

Ermenegildo Zegna Group

ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY

(as adopted May 17, 2023 and updated as of March 1, 2025)

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1. VISION

Ermenegildo Zegna N.V. and its subsidiaries and affiliates (hereafter the “Ermenegildo Zegna Group” or the “Group”) recognize its responsibility to the sentient animals from which garments are manufactured as well as its responsibility to ensure good animal welfare alongside human rights and environmental protection.

The need to preserve nature lies close to the core of the Ermenegildo Zegna Group’s business, and to its choice of mostly natural, high-quality fibers and materials. Understanding of the fibers and materials and their strengths is rooted in the design and development process, and the business takes great care and pride in sourcing the right fibers and material from the right sources and suppliers. Through positive and fair relationships with suppliers the Ermenegildo Zegna Group upholds traditions of high-quality natural fibers and materials, with suppliers delivering efficiency and continuous improvements in the sourcing of their raw materials. The same vision and approach apply to our carefully sourced hides and skins.

The Ermenegildo Zegna Group is aware of the importance and developments within animal welfare and wildlife conservation and is fully committed to compliance with all applicable national and international laws and regulations. It strictly adheres to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the EU Regulation on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora (EC Regulation No. 338/97).

In order to stand by these commitments to nature and respect, the Ermenegildo Zegna Group aims to only source animal fibers and materials from robust assurance schemes (where these exist), which have measurable metrics and in-built traceability, and also to reduce and refine the selection of animal materials sourced. The Ermenegildo Zegna Group also commits to building knowledge and capacity within its network of stakeholders, suppliers and teams. Furthermore, the Group is investigating non-animal-based materials which could, at some point, reduce and replace some of the high-quality fibers and materials used in our collections.

The Policy should be read together with other relevant policies, including but not limited to the Ermenegildo Zegna Group’s Code of Ethics, the Misconduct Reporting Policy and the Supplier Code of Conduct.

2. POLICY PURPOSE

This Animal Welfare Policy (the “Policy”) sets guiding principles for ourselves and our suppliers when sourcing products made from animal fibers, skins and other materials.

Following a holistic approach this Policy aims to improve negative impacts and mitigate risks when sourcing animal-derived materials. This Policy serves as a framework to create a better understanding of compliance gaps and due diligence requirements within the Ermenegildo Zegna Group and its supplier network and to document the process of improvement over time.

3. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

This Policy applies to all entities consolidated in the Ermenegildo Zegna Group involved in the manufacture and/or sale of Ermenegildo Zegna Group's branded products containing animal materials, and their suppliers sourcing animal-derived raw materials, semi-finished and finished products¹.

The entities consolidated in the Ermenegildo Zegna Group and suppliers must, therefore, be aware of the provisions of this Policy. For this purpose, this Policy is distributed as widely as possible through the internal communication and training channels within the Group. The Policy is available on the Group's corporate website and any future amendments shall be deemed incorporated hereto ([link](#)).

4. GOVERNANCE, IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF THE POLICY

This Policy was first adopted on May 17th, 2023, by the Group Chief Executive Officer of Ermenegildo Zegna N.V. and subsequently updated as of March 1st, 2025. This Policy shall be considered as the document of reference for use of animal derived materials, in accordance with local legislations.

All Ermenegildo Zegna Group brands through their top management are responsible to ensure the implementation of the Policy, exercising reasonable oversight with respect to its adequacy and effectiveness.

Implementation of the Policy starts at the conceptual design level, where decisions are made on the fibers and material type and sourcing route. Any necessary exceptions need to be justified in an appropriate way and communicated with the Ermenegildo Zegna Group's Sustainability Team.

This Policy will be reviewed as often as necessary to reflect legislative updates, accepted scientific knowledge, and new best practices. Ermenegildo Zegna Group's Sustainability Team develops local monitoring mechanisms in consultation with local Legal and Compliance Functions to ensure the Policy complies with all applicable laws and regulations.

The targets and KPIs set up within this Policy are to be tracked in the Ermenegildo Zegna Group's annual Sustainability Report.

