

# Terms and Definitions for Textile Exchange Standards and Related Documents

This document provides definitions which are used throughout Textile Exchange standards and other related documents. Key definitions may also be included in the applicable document.

NOTE: Existing definitions from published standards have not been changed, even where different definitions are used in different documents. Definitions will be adapted and merged through the next revision process for each standard.

## Section A - Textile Exchange Standards and Documents

For a complete list of documents see [TE-201 Document List – Public](#).

Standards		
Standard Name	Acronym	Document Code*
Content Claim Standard	CCS	CCS-101-V3.1-2022.06.09
Global Recycled Standard	GRS	GRS-101-V4.0-2017.07.01
Organic Content Standard	OCS	OCS-101-V3.0-2020.03.01
Recycled Claim Standard	RCS	RCS-101-V2.0-2017.07.01
Responsible Down Standard	RDS	RDS-101-V3.0-2019.07.01
Responsible Animal Fiber	RAF	<i>Framework which includes the RWS, RMS and RAS</i>
Responsible Wool Standard	RWS	RAF-101a-V2.2-2021.10.01
Responsible Mohair Standard	RMS	RAF-101b-V1.2-2021.10.01
Responsible Alpaca Standard	RAS	RAF-101c-V1.0-2021.04.20

\* Document code: Category-Document Number-Version-Publication Date (YYYY.MM.DD)

Other Documents		
Standard Name	Acronym	Document Code*
Accreditation and Certification Procedures for Textile Exchange Standards	ACP	ASR-101-V2.1-2020.07.01
Certification Fee Structure	Fee Schedule	ASR-107-V2022.0-2021.10.01
Complaints and Feedback Policy	Complaints Policy	ASR-110-V2.0-2020.07.01
Policy for Scope Certificates	SC Policy	ASR-103-V3.0-2021.09.13
Policy for Transaction Certificates	TC Policy	ASR-104-V3.0-2021.09.13
Standards Claims Policy	Claims Policy	TE-301-V1.2-2022.02.04
<b>Standard Setting Procedures</b>	Standard Setting Procedures	ASR-102-V3.0-2021.11.16

\* Document code: Category-Document Number-Version-Publication Date (YYYY.MM.DD)

## Section B - Synonyms

Textile Exchange Term	ISO 17065/17011 Term	Other Terms Used
Accreditation Body (AB)	Accreditation Body	Oversight Body
Audit	Evaluation	
Auditor	Auditor	Inspector, Evaluator
Certification Body (CB)	Conformity Assessment Body (CAB)	Certifier*, Assurance Provider
Non-Conformity (NC)	Nonconformity	Corrective Action Request (CAR), Non-Conformity Report (NCR), Non-Compliance, Non-Conformance

Textile Exchange Term	ISO 17065/17011 Term	Other Terms Used
Site	Client	Unit, Certified Entity, Organization, Operator
Standard	Certification Scheme	

NOTE: Terms marked with a \* may also have other uses.

NOTE: Accreditation bodies and certification bodies may choose to use alternative terms to the ones listed, provided that the meaning is clear in the context of Textile Exchange’s systems.

The following verbal forms are used to indicate requirements, recommendations, permissions, or capabilities in all documents listed in Section A:

1. “shall” indicates a requirement
2. “should” indicates a recommendation (non-binding)
3. “may” indicates a permission (non-binding)
4. “can” indicates a possibility or capability

The abbreviation “e.g.” is used to indicate an example, while the abbreviation “i.e.” is used to provide clarification of meaning.

## Section C - Relevant Organizations

The following external organizations may be referenced in Textile Exchange documents.

Organization	Acronym	Website
Global Organic Textile Standard	GOTS	<a href="http://www.global-standard.org">www.global-standard.org</a>
International Accreditation Forum	IAF	<a href="http://www.iaf.nu">www.iaf.nu</a>
International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements	IFOAM	<a href="http://www.ifoam.bio">www.ifoam.bio</a>
International Labour Organization	ILO	<a href="http://www.ilo.org">www.ilo.org</a>
International Organization for Standardization	ISO	<a href="http://www.iso.org">www.iso.org</a>
ISEAL Alliance	ISEAL	<a href="http://www.isealalliance.org">www.isealalliance.org</a>

Organization	Acronym	Website
Transparency International	-	<a href="http://www.transparency.org">www.transparency.org</a>
United States Department of Agriculture	USDA	<a href="http://www.usda.gov">www.usda.gov</a>
World Animal Protections	-	<a href="https://www.worldanimalprotection.org/">https://www.worldanimalprotection.org/</a>

## Section D - Definitions

Terms used in Textile Exchange Standards and related documents are defined below. Key documents are referenced for each term, though references to the term apply across all Textile Exchange documents except where noted. Acronyms are specified in brackets.

NOTE: Where a separate definition is indicated with a reference to a standard for a particular term, that definition applies to the specified standard only. Definitions will be merged during the next revision of the relevant standard.

