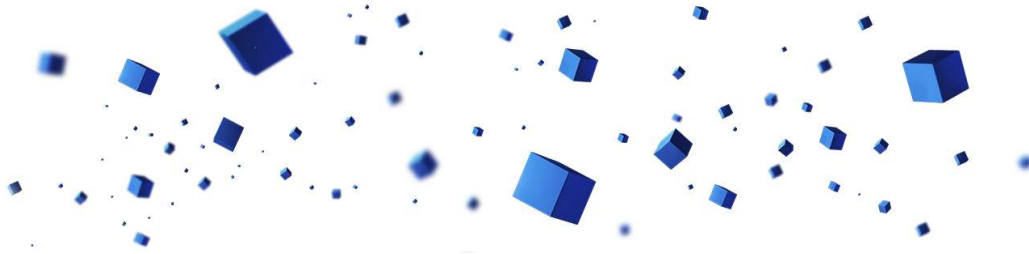


bluesign® CRITERIA for bluesign® PRODUCT

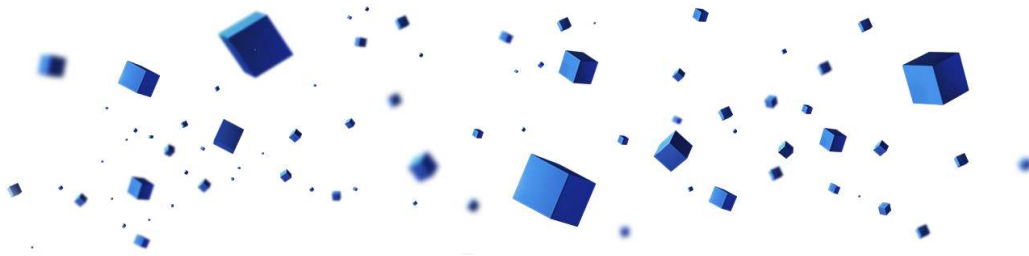
Version 4.1 | 2024-07





Contents

1	Purpose of this document	3
2	The claim of bluesign® PRODUCT	3
3	Scope of bluesign® PRODUCT	3
4	Definitions	4
5	Supply chain impact data.....	6
6	General requirements	7
7	Product category specific requirements	11
8	Application for authorization to register products in bluesign® GUIDE.....	30
9	Packaging	30
10	Component classification.....	32
11	Products within the scope of bluesign® PRODUCT	33
12	System integrity	34
13	Validity.....	34
14	Other applicable documents	34
15	Change log	35



1 Purpose of this document

This bluesign® CRITERIA define the requirements for consumer goods with textile character for end consumer use intended to be certified and labeled as bluesign® PRODUCT. Requirements for the business-to-business (B2B) bluesign® APPROVED trademark are described in *bluesign® CRITERIA for approved chemical products and articles for industrial use and commission processes* and are not covered by this document.

Requirements for chemical consumer products are described in the *bluesign® CRITERIA for bluesign® APPROVED chemical products for end-consumer use* and are also not covered by this document.

This document replaces the *bluesign® CRITERIA for bluesign® PRODUCT (v3.0)*.

Communication of bluesign® trademarks and rights of use is described in the *bluesign® Communication Guidelines* and the bilateral agreement between bluesign and the SYSTEM PARTNER and is not the subject of this document. The further use or mention of the trademark by third parties who are not system partners (e.g. retailers) is also regulated in the *bluesign® Communication Guidelines*.

2 The claim of bluesign® PRODUCT

A consumer product certified as bluesign® PRODUCT assures:

- Highest level of consumer safety of the product
- Minimum impact on people and the environment in production
- Responsible use of resources in production

The specific claim of a bluesign® PRODUCT, as well as a clear indication (especially with complex products) of which part of a consumer product the claim is valid for, can be communicated to the consumer by comprehensive background information accessible via a QR code or any other information channel (refer also to the *bluesign® Communication Guidelines*).

3 Scope of bluesign® PRODUCT

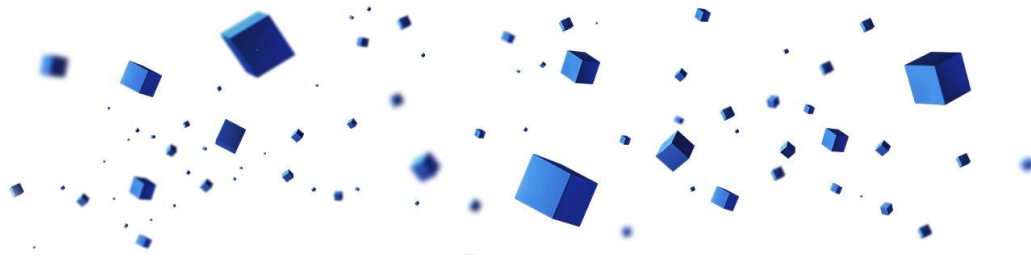
All consumer products certified as bluesign® PRODUCT must have a textile character. The trademark bluesign® PRODUCT applies to consumer products in any of the following categories:

- Apparel
- Denim
- Home textiles (excluding carpeted floor and textile wall coverings)
- Equipment
- Footwear (excluding brown shoes)

The following categories are not within the scope of bluesign® PRODUCT certification:

- Medical supplies such as dressings and bandages
- Hygiene products
- Toys
- Food safe articles
- Technical textiles which do not fall in the category "apparel"
- Furniture (exclusion does not include camping equipment)

An overview of consumer products which are within the scope of the trademark is given in Chapter 11. It is at the discretion of bluesign to decide whether a product not mentioned in Chapter 11 is also within the scope of the trademark.



4 Definitions

Apparel:

For the purpose of this document, apparel includes all textile consumer products with which people cover their bodies except for footwear. These are underwear and outerwear, consisting of trousers, skirts, shirts, jackets, coats, overalls, socks, scarves, hats, etc.

Article:

An object composed of one or more substances given a specific shape, surface, or design. In terms of a bluesign® certificate and registration in the bluesign® GUIDE, an article is characterized by a well-defined manufacturing process and by an article name/article code. It includes parts that can be easily detached from a product but are associated with its function, such as a rain cover or a separate hood. Additional items that are not associated with the function of the article are not considered as part of the article, e.g., giveaways or hangtags.

Assembling:

The assembly of components into a finished product (apparel, footwear, etc.).

Bill of materials (BOM):

A comprehensive list of components and the quantity of each component (meters, number of pieces) needed to manufacture a product. The bill of materials enables traceability to the supplier, supplier article number and color for each component and includes a functional description of the components.

bluesign® GUIDE

Web-based online database of bluesign® APPROVED fabrics and other bluesign® APPROVED articles.

Brand:

Originator of the final product supplied to the consumer (e.g., apparel, equipment) and owner or license holder of any associated label/trademark.

Brown shoes:

Short term for footwear that is mostly made of leather.

Chemical:

A commercial product, which can be a chemical substance or a mixture.

Chemical product:

See chemical.

Component:

A part of a product that can be distinguished according to the material composition, the functionality and/or the color and is easily mechanically separated from the other components. Typically, each item of a bill of materials is a component. Chemical products (e.g., glues) are not to be regarded as components.

Consumer product:

A final product ready for sale that is used by the consumer to satisfy wants or needs.

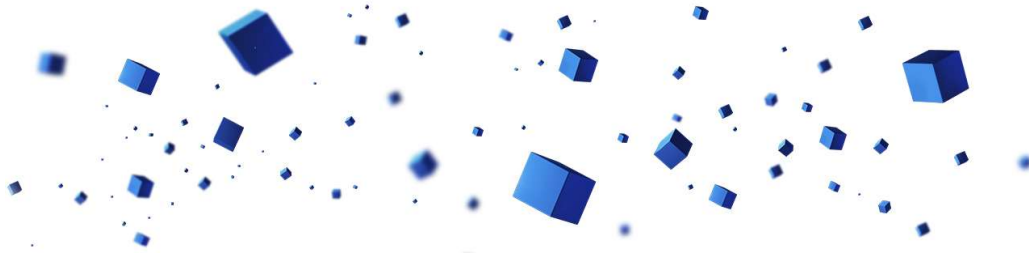
Denim fabric:

In the sense of these criteria, a denim fabric is a warp dyed twill made of at least 60 % cellulosic fibers.

Denim product:

For these criteria, a denim product is an apparel item of which the outer fabric consists of at least of 90% denim fabric.

eKPI (Environmental Key Performance Indicator):



Environmental KPIs (eKPIs) can be used to verify environmental performance. Typical eKPIs are data about consumption and emissions, as for example freshwater consumption, electricity consumption, heating energy consumption or emissions of GHG (greenhouse gases). eKPIs should be expressed in absolute terms (e.g. wastewater volume [m³]) for each reporting period (most commonly per year) and also related to a normalizing factor. A commonly used normalizing factor is production output.

Equipment:

For these criteria, equipment is defined as any product which is not in the categories footwear, apparel, home textile or denim and is not considered as out of scope for bluesign® certification as a consumer product, and is used by people for outdoor, sports and/or leisure activities, mobility, recreation, etc.

Footwear:

Footwear refers to consumer products worn on the feet, for example shoes and boots, except for socks.

Furniture:

Furniture, for these criteria, consists of consumer products such as chairs, tables, beds, cupboards, etc. that are put into a house or other building to make it suitable and comfortable for occupancy and do not fall under the definition of equipment.

Garment manufacturing:

Cutting, sewing, and assembling components for the processing of garments.

Innersole:

Cushioning layer lining the inside bottom of a shoe or boot.

Home textiles:

Home textiles, for these criteria, consist of all textiles used for home furnishing as well as textile products intended for daily use, such as bedding, tablecloths, towels, etc.

Midsole:

A layer between the inner and outsole of a shoe. Shock absorption is the main function of a midsole.

Outsole:

The underside of a shoe or other footwear, which contacts the floor.