¹ This Policy extends to Tom Ford International and its subsidiaries starting from March 1, 2025.

5. ANIMAL WELFARE POSITIONS AND COMMITMENTS

5.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

When using animal-derived materials within our collections, our aim is to only use animals that have lived a good life on certified farms and which are ideally not killed primarily for the purpose of textiles they provide or are hunted in a controlled and respectful manner as part of government wildlife management programs, thereby contributing to the maintenance or restoration of the ecological balance. Where animals on certified farms are killed for the purpose of leathers, the Ermenegildo Zegna Group is committed to ensuring good animal welfare through the application of the best available traceable standards on such farms.

The Group recognizes the guiding principles of the “Five Domains” model of animal welfare. This assessment model continues to evolve, and its most recent update (September 2020), highlights how human interactions can either enhance animal wellbeing or contribute to negative welfare outcomes.

The Group prohibits the use of cruel handling practices such as mulesing/staining (freeze-branding) for sheep farming for example and advocates the use of humane methods both to obtain animal fibers and for slaughtering animals for leather production. The Group also prohibits the use of leather or skin sourced from aborted animals.

The Group excludes altogether the use of certain animal materials, such as furs (as of 2023), and is committed to phasing out any other animal materials that cannot be sourced according to our policy in the near future.

5.2 SOURCED MATERIALS

The following section comprises the scope of animal materials sourced by the Ermenegildo Zegna Group, the country of origin, applicable and acceptable standards.

Within this Policy a three-tier approach is followed, starting off with addressing the Ermenegildo Zegna Group’s *priority materials* which are used in high volumes and reflect the overall identity of the Ermenegildo Zegna Group. The Ermenegildo Zegna Group’s *other materials* represent materials used mostly in lower volumes. The Ermenegildo Zegna Group’s *materials for future consideration* capture materials which are used infrequently, in small volumes.

The chosen standards aim to cover both the material and the country of origin. The Ermenegildo Zegna Group applies internationally recognized standards with the following priority levels:

1. Standards that include a chain-of-custody that can demonstrate dedicated animal welfare at a farm level.

2. Organic (preferably) or other farming standards that guarantee a minimum level of animal welfare at farm level.
3. Hunting standards that can ensure a minimum level of control including humane practices within a specified and regulated area/environment.

Overall, the Ermenegildo Zegna Group's animal materials can be divided into six categories:

Leather & Skins

The production of leather can potentially have significant negative environmental, social, and animal welfare impacts. The main risks associated with leather relate to animal welfare issues such as husbandry-practices, cruel practices during transport and slaughter and environmental issues such as risk of deforestation due to increased grazing areas. From the perspective of luxury brands, the complex nature of the pre-tanning supply chain and the current lack of standards and transparency at farm level create further challenges for mitigation. Although leather is seen as a by-product or co-product of the food industry, the Ermenegildo Zegna Group aims to mitigate the issues of the leather industry from farm level.

Wool & Hair

Wool and hair are produced from animals for the main purpose of textile industry. Depending on the species involved, the animals are held in vast farm-like systems requiring pastures for moving herds. The main issues are related to cruel herding and handling practices such as mulesing and steining/freeze-branding. Further environmental risks include poor land management leading to overgrazing and land degradation.

Exotic Leather

Exotic leather from several species is part of the Ermenegildo Zegna Group's product portfolio. The material is derived from reptiles that are either farmed or hunted. Main animal welfare issues relate to poor farming practices such as farms located outside the natural environment, animals kept in confined spaces and not according to their natural habitat. Risks from hunting wild animals include cruel practices and lack of control which could lead to endangered species in certain areas. The Ermenegildo Zegna Group is committed to only sourcing exotic leather that is certified to ensure endangered species are not being harmed and animal welfare practices are followed.

Feather & Down

Down feathers refer to the soft layer of feathers close to the skin of ducks or geese. Risks from intensive farm production may include cruel practices such as live plucking, forced feeding for foie gras production, bill trimming and overall poor animal husbandry.