Term	Document	Definition
<b>Accreditation</b>	ACP	A third-party attestation that a <i>certification body</i> is competent to carry out specific <i>certification</i> activities. Achieving accreditation gives a certification body the authority to grant certification to a <i>standard</i> .
<b>Accreditation Body (AB)</b>	ACP	An authorized third-party carrying out <i>assessment</i> and <i>accreditation</i> in accordance with the provisions set out in the ACP. An authorized accreditation body may issue accreditations.
<b>Announced Audit</b>	RDS, RWS	The <i>site</i> is contacted in advance to set a date for the on-site <i>audit</i> .
<b>Area</b>	RDS	A clearly defined geographical area from which <i>claimed material</i> is purchased. An area does not need to be contiguous.
<b>Area Certification</b>	RDS	Certification of the supply <i>area</i> . The organization purchasing from the area is the <i>certified organization</i> .

Term	Document	Definition
<b>Assessment</b>	ACP	Process undertaken by an <i>accreditation body</i> to assess the quality and competence of a <i>certification body</i> based on a defined scope of <i>accreditation</i> .
<b>Assessor</b>	ACP	An accreditation body representative who conducts <i>assessments</i> .
<b>Associated Subcontractor</b>	CCS	A <i>subcontractor</i> who is not certified independently from the <i>contracting organization</i> and is instead audited as part of the contracting organization’s audit.
<b>Assured Claim</b>	CCS, Claims Policy	Assured claims are those that result from an assurance process against a Textile Exchange Standard and refer to a product, process, business, or service that has been certified to be in conformity with such Standard.
<b>Audit</b>	ACP	An evaluation undertaken by a <i>certification body</i> to verify conformity with a <i>Standard</i> . It may be conducted on-site or remotely and may involve visual inspection, interviews and/or document reviews.
<b>Audit Day</b>	Fee Schedule	A single calendar day (up to 24 hours) spent auditing <i>sites</i> that fall under the control of a single <i>Internal Control System (ICS)</i> . Does not include transit time to and from the site location or <i>confirmation visits</i> .
<b>Auditor</b>	ACP	A <i>certification body</i> representative who conducts <i>audits</i> .
<b>Bird</b>	RDS	See <i>waterfowl</i>
<b>Blending</b>	CCS	The process of combining multiple different materials of different types into a single product. See also <i>mixing</i> .
<b>Body Condition Score</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	System of measuring the fat and muscle cover of an animal – and therefore how good its nutrition and health has been – by reference to a standardized scale, normally from 1 (very thin) to 5 (obese).
<b>Brand</b>	CCS	An organization that controls the design, development, and purchase of <i>final products</i> for sale under their own

Term	Document	Definition
		name or private label. Brands may sell to wholesalers, <i>retailers</i> , or directly to <i>consumers</i> . This does not include organizations who sell a branded intermediate product for use in further processing steps.
<b>Brand Main Site (brand headquarters)</b>	CCS	A <i>brand</i> organization site that conducts administrative and operational activities. This may include, but is not limited to, departments such as purchasing, marketing, finance, merchandising, design, production, and legal.
<b>Captive Bolt Gun</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Device used to stun animals prior to <i>slaughter</i> or <i>euthanasia</i> . The gun has a retractable steel bolt that hits the forehead of the animal with sufficient force so as to render it instantly unconscious. Captive bolts may be penetrating or non-penetrating.
<b>Carrying Capacity</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	The average number of animals that can be placed on a pasture for a year without harming it. It is a measure of the pasture's ability to produce enough forage to meet the needs of grazing animals.
<b>Ceased Mulesing</b>	OCS, RWS	Wool from sheep where <i>mulesing</i> has ceased on the property. No lambs born on this property in the last 12 months have been mulesed. No purchased sheep are mulesed.
<b>Central Database System (CDS)</b>	ACP	See Trackit™.
<b>Certification</b>	ACP	The provision by an independent <i>certification body</i> of written assurance (a <i>scope certificate</i> ) that the product, service, or system in question meets specific requirements.
<b>Certification Body (CB)</b>	ACP	An <i>accredited</i> third-party carrying out <i>auditing</i> and <i>certification</i> in accordance with the provisions set out in the applicable Standard and the ACP. An accredited certification body may issue <i>scope certificates</i> and <i>transaction certificates</i> .

Term	Document	Definition
<b>Certified Organization</b>	ACP, RDS, Claims Policy	An <i>organization</i> which holds a <i>scope certificate</i> .
<b>Chain of Custody (CoC)</b>	CCS	A system to document and verify the path taken by a defined input material through all stages of transfer and production, to the final product. The chain of custody preserves the identity of the input material.
<b>Chukkering</b>	RAS	When a loop of rope is tied around the caudal abdomen, just tightly enough to flex, and each hindleg is place in turn through the loop just proximal to the fetlock. The alpaca is then immobilized lying down.
<b>Claim</b>	CCS, Claims Policy	An oral, written, implied, representation, statement, advertising, or other form of communication that is presented to the public or buyer that relates to the presence of a <i>claimed material</i> in the content of a product.
<b>Claim Approval</b>	Claims Policy	Required authorization for use of a claim as granted by the certification body upon submission of a formal request. Prior to the approval being granted, a review of the text claim and associated artwork is done.
<b>Claim Maker</b>	Claims Policy	Any party that wishes to make a claim about a Standards system. Normally this is a business in the supply chain but also includes other parties that wish to make a claim about a Standard.
<b>Claimed Material</b>	CCS, OCS, RDS, RWS, RMS, RAS, Claims Policy	<p>The specific material that is being verified by the CCS or another Standard as a content claim in a product which is sold.</p> <p>A reference to a Standard followed by the word “Material” refers to material claimed under that Standard (e.g. RDS Material, RMS Material, RWS Material, etc.).</p>
<b>Collector</b>	RDS	A person or company that collects <i>down</i> and feather from <i>farms</i> and trades this to down traders and/or <i>processors</i> .

