

Sustainability report of a product

COMPANY	PRODUCT	PRODUCT TYPE	EAN / SKU	GTIN
Natua Organic Branding Oy	Expresser women's t-shirt	textile		

SUMMARY

T-shirt made from GOTS certified organic cotton, printed in Finland with water-based ink.

<div><div></div><div>Competitive Sustainability Features</div></div> <div>EXPLANATION</div>			
	Certificates/labels, material, cotton & final product: Sustainability facet: climate-change, biodiversity, environment, water, human-rights, decent-work Lifecycle phase: raw-materials	GOTS <i>Data source:</i>	GOTS defines the criteria for organic production, which takes into account not only environmental criteria, such as banning the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, efficient recycling of water, but also dimensions of social responsibility. GOTS requires employers in the entire production chain to comply with the criteria set by the International Labor Organization (ILO). Working hours and wages must be reasonable and working conditions safe. In addition, forced labor, child labor, discrimination and other inhumane treatment are prohibited.
	Origin of energy used, production, garments: Sustainability facet: climate-change, environment Lifecycle phase: production	Solar energy <i>Data source:</i>	Some suppliers utilize solar energy in energy production.
	Energy efficiency, garment printing: Sustainability facet: climate-change, environment Lifecycle phase: production	Air heat pumps, modern equipment <i>Data source:</i>	The production facilities are heated with air heat pumps. Modern equipment ensures maximum energy efficiency. The production process is optimized in a way that enables efficient equipment use and avoids running equipment unnecessarily.

COMPANY	PRODUCT	PRODUCT TYPE	GTIN
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Environment, production, garment printing:

Sustainability facet:
environment, water

Lifecycle phase: production

Water-based ink

Data source:

Garment printing is done with water-based ink.



Environment, production, garment printing:

Sustainability facet:
environment, water

Lifecycle phase: production

Chemical free
pressure screen
washing

Data source:

Automating pressure screen washing requires no use of chemicals and the resulting water is also chemical free.



Animal welfare, garments:

Sustainability facet:
biodiversity

Lifecycle phase:
raw-materials, production

No animal
derived
materials or
animal testing

Data source:

The garments do not contain any animal fibers, nor are ingredients or formulations tested on animals.



Worker wellbeing, production, cotton cultivation, spinning & ginning, garments:

Sustainability facet:
human-rights, decent-work

Lifecycle phase:
raw-materials, production

Own audits &
GOTS

Data source:

The company makes regular visits to cotton farms and production factories. They also have on-site employees to monitor compliance with their social responsibility standards. GOTS requires employers in the entire production chain to comply with the criteria set by the International Labor Organization (ILO). Working hours and wages must be reasonable and working conditions safe. In addition, forced labor, child labor, discrimination and other inhumane treatment are prohibited.



Minimum Level of Sustainability

EXPLANATION



Energy efficiency, production, garments:

Sustainability facet:
climate-change,
environment

Lifecycle phase: production

EMS, EGBs, modern
equipment

Data source:

Most suppliers have energy management systems (EMSs) in place to track energy consumption per unit. Exhaust Gas Boilers (EGBs) are also in use to recover some natural gas losses in a linked boiler system. Suppliers also upgrade to modern, more energy efficient equipment.

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PRODUCT

PRODUCT TYPE

GTIN

Natua Organic Branding
Oy

Expresser women's t-shirt

textile

infin



Water use optimization, production, garments:

Sustainability facet: water

Lifecycle phase: production

Closed water cycle

Data source:

Some suppliers use a closed water cycle in production, therefore no wastewater is generated. No data available how much of the whole production utilizes closed water cycles.



Water treatment, production, garments:

Sustainability facet: water, environment

Lifecycle phase: production

Effluent Treatment Plants

Data source:

The company's factories have Biological Effluent Treatment Plants that treat the water used in the manufacturing process. In some factories, the treated wastewater is utilized in e.g. car washing, and gardening.



Waste and surplus management, production, garments:

Sustainability facet: circular-economy

Lifecycle phase: production

Collecting and utilizing offcuts

Data source:

Waste fabric is collected to create recycled yarn for the company's accessory range.



Environmental management, production, garments:

Sustainability facet: environment, climate-change

Lifecycle phase: production

ISO14001

Data source:

ISO 14001 sets out the criteria for an environmental management system and can be certified to. It maps out a framework that a company or organization can follow to set up an effective environmental management system. Some suppliers utilize this standard, some are in the implementation process.



Environmental management, production, garments:

Sustainability facet: environment, climate-change

Lifecycle phase: production

Sustainability team

Data source:

A four person sustainability team is in charge of the company's sustainability strategy and short term actions.



Waste and surplus management, garment printing:

Sustainability facet: environment, water, circular-economy

Lifecycle phase: production

Optimized ink use & recycling

Data source:

The precise amount of printing ink is prepared for each job. All excess ink is collected and recycled.