Silk

Silk is produced from silkworms that are grown on mulberry leaves. Most commonly the cocoons are boiled to extract the protein fibers leaving the silkworm to die. Currently, insects are not classified as sentient beings. Therefore, high use of chemicals and water during the production processes are regarded as the highest risk of the silk value chain.

Accessories

Further animal-derived materials used in accessories include horn, bone, and mother of pearl. Bones and horns are mainly derived from cattle, whereas mother of pearl refers to the nacre that coats a pearl and is mostly sourced from oysters. Risks associated with mother of pearl relate to the environmentally critical practice of sea dredging, which leads to the loss of undersea habitats. Bones and horns are difficult to trace, and poor animal welfare on a farming level cannot be ruled out.

5.2.1 PRIORITY MATERIALS

5.2.1.1 BY-PRODUCTS OF FOOD INDUSTRY

Whenever possible, the Ermenegildo Zegna Group uses calf, cattle, deer, goat, and sheep hides resulting as by-products of the food industry, therefore reducing animal parts that would potentially be wasted. The Group is aware that there are challenges with its current reliance on LWG certifications to cover their needs from an animal welfare perspective and is looking into how to ensure welfare and transparency before animals reach the tannery, including close monitoring of the latest industry developments.

Calf leather is mainly used in the shoe and accessories categories. The material is sourced from LWG-certified tanneries, which are regarded as long-term partners. Starting in 2025, the Group will exclusively source leather from Silver- or Gold-certified tanneries and will analyze data from these suppliers to better understand farm-level certification and determine priorities for deeper engagement.

Deer leather is also mainly used to produce shoes and accessories. The leather is sourced from deer hunted in North America in a controlled manner as part of government wildlife management programs. Deer management seeks to maximize the benefits of this resource while being mindful of the human and ecological concerns associated with abundant deer populations.

Materials (Country of origin)	Recommended Standards	Targets/KPIs
<p>Cattle, Calf (Serbia, France, Germany, Poland, Netherlands, New Zealand)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leather Working Group (LWG). 2. The Italian Institute of Quality Certification for the Leather Sector (ICEC) 3. Regenerative Organic Certified, Certified Humane, Pasture for Life Certification 	<p>By 2025, 100% cattle, calf leather used must be sourced from LWG certified tanneries, with a rating of Silver or Gold only.</p> <p>Documented traceability to specific slaughterhouse.</p> <p>Introduction of minimum requirements of animal welfare through organic farming standards at farm level by 2027.</p>
<p>Deer (Canada, USA)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LWG 2. ICEC 3. Certified Humane, North America – Wild Fur Standard 	<p>By 2026, 100% deer leather used must be sourced from deer hunted in a controlled and respectful manner as part of wildlife management programs.</p> <p>The Ermenegildo Zegna Group is also committed to investigate further early-stage standards which can improve the sourcing of deer leather.</p>
<p>Shearling (Europe, North America)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LWG 2. ICEC 3. Regenerative Organic Certified, Certified Humane, Pasture for Life Certification 	<p>By 2025, 100% shearling leather used must be sourced from LWG certified tanneries, with a rating of Silver or Gold only.</p> <p>Documented traceability to specific slaughterhouse.</p> <p>Introduction of minimum requirements of animal welfare through organic farming standards at farm level by 2027.</p>

Materials (Country of origin)	Recommended Standards	Targets/KPIs
Italian Mediterranean buffalo (Italy)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LWG 2. ICEC 3. Regenerative Organic Certified, Certified Humane, Pasture for Life Certification 	<p>By 2025, 100% Italian Mediterranean buffalo leather used must be sourced from LWG certified tanneries, with a rating of Silver or Gold only.</p> <p>Documented traceability to specific slaughterhouse.</p> <p>Introduction of minimum requirements of animal welfare through organic farming standards at farm level by 2027.</p>

5.2.1.2 NON-BY-PRODUCTS OF FOOD INDUSTRY

Where it does use materials derived from animals in its products, the Ermenegildo Zegna Group complies with national and international requirements and aims to use available certification standards.