Term	Document	Definition
		<p>A collector may work independently or under contract by another entity. In the context of RDS, collector refers to the small collector collecting from households and registered by the <i>certified organization</i> as an approved RDS collector.</p> <p>NOTE: The term <i>collector</i> is used differently in the context of RCS and GRS. See <i>material collection</i>.</p>
<b>Colostrum</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Milk produced by female mammals in the first days after giving birth. This milk has a higher fat content than normal milk and is particularly rich in proteins and antibodies. A young animal needs to receive sufficient colostrum so that it can acquire immunity.
<b>Common Ownership</b>	CCS	The status of <i>sites</i> or companies as being owned directly or indirectly by the same person or entity. This includes cases where one site owns the other, or where both sites are owned by the same parent entity. In cases of partial ownership, this refers to a majority or controlling share.
<b>Competent Person</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Someone who has acquired the knowledge to safely and humanely carry out a specific task or operation.
<b>Complaint</b>	Complaints Policy	A formal expression of dissatisfaction by a third party.
<b>Component</b>	CCS, Claims Policy	A uniquely identifiable material that is included or intended to be included as a part of a finished product. Components can be easily identified by consumers on the finished product.
<b>Composition Calculation</b>	CCS	A calculation showing the material composition of a <i>site's</i> output material after any <i>blending</i> and/or <i>mixing</i> done by the site.
<b>Confirmation Visit</b>	RDS, RWS	The <i>site</i> receives minimal notification of the visit. Limited to a visual check for conformity to animal welfare, land management, and social welfare requirements (as applicable) only. Done in addition to full <i>audits</i> .



Term	Document	Definition
<b>Consensus</b>	Standard Setting Procedures	General agreement, characterized by the absence of expressions of dissent to substantial issues by a prespecified deadline.
<b>Consumer</b>	CCS	The individual or company who make the final purchase of a product for their own use. Includes companies using products for commercial use (e.g. hotels purchasing bedding, linen rental company purchasing linens).
<b>Content</b>	Claims Policy	Proportion of a material in a product.
<b>Contract Slaughter Site</b>	RDS	A <i>slaughter site</i> which slaughters <i>birds</i> as a service to farmers. Following slaughter the birds are returned to the farmer.
<b>Contracting Organization</b>	CCS	An <i>organization</i> which outsources processing or storage to another site.
<b>Corruption Perception Index (CPI)</b>	ACP	An indicator of public sector corruption which provides a numerical score to each country, ranging from 0 (worst) to 100 (best). Published annually by Transparency International.
<b>Data Intermediary</b>	Claims Policy	Any person or organization that replicates data, either publicly or as a service. Textile Exchange does not allow the use of our data by such intermediaries outside of a written agreement.
<b>Distributor</b>	CCS	A <i>site</i> which takes physical possession of claimed material, but which is not a processor and does not transform products, including any (re)packaging which affects labeling or identification of materials (e.g. bagging of bulk down, or applying a logo to finished products).  NOTE: Distributors may include sites that provide warehousing for products that may or may not be owned by the distributor.
<b>Down</b>	RDS	The fine plumage on a <i>waterfowl</i> that sits under the outer feathers. For simplicity, the term down refers to all

Term	Document	Definition
		plumage including feathers and down. All RDS requirements are applied to down and feathers.
<b>Drought Feeding</b>	RWS, RMS	Hand or mechanical feeding an animal to maintain its condition when drought conditions stop vegetation growth.
<b>Electric Prodder</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Handheld object also known as ‘hot shot’ used to administer an electric shock when an animal is touched with it.
<b>Electric Stunning</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Passing a current through a brain of an animal to render it instantly <i>insensible</i> . Stunning through the head can be followed by stunning the heart which causes death.
<b>Emasculator</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	A tool for <i>castrating</i> a male animal. There are different types of emasculators. Some contain a blade/scalpel to completely remove the testes and others work by clamping the spermatic cords with no blade or cutting. Only the latter, bloodless emasculators, are permitted.
<b>Embryotomy</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Dismemberment of a [dead] fetus when natural birth is not possible.
<b>Euthanasia</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Ending the life of an animal using a method that produces rapid unconsciousness and subsequent death without evidence of pain or distress.
<b>Facility</b>	SC Policy	Any geographically distinct unit included as a <i>site</i> or a <i>subcontractor</i> within a certificate scope.
<b>Farm</b>	RDS, RWS, RMS, RAS	<p>Any <i>site</i> where crops or livestock are raised for the production of food and/or textiles. Non-adjacent fields may be considered part of the same farm, provided they are under the same management (i.e. same farmer).</p> <p>For RDS: Limited to domestic <i>waterfowl</i> farms (for production of food and/or parent <i>waterfowl</i>); includes hatcheries.</p> <p>For RDS: A small <i>farm</i> is any farm where less than 200 birds are raised at one time.</p>

