



OEKO-TEX® Limit values: New regulations 2024

At the start of the year, the OEKO-TEX® Association as usual updates the applicable test criteria, limit values and requirements for its range of certifications and labels. The following limit values come into effect on April 1, 2024 after a three-month transition period:

Limit values relevant for OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100, ORGANIC COTTON, LEATHER STANDARD and ECO PASSPORT

New additions to the limit value catalogue

SVHC substances:

Substance	CAS Number	STANDARD 100	LEATHER STANDARD	ORGANIC COTTON	ECO PASSPORT
Diphenyl (2,4,6-trimethylbenzoyl)phosphine oxide	75980-60-8	1000 mg/kg	1000 mg/kg	1000 mg/kg	1000 mg/kg
Bis(4-chlorophenyl) sulphone	80-07-9	1000 mg/kg	1000 mg/kg	1000 mg/kg	1000 mg/kg
1,4-dioxane	123-91-1	10 mg/kg	10 mg/kg	10 mg/kg	100 mg/kg



PFAS changes for OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100, ORGANIC COTTON, LEATHER STANDARD and ECO PASSPORT

Substance	CAS Number	STANDARD 100	LEATHER STANDARD	ORGANIC COTTON	ECO PASSPORT
PFCA related substances; sum	various	260 µg/kg	260 µg/kg	260 µg/kg	260 µg/kg
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid, related substances and salts (PFHxS); Sum	various	25 µg/kg	25 µg/kg	25 µg/kg	25 µg/kg

From the 01.01.2024 on, total fluorine (TF) will replace the current limit value for EOF (extractable organic fluorine) for a more effective ban of intentional use of PFAS.

The limit value was adapted to 100 mg/kg for all product classes. PPE will get an exception of the total fluorine content.

Other changes

- Phenol: a limit value of 100 mg/kg for all product classes has been added in the LEATHER STANDARD.
- SCCP & MCCP: The sum limit value has been decreased to 50 mg/kg for all product classes for the LEATHER STANDARD.
- Glutaraldehyde: The limit value for glutaraldehyde has been removed from the STANDARD 100 as it was not relevant for samples tested under the STANDARD 100.



Limit values relevant for OEKO-TEX® STeP

MRSL Group 4: Arylamines (released from Azo colorants or in free manner)

Substance	CAS Number	Limit value
2,5-Diaminotoluenes / 2-methyl-p-phenylenediamines	615-50-9	no limit value for waste water
4-Ethoxyanilines / p-phenetidines	156-43-4	no limit value for waste water
3,3-Diaminobenzidine	91-95-2	no limit value for waste water

Limit values relevant OEKO-TEX® STeP Chemical List Annex 3, Group 11 - Sludge testing requirements

11. Heavy metals and their compound

Substance	CAS Number	MRSL	Wastewater		Sludge	
			Limit Values [µg/l]	Reporting Limit [µg/l]	Limit Values [mg/kg]	Reporting Limit [mg/kg]
Antimony (Sb)	7440-36-0 et al.	X	100	1	testing required	2



Arsenic (As)	7440-38-2 et al.	X	50	1	testing required	2
Lead (Pb)	7439-92-1 et al.	X	100	1	testing required	2
Cadmium (Cd)	7440-43-9 et al.	X	100	0.1	testing required	2
Chromium (Cr)	7440-47-3 et al.	(X)1	200	1	testing required	2
Cr(VI)	18540-29-9 et al.	X	50	1	testing required	2
Cobalt (Co)	7440-48-4 et al.	(X)1	50	1	testing required	2
Copper (Cu)	7440-50-8 et al.	(X)1	1000	1	testing required	2
Nickel (Ni)	7440-02-0 et al.	(X)1	200	1	testing required	2



Mercury (Hg)	7439-97-6 et al.	X	10	0.05	testing required	0.2
Zinc (Zn)	7440-66-6 et al.	(X)1	5000	5	testing required	2
Manganese (Mn)	7439-96-5 et al.	(X)1	-	1	-	2
Silver (Ag)	7440-22-4 et al.	X	100	1	testing required	2

In addition to the testing of group 1, 7 and 12, also group "11. heavy metals and their compounds" shall be tested in sludge (as it was in edition 01.2022).

For more information on the new OEKO-TEX® test criteria, please contact OEKO-TEX® (info@oeko-tex.com) or your responsible OEKO-TEX® Institute (<https://www.oeko-tex.com/institute>).



Inspiring Confidence

After a three-month transition period, the new limit values will become binding for all certifications on April 1, 2024.