The Ermenegildo Zegna Group uses exclusively mulesing-free **wool** when it purchases raw greasy wool. The Group intends to extend the mulesing-free policy to wools purchased in the form of yarns and fabrics, in accordance with the commitments on traceability and lower-impact raw materials communicated in 2022, i.e., reaching at least 50% of traceable and lower-impact raw materials by 2026. For example, the Ermenegildo Zegna Group has a long association with Australian wool farmers, dating back to the beginning of the 20th century. Since 2019, the wool acquired by the Group through the Schneider Group is certified to the “Authentico” scheme.

Since 2022, the main internal manufacturers of **cashmere** fabrics are certified by the Sustainable Fiber Alliance (SFA), as is the cashmere sourced from external suppliers, meaning that raw materials meet both transparency and traceability requirements while maintaining good animal welfare.

The Ermenegildo Zegna Group is currently using **silk** from China from uncertified sources. As of 2025, the Group is not aware of any standard guaranteeing animal welfare for silkworms farmed to harvest silk filaments.

Materials (Country of origin)	Recommended Standards	Targets/KPIs
Wool (Australia, New Zealand)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authentico by Schneider Group 2. RWS, Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS), ZQ Merino, SustainaWOOL 3. Global Animal Partnership, Certified Humane, Pasture for Life Certification, Regenerative Organic Certified 	By 2026, >50% wool used must be sourced from internationally recognized standards ensuring animal welfare and sustainable land management.
Cashmere (Mongolia, China)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sustainable Fibre Alliance (SFA) 2. Authentico 	By 2026, >50% cashmere used must be sourced from internationally recognized standards ensuring animal welfare and sustainable land management.

5.2.2 OTHER MATERIALS

The Ermenegildo Zegna Group’s *other materials* represent materials used in lower volumes. For some of these materials dedicated and internationally recognized standards exist. However, the Ermenegildo Zegna Group has not yet applied all the existing standards to the respective materials and is investigating sourcing from certified sources. In the absence of specific standards, the Ermenegildo Zegna Group is considering some minimum standards to ensure animal welfare.

Leather & Fibers

As with other leather products, **sheep** and **goat** leather is mainly used in the shoes and accessories product section. The material is sourced from LWG certified tanneries who are considered long-lasting partners. Currently, follow-up on animal welfare at farm-level is not performed. Based on trusted relationships, farm-level engagement and certification is to be initiated.

For **mohair** and **alpaca**, the Ermenegildo Zegna Group is investigating the standards developed by Textile Exchange to ensure good animal welfare and traceability of the fibers. For **Vicuña** a new standard is being developed by our trusted partner Schneider Group as part of the Authentico scheme. The Ermenegildo Zegna Group is exploring the availability of this standard (and equivalent ones when available) for the materials used in its collections.

Down and **feather** are to be covered by Responsible Down Standard and if not available by Downpass to ensure a minimum level of traceability and animal welfare.

Materials (Country of origin)	Recommended Standards	Targets/KPIs
Sheep & Goat (Australia, South America, North Africa, Spain)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leather Working Group 2. ICEC 3. Regenerative Organic Certified, Certified Humane, Pasture for Life Certification 	<p>By 2025, 100% sheep & goat leather used must be sourced from LWG certified tanneries, with a rating of Silver or Gold only.</p> <p>Documented traceability to specific slaughterhouse.</p> <p>Introduction of minimum requirements of organic farming at farm level by 2027</p>
Mohair (South Africa, USA, Turkey)	Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS)	By 2026, 50% mohair must be sourced from RMS certified suppliers or equivalent.
Alpaca (Peru, USA)	Responsible Alpaca Standard (RAS)	By 2026, 30% alpaca must be sourced from RAS certified suppliers or equivalent.
Vicuña (Peru)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authentico (when available) or similar 2. CITES for traceability 	Investigate in sourcing options for Authentico certified Vicuna
Down & Feathers (China, Poland, Hungary)	Responsible Down Standard (RDS), Downpass	By 2025, 100% down feathers must only be sourced from RDS, Downpass certified sources or equivalent.