Term	Document	Definition
		<p>For RWS: Limited to sheep farms.</p> <p>For RMS: Limited to angora goat farms.</p> <p>For RAS: Limited to alpaca farms.</p>
<b>Farmer</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	A person raising livestock [alpacas/sheep/goats] on a farm where there is a fixed base of operations (i.e. broadly using the same public/government/forest/wild area land areas) and where the land available is largely the same from year to year. Animals may be moved away from the base site, but the farmer does not usually stay overnight with those animals.
<b>Feedback</b>	Complaints Policy	Comments, suggestions, or requests for clarification relating to a particular document, policy, or practice.
<b>Feedlot</b>	RWS, RMS	<p>An area where livestock are fed by hand or mechanically and nutrition cannot be gained from the environment.</p> <p><i>Drought feeding</i> is not considered a feedlot. See drought feeding for more details.</p>
<b>Final Product</b>	CCS	A product that will be sold to a <i>consumer</i> in its current state and without further processing. Final products may be sold business to business (e.g. from the final <i>processor</i> in the supply chain to the <i>brand</i> ).
<b>First Processor</b>	ACP	<p>The certified <i>organization</i> that performs the first point of product transformation following the harvest or collection of the raw material.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For GRS and RCS, this refers to the material recycler;</li> <li>• For OCS, this refers to the earliest processing stage following the farm (the gin, for cotton);</li> <li>• For RDS, this refers to the slaughter site; and</li> <li>• For RWS, this refers to the earliest site processing wool after the farm (typically the scour).</li> </ul>
<b>Flock</b>	RDS, RWS, RMS	A group of animals.

Term	Document	Definition
<b>Force-feeding</b>	RDS	Any form of feeding that forces the <i>waterfowl</i> to eat more than it wants/needs. In particular, this refers to manual intervention using mechanical equipment (i.e. tubes) to increase the fat content, often for the production of foie gras.
<b>Force Majeure</b>	ACP	Any unforeseen event or circumstance which disrupts normal business operations of any of the participants in the system and that result in recommendations or requirements from national governments, international agencies, private entities, civil society, or non-governmental organizations to cope with the state of affairs until normal business operations can resume. Examples of force majeure events or circumstances include armed conflicts, disease outbreaks, terrorist attacks, and climate events such as droughts, fires, or floods.
<b>Freelancer</b>	ACP	An individual who is hired by an <i>accreditation body</i> or a <i>certification body</i> to act as an <i>assessor</i> or an <i>auditor</i> on a contract/non-employee basis, but subject to the accreditation/certification body's procedures. A freelancer may not also conduct client recruitment or management activities (see: <i>subcontractor</i> ). An individual may be considered to be a freelancer if payment is made to a company (e.g. an incorporated consulting business), provided that the work is stipulated to be done by a named individual and that the business does not engage in client recruitment or management activities.
<b>General Marketing Claim</b>	Claims Policy	Text claims which are not related to a specific product or certified organization.
<b>Greasy Animal Fiber</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Animal fiber as it is shorn from the animal, before any processing (e.g. greasy wool).
<b>Group</b>	ACP, CCS, RDS, RWS, RMS, RAS	A <i>scope certificate</i> which includes multiple, separately owned <i>sites</i> whose conformity with the standard falls under the responsibility of another separately owned legal entity with an <i>internal control system (ICS)</i> . The entity which manages the ICS is considered the <i>organization</i> .

Term	Document	Definition
		Group eligibility requirements are defined in each <i>Standard</i> .
<b>Group Member</b>	CCS, RDS, RWS, RMS, RAS	A <i>site</i> which is part of a <i>group certification</i> . The word ‘member’ may be used to refer to a group member.
<b>Hatchery</b>	RDS	Any <i>site</i> where <i>waterfowl</i> eggs are mechanically or naturally hatched to produce <i>waterfowl</i> .
<b>ICS Inspector</b>	CCS, RDS, RWS, RMS, RAS	A person responsible for conducting inspections of sites covered by an <i>ICS</i> .
<b>ICS Manager</b>	CCS, RDS, RWS, RMS, RAS	The ICS manager (or management group) is responsible for the implementation of the <i>ICS</i> .
<b>In-Conversion</b>	OCS	The establishment of an organic management system and building of soil fertility requires an interim period, known as the conversion period. While the conversion period may not always be of sufficient duration to improve soil fertility and for re-establishing the balance of the ecosystem, it is the period in which all the actions required to reach these goals are started.
<b>Independently Certified Subcontractor</b>	CCS	A <i>subcontractor</i> which holds their own certification to the Standard, independently of any <i>contracting organization</i> .
<b>Industrial</b>	RDS	A supply chain where the following are true: more than 200 birds are raised on a farm at once, the slaughter site has a capacity higher than 1,000 birds per day, and the meat is sold commercially (i.e. not for personal or local consumption).
<b>Initial Audit</b>	CCS	The first audit of an organization performed by a certification body for the standard. If an organization has a gap in certification of over 180 calendar days, any audit after this period would be an initial audit.

