

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION SCHEME FOR TEXTILES

1. Objective:

This procedure describes the criteria implemented by RACS as Certification Body (3rd Party CAB) authorized by Saudi Standards Metrology & Quality organization (SASO) to assure that **Textiles** products intended for certification with SASO are complying with the relevant mandatory schemes and applicable standards. Furthermore, this document identifies the steps taken by RACS Clients (Manufacturers, Traders, importers, retailers, Business owners or any other client) to get their products/processes certified prior to its commercializing in the market, and registered by through RACS Quality Certificates Issuing Services as SASO Certification Body (3rd Party CAB) by issuing certificates of conformity in accordance with SASO Regulations:

2. Definitions:

- **SASO:** Saudi Standards Metrology & Quality Organization
- **RACS:** RACS Quality certificates issuing services
- **Scheme:** Certification system related to specified products, to which the same specified requirements, specific rules and procedures apply.
- **Certification:** Third-party attestation related to products, processes, systems or persons.
- **Certification Body:** a conformity assessment body designated by SASO to conduct conformity assessment process on products and processes in accordance with related schemes/standards/regulations mandated by SASO.
- **Conformity Certificate:** Formal document issued by RACS as Certification Body (3rd Party CAB) under approval of SASO stating that certification is being granted for the product/process in accordance with applicable scheme/standards as per SASO Requirements.

3. Responsibility:

It is the responsibility of RACS as SASO Certification Body (3rd Party CAB) to establish and maintain the appropriate system to satisfy both SASO and clients requirements in accordance to the certification system mandated by SASO.

It is the responsibility of SASO clients and RACS clients to provide all needed requirements as per SASO Certification system to ensure their products compliance to the applicable schemes and standards.

4. Introduction about RACS Certification Body (3rd Party CAB) to provide Certification:

RACS is an accredited certification body & SASO approved Certification Body (3rd Party CAB). RACS is an authorized conformity assessment body by SASO that it is technically competent to perform the specific tasks of certification to SASO clients.

5. Service Type:

As per Scheme owner rules, RACS certifies Textiles Products and issues Certificate of conformity under:

- **Product Certification:** Product Certification is a Product certification is being implemented by the (SASO) according to the Decree no. 6386 issued by the Trade and Industry Ministry of Saudi Arabia (MOCI), dated the 4th of August 2004.
- **Full Quality Assurance:** Conformity granted to the products that can demonstrate compliance with the relevant National Standards, Regional and/or International Standards and are manufactured by an organization implementing an effective Quality Management System to ensure continuous compliance. The process of achieving the license to use the Full Quality Assurance involves a comprehensive evaluation of the product as well as the quality system used by the manufacturer in production through testing, inspection. Full quality assurance is implemented according to Cabinet Resolution No. 216 of 2010, about Approval of the Law of the Saudi Arabian Specifications and Standards Authority.

Issuance of certificate of conformity by RACS as SASO's Certification Body (3rd Party CAB) assures the compliance of products/production process with the requirements of the approved schemes, standards and others specified in the technical regulation by Certification Body (3rd Party CAB) authorized by Saudi Standards Metrology & Quality Organization (SASO).

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6. Scope of certified products by RACS –SASO Certification Body (3rd Party CAB):

This document cover Textiles products with below details of Sector, scope of certified products, products categories, and applicable type of certification:

Sector (Product Group)	Scope of Certification (Scope of Products)	Product categories	Type of Certification
CHEMICAL	Textiles Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghatra • Shmaagh • Ihram • Okal • Abaya • Dishdasha • Tents textiles • Umbrellas textiles • Carpets • External textiles flooring covering • Wool Textiles Flooring Covering • Textiles Flooring Covering-Textiles Support • Textiles Flooring Covering-Coconut covers • Textile wool liner • Acrylic Blanket • Cotton Towels • Pillows & Covers • Hazardous Materials on Human Health • Vehicle Seats Textiles • Textiles for Home Use • Plastic wrapped textile • Label requirements • Underwear Cotton Textiles • Hazardous Materials on Human Health • Woven fabrics • Silk Fabrics • Mixed Fabrics • Men wears fabrics • Anti-water plastic and rubber wrapped clothes • Hazardous materials (Azo Tinctures) 	<p>1. Product Certification - Type Approval</p> <p>2. Process Certification -Full Quality Assurance</p>

7. Mandatory Schemes and Applicable Standards:

Scheme is not available as per the Scheme Owner, please refer to the related standards. If needed, Client refers to RACS to identify applicable Scheme and Standards.