Exotic Leather & Accessories

Currently, **alligators** are sourced from suppliers located in US, ICFA certified.

Crocodiles are sourced from wild-hunted animals in Australia, which is closely monitored by the Government. All materials are certified by CITES to exclude any risk to endangered species in certain areas. Sourcing from farmed sources is being evaluated.

The Ermenegildo Zegna Group understands that traceability schemes for **accessories** such as horns are needed in order to mitigate risks of poor animal welfare. Until then, the materials should not be sourced from countries with high risks of traceability and animal handling issues. Mother of pearl is mainly sourced from farmed oysters from Australia. As of 2025, the Group is not aware of any standard guaranteeing animal welfare for the harvesting of this material. The Ermenegildo Zegna Group is currently evaluating future sourcing options which may include organic farming certifications.

Materials (Country of origin)	Recommended Standards	Targets/KPIs
Alligator (USA) Crocodile (Australia, Africa) Caiman (South America)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. International Crocodilian Farmers Association (ICFA) 2. CITES for traceability, Wildlife Certified 	<p>By 2025, 100% alligator, crocodile and caiman materials must be sourced from ICFA certified suppliers.</p> <p>No exotic leathers are to be sourced from farms outside of their natural environment.</p>
Horn (India)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leather Working Group/ ICEC 1. Organic farming standards (refer to cattle section) 	<p>Introduce a tracing scheme for accessories. Exclude sourcing from countries with risk of poor animal welfare standards on farming level.</p> <p>By 2027, >50% materials must be sourced from organic certified farms.</p>
Mother of Pearl (Australia)	None currently available	Sourcing of pearl from farmed oysters only, requiring suppliers to provide information on farming practices

5.2.3 MATERIALS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

The Ermenegildo Zegna Group’s **materials for future consideration** include materials for which the current level of knowledge within the industry is an ongoing process and needs to be monitored in order to evaluate the Group’s own performance.

Hair and wool derived from **horses, camels, and llamas** are not covered by a dedicated certification scheme. Future considerations include research and collaboration on potential standard development and investigation of traceability schemes with suppliers. The Ermenegildo Zegna Group will work with supplying collectors to improve traceability to establish core supply chains, where implementation of their animal welfare policy will have the greatest impact. Where animal materials are sourced from countries where animal welfare legislation is weak and assurance schemes are not available, the first step to implementing our animal welfare policy is to conduct assessments of the supply chains in these high-risk countries, to establish the nature and diversity of farming methods (through desk top review and supplier visits). This will allow to identify where commitments are most at risk and an action plan will be drawn up to mitigate these risks.

Materials (Country of origin)	Recommended Standards	Targets
Horsehair (China)	None, local organic farming standards (as minimum standard)	Introduce a tracing scheme for horsehair. Establish a program of completing supply chain mapping. By 2027, >50% of materials must be sourced from organic certified farms.
Camel (Mongolia, China)	None available	Work with supply chain until 2027 to find solutions to ensure welfare. Establish a program of completing supply chain mapping. If welfare cannot be guaranteed this material will be phased out.
Llama (Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina)	No separate standard, yet similar to Alpaca species	Monitor industry development for potential standard development.

5.2.4 MATERIALS TO BE PHASED-OUT

Exotics

The Ermenegildo Zegna Group has initiated the sourcing phase-out of some exotic leather such as ostrich as of 2025, due to quality and traceability issues. Sourcing materials derived from snakes and lizards have already been discontinued by the Group.

Fur

The Ermenegildo Zegna Group stands by its fur-free commitment and has discontinued the use of Angora and has initiated phasing out of species such as beaver, rabbit, and hare until 2025.

Leather

The Ermenegildo Zegna Group has initiated a phase-out of leather sourced from certain species such as buffalo (except for the Italian Mediterranean buffalo sourced in accordance with the rules detailed under sub-section 5.2.2.1), kangaroo, and baby lamb as of 2025 due to traceability issues and the Group's approach of animal welfare and ethical sourcing.