Term	Document	Definition
<b>Interested Party</b>	Standard Setting Procedures	Any person or group concerned with or who may be directly affected by a standard.
<b>Internal Control System (ICS)</b>	ACP, CCS, RWS, RMS, RDS, RAS	The system used by an <i>organization</i> for the oversight and management of conformity with a Standard for multiple sites, such as a <i>group</i> .
<b>International Working Group (IWG)</b>	Standard Setting Procedures	The group of stakeholders actively engaged in the development or revision of a standard. All IWG members are required to sign a charter ( <i>IWG charter</i> ) indicating their commitment to the goals of the standard and the time need to be engaged in the process.
<b>IWG Charter</b>	Standard Setting Procedures	This document includes a statement of purpose for the standard, objectives, roles, and responsibilities of the <i>IWG</i> , and agreement to comply with Chatham House Rule and anti-trust guidelines. All IWG members are required to sign the IWG charter.
<b>Label</b>	CCS	Descriptive, informative or pictorial material on or accompanying a product or its immediate container.
<b>Label Grade</b>	SC Policy, TC Policy	An indication of the logo and associated claims for which a product is eligible.
<b>Licensee Brand</b>	CCS	A company that is licensing the name of another brand for the purpose of putting this marketing on a finished good. In this case, the licensee brand does not assume ownership over the licensed brand name but does control the design and production process of the product. See also <i>brand</i> .
<b>Live-plucking</b>	RDS	Any form of removing <i>down</i> and feather from living <i>waterfowl</i> , including any form of molt harvesting.
<b>Main Site</b>	Fee Schedule, SC Policy	The <i>site</i> which is named on the cover page of the scope certificate and which acts as the certified organization. See also <i>site</i> .

Term	Document	Definition
<b>Major Revision</b>	Standard Setting Procedures	Changes to the standard that are scheduled or substantive and require the full revision process as identified in <a href="#">ASR-102 Standard Setting Procedures</a> , section B2. Substantive changes include, but are not limited to, changing the intent or objectives of the standard or the criteria within.
<b>Material Collection</b>	GRS, RCS	<p>Material Collection refers to the point in the recycling lifecycle when a Reclaimed Material is collected after its original use has ended (i.e.: it would have otherwise gone into the waste stream).</p> <p>Entities involved in Material Collection may include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals who collect Post-Consumer Materials for sale to brokers</li> <li>• Government organizations (e.g.: municipalities) that offer curbside recycling or operate transfer stations</li> <li>• Brokers that purchase Pre/Post-Consumer Material from individuals, municipalities, or commercial operations for re-sale</li> <li>• Commercial operations that collect their own Pre-Consumer Material from manufacturing operations</li> <li>• Commercial operations that collect Post-Consumer Material (e.g.: retail stores)</li> </ul>
<b>Material Concentration</b>	GRS, RCS	<p>Material Concentration refers to the point in the recycling lifecycle when a waste material receives primary handling. This may include, but is not limited to, sorting, screening, basic contaminant removal, or baling. Material is still unprocessed at this stage, meaning it has not been physically or chemically altered beyond basic handling (e.g. screening, crushing, or washing).</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government organization (e.g.: municipality)</li> </ul>

Term	Document	Definition
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-profit organization</li> <li>• Business entity (e.g.: brokers)</li> </ul>
<b>Material Recycling</b>	GRS, RCS	<p>The point in the recycling lifecycle when a <i>reclaimed material</i> is processed into a <i>recycled material</i>.</p> <p>NOTE: This may be a physical (mechanical), chemical, or biological (organic) process.</p>
<b>Minor Revision</b>	Standard Setting Procedures	Changes to the standard that are non-substantive and do not require full approvals by the IWG or public consultations. Non-substantive changes to a standard include, but are not limited to, improving or clarifying language without changing the intent, correcting typing or grammatical errors, and updating references to other documents where these have changed.
<b>Mixing</b>	CCS	The process of combining multiple different grades of the same raw material into a single product (e.g. two different grades of cotton). See also <i>blending</i> .
<b>Mortality</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Percentage or proportion of a <i>flock</i> or herd that die.
<b>Mulesing</b>	OCS, RWS	Removal of wool-bearing strips of skin from between the hind legs of sheep (the “breach” area) and/or from the tail or tail stump that remains after <i>tail docking</i> , in an effort to avoid problems of fly strike.
<b>Multi-Site Certification</b>	CCS	A certification which covers more than one <i>site</i> under a single <i>scope certificate</i> and is not a <i>group</i> .
<b>Non-Conformity</b>	ACP	Lack of conformity with the Standard or with applicable requirements.
<b>Notching</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Cutting the ears of [alpacas/sheep/goats] to permanently identify them. Notching is usually done in a pattern particular to the farm or ranch.



