

# The OEKO-TEX® system: Global, Consistent & Safe.

**AAFA Conference, Dhaka  
30th November, 2011**



## What is Oeko-Tex®?

An **international certification system** for textiles and garments from all stages of production.



Most widespread and familiar test symbol for human ecological optimized textiles:

>> More than 100,000 certificates have been issued for millions of high quality textile products world-wide

**Aim: the exclusion of harmful substances along the entire textile value-added chain.**

# Human Ecology **OEKO-TEX® Standard 100**

is concerned with the effects of textiles and the chemicals contained in them of the health and well being of the consumer

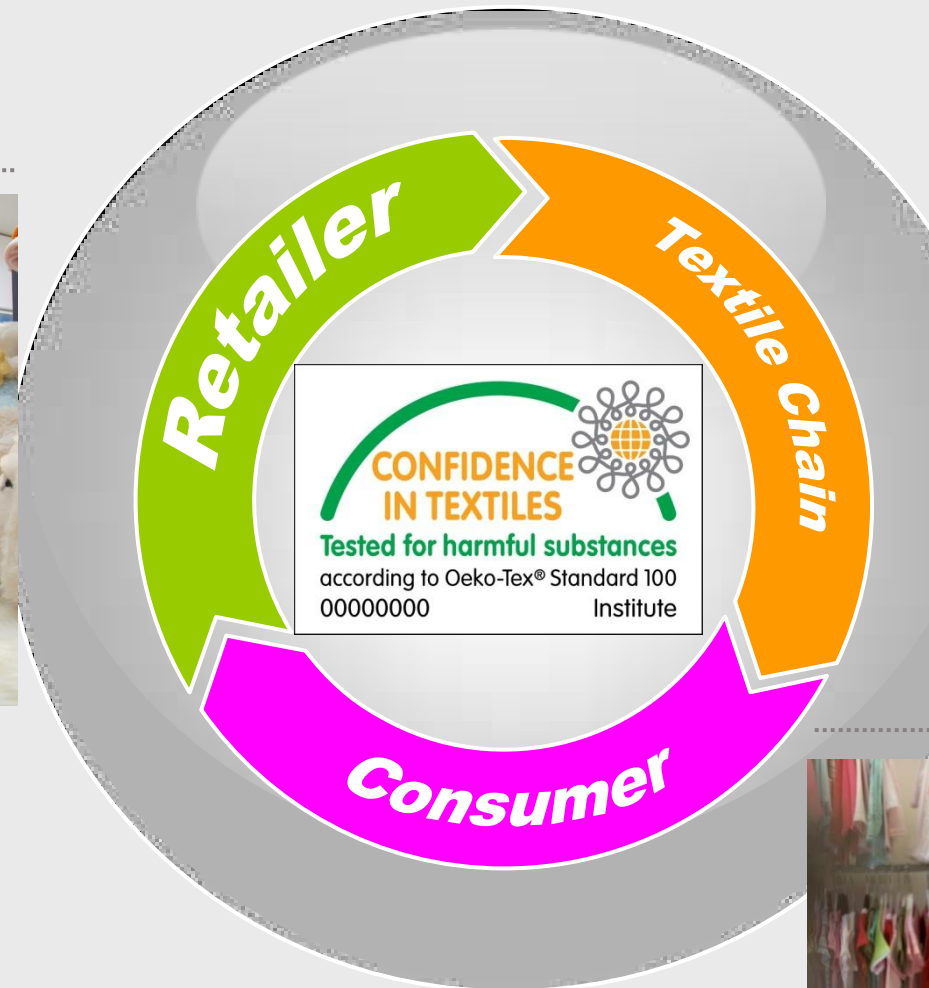
**Retailer**



**Textile chain**



**Consumer**



# Production Ecology OEKO-TEX® Standard 1000

involves the effects of production processes on man and the environment, e.g. operational safety, material, water and energy consumption, wastewater and waste treatment, as well as the formation of dust and noise generation, covering of social responsibility