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Certificates/labels, fabric dye:

Sustainability facet:
environment, water

Lifecycle phase: production

GOTS, Standard 100 by Oeko-tex

Data source:

Chemical formulators are required to implement product stewardship practices and undergo an on-site audit for environmental management systems, as well as occupational health and safety. Standard 100 by Oeko-tex is used for the assessment of harmful substances in fabrics and confirms that the garments are processed without chemical substances that are harmful to human health and the environment. The standard also prohibits certain potentially harmful substances even where these are not yet legally banned, and it confirms that the products comply with the EU REACH regulation.



Worker wellbeing, production, garments:

Sustainability facet:
human-rights, decent-work

Lifecycle phase:
raw-materials, production

Fair Wear Foundation

Data source:

Members of the Fair Wear Foundation (FWF) are committed to ensure that employees in clothing production have safe working conditions, decent working hours and wages, employment contracts, etc. The use of child labour is forbidden in production.



Worker wellbeing, production, garment printing:

Sustainability facet:
human-rights, decent-work

Lifecycle phase: production

Printing country Finland

Data source:

In Finland, labor rights are respected and workers' well-being generally ensured.



Potential improvements

EXPLANATION



Material, recycling rate:

Sustainability facet:
circular-economy

Lifecycle phase:
raw-materials

0%

Data source:

The items contain no recycled materials. The use of recycled materials keeps the resources tied to them in circulation and accelerates the transition to a circular economy.



Origin of energy used, production, garments:

Sustainability facet:
climate-change, environment

Lifecycle phase: production

Natural gas

Data source:

The energy used in production is derived from natural gas. Natural gas is a fossil fuel. Energy produced with fossil fuels is one of the biggest factors influencing global warming.

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Origin of energy used, garment printing:

Sustainability facet:
climate-change,
environment

Lifecycle phase: production

Nuclear power
46,9%, fossil fuels
& peat 40,1%,
renewable energy
13%

Data source:

Due to financial reasons, the company needed to switch from a renewable energy-based electricity contract to a standard one. A switch back to renewable energy-based electricity will be made once it's possible. Energy produced with fossil fuels is one of the biggest factors influencing global warming. Renewable energy sources are a less emission-intensive alternative to fossil energy sources. Utilizing additional renewable energy such as wind- or solar energy is the most sustainable choice. Additional renewable energy is a form of energy that can be added and its usage accelerates the transition to fossil free energy production.



Sustainability issues and risks

EXPLANATION

No significant sustainability issues detected from the material available.



Missing data, critical

EXPLANATION



Origin of energy used, warehousing:

Sustainability facet:
climate-change,
environment

Lifecycle phase: production

No information
available

Data source:

No information available on the origin of energy used in warehousing.



Energy efficiency, warehousing:

Sustainability facet:
climate-change,
environment

Lifecycle phase: production

No information
available

Data source:

No information available on energy efficiency measures used in warehousing.

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Missing data, non critical

EXPLANATION



Logistics transport fuel

Sustainability facet:
climate-change

Lifecycle phase: logistics

No information available

Data source:

There is no information available on the fuel used in logistics during different stages of production. Logistics are still very dependent on fossil fuels and cause about 7% of the world's carbon dioxide emissions. Logistics are estimated to grow almost fourfold by 2050, so the transition to low-carbon modes of transport is critical in terms of carbon dioxide emissions.



Logistics optimization

Sustainability facet:
climate-change

Lifecycle phase: logistics

No information available

Data source:

There is no information available on how logistics are optimized. Logistics can be optimized in several ways, which can significantly reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Such means include vehicle maintenance, driver training, loading, route selection and scheduling. Optimizing logistics can also improve business profitability.



Other product features

EXPLANATION



Material:

Cotton

Data source:

The items are made of cotton. Cotton cultivation is very water-intensive. Cotton cultivation brings monoculture, which leads to biodiversity loss. In addition, child and forced labor is often used in the cotton production chain. However, it should be noted that replacing virgin cotton fiber is currently difficult, so its use is justified in certain situations. In these cases, however, the use of GOTS and Fair Trade certified cotton is recommended.



Material, origin, cotton:

India

Data source:

The organic cotton originates from India.



Manufacturing country, material, cotton ginning:

India

Data source:

Cotton ginning is done in India.



Manufacturing country, material, cotton spinning:

Bangladesh

Data source:

The cotton is spun into yarn in Bangladesh.



Manufacturing country, material, garments:

Bangladesh

Data source:

The cotton is made into fabric, dyed, sewn and finished in Bangladesh.

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	Manufacturing country, garment printing:	Finland <i>Data source:</i>	The garments are printed in Finland.
	Transportation mode, materials, garments:	Sea freight or road transport <i>Data source:</i>	Materials and finished garments are shipped via sea freight and using road transport.
	Transportation mode, printed garments:	Road transport <i>Data source:</i>	Items are sent to customers using road transport.
	Certificates/labels, garments:	Standard 100 by Oeko-tex <i>Data source:</i>	Standard 100 by Oeko-tex is used for the assessment of harmful substances in fabrics and confirms that the garments are processed without chemical substances that are harmful to human health and the environment. The standard also prohibits certain potentially harmful substances even where these are not yet legally banned, and it confirms that the products comply with the EU REACH regulation.

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