Others

Wool and hair derived from yaks has been phased out of the Group's range of materials since 2023. Due to traceability challenges the Ermenegildo Zegna Group is also phasing out the use of bone.

6. SUPPLIER ENGAGEMENT

To ensure transparency and traceability of Ermenegildo Zegna Group's materials and targets regarding animal welfare, close collaboration with the established partnerships within the value chain is necessary to "hand down" knowledge and diligence. Existing suppliers will be trained and educated on the targets and values set by the Group's Animal Welfare Policy. In the next step, these values are to be implemented on a farm level. The introduction of this policy is also part of the onboarding process of new suppliers.

The Ermenegildo Zegna Group regularly requests that its suppliers provide proof of compliance with the standards and regulations they adhere to. To begin with, this includes a technical data sheet summarizing the details of the processes involved to produce the subject material.

7. APPENDIX

7.1 DEFINITIONS

Five Domains Model

The Five Domains Model now provides an explicit means to effectively and systematically evaluate the animal welfare implications of a wide range of human-animal interactions.

Situations where human–animal interactions may have negative welfare impacts include: when animals have had little or no prior human contact, when human presence adds to already threatening circumstances, when human actions are directly unpleasant, threatening and/or noxious, when humans’ prior actions are remembered as being aversive or noxious and when the actions of bonded humans cause unintended harms. In contrast, situations where human–animal interactions may have positive welfare impacts include: when the companionable presence of humans provides company and feelings of safety, when humans provide preferred foods, tactile contacts and/or training reinforcements, when humans participate in enjoyable routine activities or in engaging variable activities, when the presence of familiar humans is calming in threatening circumstances and when humans act to end periods of deprivation, inhibition or harm.

Practical translation of the Five Domains Model into General Welfare Aims.

General Welfare Aims	Focusing Welfare Targets	Provisions
Good Nutrition	To minimize thirst and hunger and enable eating to be a pleasurable experience.	By providing ready access to fresh water and a species-appropriate diet to maintain full health and vigor ^[a] .
Good Physical Environment	To minimize discomfort and exposure to adverse environmental conditions and to promote physical comfort.	By providing appropriate outdoor access and suitable shelter against adverse weather conditions ^[b] , and/or housing with different functional areas ^[c] , comfortable resting areas, and good air quality.
Good Health	To minimize pain ^[d] , disease, and other discomforts and to promote the pleasures of vigor, strength, robustness and harmonious physical activity.	By preventing or rapidly diagnosing and treating diseases and injuries, and by stimulating, among others, proper muscle tone, natural body posture, cardiorespiratory function, and digestive system processes.
Appropriate Behavioral Interactions	To minimize threats and unpleasant restrictions on behavior and movement, and to promote engagement in rewarding activities.	By providing sufficient space, conspecific company ^[e] , human interactions that are adapted to the individual needs and appropriately varied conditions ^[f] to allow for species-specific behavioral expression
Positive mental experiences	To promote the experience of various forms of comfort, pleasure, interest, confidence, and a sense of control.	By providing safe and species-appropriate environmental, conspecific, and human interactive opportunities to have pleasurable experiences.

Fur

According to Four Paws, fur is defined as any animal skin or part thereof with hair or fur fibers attached thereto, either in its raw or processed state or the pelt of any animal killed for the animal's fur. "Animal" includes, but is not limited to mink, fox, rabbit, karakul lamb and raccoon dog. "Fur" shall not include 1) such skins as are, or are to be, converted into leather or which in processing have, or shall have, the hair, fleece, or fur fiber completely removed, 2) materials clipped, shorn, or combed from animals, fleece, sheepskin, shearling, 3) leather or hair attached to the skin that is typically used as leather e.g. cowhide with hair attached, 4) synthetic materials intended to look like fur.

7.2 STANDARDS

Leather

Leather Working Group

The LWG has introduced an auditing protocol for tanneries. This covers raw material traceability, environmental managements systems, restricted substances, energy consumption, water usage, air and noise emissions, waste management, and effluent treatment. Relating to their level of performance tanneries are assigned bronze, silver, or gold level. Animal welfare is not considered during the auditing process. Currently, the LWG is evaluating steps to introduce a roadmap to traceability back to farm level.