Retailer



Textile Chain







Consumer



# Product classes

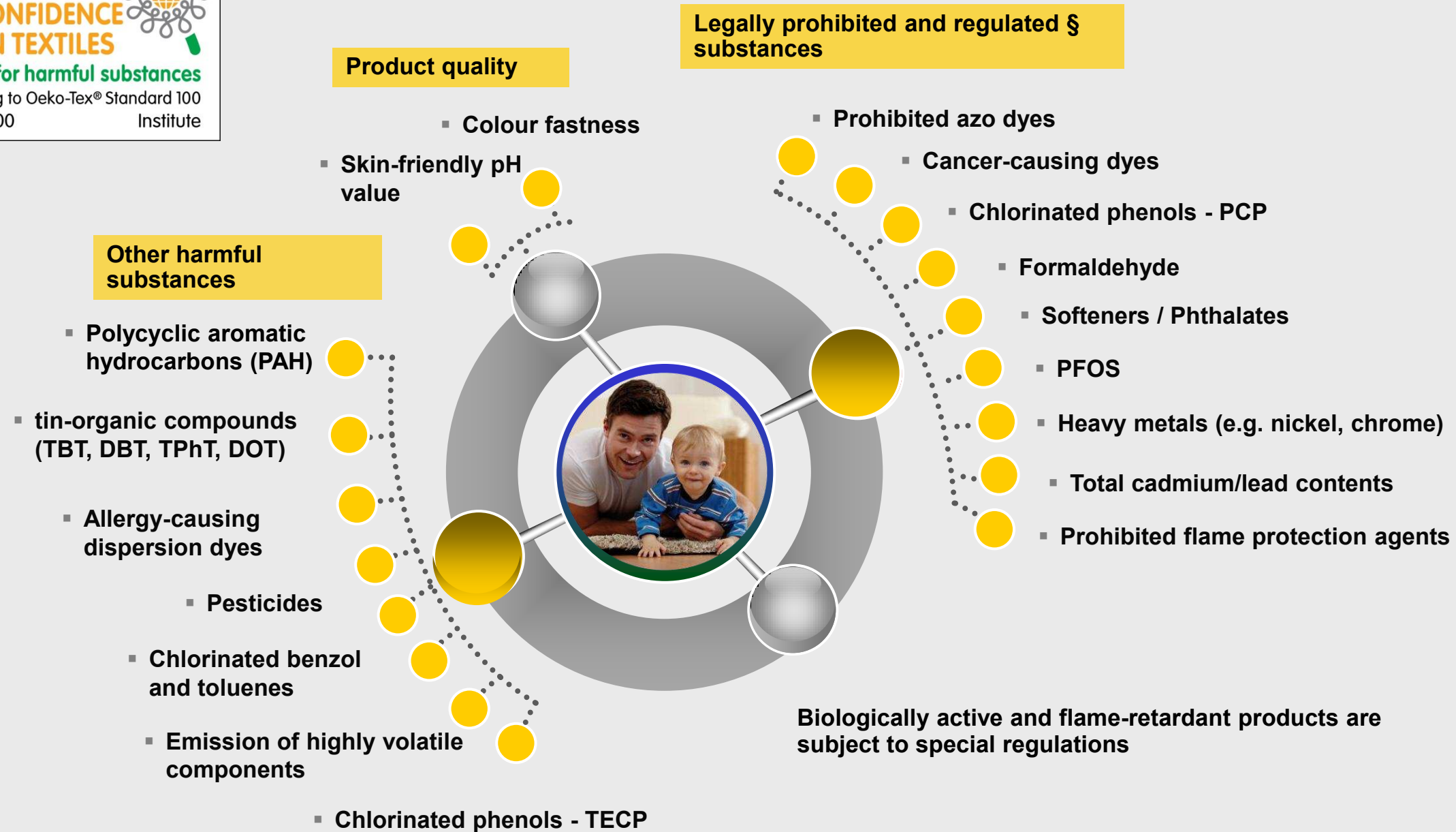


OEKO-TEX® testing for harmful substances is always based on correct use of the article in question. The following principle applies: **the closer the contact with the skin, and the more sensitive the skin, the stricter the specifications** underlying the laboratory testing.

| Product Class I   | Product Class II   | Product Class III   | Product Class IV  |
|---|--|---|---|
| <p>Articles for babies and toddlers up to the end of their third year of life</p>   | <p>Textiles of all kinds in direct contact with the skin</p>                         | <p>all kinds not in direct contact with the skin</p>                                  | <p>Furnishing fabrics for decorative purposes</p>                                     |
|  |  |  |  |
| <p>Clothing, nightwear, bedding, textile toys, pram mattresses etc.</p>             | <p>Underwear, T-shirts, shirts/blouses, bedding, towels, tights etc.</p>             | <p>Jackets, coats, outdoor items etc.</p>   | <p>Table linen, curtains, upholstery, textile floor and wall coverings etc.</p>       |

