

To: All OCI Clients

Subject: Important - OCI's Accreditation with IOAS

Dear Textile Client,

I'm writing to provide you with an update on OneCert International (OCI) certification services.

On October 8, 2021, OCI's accreditation body, IOAS, issued a decision to withdraw OCI's accreditation for GOTS and Textile Exchange certification. OCI strongly disagrees with IOAS' decision, and we have filed a formal appeal. While under appeal, the withdrawal process is halted until a decision is made by the Appeals Committee. The IOAS appeals process is lengthy, and we do not expect to have a decision from the Appeals Committee until late December or early January. However, we remain fully confident in our ability and capacity to provide high quality and high integrity certification services to all our clients, and we are optimistic that the committee will rule in our favor.

Under normal circumstances, such a decision would be kept confidential until the withdrawal was implemented; however, at the same time the official notification was sent to OCI, it was also somehow leaked to the public and has circulated amongst the industry. Therefore, in order to dispel any rumors or malicious misinformation being spread about this situation, I feel it is important and necessary for you to hear directly from OCI about our current circumstances and our expectations for the future.

No matter the outcome, our first priority is you, our client, regardless of the standards to which you are certified. We are committed to keeping open lines of communication and will send out relevant updates as the situation continues to unfold. In the meantime, we remain dedicated to the GOTS and TE programs and the integrity of the organic label, and to providing you with the exemplary level of service that you expect and deserve from OCI.

Thank you for choosing OCI to be your partner in organic certification, and please do not hesitate to contact our office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Ankuj Mittal, DGM Textile

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