

FACT SHEET

BETTER COTTON CHAIN OF CUSTODY VERIFICATION (3PV)

Better Cotton is not just about meeting a set of standards; it's about being part of a global movement to improve the cotton industry for people, the environment, and the future of the sector.

At Intertek, we are committed to fostering a more sustainable, transparent, and responsible cotton industry. Better Cotton's principles and requirements aim to drive improvements in the industry for people, the environment, and the future prosperity of the sector more broadly, supporting farmers, suppliers, and the entire cotton supply chain.



Better Cotton Chain of Custody Verification (3PV)

The Chain of Custody verification provides supply chain traceability to maintain the integrity of the Better Cotton claim throughout the entire process, from farm to final product, fostering transparency and confidence among consumers and retailers.

Since October 1, 2023, the new Better Cotton CoC Standard has been in effect, allowing for the tracking of physical Better Cotton throughout global supply chains. This updated standard introduces physical models, such as segregation and controlled blending, alongside BC's existing mass balance system. Suppliers are required to transition from the *Chain of Custody Guidelines v1.4* to the new *Chain of Custody Standard* by May 2025. It's noteworthy that while mass balance remains a crucial aspect of the new CoC, the use of physical models is now optional, except for producers and gins who are obligated to incorporate them.

The Chain of Custody program applies to the following supply chain actors: ginners, spinning mills, fabric mills, manufacturers, traders which are Better Cotton members or not, but are buying or selling Better Cotton.

Our Verification Process

Before the Audit

- 1 Application Submission**
The first step is to fill out our Client Information Form (CIF), to best evaluate your requirements.
- 2 Commercial Proposal**
Then we provide you with a quotation.
- 3 Contract Signing & Payment**
- 4 Assessment Scheduling**
Two weeks prior to the assessment, Intertek will schedule a site audit with the BC client, ensuring the involvement of BC's compliance desk in the process.

During the Audit

- 5 Assessment and Assessment Follow-Up (if applicable)**
Assessment will be done onsite/ remotely. In cases where non-conformity is found, a follow-up assessment may be conducted.
- 6 Report Completion**
Auditor completes report and technical review (0-9 days post-assessment)
- 7 Assessment Results**
Assessment reports will be uploaded by Intertek auditor to Better Cotton's SharePoint site, within 10 days post-assessment.
- 8 Provide Assessment Results**
The auditor will share the results with BC Client within 4 weeks of the last day of the assessment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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