Product:

The term “product” is mainly used to define a final, finished product which is put on the market for consumer use. The exact meaning of “product” depends on the context.

RSL (Restricted Substances List):

An RSL is a list focusing on consumer safety that regulates the presence of certain chemical substances in articles (for example textiles, trims, leather). Typically, it defines concentration limits for chemical substances in an article (e.g., mg substance per kg textile).

Technical textile:

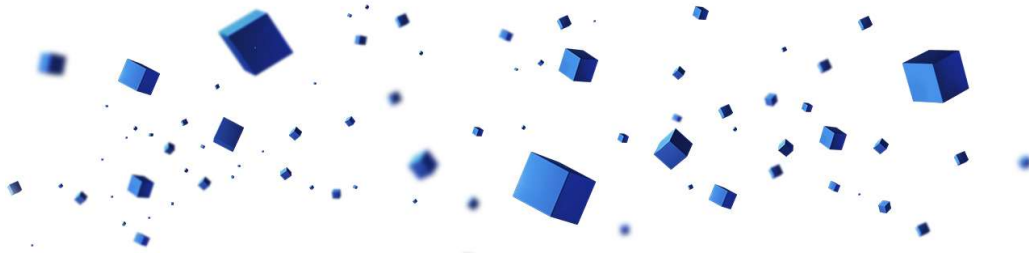
Technical textiles are textile products with a focus on performance and function, rather than aesthetic and decorative effects. This includes e.g., geo textiles, agrotiles, construction textiles, medical textiles and protective clothing, but also in a broader sense, outdoor and sports clothing.

Textile character:

For the purpose of this document a textile character is present when the textile part(s) of the consumer product is/are essential for the functionality of the consumer product (e.g. underwear, jacket, towel, curtain, umbrella, tent).

Upper:

The part or parts of a shoe that cover the toes, the top of the foot, the sides of the foot, and the back of the heel.



Wet processing:

In wet processes, substrates (e.g., textiles) are treated with chemicals (e.g., colorants or textile auxiliaries). In the textile industry, aqueous processes are often used (e.g., pre-treatment, dyeing and finishing of textiles), but solvent-based processes also occur (e.g., polyurethane coating) as well as direct treatment of a substrate with chemicals (e.g. hot-melt application). Wet processing in the sense of this document includes, in any case, de-sizing, pre-treatment, dyeing, printing, finishing, coating, and denim laundry processes.

For a comprehensive list of terms and abbreviations, please refer to the document *bluesign® glossary*.

5 Supply chain impact data

Knowing the impact a consumer product causes during its entire production process is a new essential requirement in today's industrial practices. Measured and valid data is a prerequisite to quantify and track the industry's progress towards net zero emission targets. Consumers are eager to know more about the resources consumption and emissions related to a product's value chain to make informed decisions. Impact parameters that are commonly used to characterize the environmental performance of a material, product or facility are:

- Energy consumption
- Water consumption
- Chemicals consumption
- CO2 emission
- Waste generation

Only if verified impact data is available and attributed correctly to a certain product or material can the supply chain impact be made visible and targeted actions for mitigation be taken. Members of the whole textile supply chain (brands, materials manufacturers and chemical suppliers) will further be challenged to pass on verified impact data to substantiate 'green claims'. Therefore, the collection of supply chain impact data is an important optional part of the criteria laid down in this document. The availability of impact data is not generally mandatory to certify a consumer product as conforming to the bluesign® CRITERIA, but it offers additional benefits to brands seeking to effectively manage their supply chain impact and to prepare for upcoming environmental regulations and requirements.



6 General requirements

This chapter contains requirements for the trademark user, the players in the supply chain and the consumer product itself, which are applicable for all consumer products certified as bluesign® PRODUCT. In addition, Chapter 7 elaborates the requirements for the different product categories (apparel, denim, equipment, home textiles and footwear).

It is the obligation of all players in the value chain to have the best possible transparency of upstream and downstream process steps. This means at least knowing the identity of the companies involved. In addition, environmental key performance indicators for all players in the relevant supply chain should be available. Only with this data is it possible to have an overview, based on real data, of the specific impact of a supply chain or a final product.

6.1 Trademark user

A trademark user (usually a brand) shall:

- Be a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER and have the right to use the bluesign trademark.
- Have participated in a bluesign® brand assessment, meeting all requirements relevant for labeling consumer products.
- Be authorized by bluesign to register a well-defined range of consumer products in the bluesign® GUIDE.
- Maintain a robust quality management system.
- Maintain an appropriate RSL and adequate RSL verification process.
- Verify suppliers' qualification or delegate to a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER.
- Inform bluesign of the identity of the company (garment manufacturer/assembler) responsible for manufacturing the certified consumer products.
- Manage the consumer product supply chain and the BOM (Bill of Materials) or delegate to a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER in the supply chain.
- Manage the company (garment manufacturer/assembler) responsible for manufacturing the certified consumer products or delegate to a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER

A trademark user (usually a brand) should:

- Establish and maintain an appropriate governance structure and supply chain due diligence management e.g., according to the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains in the Garment and Footwear Sector¹

Brands using the bluesign trademark shall have a vision/mission statement regarding sustainable products. A pledge with a timeline to increase the percentage of products made with preferred materials (e.g., recycled raw materials or raw materials originating from renewable sources) shall be given.

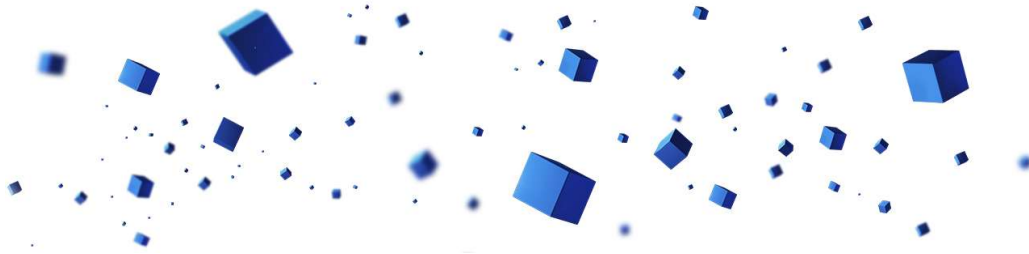
Note 1

In most cases the trademark user is a system partner brand which puts (directly or via retailers) the certified consumer product on the market. In some cases (e.g., promotional, and corporate wear) the brand which is co-labeling with the bluesign label is not a system partner, but the party responsible for the bluesign® PRODUCT is a contracted supplier to the brand.

In this case the following requirements apply:

- System partnership is mandatory for the supplier of the certified product.
- The supplier takes over the tasks described in Section 6.1.
- For traceability reasons, the name of the supplier must be visible on the final product.
- The supplier is responsible for the consumer communication of the claim of the bluesign label.
- The supplier must inform BLUESIGN about the final brand which it is co-labeling with the bluesign label. It is at the discretion of BLUESIGN to reject co-labeling in cases where there is clear evidence of unsuitable due diligence/corporate governance of the co-labeling brand.

¹ <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264290587-en>



Note 2

The further use or mention of the trademark by third parties who are not system partners (e.g., retailers) is regulated in the *bluesign® Communication Guidelines*.

6.1.1 Registration of a bluesign® PRODUCT

Only authorized trademark users which have successfully met in the bluesign® brand assessment all requirements relevant for labeling consumer products are allowed to register a consumer product within a defined product range as bluesign® PRODUCT. Certified consumer products are registered in the bluesign® GUIDE.

Figure 6.1 shows the path from system partner agreement to trademark use.



Figure 6.1: Path from system partner agreement to trademark use

6.2 Supply chain (production sites)

Unless otherwise stated, at minimum, all production sites using wet processing and/or chemical intensive processes shall be bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERS.



All system partners shall observe the bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites and relevant annexes.

At the production site(s) of a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER, all activities shall be guided by the following three principles:

1. The activities performed at the production site shall not have any harmful impact on human beings, animals, plants, soil, aquatic bodies, or the atmosphere.
2. A high level of human health and environmental protection shall be ensured, with the goal of achieving sustainable development.
3. A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER shall be aware of the Best Available Techniques (BAT) relevant for the industry and shall implement these techniques to continually improve their environmental performance.

Considering the current global environmental situation and advancing climate change, this means in particular:

- Supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)
- Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

6.3 Product related requirements

All consumer products certified as bluesign® PRODUCT must have a textile character.

This means that the textile part(s) of the consumer product is/are essential for the functionality of the consumer product.

6.3.1 Bluesign® APPROVED components

A component is considered bluesign® APPROVED when it is listed in the bluesign® GUIDE. It is the responsibility of the trademark user to verify the certification status of components used for manufacturing a bluesign® PRODUCT at the time of ordering.

Category specific requirements (see Chapter 7) define minimum percentages of bluesign® APPROVED materials in a bluesign® PRODUCT.

For the classification of components into the category 'fabric' or 'accessory' see Chapter 10.

6.3.1.1 Determination of the share of bluesign® APPROVED textiles

The share of bluesign® APPROVED textiles shall be calculated using a bill of materials and a cutting plan. Variations of +/- 5 % are acceptable for products put on the market before 2027. An area-based calculation of the share shall be carried out.

If relevant, the inner and outer surface area of the bluesign® PRODUCT shall be taken into account.

Use percentage by weight if evaluation of the surface area is not applicable (e.g. ropes).

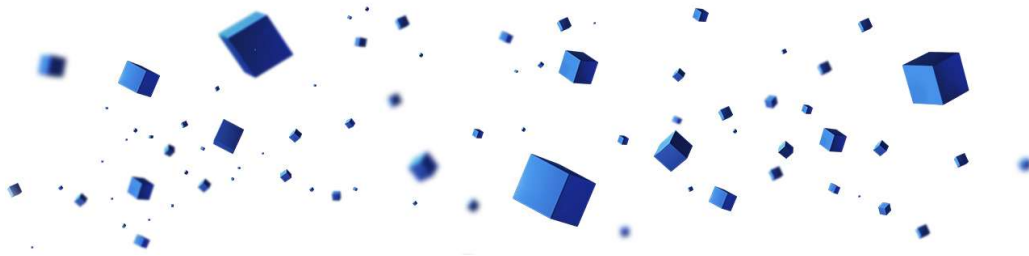
The evaluation of the share of bluesign® APPROVED textiles shall be performed on a representative consumer product of medium size with the best possible accuracy.