Term	Document	Definition
<b>Organically Grown Material</b>	OCS	Any output of an organic <i>farm</i> that has been certified by an accredited certification body to comply with USDA National Organic Program (NOP), Regulation (EC) 834/2007 & EU 2018/848, or any other organic standard that is approved in the IFOAM Family of Standards.
<b>Organization</b>	ACP, CCS, OCS, RDS, RWS, RMS, RAS, Claims Policy	A legal entity which is <i>certified</i> to or in the process of becoming certified to a <i>Standard</i> . A scope certificate is held by an organization, and an organization has one or more sites.
<b>Outsourcing</b>	ACP, CCS	The process of sending <i>claimed material</i> to a <i>subcontractor</i> for services to be provided.
<b>Pain Relief</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	The administration of analgesic and local anesthetic drugs given with the aim of providing significant alleviation of pain.
<b>Parallel Production</b>	RDS, RWS	Carrying <i>claimed material</i> and other material of the same type (e.g. down) at the same <i>site</i> , or carrying certified and non-certified livestock which fall under the same Standard on the same Farm.
<b>Parent Farm</b>	RDS	Any <i>farm</i> where <i>waterfowl</i> are kept for producing eggs. Any time RDS <i>down</i> is collected from a parent farm, the entire farm is subject to RDS certification.
<b>Parent Farm Certification</b>	RDS	An optional extension of the application of the RDS. Under Parent Farm Certification, all <i>parent farms</i> that supply to the raising farms on a scope certificate are required to be audited and certified. Material certified under parent farm certification may be separately identified through the final product.
<b>Parent Farm Certified Material</b>	RDS	Material certified under <i>parent farm certification</i> . The designation shall appear on the <i>transaction certificate</i> .
<b>Pasture</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Land covered with vegetation suitable for grazing or foraging by animals.

Term	Document	Definition
<b>Personnel</b>	ACP	Individuals who work on behalf of a legal entity. Includes employees (staff), <i>freelancers</i> , and <i>subcontracted</i> personnel.
<b>Pesticides</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Substances used for destroying insects or other organisms harmful to cultivated plants or to animals. Pesticides include bactericides, baits, fungicides, herbicides, insecticides, lures, rodenticides, and repellents.
<b>Pithing</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Destruction of the brain by insertion of a metal rod. Carried out after the use of penetrating captive bolt gun.
<b>Post-Consumer Material</b>	GRS, RCS	Material generated by households or by commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities in their role as end-users of the product that can no longer be used for its intended purpose. This includes returns of materials from the distribution chain. <sup>1</sup>
<b>Pre-Consumer Material</b>	GRS, RCS	Material diverted from the waste stream during the manufacturing process. Excluded is the reutilization of materials such as rework, regrind, or scrap generated in a process and capable of being reclaimed within the same process that generated it. <sup>2</sup>
<b>Predator</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Animal that hunts, kills, and eats other animals in order to survive.
<b>Primary Raw Material</b>	GRS, RCS	Virgin feedstocks that are either grown or extracted from the earth.
<b>Primary Scope</b>	ACP	Certification or accreditation scope which covers primary activities of a standard which form the basis of a <i>claim</i> .


<sup>1</sup> This excerpt is taken from ISO 14021:1999, section 7.8.1.1, subsection a.2 on page 14, with the permission of ANSI on behalf of ISO. © ISO 2013 – All rights reserved.


<sup>2</sup> This excerpt is taken from ISO 14021:1999, section 7.8.1.1, subsection a.1 on page 14, with the permission of ANSI on behalf of ISO. © ISO 2013 – All rights reserved.

Term	Document	Definition
		This includes the farm (RDS, RWS, RMS) and/or first processing stage (OCS, RCS, GRS, RDS).
<b>Primary Standard</b>	CCS	The standard used as the basis for a claim, e.g. the RDS when a claim is made using the CCS for RDS down.
<b>Processor</b>	CCS	Entity engaged in construction or transformation of a product, including the addition of trims or application of logos. Also referred to as a “manufacturer”.
<b>Producer</b>	Claims Policy	Entity responsible for the production of inputs into the manufacturing process.
<b>Product Integrity</b>	ACP	The soundness of a product with respect to a claim being made under a standard. This does not include the physical product quality or other attributes which fall outside the scope of the applicable standard(s).
<b>Products</b>	Claims Policy	The physical goods that result from each stage of production. These may include finished or unfinished goods.
<b>Project Plan</b>	Standards Setting Procedures	<p>A document that articulates what the standard aims to achieve and why the standard/revision is needed. It includes a summary of key information to guide the process of standard development or revision such as, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Justification of the need for the standard/revision;</li> <li>• Existing standards addressing similar materials or issues;</li> <li>• Proposed scope, including geographic regions (which will always be global for Textile Exchange. Geographic regions of significance may be highlighted here);</li> <li>• Clear objectives for the standard;</li> <li>• Desired outcomes of the standard, linked to the goals of the standard;</li> </ul>