Also, Decree no. 6386 issued by the Trade and Industry Ministry of Saudi Arabia (MOCI), dated the 4th of August 2004.

RACS Staff to refer to RACS/REC/79 Scope of Certified Products by RACS to identify Certification applicable schemes and standards.

8. Requirements for Certification:

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Requirements varies depending on the scope of certified products; Details of the documents required for certification for the scope of Textiles Product as per SASO requirements are detailed as following:

8.1. Supportive Documents: as following:

Product Certification:

- Application form (Online).
- Valid Industry/Trade License (For Local Companies)
- Declaration of Conformity by the Applicant on the Product(s) for Registration using the Applicant's Official Letterhead
- Test Reports from recognized laboratory as per the requirement of applicable standard for the product
- Risk Assessment Analysis Report of the product
- Controlled Copy of relevant (QM) Quality Manual (Soft Copy/in CD/DVD).
- Effective Safety Management Systems related with the scope
- Copies of labels, markings, logos as required by Specific Standard

Full Quality Assurance:

- Valid Industry/Trade License (For Local Companies).
- Declaration of Conformity by the Applicant on the Product(s) for Registration using the Applicant's Official Letterhead.
- Details about quality system including Controlled Copy of relevant QMS Manual (Soft Copy/in CD/DVD).
- Brief Description of Manufacturing Process.
- Vicinity Map of the Factory.
- Plant Equipment Layout (scaled 1:50).
- Quality Plan showing how to comply with Specific Standard
- Labeling Artworks of all products, markings, and Logos according to requirements of applicable standards
- Test Report from recognized Testing Laboratory (soft copy).
- Evidence of Approval from other Conformity Assessment Bodies (If any)
- List of factories with full address and contact details
- List of products per factory requested to be registered in the application

8.2. Application for Certification (Application Form): Application to be filled by the client will contain all the necessary information needed by RACS Quality for conducting the certification Process, such important information is:

- Type of Product to be certified: Product, facility (Process) to identify the related scheme implemented by SASO.
- Relevant standard/ or normative documents clients is seeking certification for.
- General information: Applicant Business activities & related business facilities & relationship between their facilities, in relevance to the certification scheme applied for information about outsourced Processes relevant to Product conformity.
- Any other information needed related to certification requirements.

By signing the application form, the applicant and the manufacturer agrees to comply with these General Rules and with the Specific Product Standard for the product covered by Registration / CB Certification

8.3. Legal Agreements:

- Certification Agreement:
- Non-Disclosure Agreement

8.4. Fees as detailed in RACS Schedule of Fees (RACS/REC/46)

9. Certification Procedures:

Based on its role as SASO Certification Body (3rd Party CAB), Procedure will be performed as following:

9.1. Preparatory Steps:

- 9.1.1. Application Form shall be submitted by applicant to RACS, submission can be done via RACS affordable communication methods (mail, emails, hard copy, website, E-System)

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- 9.1.2. Sales and Marketing Executive/Administrative assistant will review it to check documents availability on a primary basis
- 9.1.3. A quotation will be sent to applicant by Head of Sales and Marketing; containing the scope of certification and fees related to each step of the certification process.
- 9.1.4. Payment shall be done by applicant.

9.2. Application Review

- 9.2.1. Upon acceptance of quotation by client, he is requested to sign the General Conditions for Certification Services.
- 9.2.2. Application along with related supportive documents will be received by RACS Conformity Manager who shall assign one of RACS technical team members (Conformity Officer- (Evaluator or Auditor)).