Institute of Quality Certification for the Leather Sector (ICEC)

ICEC has prepared two leather traceability certification variants, each applicable to farmed or wild species and to split leather:

1. "Products system in tanneries": includes in the analysis a wide range of products. The traceability of the hides upstream of the tannery is mapped, traceability checks of the production phases of these hides in the tannery are not included;
2. "Single products in tanneries": includes the analysis of a single product or a single homogeneous product. The traceability of the skins upstream of the tannery is mapped. In this case, verification of the traceability of the production phases of these skins in the tannery is included.

The relative rating of both schemes specifies the degree of traceability of the raw materials upstream of the tannery. In March 2022 ICEC published a model of risk analysis to include Animal Welfare upstream of tannery supply chains. Starting from traceability data collection according to TS 410/412 a risk analysis calculation is updated annually following each traceability audit. Tanneries are not obligated to share this information with brands and customers.

Leather Impact Accelerator

The LIA was hosted in 2021 to bridge the gaps in transparency in the leather supply chain and to provide more immediate solutions to support farmers to improve their practices to more animal welfare. LIA is not a standard but a benchmarking program that recognizes and rewards best practices in the value chain. Brands can use LIA to support best practices in the leather value chain and make credible claims about their actions.

Exotic Leather

International Crocodylian Farmers Association (ICFA)

All farming activities of ICFA members must be certified within 3 years of joining the association and in order to remain certified annual audits take place. The ICFA covers responsible farming practices and is based on current scientific knowledge. Hosted on a global scale, the framework accommodates various reptile species.

Wool

Responsible Wool Standard (RWS)

The Responsible Wool Standard (RWS) is an international, voluntary standard that addresses animal welfare in sheep farms and chain of custody of wool from certified farms to the final product. Individual sites are certified by independent third-party certification bodies using annual audits & material is tracked from the farm to the final product.

Authentico

This standard developed by the Schneider Group aims to improve growers and farm stewardship. Authentico audits cover animal welfare, land management, social responsibility, transport and traceability. The standard accommodates animal natural fibers such as wool, cashmere and other fibers such as Alpaca and Vicuna.

Nativa

The Nativa Protocol aims to provide traceability, sustainability and animal welfare in wool production and manufacturing in Argentina, Uruguay, US, New Zealand, and Australia (Tasmania). The Nativa Protocol certifies every step of the supply chain. The assessment includes animal welfare, land management and Corporate Social Responsibility.

SustainaWOOL Integrity Scheme

SustainaWOOL certifies Australian wool properties that uphold sustainability in resource management, animal welfare, and industry standards while ensuring no breech modification,

including mulesing, for flystrike management. Its certification and AWSS digital identification enable buyers to confidently source wool that aligns with their sustainability commitments.

ZQ

ZQ is an on-farm certification program established by NZM in 2007 and was the first such program in the world to require growers to meet strict standards with regard to animal welfare, environmental integrity, social responsibility, fiber quality, and traceability. ZQ is aligned with the Responsible Wool Standard (RWS).

Cashmere

The Good Cashmere Standard (GCS)

The Good Cashmere Standard® (GCS) is an independent standard for sustainable cashmere, developed by the Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF), that aims to improve the welfare of cashmere goats, the working conditions of farmers and to protect the environment.

Sustainable Fibre Alliance (SFA) Cashmere Standard

The Sustainable Fiber Alliance is a global multi-stakeholder initiative with a mission to ensure the long-term viability of the cashmere sector. The SFA's Sustainable Cashmere Standard consists of three Voluntary Standards and a Chain of Custody program that work together to achieve the SFA's goals to improve social and environmental performance in the production of cashmere. The Cashmere Standard is based on extensive research and consultation with herder cooperatives, national government, industry experts and conservationists. Following ISEAL best practice guidelines, the codes of practice are refined and improved through a process of ongoing development, monitoring and evaluation.