Term	Document	Definition
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An assessment of risks in implementing the standard, and how to mitigate these;</li> <li>• Identification of factors that could have a negative impact on the ability of the standard to achieve its objectives;</li> <li>• Unintended consequences that could arise from its implementation; and</li> <li>• Possible corrective actions that could be taken to address these potential risks.</li> </ul>
<b>Publicly Available Information</b>	Claims Policy	Obtainable by any person, without unreasonable barriers of access; “Available on request” does not qualify.
<b>Public Project Summary</b>	Standard Setting Procedures	A condensed version of the <i>project plan</i> which is publicly available on the Textile Exchange website. It articulates what the standard aims to achieve and why the standard is needed, including goals and objectives, scope, timeline, decision-making process, and ways to participate.
<b>Public Stakeholder Standard Draft Consultation</b>	Standard Setting Procedures	The consultation on the standard draft held at the end of the development or revision process, open to any <i>interested parties</i> ; announced using a press release, etc. During the public stakeholder standard draft consultation, feedback is given on the draft version of the standard.  May also be referred to as the <i>draft consultation</i> .
<b>Public Stakeholder Standard Consultation</b>	Standard Setting Procedures	The consultation held prior to a revision of an existing standard, open to any interested parties; announced using a press release etc. During the public stakeholder standard consultation, feedback is given on the current version of the standard.
<b>Reclaimed Material</b>	GRS, RCS	Material that would have otherwise been disposed of as waste or used for energy recovery but has instead been

Term	Document	Definition
		collected and reclaimed as a material input, in lieu of new primary material, for a recycling process. <sup>3</sup> May also be referred to as <i>recovered material</i> .
<b>Records</b>	Claims Policy	The information in written, visual, or electronic form that documents the activities undertaken by a user to demonstrate accordance with requirements.
<b>Recovered Material</b>	GRS, RCS	See <i>reclaimed material</i> .
<b>Recycled Content</b>	GRS, RCS	Proportion, by mass, of recycled material in products or packaging. Only pre-consumer and post-consumer materials shall be considered as recycled content.
<b>Recycled Material</b>	GRS, RCS	Material that has been reprocessed from reclaimed material by means of a manufacturing process and made into a final product or into a component for incorporation into a product. <sup>4</sup>
<b>Recycling</b>	GRS, RCS	The processing of waste material for the original purpose or for other purposes, excluding energy recovery and reuse.
<b>Remote Audit</b>	ACP	The act of examining and evaluating conformity with a standard from somewhere other than the physical site (e.g. review of records submitted electronically, phone calls).
<b>Retailer</b>	CCS	An organization which sells products to individual consumers. Includes both physical stores and online sales, and may or may not also be the <i>brand</i> . The definition of retailer includes distribution centers which are controlled by the retailer.

<sup>3</sup> This excerpt is taken from ISO 14021:1999, section 7.8.1.1, subsection c on page 14, with the permission of ANSI on behalf of ISO. © ISO 2013 – All rights reserved. 

<sup>4</sup> This excerpt is taken from ISO 14021:1999, section 7.8.1.1, subsection b on page 14, with the permission of ANSI on behalf of ISO. © ISO 2013 – All rights reserved. 

Term	Document	Definition
<b>Reused Material</b>	GRS, RCS	A product or material which is used more than once in its original form. A reused product has not been discarded, and its reuse does not constitute a recover (recovered/reclaimed) option. <sup>5</sup>
<b>Safety Data Sheet (SDS)</b>	GRS	A document accompanying a chemical product that contains information on potential hazards (e.g. health, environmental) and how to work safely with the product.
<b>Scheme Participant</b>	Complaints Policy, Claims Policy	Legal entity which is involved with Textile Exchange and its Standards. Includes certified organizations, certification bodies, accreditation bodies, and Textile Exchange.
<b>Scope Certificate (SC)</b>	ACP, CCS, Claims Policy, SC Policy, TC Policy	A document issued by the <i>certification body</i> which verifies that an <i>organization</i> is competent to produce and sell specified <i>claimed materials</i> in conformity with a Standard. See <i>ASR-103 Policy for Scope Certificates</i> .
<b>Secondary Raw Material</b>	GRS, RCS	See <i>reclaimed material</i> and <i>recovered material</i> .
<b>Secondary Scope</b>	ACP	<i>Certification</i> or <i>accreditation</i> scope which is not a <i>primary scope</i> , and which covers organizations who receive incoming transaction certificates. Additional requirements (e.g. environmental, chemical, social) may also apply to organizations with secondary scopes depending on the standard.
<b>Secretariat</b>	Standard Setting Procedures	The administrative role of the IWG, which includes record keeping, stakeholder management, and other functions such as assurance management, and monitoring and evaluation.

<sup>5</sup> This excerpt is taken from ISO 14021:1999, section 7.8.1.1, subsection b on page 14, with the permission of ANSI on behalf of ISO. © ISO 2013 – All rights reserved. 