9.3. Application Evaluation

- 9.3.1. Conformity Officer (Evaluator or Auditor) shall perform conformity assessment (Evaluation) steps related to the certification scheme (Product Certification):

Product Certification:

- Detailed documents review for all the documents
- Document review includes the check up for Test Reports parameters and results, done by 3rd party Laboratory according to the specific technical regulations and applicable standards.
- Evaluation of product the eligibility of the Product for certification to assure compliance according to applicable schemes and standards

Full Quality Assurance:

- Detailed documents review for all the documents
- Document review includes the check up for Test Reports parameters and results, done by 3rd party Laboratory according to the specific technical regulations and applicable standards.
- On-Site Audit to the facility where the product is being manufactured to assure the quality management system adopted in full compliance with applicable standards and technical regulations.
- Evaluation of product the eligibility of the Product for certification.

Note: No of Samples to be selected for testing is defined by the specific technical requirements and as per scheme owner

- 9.3.2. Evaluation Outcome results:

- If evaluation is pending for missing or invalid documents or other needed information to complete evaluation; Additional Supportive Documents will be requested by Applicant.
- Evaluation includes Product Safety Verification through test reports provided on all safety Test parameters requested by applicable scheme/standards, test reports shall be issued by 3rd party accredited Laboratory sub-contracted according to the approved Standards and applicable technical requirements.
- If test reports are not complying with Standards; Conformity Officer/Assessor requests rectification of the non-complying aspects, then based on applicant confirmation of rectification, Collection of samples will be done to conduct the same laboratory tests again and for once.
- Evaluation will be repeated upon applicant re-submission of needed documents/information.

9.4. Certification Review

Certification is different types of decision taken by RACS QUALITY when the assigned audit team members are satisfied that the company's Quality System documentation and implementation meets the requirements of the appropriate schemes, standards and related ISO Standards.

Once all corrective actions are fulfilled, the Conformity Officer (Evaluator or Auditor) will complete evaluation report summary in evaluation report (RACS/REC/12) and shall raise the final evaluation report with his recommendation to the Conformity Manager (or his delegates) for certification review step of the products/facility intended for certification, recommendation is either:

- ✓ Either recommending approval of certification by Issuance of Certificate of Conformity; or
- ✓ Recommending rejection of certification by issuing Final Decision Letter.

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Conformity Manager or his delegates will perform certification review to verify Conformity Officer (Evaluator or Auditor) recommendation by checking if evaluation report content is found satisfactory along with complete review for the whole application and supportive documents, and then grant the final recommendation to the Certification Decision Committee. If the review and the certification decision are completed concurrently in the Decision Committee, they shall proceed with the decision after certification review is done.

9.5. Decision of Certification: Upon submission of this information, and as per the result of documents review and completing product evaluation process,

9.5.1. Recommendation of approval of Product certification: Product evaluation shows full compliance with applicable schemes/standards:

- Application is initially approved by Conformity Officer/Assessor
- Recommendation for certification approval will be made by Conformity Manager
- Certification decision will be done by Decision Committee
- Granting the issuance of Certificate of conformity, recognized by SASO
- Certified Products will be listed in RACS Certified Products registry.

9.5.2. Recommendation of rejection of Product certification: Product evaluation shows non-compliance with applicable schemes/standards, due to any reason preventing product from Certification:

- Application is declined by Conformity Officer/Assessor
- Recommendation for certification rejection will be made by Conformity Manager
- Rejection decision will be done by Decision Committee
- RACS will inform client by an Official rejection statement (Letter of certification Status) by e-mail stating the reason of rejection.

Important Note: As a 3rd Party Certification Body of the Saudi Standards Metrology & Quality Organization (SASO), RACS is assigned to perform the certification process up until evaluation only, after which, the recommendation from RACS should be forwarded to SASO for final decision. In this procedure, it covers until Certification Decision to comply with the International Standard (ISO IEC 17065) that RACS is accredited from. Hence, the recommendation and decision is being forwarded to SASO for their final approval.

Please refer to Available on RACS Website→Publicly available information→ RACS 3rd Certification Body→Required Docs→

- **TXT/REC/01:** Application form- Textiles
- **TXT/REC/02:** Legal & Quality Documents-List of certification requirements per related Scheme – Textiles

Notes for clients:

- For some scopes where it is required to have a quality system available, clients seeking to be certified for any of their (Products or services or facility/Process) to Schemes and applicable standards through RACS are requested to implement relevant Quality System including documentation in a way to meet all requirements of this standard and all relevant specific standards depending on the nature of service (certified Product& Process).
- Client seeking extension or renewal of Certification scope shall as well submit the application form specifying the extension or renewal of the Certification scope.
- Whenever applicable, Additional Certification requirements per Certification schemes: Legal & Quality documents (such as Client Quality Manual) and supportive documents (records and checklists used by applicant), are to be attached to the application form.