6.3.1.2 Determination of the share of accessories

The target for the share of bluesign® APPROVED accessories is 100%. Since the availability of bluesign® APPROVED accessories is currently limited, an actual minimum share of bluesign® APPROVED accessories is defined (see Chapter 7).

The minimum requirements regarding the share of bluesign® APPROVED accessories will be increased stepwise after reviewing the availability of suitable accessories. Changes will be announced in a timely manner and will be accompanied by suitable transition periods.

Accessories shall be counted by item or by type. An item is defined as an article coming from the same supplier, with the same function, the same composition, and the same color. Typically, each entry in a bill of materials is counted as one item. Variations of +/- 5 % are acceptable for products put on the market before 2027.



6.3.1.3 Example

A consumer product has six identical buttons, two black zippers and one blue zipper, one printed logo, one care label and one size label, one laminated tape, sewing thread and a carabiner. This is a total of eight accessory items (as an “out of scope part”, the carabiner is not counted). If four of them are bluesign® APPROVED, 50 % of the accessories are bluesign® APPROVED.

Accessory item	Number	Status
Button	6	bluesign® APPROVED
Label 1 – care label	1	bluesign® APPROVED
Label 2 – size label	1	bluesign® APPROVED
Laminated tape	1	
Logo print	1	
Sewing thread	1	
Zipper blue	1	bluesign® APPROVED
Zipper black	2	
Carabiner	1	Out of scope
total	8 items (+ 1 item out of scope)	4 items bluesign® APPROVED 50 % bluesign® APPROVED

Table 6.1: Example for counting accessory items

6.3.2 Qualified supplier

Unless otherwise stated, the trademark user shall ensure that all components that are not bluesign® APPROVED (non-approved textiles and accessories and out-of-scope components) are supplied by a qualified supplier.

The qualification of the supplier shall be demonstrated by:

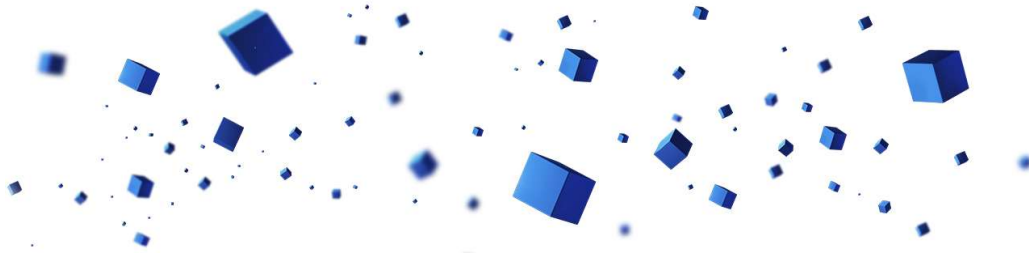
- Establishing and maintaining an appropriate brand RSL, preferably based on the *bluesign® RSL*
- Obtaining confirmation from the suppliers of their compliance with the requirements of the RSL
- Maintaining a robust quality management system to verify the supplier's compliance
- Providing test reports that demonstrate the supplier's compliance

The extent of the tests depends on factors such as the reliability of the supplier and/or the risk to the consumer. While it is not necessary to test each specific component associated with each consumer product, a suitable testing program shall be established.

6.4 Meaningful labeling

Especially with a product consisting of several parts (e.g., a backpack with a decorative accessory) and to avoid any misinformation/misunderstanding, it must be discernable to the consumer which parts of the product are covered by the label and which parts are not covered. Distinct labeling is required in this case.

The specific claim behind the bluesign label depends on the product category (apparel, denim, home textile, equipment, or footwear). The claim can be communicated to the consumer by information accessible via a QR code or any other information channel.



7 Product category specific requirements

7.1 Apparel

7.1.1 At a glance

The following flow chart gives an overview of supply chain and product related requirements for certification of apparel as bluesign® PRODUCT.

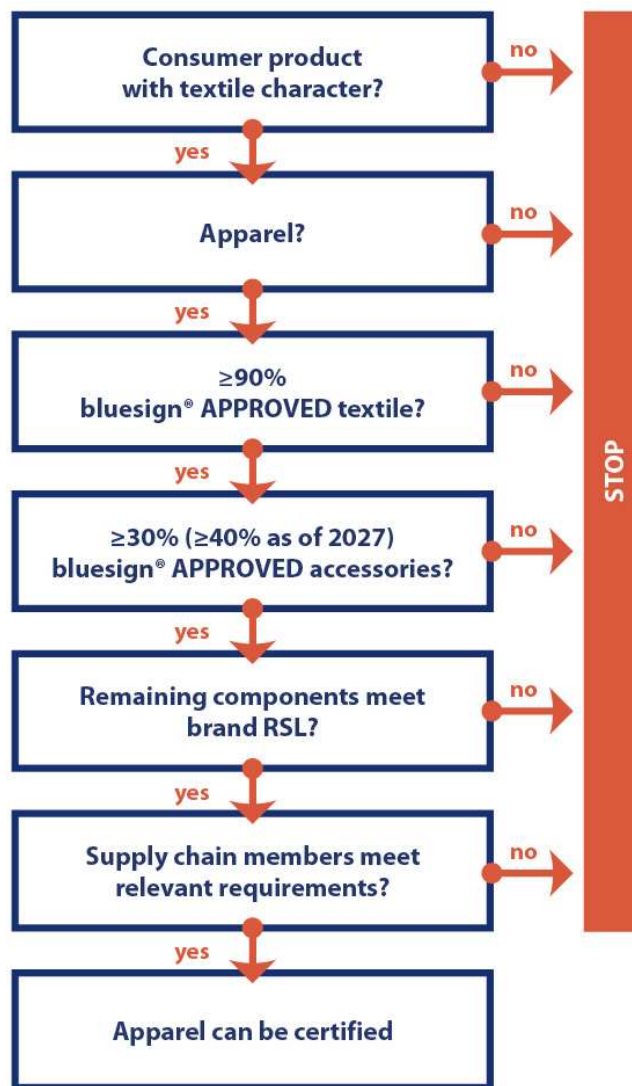
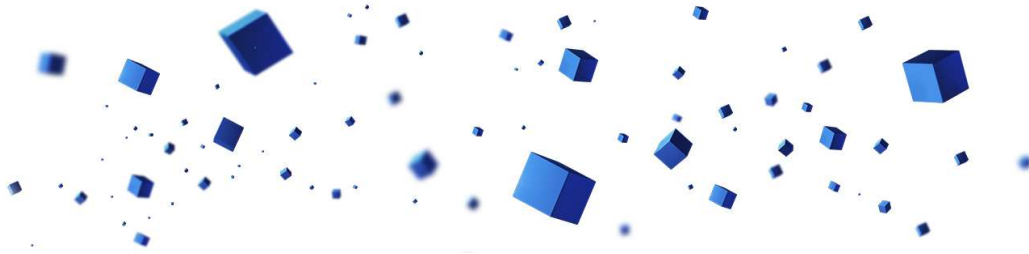


Figure 7.1: Flow chart of supply chain and product related requirements for certification of apparel as bluesign® PRODUCT.

Note:

If the apparel can be characterized as a denim product, the requirements for denim products are applicable (see Section 7.2).



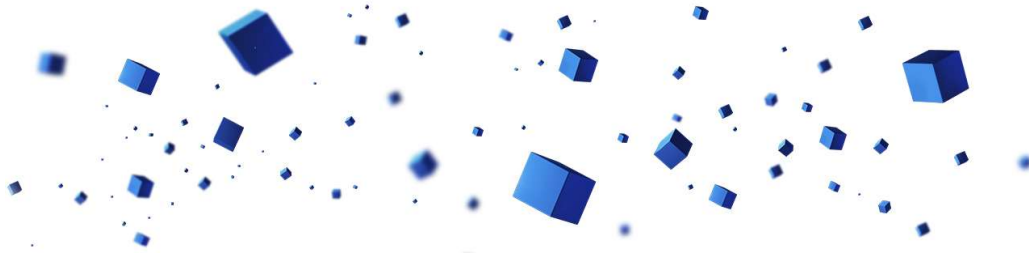
7.1.2 Trademark user

See Section 6.1.

7.1.3 Supply chain (production sites)

Table 7.1 gives a detailed overview of the different requirements for the various players in the supply chain that are responsible for manufacturing apparel certified as bluesign® PRODUCT.