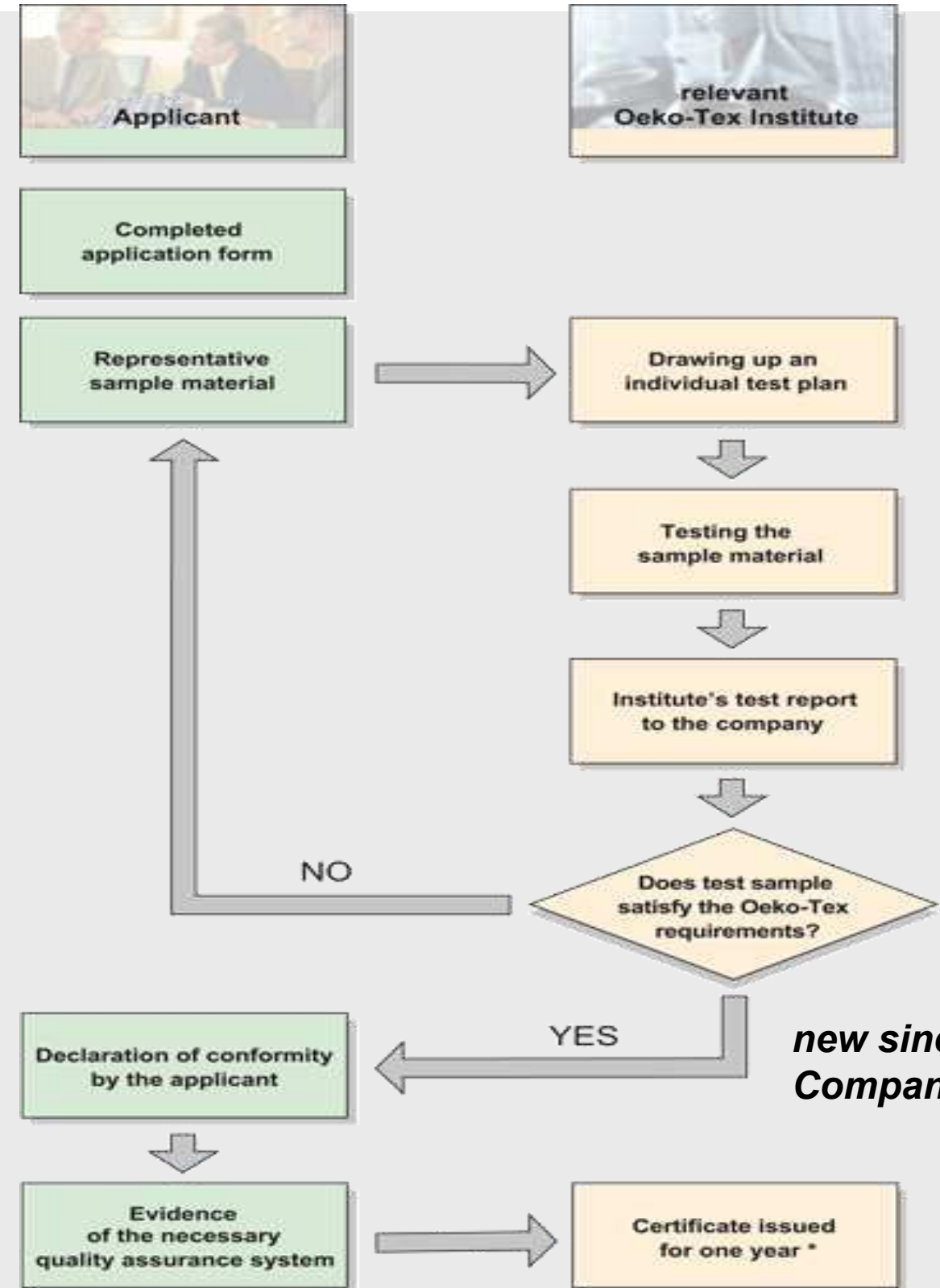


## Limit values and fastness – OEKO-TEX® Standard 100



# OEKO-TEX® Standard 100 – Certification procedure

*The time it takes depends on the extent of testing and on the particular properties of the article, but usually at least 3 weeks from application to issuing of the certificate.*



*new since 2010: Company visits*



# The modular system of the OEKO-TEX Standard 100 >>>



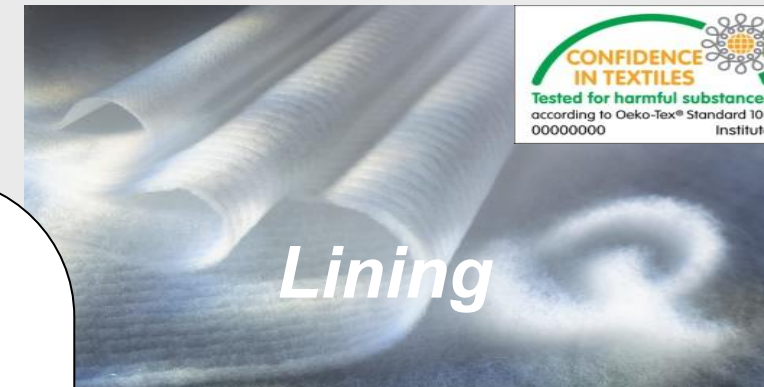
# The OEKO-TEX® modular system



Sewing thread



Fabric



Lining



Label



Zip fastener

**Ready-made articles** consisting of OEKO-TEX® certificated components can normally only be endorsed / labelled using the test number under which the END PRODUCT was certified by the authorised test institute.