10. Renewal:

Product Certification:

- Validity of certificate is one year,
- COC should be renewed 2 months prior expiry.

Full Quality Assurance:

- Validity of certificate is three years, subject to surveillance visits every year during the certification to assure maintained of conformity
- COC should be renewed 3 months prior expiry.

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11. Process Map:



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12. Market Monitoring:

RACS Will be conducting Market Surveillance campaigns in the local markets to assure continuous compliance of certified products and inform Scheme owner on immediate basis on the non-conformity products to take the appropriate action.

13. Related Forms:

Listed Agreements, SOPs, Records related to the document as follows:

General Forms:

TITLE OF DOCUMENT	IDENTIFICATION
Quality Master List	RACS/REC/01
Certification Agreement/ RACS Quality- Client	RACS/AG/01
NDA/RACS Quality - Client/Subcontractor	RACS/AG/03
Scope of Certified Products	RACS/REC/79
Schedule of Fees	RACS/REC/46

Specific Records related to the Scope:

TITLE OF DOCUMENT	IDENTIFICATION
Application form- Textiles	TXT/REC/01
Legal & Quality Documents-List of certification requirements per related Scheme – Textiles	TXT/REC/02
Assessment Checklist-SASO-394 head cloth for men -white ghautra	TXT/REC/04
Assessment Checklist-SASO-557 head cloth for men -cotton shemagh and blended (cotton /polyester) shemagh Replaced By: SASO-GSO-277	TXT/REC/05
Assessment Checklist-SASO 1007 Ihrem dress.	TXT/REC/06
Assessment Checklist-SASO 1157 Arabic Clothing	TXT/REC/07
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1617 Prayer rugs	TXT/REC/08

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Assessment Checklist-SASO 2137 Women's abaya and tarha fabrics	TXT/REC/09
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1934 Woven polyester fabric for thobes.	TXT/REC/10
Assessment Checklist-SASO 1329 Fabrics for civilian tents	TXT/REC/11
Assessment Checklist-SASO-ISO-5912 Camping tents	TXT/REC/12
Assessment Checklist-SASO-ISO-8095 PVC-coated fabrics for tarpaulins -- Specification	TXT/REC/13
Assessment Checklist-SASO-ISO-10966 Sports and recreational equipment -- Fabrics for awnings and camping tents -- Specification	TXT/REC/14
Assessment Checklist- ISO 8936 Awnings for leisure accommodation vehicles -- Requirements and test methods	TXT/REC/15
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1167 Woven carpets	TXT/REC/16
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1631 Outdoor tufted cut- pile textile floor covering "Artificial grass"	TXT/REC/17
Assessment Checklist-SASO-ISO-11859 Textile floor coverings -- Pure wool, hand-knotted pile carpets -- Specification	TXT/REC/18
Assessment Checklist-SASO-ISO-11860 Textile floor coverings -- Jute carpet backing fabric -- Specification	TXT/REC/19
Assessment Checklist-SASO-559 Woven woolen blankets.	TXT/REC/20
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1000 Acrylic blankets	TXT/REC/21
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1625 Cotton terry towel	TXT/REC/22
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1627 Bed sheets and pillowslips (50 / 50 cotton / polyester) for general use	TXT/REC/23
Assessment Checklist-SASO-ISO-1957 Machine-made textile floor coverings -- Selection and cutting of specimens for physical tests	TXT/REC/24
Assessment Checklist-SASO-561 Car upholstery –Fabric for car seats. Replaced By: SASO-GSO-280	TXT/REC/25
Assessment Checklist-SASO 1171 Woven and knitted upholstery fabrics for domestic use.	TXT/REC/26
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1941 Plastics-coated fabrics for upholstery-part 1: PVC-coated knitted fabrics.	TXT/REC/27
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1942 Plastics-coated fabrics for upholstery-part 2: PVC coated woven fabrics	TXT/REC/28
Assessment Checklist-SASO-ISO-7617-1 Plastics-coated fabrics for upholstery -- Part 1: Specification for PVC-coated knitted fabrics	TXT/REC/29
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1944 Methods of testing plastics-coated fabrics for upholstery	TXT/REC/30