Process	Requirements	Comments/CRITERIA
Natural fiber production (growing, harvesting)	Out of scope	Product safety aspects are controlled at the system partner by means of Input Stream Management
Manufacturing of man-made fibers	<p>bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory.</p> <p>Supplier should be known by name and location and be qualified.</p> <p>Verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation of the supplier should be available. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.</p>	<p>See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites / Annex Fiber Manufacturing.</p> <p>Dope dyeing: see bluesign Input Stream Management Guideline.</p> <p>Product safety aspects are controlled at the system partner by means of Input Stream Management</p>
Yarn production	<p>bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory.</p> <p>Supplier should be known by name and location and be qualified.</p> <p>Verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation of the supplier should be available. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.</p>	<p>See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites.</p> <p>For conventional yarn dyeing a system partnership is mandatory.</p> <p>Product safety aspects are controlled at the system partner by means of Input Stream Management</p>
Weaving	<p>bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory.</p> <p>Supplier should be known by name and location and be qualified.</p> <p>Verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation of the supplier should be available. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.</p>	<p>See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites.</p> <p>Product safety aspects are controlled at the system partner by means of Input Stream Management</p>
Textile finishing	<p>At least 90% of the textiles must originate from a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER and must be bluesign® APPROVED. A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP comes with verified impact data.</p> <p>Non-approved components must originate from a qualified supplier and supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals</p>	<p>See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites.</p> <p>See Section 6.3.2</p>



	consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	
Accessory manufacturer	<p>bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred and partly mandatory.</p> <p>At least 30% of the accessories must originate from a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER and must be bluesign® APPROVED.</p> <p>For new products being put on the market from 2027 onwards the share of bluesign® APPROVED accessories shall be at least 40 %.</p> <p>Non-approved components must originate from a qualified supplier and supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.</p>	<p>See <i>bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites</i>. See Section 6.3.2</p>
Garment manufacturing (cut & sew)	<p>A third- party social audit with appropriate implementation is mandatory. A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is mandatory in case of significant chemical use.</p> <p>Brand must notify BLUESIGN of the company. Supplier must be qualified by the brand.</p> <p>Supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material/product.</p>	<p>See <i>bluesign® CRITERIA for garment manufacturer/assembler</i>.</p>

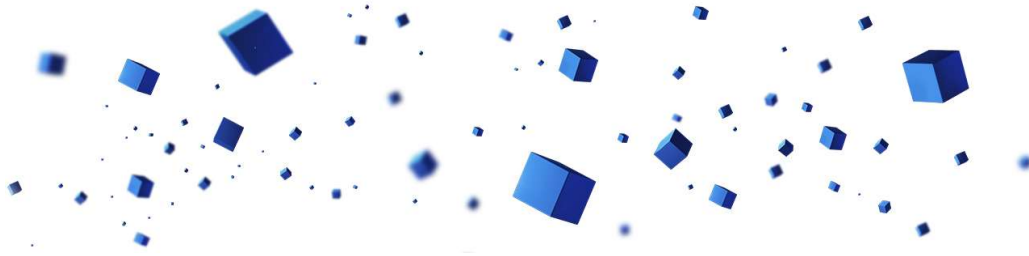
Table 7.1: Requirements for the various players in the supply chain producing apparel certified as bluesign® PRODUCT

Note 1

For converters see *bluesign® CRITERIA for converters*.

Note 2

If supply chain players/processes are involved that are not mentioned in the table above, it is at the discretion of bluesign to define an appropriate approach.



7.1.4 Requirements for apparel certified as bluesign® PRODUCT

The following requirements apply for certified apparel:

- Apparel must have a textile character
- At least 90% of the fabric used for the apparel must be bluesign® APPROVED
- At least 30% of the accessories used in the apparel must be bluesign® APPROVED
- For new products being put on the market from 2027 onwards the share of bluesign® APPROVED accessories shall be at least 40 %. Existing, already certified product are not affected.
- All components (fabrics or accessories) that are not bluesign® APPROVED must be supplied by a qualified supplier and must meet the brand RSL
- If an additional claim is applicable for the certified apparel (e.g. organic cotton or recycled fiber), third party certificates must be available



7.2 Denim

7.2.1 At a glance

The following flow chart gives an overview of supply chain and product related requirements for denim certified as bluesign® PRODUCT.

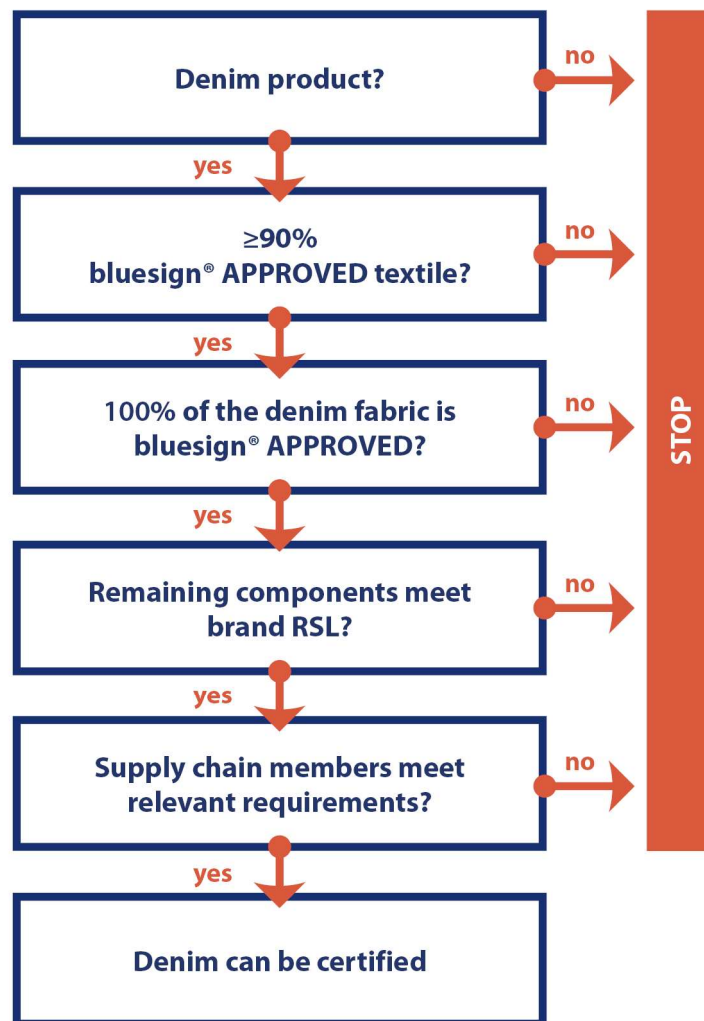
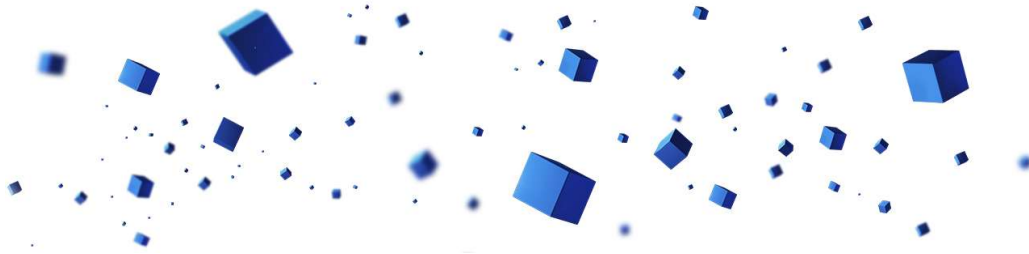


Figure 7.2: Flow chart of supply chain and product related requirements for denim certified as bluesign® PRODUCT



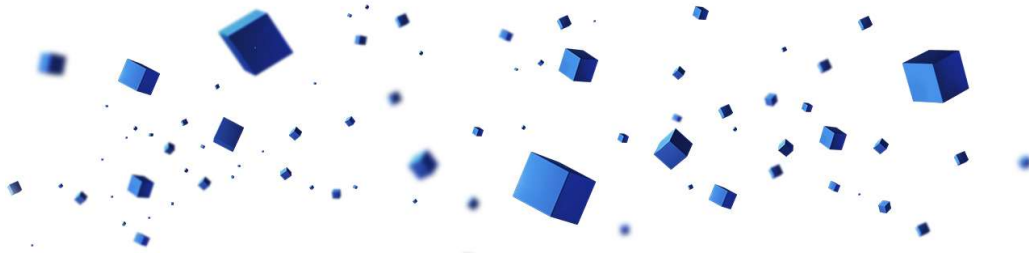
7.2.2 Trademark user

See Section 6.1

7.2.3 Supply chain (production sites)

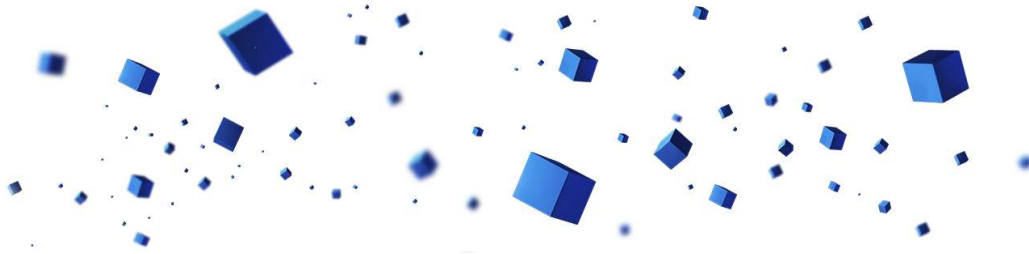
The following table gives a detailed overview of the different requirements for the various players in the supply chain that are responsible for manufacturing a denim product certified as bluesign® PRODUCT.

