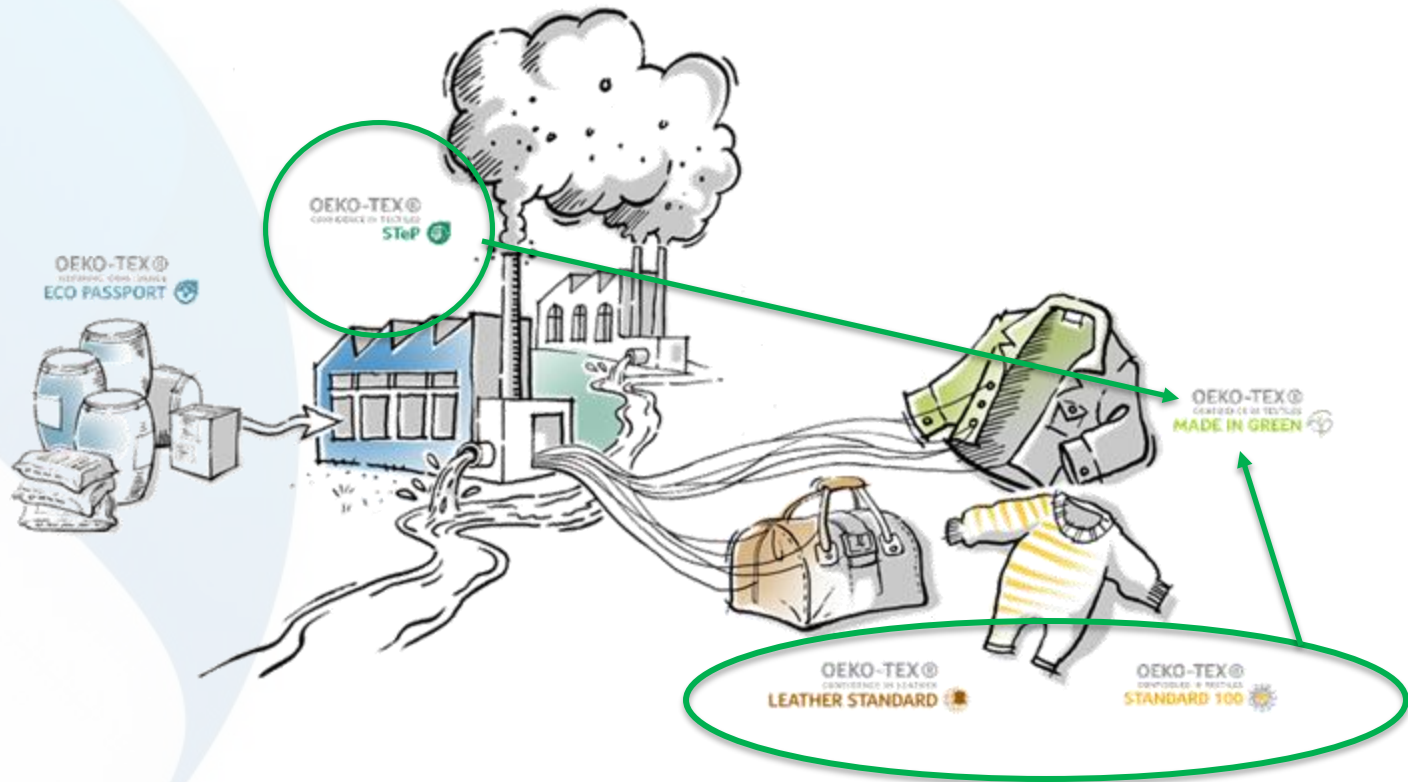
OEKO-TEX® portfolio

- Textile certification throughout all stages of production

INPUT CONTROL

PROCESS CONTROL

OUTPUT CONTROL



What can testing & certification organizations contribute to a circular economy for textiles?



1. Quality control

- Especially when recycled material is used, fulfilling technological or ecological quality standards can be a barrier. As testing institute, we can help by continuously testing recycled products and certifying companies.