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Assessment Checklist-SASO-2388 PVC product (synthetic leather) for upholstery and stationary	TXT/REC/31
Assessment Checklist-SASO-2389 plastics coated fabrics for upholstery - specification for light pvc-coated, woven, knitted non-woven fabrics	TXT/REC/32
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1173 Identification labels for textile products.	TXT/REC/33
Assessment Checklist-SASO-ISO-3758 Textiles - Care labelling code using symbols	TXT/REC/34
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1169 Cotton knitted fabrics for underwear.	TXT/REC/35
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1170 Methods of testing for cotton knitted fabrics for underwear.	TXT/REC/36
Assessment Checklist-SASO-2636 Men's socks- cotton and nylon socks	TXT/REC/37
Assessment Checklist-SASO-2637 Methods of Test Men's socks	TXT/REC/38
Assessment Checklist-SASO-GSO-1829 Technical requirements for woven fabrics garments.	TXT/REC/39
Assessment Checklist-SASO-GSO-1828 Technical Requirements for Woven Fabrics	TXT/REC/40
Assessment Checklist-SASO-783 Replaced Methods of testing woven silk fabric. Replaced By: SASO-GSO-432	TXT/REC/41
Assessment Checklist-SASO-784 Woven silk fabric.	TXT/REC/42
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1008 Methods of testing woven bended fabrics-55% polyester/m-45% wool	TXT/REC/43
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1009 Woven blended fabrics - 55% polyester-45% wool – plain	TXT/REC/44
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1629 Fabrics for men's workwear	TXT/REC/45
Assessment Checklist-SASO-1630 Methods of testing men's workwear fabrics.	TXT/REC/46
Assessment Checklist-SASO-2256 Rubber- or plastics- coated fabrics for water resistant clothing-part1: PVC-coated fabrics	TXT/REC/47
Assessment Checklist-SASO-2257 Rubber or Plastic-Coated Fabrics for Water Resistant Clothing Part 2: Polyurethane and Silicon Elastomer Coated Fabrics	TXT/REC/48
Assessment Checklist-2002/61/CE Covers Textiles, Fabrics, Accessories and Underwear	TXT/REC/49
Assessment Checklist-2004/21/CE Covers Textiles Fabrics, Accessories and Underwear	TXT/REC/50

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Textiles-Product Certificate Template	TXT/REC/51
Textiles-Facility Certificate Template	TXT/REC/52
Assessment Checklist SASO-645 Requirements for fire retardant tent fabrics	TXT/REC/53

14. References:

- General Requirements for Certification Bodies (3rd Party CAB) –SASO Document.
- Requirements for Registration –SASO Documents-Available in SASO website and RACS website and upon request by RACS Staff.
- ISO/IEC 17065, Conformity Assessment - Requirements for bodies certifying Products, Processes and services.
- ISO/IEC 17021, Conformity Assessment — Requirements for bodies Providing audit and Certification of management systems.
- ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Systems
- GAC Document: FAD- 4.0: Supplementary accreditation requirements for Product Certification Bodies.
- R307: General Requirements Accreditation of ISO /IEC 17065 Product Certification Bodies
- IAF Mandatory Document: Determination of Audit Time of Quality and Environmental Management System.
- ISO/IEC 17000, Conformity Assessment — Vocabulary and general principles.
- ISO/IEC 17020, Conformity Assessment— Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection.
- ISO/IEC 17025, General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories.
- ISO17067, in combination with ISO Guide 28 and ISO Guide 53
- ISO/IEC 17030, Conformity Assessment — General requirements for third-party marks of conformity.
- ISO Guide 23:1982 Methods of indicating conformity with Standards for third-Party certification Systems
- ISO Guide 27:1983 Guidelines for corrective action to be taken by a certification body in the event of misuse of its mark of conformity
- RACS Quality Manual RACS/QM/01
- All controlled QMS records-Please refer to RACS/REC/01-Quality Master List.

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Revision History:

Date	Revision #	Description of Changes
August 28, 2018	00	Initial

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