Term	Document	Definition
<b>Semi-announced Audit</b>	RDS, RWS, RMS, RAS	On-site audit with limited notice provided.
<b>Semi-nomadic and Nomadic Herders</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	A person who spends all or part of each year travelling on foot with their animals [alpacas/sheep/goats] to gain access to land for grazing. Semi-nomadic and nomadic herders may or may not follow the same route each year and use broadly the same land areas.
<b>Shelter</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Something that gives animals protection either via natural features such as trees or artificial structures like buildings or shades, however, it will not necessarily provide the same level of protection as <i>housing</i> .
<b>Site</b>	ACP, CCS, Fee Schedule, OCS, RDS, RWS, RMS, RAS, Claims Policy	Any geographically distinct unit within a certificate scope. Locations which are geographically distinct or have different civic addresses are considered to be separate sites (see exception for <i>farms</i> ). <i>Subcontractors</i> are not considered to be sites. The word <i>facility</i> is used in some documents and has the same meaning as site.  Includes: farms, <i>processors</i> , offices
<b>Slaughter</b>	RDS	Any <i>site</i> where livestock are killed for their meat. The slaughter process may happen at farms, small <i>facilities</i> or large-scale slaughterhouses.  <b>Small Slaughter Site:</b> Any <i>slaughter</i> site with a capacity of less than 1,000 <i>waterfowl</i> per day.
<b>Standard</b>	ACP, CCS, Claims Policy	The relevant Textile Exchange-owned standard, which may be any of the following: the Content Claim Standard (CCS), Organic Content Standard (OCS), Recycled Claim Standard (RCS), Global Recycled Standard (GRS), Responsible Down Standard (RDS), Responsible Wool Standard (RWS), Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS), Responsible Alpaca Standard (RAS), or any other standards that come under the ownership of Textile Exchange.
<b>Steining</b>	RWS	Removal of wool bearing skin in the breech area by application of liquid nitrogen. This is a form of mulesing.

Term	Document	Definition
<b>Stocking Density</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Number of animals kept in a particular space (e.g. in a house or on a transport vehicle).
<b>Stocking Rate</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Number of animals kept on a particular area of land.
<b>Stun</b>	RWS, RMS, RAS	Action of rendering an animal insensible and unconscious.
<b>Subcontractor</b>	ACP, CCS, Fee Schedule	<p>A legal entity hired by an <i>organization</i> to perform services (e.g. storage, processing) on a <i>claimed material</i>. Subcontractors take physical possession but not legal ownership of claimed materials, and are independent of the organization which <i>outsources</i> the material.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>An independent legal entity hired by an <i>accreditation body</i> to provide services related to <i>accreditation</i> activities, excluding <i>freelancers</i>.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>An independent legal entity hired by a <i>certification body</i> to provide services related to <i>certification</i> activities, excluding <i>freelancers</i>.</p>
<b>Subcontracted Distributor</b>	CCS	A third-party distribution and/or logistics center that has been contracted to handle finished goods on behalf of the brand with the intent to distribute to customer, wholesale, or retail channels. See also <i>distributor</i> .
<b>Supply Chain</b>	Claims Policy	The progression of business entities involved in the supply and purchase of materials, goods, or services from raw materials to the final product.
<b>Suspension</b>	ACP	The limitation of a <i>scope certificate</i> or <i>accreditation</i> due to a specific <i>non-conformity</i> or issue. A suspension may be lifted when the non-conformity or issue is resolved, and the scope certificate or accreditation becomes active again immediately.
<b>Tail Docking</b>	RWS	Complete removal of all or part of an animal's tail.



Term	Document	Definition
<b>Trackit™</b>	ACP	<p>Textile Exchange’s certification database and traceability program. Trackit has two traceability pathways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital Trackit (dTrackit), which forms the traceability baseline for the existing certification process of all Textile Exchange standards; And</li> <li>• Electronic Trackit (eTrackit), which harnesses innovative technologies to deliver more granular traceability.</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: The Trackit system is in the final stages of development and pilot and will be fully implemented in the coming months.</p> <p>NOTE: The word <i>TTrackit</i> is used in some documents and has the same meaning as Trackit.</p>
<b>Thermocautery</b>	RWS	Use of a heated blade that cauterizes to stop the bleeding as it cuts. Used for <i>tail docking</i> .
<b>Trader</b>	CCS	A <i>site</i> which takes legal ownership but not physical possession of claimed material.
<b>Transaction Certificate (TC)</b>	ACP, CCS, SC Policy, TC Policy	A document issued by a <i>certification body</i> that verifies that products being sold or shipped from one <i>organization</i> to another conform to a given Standard and may be treated as <i>claimed materials</i> by the receiver. See <i>ASR-104 Policy for Transaction Certificates</i> .
<b>Transitional</b>	OCS	See <i>in-conversion</i> .
<b>Trim</b>	CCS	Supplemental items added to a product for decorative or functional reasons (e.g. embroidery, buttons, zippers).
<b>Unannounced Audit</b>	RWS	On-site audit with minimal or no advance notice.
<b>Volume Reconciliation</b>	CCS	The process of documenting quantities of material purchased, present on-site, and sold for a particular <i>site</i> ,

Term	Document	Definition
		and reviewing the quantities for accuracy and consistency.
<b>Waterfowl</b>	RDS	Domestically raised ducks and geese. Use of the word <i>bird</i> in the context of RDS refers to individual waterfowl.
<b>Withdrawal</b>	ACP, Claims Policy	The revocation of a <i>scope certificate</i> or <i>accreditation</i> due to a specific non-conformity or issue, or at the request of the <i>accredited/certified</i> party. Following a withdrawal of accreditation/certification, a new <i>assessment/audit</i> is required for accreditation/certification to return to an active status.