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## Hohenstein to test for new international GMO protocol

BÖNNIGHEIM, GERMANY (Jan. 7, 2020) – Hohenstein has earned accreditation to test cotton for genetically modified organisms (GMOs) according to a new protocol that forms the basis of the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) Version 6.0, set for release in March 2020. Hohenstein is one of only a few institutes worldwide to qualify.

The new protocol was developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) International Workshop Agreement (IWA). The ISO IWA was formed in an effort to implement an official, standardized GMO testing protocol for GOTS certification.

GOTS is an internationally recognized standard for organic, natural fibers. While not all non-GMO cotton is organic, all organic cotton must be free of GMOs to be approved by GOTS. Beginning with GOTS Version 6.0, testing to verify non-GMO seed cotton is required.

Hohenstein performs the GOTS-approved GMO test by isolating cotton DNA from the undyed product and testing for the worldwide most common cotton lines. A positive test result clearly indicates that genetically modified cotton seeds had been used.

This is one of three methods of testing for GMOs offered by Hohenstein, which has also developed detection methods that can be used on cotton further down the supply chain, including raw fiber, yarn, fabric and finished goods. Hohenstein has been accredited according to ISO 17025 by DAKKS for all three methods. In addition, GMO testing is carried out in accordance with STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX®.

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Hohenstein has developed molecular biological detection systems especially for cotton products. It covers all aspects of the supply chain, from raw cotton to yarns and fabrics to end products. Manufacturers, brands, certifiers and consumer protection organizations receive clear yes / no results for GMO-free cotton products.

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The sample is crushed and cotton fibers are mechanically and enzymatically extracted. The genetic material (DNA) is separated from the fibers and purified through a multi-stage process.

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### **About Hohenstein**

With over 1,000 employees in more than 40 branches, offices and laboratories worldwide, Hohenstein is an internationally oriented testing services provider and research partner in the textile industry. Hohenstein is a founding member and leading provider of the OEKO-TEX® portfolio of services and is certified by the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC ID #1058) as a third-party, independent laboratory for CPSIA compliance verification. You can find more information about Hohenstein and the company's GMO testing services at [www.Hohenstein.US/GMO](http://www.Hohenstein.US/GMO)