Responsible Nomad

Responsible Nomads (RN) Code of Best Herding Practice is the result of a 19 years long commitment to support Mongolian Nomadic Herder households, their Animals' Welfare and Rangeland recovery and protection. The code is the only valid and official Mongolian Standard on sustainable cashmere production. Within this framework rangeland health as well as proper animal handling is taken into account and herders receive annual trainings.

Sustainable Cashmere Union

The Sustainable Cashmere Union is a local Mongolian association and was founded in 2017 based on local cooperatives and three provinces. The sustainable cashmere certification scheme developed by the Union aims to classify sustainable cashmere production based on ecological, social economic factors. This takes responsible herd handling practices and local communities into account. The certification scheme is verified by a third party, the Sustainable Cashmere

Certification Committee. In 2021, the network of the Union was adapted to accommodate baby yak down.

Mohair

Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS)

Textile Exchange launched the Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS) with the goal of providing the industry with a tool to recognize the best practices of farmers. This helps ensure that mohair comes from farms that have a progressive approach to managing their land, practice holistic respect for the animal welfare of the goats and respect the Five Freedoms of animal welfare.

Alpaca

Responsible Alpaca Standard (RAS)

The international voluntary standard “The Responsible Alpaca Standard (RAS)” by Textile Exchange addresses the animal welfare practices at alpaca farms and ensures that certified farms adopt the Five Freedom animal welfare practices along with land management and social welfare at the farms. The standard also covers the producers by means of a chain of custody content claim certification.

Down

Responsible Down Standard (RDS)

The Responsible Down Standard (RDS) is an international, voluntary standard that addresses animal welfare in the duck and geese supply chain and the chain of custody of down and feather material from certified farms to the final product.

Downpass 2017

The DOWNPASS Standard aims to globally promote the proper raising of geese and ducks kept for farming purposes. This includes the responsible sourcing of feathers and down won as by-product of the meat production.

Farm Animals & Organic Standards

Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)

The Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) defines globally consistent and rigorous criteria for the processing of textiles made from certified organic natural fibers throughout the entire supply chain. These criteria include the controlled organic harvesting of fibers, environmentally friendly and socially responsible production and consistent labelling of products. Compliance with the guidelines is verified throughout the supply chain with regard to the use of chemical additives and the core labor standards of the International Labor Organization (ILO). Only textiles products,

which contain at least 70% organically produced natural fibers may receive GOTS certification. This certification needs to be issued by an independent testing institute.

Regenerative Organic Certified

Certification scheme for farms approved by third-party auditors. The certification represents the highest standard for organic agriculture with stringent requirements for soil health and animal welfare.

Certified Humane

Independent, non-profit certification organization with species specific standards including cattle, goat, sheep, bison and red deer, amongst others.

Pasture for Life Certified

Community of farmers raising produce exclusively on pasture including the wider range of environmental and animal welfare benefits.

Global Animal Partnership

Animal Welfare Standards exist for cattle, bison, sheep and goats amongst others. These ensure an enriched environment, outdoor access, pasture-raised conditions.

Wild Animals

Wild Fur

The Standard ensures sustainability and welfare of all fur-bearing species and protection of endangered species in North America. Harvested fur which is certified under Furmark is verified by third-party protocol and auditing scheme.

CITES

The CITES permit system aims to prevent the trade of endangered species as specified in the three Appendices of the Convention. The national CITES Management Authority issue the permits and certificates. CITES does not cover a full animal welfare certification scheme but traces the origin of animal materials.

Recycled Materials

Global Recycled Standard (GRS)

The Global Recycled Standard (GRS) is an international, voluntary, full product standard that sets requirements for third-party certification of Recycled Content, chain of custody, social and

environmental practices, and chemical restrictions. The goal of the GRS is to increase use of Recycled materials in products and reduce/eliminate the harm caused by its production.

Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)

Similarly to the Global Recycled Standard, the Recycled Claim Standard (RCS) is an international, voluntary standard that sets requirements for third-party certification of Recycled input and chain of custody. The goal of the RCS is to increase the use of Recycled materials.