**Under no circumstances may one or more of the certificate numbers for the individual components be used to endorse the end product.**

# On site audits



# Compliance with legal requirements

## REACH (Europe):

- The OEKO-TEX® Association studies the ECHA candidate list of SVHCs (substances of very high concern) very closely
- It checks the relevance to the textile chain if SVCHs are included in the candidate list
- If necessary, SVHCs are added to the OEKO-TEX® list of criteria

## CPSIA (USA):








- The OEKO-TEX® Standard 100 is recognised by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) as evidence of compliance with the limit values for total lead content in products for children

## OEKO-TEX® certificate:

*“The certified articles comply with the requirements of Appendix XVII of the REACH legislation (including the use of azo dyestuffs, nickel etc.) and of American regulations relating to the total lead content in products for children (CPSIA, does not apply to materials made of glass).”*

# OEKO-TEX® & third party requirements

## Example: AAFA (American Apparel & Footwear Association)

|                                  |  |            | (+/-)   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Formaldehyde                     | n.d. / 75 ppm / 300 ppm   | n.d. / 75 ppm / 300 ppm   | identical   |
| Heavy metals                     | various   | various   |  + Sb, Co                |
| Pesticides / chlorinated phenols | totally 34 banned   | totally 65 banned   | +/- differences   |
| Phthalates                       | totally 6 banned  | totally 7 banned  |  + 1 and also for adults |
| Tin-organic compounds            | totally 4 banned  | totally 4 banned  | identical   |
| PFOS                             | 0,1µg/m <sup>2</sup>  | 0,1µg/m <sup>2</sup>  |  + PFOA                |
| Azo dyes                         | 24 banned amines  | 24 banned amines  | identical   |
| Disperse dyes                    | 8 banned dyes   | 26 banned dyes  |  + 18 dyes             |
| Flame retardants                 | totally 8 banned  | all (*) banned  |  *: special case       |
| Banned fibres                    | Asbestos  | Asbestos  | identical   |
| Solvents / Green house gases     | 9 banned  | only in  | relevant for processing (environment)   |
| Dioxins / Furanes                | 25 banned   | -   | no textile relevancce   |

# Third party requirements: AAFA



Offers even more security for certificate holders for



- ✓ pH
- ✓ OPP
- ✓ free carcinogenic amines
- ✓ chlorinated benzenes/toluenes
- ✓ polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- ✓ emissions

# Third party requirements: CPSIA



## Consumer Products Safety Improvement Act

H. R. 4040

### One Hundred Tenth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Thursday,  
the third day of January, two thousand and eight*

### An Act

To establish consumer product safety standards and other safety requirements for children's products and to reauthorize and modernize the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. References.
- Sec. 3. Authority to issue implementing regulations.

TITLE I—CHILDREN'S PRODUCT SAFETY

# Third party requirements: USA

## Chronological summary:

- **3 January 2008: CPSIA (increasing requirements for lead content in all childrens articles + mandatory certification based on testing with CPSC accredited laboratories)**
- **< 600 ppm (10 February 2009)**
- **< 300 ppm (14 August 2009)**
- **< 100 ppm (14 August 2011)**
- **Stay for mandatory testing and certification until 31 December 2011**

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## ... and Oeko-Tex®?



### Federal Register / Vol. 74, No. 164 / Wednesday, August 26, 2009 / Rules and Regulations, Page 43037:

the material or product and ensure that the material or product meets the statutory lead levels at all times. With respect to the GOTS and Oeko-Tex® standards, we believe that certifications

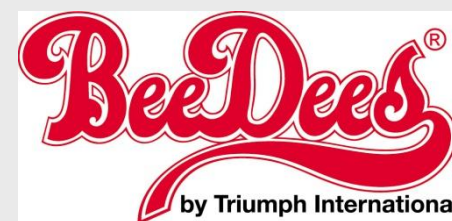
from GOTS and Oeko-Tex® would serve to provide such verifications for textiles. Both GOTS and Oeko-Tex® standards limit lead content in certain textile products to no more than 100 ppm lead.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/businfo/frnotices/fr09/leaddeterminationsfinalrule-draft.pdf>,