Process	Requirements	Comments/CRITERIA
Natural fiber production (growing, harvesting)	Out of scope	Product safety aspects are controlled at the system partner by means of Input Stream Management
Manufacturing of man-made fibers	bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory. Supplier should be known by name and location and be qualified. Verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation of the supplier should be available. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites / Annex Fiber Manufacturing. Dope dyeing: see bluesign Input Stream Management Guideline. Product safety aspects are controlled at the system partner by means of Input Stream Management
Yarn production	bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory. Supplier should be known by name and location and be qualified. Verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation of the supplier should be available. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites. Product safety aspects are controlled at the system partner by means of Input Stream Management
Warp yarn dyeing	Supplier must be a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER. A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP comes with verified impact data.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites
Sizing	Supplier must be a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER. A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP comes with verified impact data.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites
Weaving	bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory. Brand must notify BLUESIGN of the company. Supplier must be qualified by the brand. Verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation of the supplier should be available. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites
Flat fabric finishing/desizing	Supplier must be a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites



	A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP comes with verified impact data.	
Accessory manufacturer	<p>bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory.</p> <p>For new products being put on the market from 2027 onwards the share of bluesign® APPROVED accessories shall be at least 40 %.</p> <p>Non-approved components must originate from a qualified supplier and supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.</p>	<p>See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites. See chapter 6.3.2</p>
Garment manufacturing (cut & sew, embroidery)	<p>A third- party social audit with appropriate implementation is mandatory.</p> <p>A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is mandatory in case of significant chemical use.</p> <p>Brand must notify BLUESIGN of the company. Supplier must be qualified by the brand.</p> <p>Supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.</p>	<p>See bluesign® CRITERIA for garment manufacturer/assembler</p>
Garment washing/finishing ("laundry"); printing	<p>Supplier must be a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER.</p> <p>A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP comes with verified impact data.</p> <p>A third-party social audit with appropriate implementation is mandatory.</p>	<p>See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites</p>

Table 7.2: Requirements for the various players in the supply chain producing denim certified as bluesign® PRODUCT



All system partners shall observe the bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites and relevant annexes and implement the following denim-specific principles in their strategy and daily business:

- If indigo is used, only bluesign® APPROVED indigo shall be used in warp yarn dyeing
- Laundry must establish a phase-out plan for hypochlorite at the production site (see *Guidance Sheet Sodium Hypochlorite*)
- Laundry must establish a phase-out plan for potassium permanganate (KMnO₄) at the production site (see *Guidance Sheet Potassium Permanganate*)
- Sandblasting is banned at the production site (see *Guidance Sheet Sand Blasting*)
- Laundry must establish a plan to replace pumice stone washing at the site with other techniques (e.g. enzyme biopolishing, synthetic stones)

Note 1

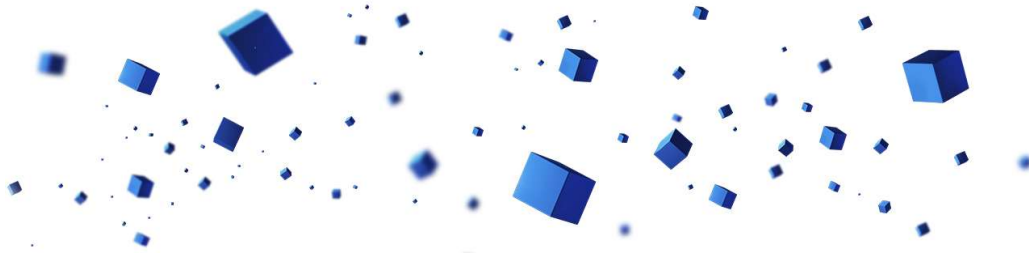
For converters see *bluesign® CRITERIA for converters*.

Note 2

If supply chain players/processes are involved that are not mentioned in the table above, it is at the discretion of BLUESIGN to define an appropriate approach.

7.2.4 Requirements for denim certified as bluesign® PRODUCT

- The product is apparel in which the outer fabric consists at least of 90% denim
- 100% of the denim fabric must be bluesign® APPROVED
- 90% of the textiles (including the main fabric, pockets, belt loops, etc.) must be bluesign® APPROVED
- For new products being put on the market from 2027 onwards the share of bluesign® APPROVED accessories shall be at least 40 %.
- All components (fabrics or accessories) that are not bluesign® APPROVED must be supplied by a qualified supplier and must meet the brand RSL
- No chlorine bleaching is used to produce denim certified as bluesign® PRODUCT
- No potassium permanganate (PP) is used to produce denim certified as bluesign® PRODUCT
- No pumice stonewashing is used to produce denim certified as bluesign® PRODUCT
- No sandblasting is used to produce denim certified as bluesign® PRODUCT
- No powder-based enzymes are used to produce denim certified as bluesign® PRODUCT
- If an additional claim is applicable for certified denim (e.g., organic cotton; recycled fiber), third party certificates must be available



7.3 Home textiles

7.3.1 At a glance

The following flow chart gives an overview of supply chain and product related requirements for a home textile certified as bluesign® PRODUCT.

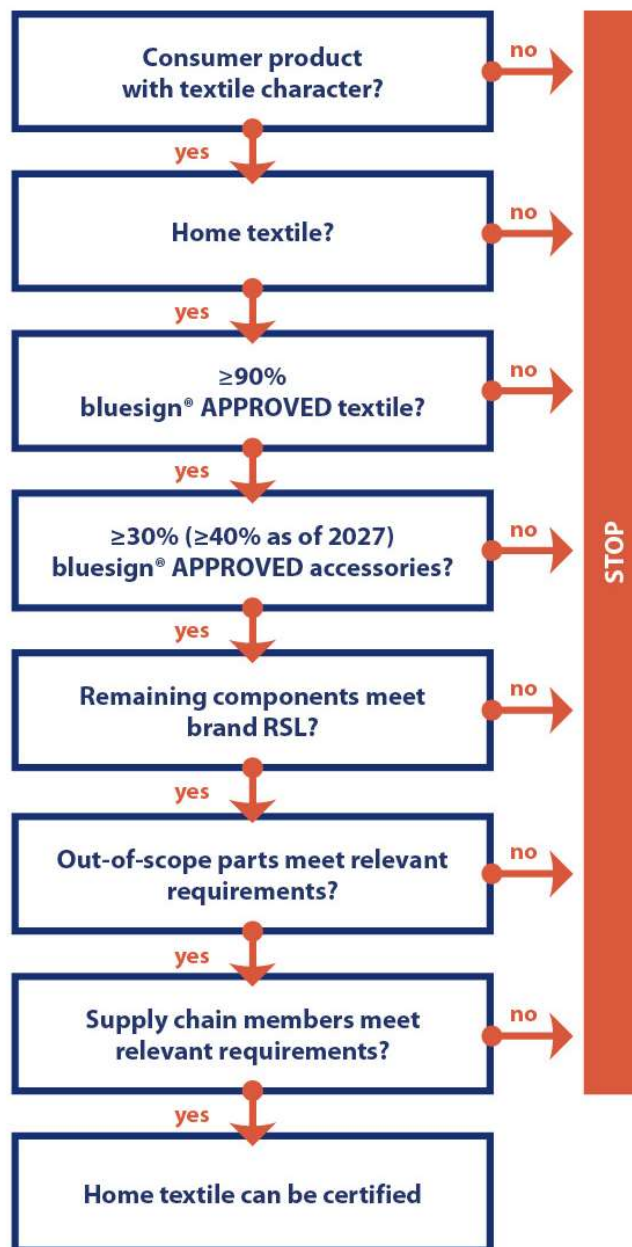
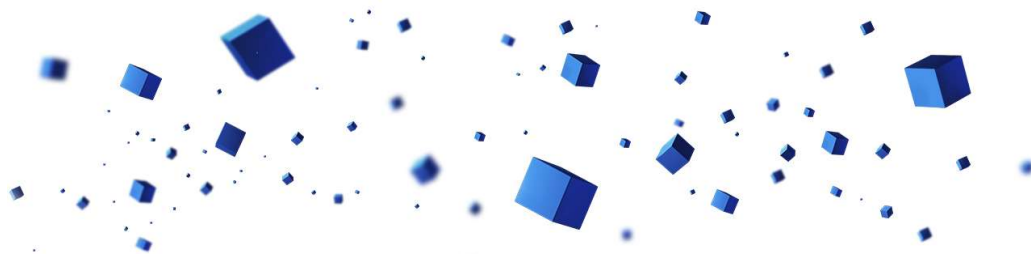


Figure 7.3: Flow chart of supply chain and product related requirements for a home textile certified as bluesign® PRODUCT



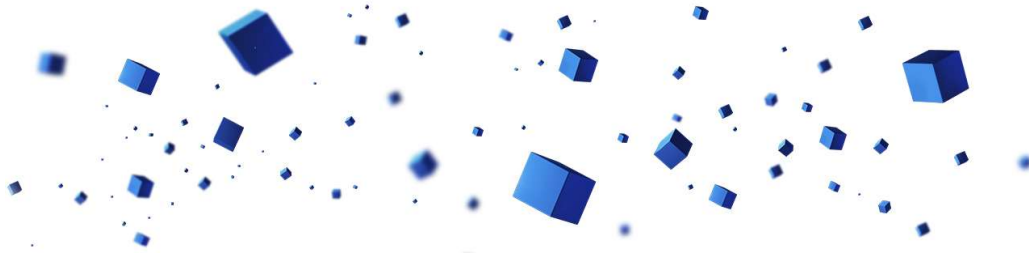
7.3.2 Trademark user

See Section 6.1.

7.3.3 Supply chain (production sites)

Table 7.3 gives a detailed overview of the different requirements for the various players in the supply chain that are responsible for manufacturing a home textile certified as bluesign® PRODUCT.

Process	Requirements	Comments/CRITERIA
Natural fiber production (growing, harvesting) (Tier 4)	Out of scope	Product safety aspects are controlled at the system partner by means of Input Stream Management
Manufacturing of man-made fibers	bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory. Supplier should be known by name and location and be qualified. Verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation of the supplier should be available. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites / Annex Fiber Manufacturing. Dope dyeing: see bluesign Input Stream Management Guideline. Product safety aspects are controlled at system partner by means of Input Stream Management
Yarn production	bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory. Supplier should be known by name and location and be qualified. Verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation of the supplier should be available. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites. For conventional yarn dyeing a system partnership is mandatory. Product safety aspects are controlled at the system partner by means of Input Stream Management
Weaving	bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory. Supplier should be known by name and location and be qualified. Verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation of the supplier should be available. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites. Product safety aspects are controlled at system partner by means of Input Stream Management
Textile finishing	At least 90% of the textiles must originate from a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER and must be bluesign® APPROVED. A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP comes with verified impact data. Non-approved components must originate from a qualified supplier and supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites. See Section 6.3.2



	consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material/product..	
Accessory manufacturer	<p>bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred and partly mandatory.</p> <p>At least 30% of the accessories must originate from a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER and must be bluesign® APPROVED.</p> <p>For new products being put on the market from 2027 onwards the share of bluesign® APPROVED accessories shall be at least 40 %.</p> <p>Non-approved components must originate from a qualified supplier and supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.</p>	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites. See Section 6.3.2.
Manufacturer of out-of-scope components	Out of scope components must originate from a qualified supplier.	See Section 6.3.2.
Home textile manufacturer (assemble, cut & sew)	<p>A third- party social audit with appropriate implementation is mandatory.</p> <p>A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is mandatory in case of significant chemical use.</p> <p>Brand must notify BLUESIGN of the company. Supplier must be qualified by the brand.</p> <p>Supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.</p>	See bluesign® CRITERIA for garment manufacturer/assembler

Table 7.3: Requirements for the various players in the supply chain producing a home textile certified as bluesign® PRODUCT

Note 1

For converters see bluesign® CRITERIA for converters.

