

FACT SHEET

BETTER COTTON Independent Assessment

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 and responsible cotton industry. Better Cotton Standard System is designed to support farmers in ensuring that cotton production is not only beneficial for the environment but also for the people involved in its cultivation and the economies of producing countries.



Measuring Cotton Consumption: Independent Assessment

Beyond verification and traceability, the measurement of cotton consumption involves a conformity assessment, ensuring the reliability and consistency of Retailer and Brand's cotton fiber consumption measurement in alignment with the Better Cotton methodology.

The Independent Assessment requirements have been in effect since January 2024. Retailer and Brand Members (RB Members) are responsible for selecting an Assessor and covering any associated costs. The RB members are required to select an Independent Assessor from Better Cotton's Approved Assessors list; internal auditing teams or organizations not included in the list cannot complete the assessment. An Independent Assessment is required every three years, with the deadline determined by the date the first Outcome Declaration was issued. Members required to complete the Independent Assessment must check their next due date in the BC members portal, [myBetterCotton](#). This Independent Assessment is also an eligibility criteria for maintaining access to advanced claims and On Product Claim (OPM).

All membership size categories are required to submit the cotton consumption measurement by the annual deadline of 15 January.

Our Assessment 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**
The assessment will be scheduled once the contract is signed.

During the Audit

- 5 Assessment and Assessment Follow-Up (if applicable)**
Assessment will be done onsite/ remotely. Necessary changes to the self-assessment template filled by Retailer/Brand member for Cotton consumption will be made.
- 6 Completion of Outcome Declaration & Conformity Assessment**
Auditor completes report and technical review (0-9 days post-assessment)
- 7 Assessment Results**
Assessment template will be shared by auditor to the client (2 weeks post-assessment)
- 8 Submit Assessment**
Retailer/Brand Member submits independent assessment template to BC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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