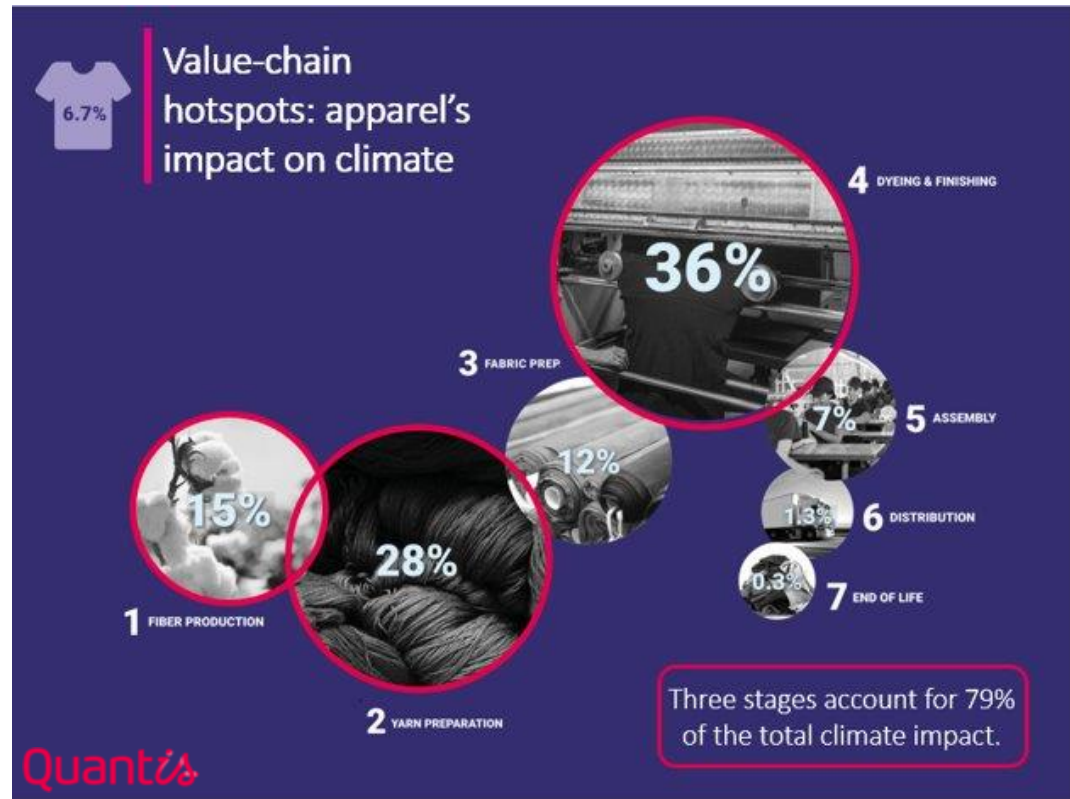
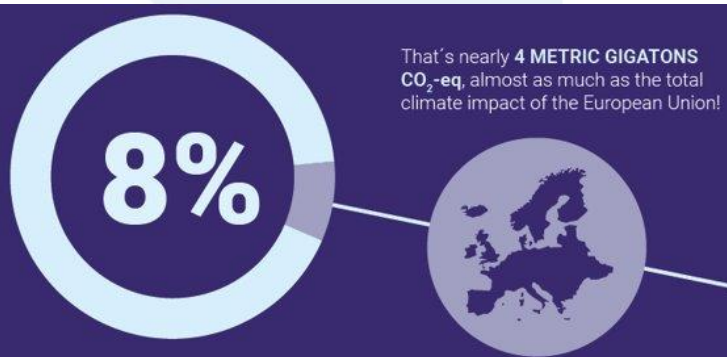
2. Setting incentives for more **sustainable production processes** through certification

What can testing & certification organizations contribute to a circular economy for textiles?

On average, a global citizen consumes **11.4kg** of apparel annually. This produces **442kg CO₂-eq** emissions per capita, about the same amount emitted while driving a car **1,500mi**.



As a **high-impact** industry, the fashion sector has a responsibility to be bold about emissions reduction targets.



Source: Quantis (2018): Measuring Fashion: Environmental Impact of the Global Apparel and Footwear Industries Study

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- Fiber production, Yarn Preparation and Dyeing & Finishing of Textiles account for 79% of climate impact.
- Certifications can help companies identify improvement potential – next to circular economy, the Quantis study identifies the use of **renewable energy** and **energy efficiency** as most effective measures to achieve the sector emission reduction goals.

3. Incorporating **circular economy** elements in certification systems

- For example by setting standards for recycled materials

4. Fostering **transparency**

- Textile supply chains are complex: Certifications such as Made in Green by OEKO-TEX[®] allow us to track the individual production steps of their product.
- By incorporating life cycle assessment instruments in certification systems, transparency regarding climate footprint can be achieved.

Thank you for your kind attention!



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