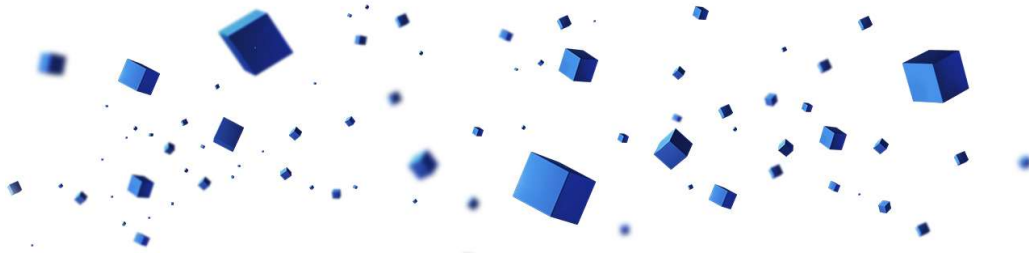
Note 2

If supply chain players/processes are involved that are not mentioned in the table above, it is at the discretion of BLUESIGN to define an appropriate approach.

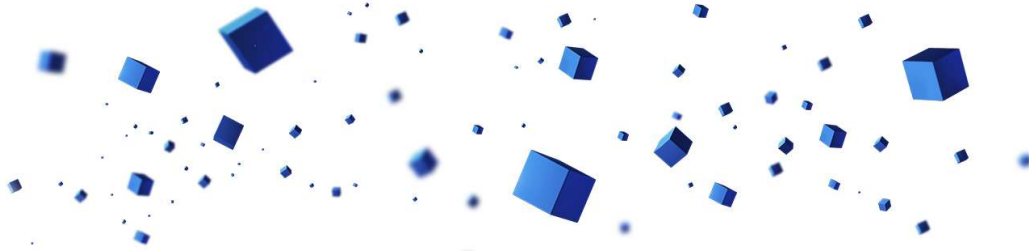
7.3.4 Requirements for home textiles certified as bluesign® PRODUCT

The following requirements apply for certified home textile articles:

- Home textile must have a textile character
- At least 90% of the fabric used for the home textile must be bluesign® APPROVED
- At least 30% of the accessories used for the home textile must be bluesign® APPROVED
- For new products being put on the market from 2027 onwards the share of bluesign® APPROVED accessories shall be at least 40 %.



- All components (fabrics or accessories) that are not bluesign® APPROVED must be supplied by a qualified supplier and must meet the brand RSL
- If an additional claim is applicable for a certified home textile (e.g. organic cotton or recycled fiber), third party certificates must be available
- The trademark user must ensure for out of scope components (see list in Chapter 10) that:
 - all components are purchased from a qualified supplier (see Section 6.3.2)
 - sustainability aspects are considered when selecting materials
 - PVC is not used



7.4 Equipment

7.4.1 At a glance

The following flow chart gives an overview of supply chain and product related requirements for equipment certified as bluesign® PRODUCT.

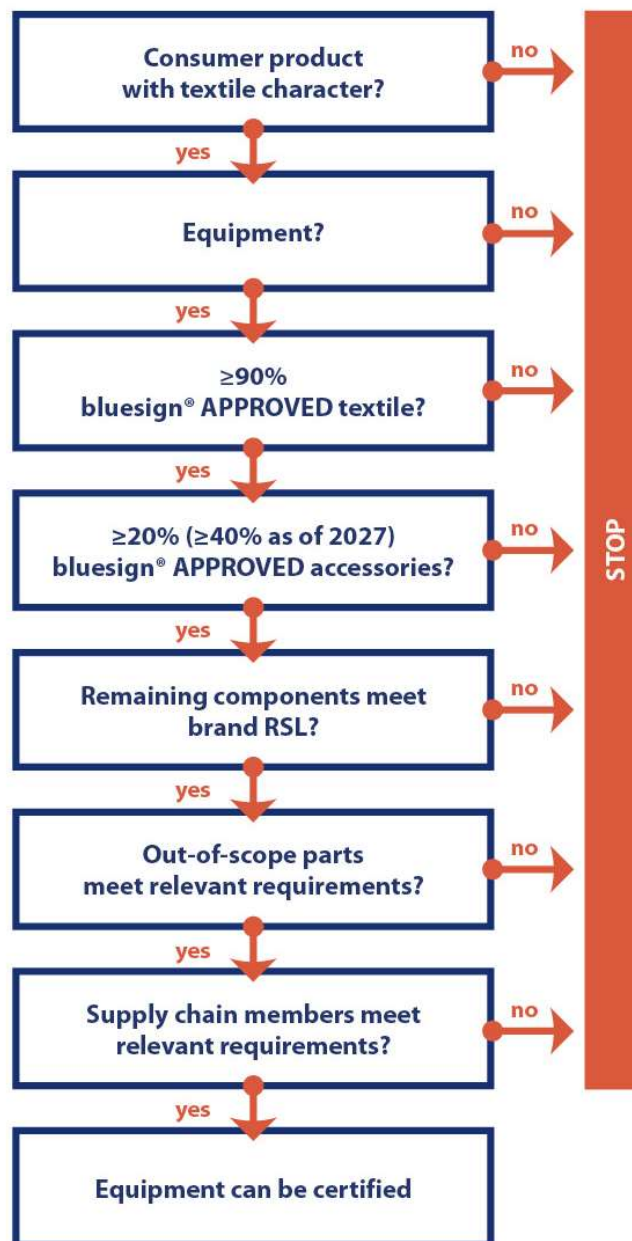
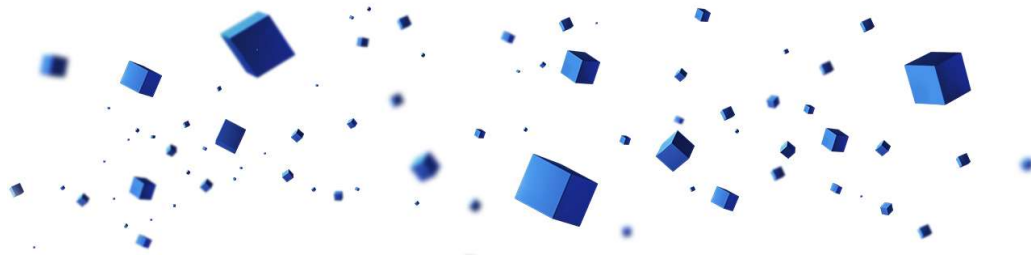


Figure 7.4: Flow chart of supply chain and product related requirements for equipment certified as bluesign® PRODUCT



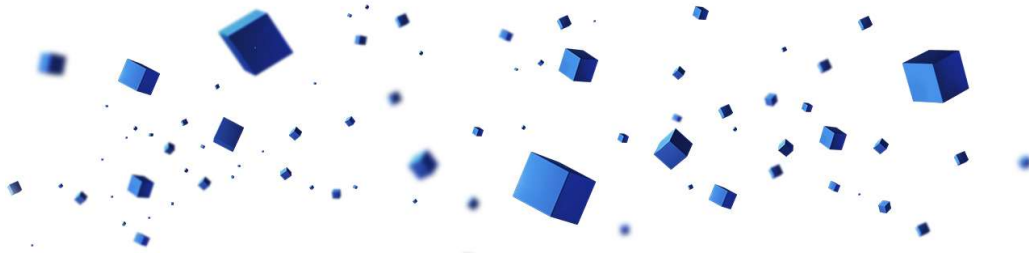
7.4.2 Trademark user

See Section 6.1.

7.4.3 Supply chain (production sites)

Table 7.4 gives a detailed overview of the different requirements for the various players in the supply chain that are responsible for manufacturing equipment certified as bluesign® PRODUCT.

Process	Requirements	Comments/CRITERIA
Natural fiber production (growing, harvesting)	Out of scope	Product safety aspects are controlled at the system partner by means of Input Stream Management
Manufacturing of man-made fibers	bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory. Supplier should be known by name and location and be qualified. Verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation of the supplier should be available. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites / Annex Fiber Manufacturing Dope dyeing: see bluesign Input Stream Management Guideline. Product safety aspects are controlled at the system partner by means of Input Stream Management
Yarn production	bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory. Supplier should be known by name and location and be qualified. Verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation of the supplier should be available. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites For conventional yarn dyeing a system partnership is mandatory. Product safety aspects are controlled at system partner by means of Input Stream Management
Weaving	bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred but not mandatory. Supplier should be known by name and location and be qualified. Verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation of the supplier should be available. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites. Product safety aspects are controlled at system partner by means of Input Stream Management
Textile finishing	At least 90% of the textiles must originate from a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER and must be bluesign® APPROVED. A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP comes with verified impact data. Non-approved components must originate from a qualified supplier and supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites. See 6.3.2 chapter



	consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	
Accessory manufacturer	<p>bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred and partly mandatory.</p> <p>At least 20% of the accessories must originate from a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER and must be bluesign® APPROVED.</p> <p>For new products being put on the market from 2027 onwards the share of bluesign® APPROVED accessories shall be at least 40 %.</p> <p>Non-approved components must originate from a qualified supplier and supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.</p>	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites.
Manufacturer of out-of-scope components	Out of scope components must originate from a qualified supplier.	See chapter 6.3.2
Equipment manufacturer (assembler, cut & sew)	<p>A third- party social audit with appropriate implementation is mandatory.</p> <p>A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is mandatory in case of significant chemical use.</p> <p>Brand must notify BLUESIGN of the company. Supplier must be qualified by the brand.</p> <p>Supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material/product..</p>	See bluesign® CRITERIA for garment manufacturer/assembler

Table 7.4: Requirements for the various players in the supply chain producing equipment certified as bluesign® PRODUCT

Note 1

For converters see bluesign® CRITERIA for converters.