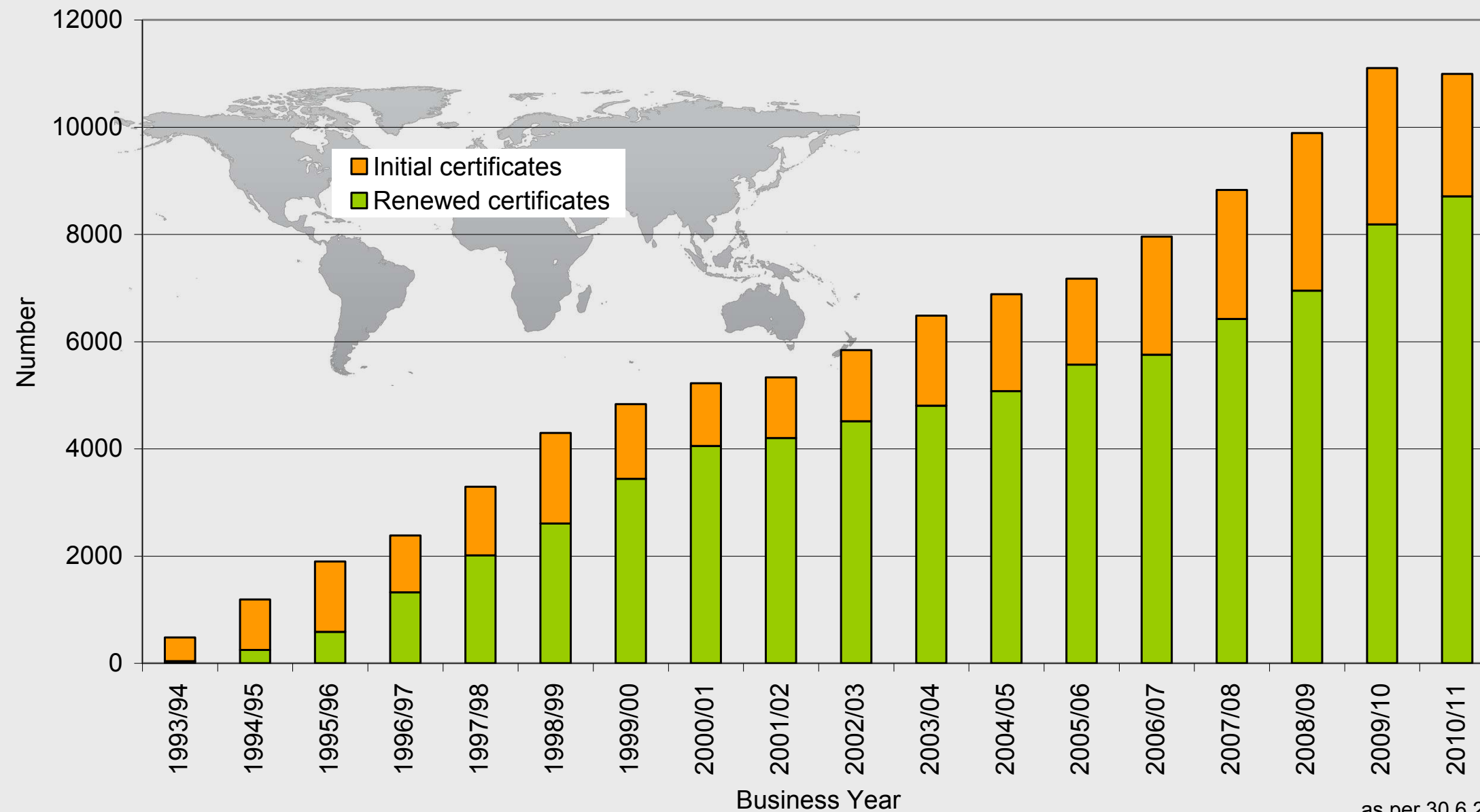
## Your benefit

- More **transparency** by relying on a standard evaluation tool for assessing harmful substances in textiles
- **High level of product security** exceeding various statutory requirements
- Valuable **extension** of the existing **quality assurance**
- Additional **marketing tool** that makes access to global target markets easier



# Number of issued certificates world-wide 1992 – 2011 (annually)

Number of issued certificates (year by year)



as per 30.6.2011

# Hohenstein Institute – Operating ranges and areas of competence

Clothing Technology

Consumer Tests & Textile Testing

Hygiene & Biotechnology

Function and Care

Corporate Communications and Research Marketing

# Aerial view of the Hohenstein Institute



# Thank you very much for your kind attention!

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