Note 2

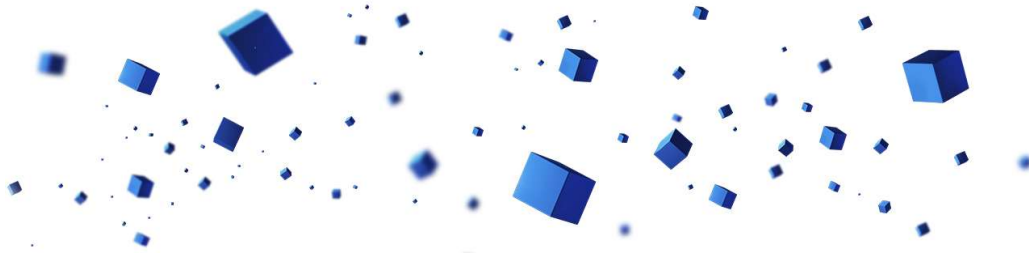
If supply chain players/processes are involved that are not mentioned in the table above, it is on discretion of BLUESIGN to define an appropriate approach.



7.4.4 Requirements for equipment certified as bluesign® PRODUCT

The following requirements for certified equipment are applicable:

- Equipment must have a textile character
- At least 90% of the fabric used for the equipment must be bluesign® APPROVED
- At least 20% of the accessories used in the equipment must be bluesign® APPROVED
- For new products being put on the market from 2027 onwards the share of bluesign® APPROVED accessories shall be at least 40 %
- All components (fabrics or accessories) that are not bluesign® APPROVED must be supplied by a qualified supplier and must meet brand RSL
- If an additional claim is applicable for certified equipment (e.g. organic cotton; recycled fiber), third party certificates must be available
- The trademark user must ensure for out of scope components (see list in Chapter 10) that:
 - all components are purchased from a qualified supplier (see Section 6.3.2)
 - sustainability aspects are considered when selecting materials
 - PVC is not used.



7.5 Footwear

7.5.1 At a glance

The following flow chart gives an overview on supply chain- and product related requirements for footwear certified as bluesign® PRODUCT.



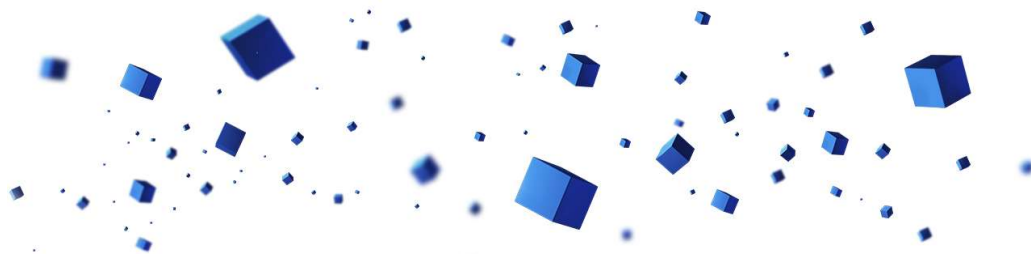
Figure 7.5: Flow chart of supply chain and product related requirements for footwear certified as bluesign® PRODUCT

Note 1

For converters see *bluesign® CRITERIA for converters*.

Note 2

If supply chain players/processes are involved that are not mentioned in the table above, it is at the discretion of BLUESIGN to define an appropriate approach.



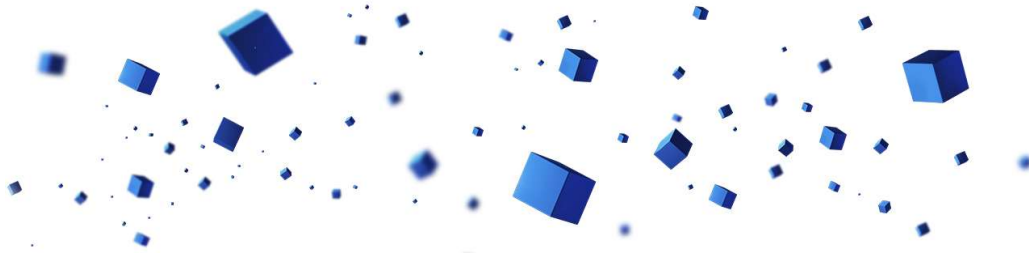
7.5.2 Trademark user

See Section 6.1.

7.5.3 Supply chain (production sites)

Process	Requirements	Comments/CRITERIA
Skin contact material (textile upper, lining, insole)	At least 90% of the textiles must originate from a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER and must be bluesign® APPROVED. A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP comes with verified impact data. Non-approved components must originate from a qualified supplier and supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites
Midsole	Supplier must be a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER. A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP comes with verified impact data.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites
Outsole	Supplier must be a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER. A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP comes with verified impact data.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites
Manufacturer of accessories	bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP is preferred and partly mandatory. At least 30% of the accessories must originate from a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER and must be bluesign® APPROVED. Non-approved components must originate from a qualified supplier and supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites
Manufacturer of any other part (reinforcement, heel counter, toe puff, etc.)	Material must originate from a qualified supplier and supplier should have verified impact data such as energy consumption, water consumption, chemicals consumption, green-house gas emission, waste generation. Data is ideally attributed to the supplied material.	See Section 6.3.2
Footwear assembler	Supplier must be a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER. A bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNERSHIP comes with verified impact data.	See bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites and Annex Garment manufacturer/assembler

Table 7.5: Requirements for the various players in the supply chain producing footwear certified as bluesign® PRODUCT



7.5.4 Requirements for footwear certified as bluesign® PRODUCT

The following requirements apply for certified footwear:

- 90% (by area) of the skin contact materials (textile upper, lining and insole), midsole and outsole must be bluesign® APPROVED
- At least 30% of the total accessories must be bluesign® APPROVED
- All components that are not bluesign® APPROVED must be supplied by a qualified supplier and must meet brand RSL
- If an additional claim is applicable for certified footwear (e.g. organic cotton or recycled fiber), third party certificates must be available



8 Application for authorization to register products in bluesign® GUIDE

Consumer products certified as bluesign® PRODUCT must be registered in the bluesign® GUIDE. Only then the certification becomes valid.

A trademark user must be authorized by bluesign to register well-defined ranges of consumer products in the bluesign® GUIDE.

Application for authorization takes place when the trademark user intends to label consumer products for the first time. Access to bluesign® GUIDE registration will be granted after successful completion of the authorization process.

The following information shall be available for each consumer product and provided for the authorization process or on request.

- A list of all consumer products that are intended for labeling, at the latest when components purchasing starts

For a representative product:

- The name of the garment manufacturer/assembler and information on the status of the garment manufacturer/assembler (system partner or not)
- A sketch or a photo of the product intended for labeling.
- The original bill of materials (BOM) used for data exchange between a brand and garment maker/assembler shall include at least the following information for each component:
 - Functional description of the component (zipper, stopper, button, sewing thread, etc.)
 - Supplier name and supplier article code and color for the component,
 - bluesign® APPROVED status confirmed by respective bluesign® GUIDE ID
 - Quantity (meters, number of pieces)
 - Share of the components of the consumer product (percentage of the textile area and share of the accessories)

If the original BOM does not include this information, separate documentation is necessary.

For components that are not bluesign® APPROVED, the following is required:

- An RSL confirmation by the supplier
- Test reports that demonstrate supplier compliance

This approach shall be also followed in cases when new and significantly different product categories are intended for labeling.

Note:

A representative product is a product from the company's product portfolio, characterized by high component complexity and/or by a large production volume.

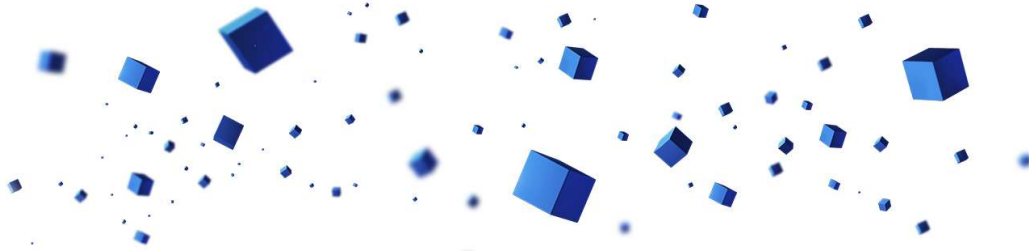
9 Packaging

Using sustainable materials for packaging of a bluesign® PRODUCT is mandatory.

9.1 Packaging materials

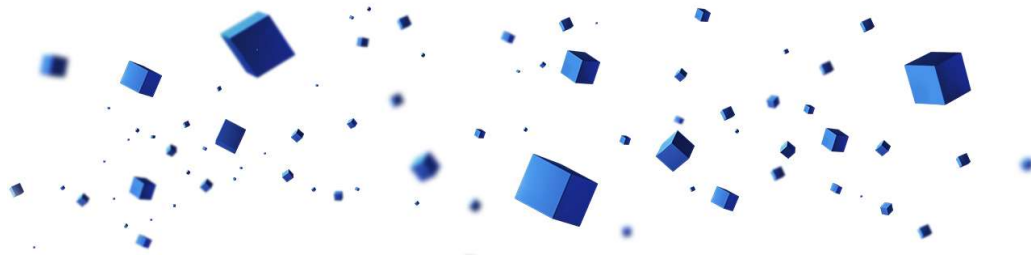
The following aspects must be met:

- PVC is not permitted
- SVHC conformity and conformity with EU packaging regulation



Aspects should be considered:

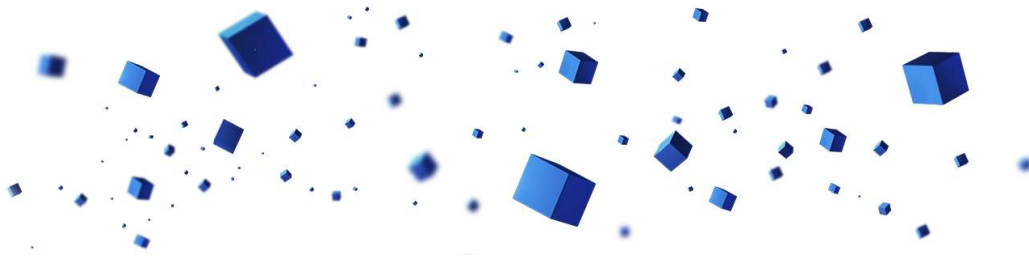
- Sustainability aspects (including weight/utility ratio) when selecting materials
- Preference is given to recyclable materials made from recycled or renewable resources
- Paper and cardboard should originate from certified sources (FSC, PEFC, etc.) or should be made of recycled materials



10 Component classification

	Fabric/Yarn	Accessory		
		in scope	out of scope	
Buckles (plastic or metal)		X		
Buttons (plastic or metal)		X		
Coated fabric	X			
Cuffs		X		
Draw cords – strings		X		
Elastic trim / cord		X		
Elastic knits	X			
Electronic components			X	
Embroidery motif		X		
Fabric, woven and knit	X			
Foam		X		Contact BLUESIGN for risk assessment
Hangtag				Not part of the consumer product; sustainability aspects should be considered
Hook and loop		X		
Insulation, down		X		Must be bluesign® APPROVED
Insulation, fiber fill		X		Must be bluesign® APPROVED
Interlining		X		Interlining must be embedded between inner and outer layers
Carabiner			X	
Handles			X	
Labels; fixed and heat transfer		X		
Laces; as decoration		X		
Laminated fabric	X			
Lining fabric	X			
Membrane		X		Must be bluesign® APPROVED
Mesh	X			
Poles			X	
Print/ heat transfer/ flock: fabric	X			
Print/ heat transfer/ flock: small print (max. 50 cm ²)		X		Related to the printed surface
Print/ heat transfer/ flock: garment	X			Large area e.g. t-shirt or carousel print
Reflector			X	
Reflex material - textile		X		
Reinforced back system			X	e.g. aluminum
Ribbons		X		
Rod			X	e.g. part of umbrellas
Screws			X	
Seam sealing tapes		X		
Snaps		X		
Stabilizing panels			X	e.g. plastic plates
Tape		X		
Tarpaulin	X			e.g. for luggage
Thread (sewing & embroidery)		X		
Trims		X		
Webbing	X if main part of product	X (if not main part of product)		e.g. webbing is main part of harness
Wheels			X	e.g. luggage
Yarn	X			
Zipper		X		Tape, slider, teeth, stoppers
Zipper puller		X		

Table 10.1: Component classification



11 Products within the scope of bluesign® PRODUCT

11.1 Pre-condition

All bluesign® certified consumer products must have a textile character. A textile character is present when the textile part(s) of the consumer product is/are essential for the functionality of the consumer product.

11.2 Apparel

Underwear and outerwear such as trousers, shorts, skirts, dresses, men´s suits, shirts, jackets, coats, outdoor and sports clothing, socks, lingerie, underpants, workwear, protective wear, and apparel accessories such as scarves, gloves, hats, ties, and others.

11.3 Denim

Apparel such as jeans, jeans jackets.

11.4 Home textiles

Bath linen such as bath towels, beach towels, wash towels, face towels/cloths, hand towels, washing mitts, bath sheets, bathrobes, bath-mats and toilet pedestal mats.

Bed linen such as bed sheets, pillowcases, valance sheets, cot sheets, blankets, bed scarves/partial coverlets.

Kitchen textiles such as tea towels, oven gloves/mitts, potholders, aprons, and tea cozies.

Table linen such as tablecloths, non-disposable table napkins, fabric place mats/settings, non-disposable table runners, as well as cushion covers used for kitchen chairs.

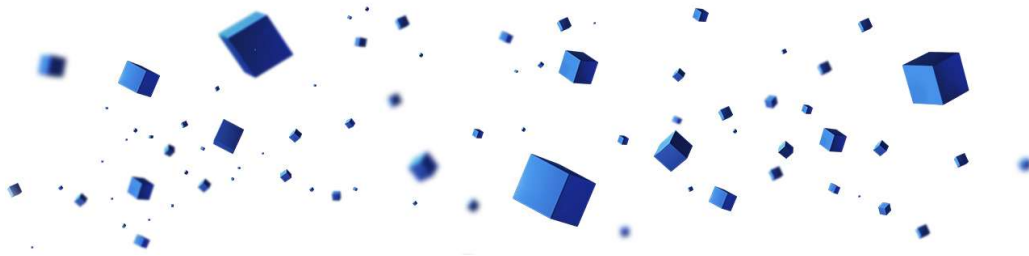
Household textile items typically used in the living room, such as cushions (including floor cushions), throw pillows, cushion covers and sofa throws, rugs, moveable floor coverings, curtains.

11.5 Equipment

Tents, backpacks, luggage, climbing ropes, hammocks, umbrellas, sleeping bags, sleeping pads, handbags, camping chairs, rooftop tents, strollers, car seats for kids, bicycle trailers, personal flotation devices, yoga mats, and similar articles.

11.6 Footwear

Street shoes, sport shoes, boots, and similar articles.



12 System integrity

Upon request the authorized bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER (trademark user) shall provide BLUESIGN with the documents listed in Chapter 8 and with the reference samples.

BLUESIGN has the right to test product samples taken from the market. The bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER is required to support these tests with information and reference samples.

12.1 Active Information duty

To ensure the operation and integrity of the bluesign® SYSTEM, a bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER is obliged to report the following immediately to BLUESIGN:

- Non-compliance of bluesign® APPROVED components or products certified as bluesign® PRODUCT with bluesign® CRITERIA, especially if legal requirements in the market of origin or target markets are infringed.
- Any relevant incidents or non-compliance in the supply chain
- Any potential misuse of the trademark "bluesign®" by third parties

If relevant, the consumer shall also be informed.

13 Validity

This document comes into effect on July 1st 2024. This document replaces the bluesign® CRITERIA for bluesign® PRODUCT.

If not stated otherwise, the newly introduced requirements are binding for all consumer products certified as bluesign® PRODUCT after June 30th 2024. For all other products the new requirements are binding after a transition period of one year from the date of release.

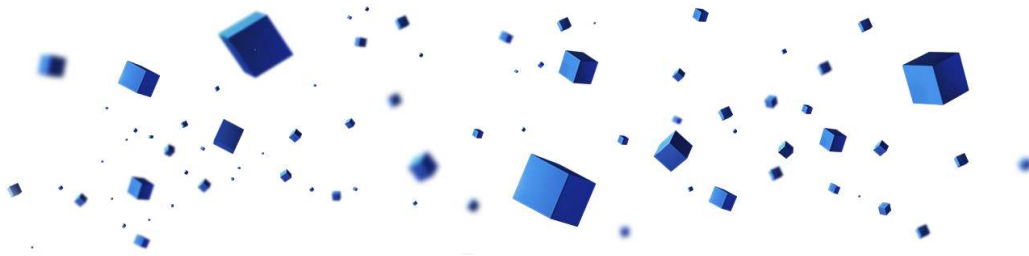
This document is subject to revision. Details on the revision procedure for regular and unscheduled revisions are compiled in the *bluesign® SYSTEM* document.

14 Other applicable documents

The following documents complement the document at hand:

- *bluesign® SYSTEM*
- *bluesign® glossary*
- *bluesign® SYSTEM BLACK LIMITS (BSBL)*
- *bluesign® SYSTEM SUBSTANCES LIST (BSSL) - Consumer safety limits*
- *bluesign® CRITERIA for brands*
- *bluesign® CRITERIA for production sites / Annexes*

Current versions are available for download at www.bluesign.com/criteria.



15 Change log

Major changes in version 4.1

Chapters 6.3.1.1 and 6.3.1.2: Added following statement: Variations of +/- 5 % are acceptable for products put on the market before 2027.

Chapter 13: Changed statement '... newly introduced requirements are binding for all consumer products certified as bluesign® PRODUCT which are **newly put on the market** after June 30th 2024' to '... newly introduced requirements are binding for all consumer products certified as bluesign® PRODUCT after June 30th 2024'

Major changes in version 4.0

Chapter 'The claim of bluesign® PRODUCT' added (see chapter 2)

Clearer description and extension of the scope of certification to 'Apparel', 'Denim', 'Home textiles (excluding carpeted floor and textile wall coverings)', 'Equipment', 'Footwear (excluding brown shoes)' (see chapter 3, Scope of bluesign® PRODUCT)

For new products being put on the market from 2027 onwards the share of bluesign® APPROVED accessories shall be at least 40 %. This applies to product categories Apparel, Denim, Home Textiles, and Equipment.

Extension of the chapter 'Definitions' (see chapter 4)

Chapter 'Supply chain impact data' added (see chapter 5)

Chapter 'General requirements' added (see chapter 6)

Supply chain requirements for each product scope added

Chapter 'Products within the scope of bluesign® PRODUCT' added (see chapter 11)

Disclaimer

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