



**TextileExchange**  
Creating Material Change

# Responsible Down Standard 3.0

---

## An Introduction to the Updated Standard

31 July 2019

# Textile Exchange

---



## MISSION

Textile Exchange inspires and equips people to accelerate sustainable practices in the textile value chain. We focus on minimizing the harmful impacts of the global textile industry and maximizing its positive effects.

## OUR GOALS

- Embed sustainability into evolving business and supply chain strategies
- Make it easier for companies to adapt to changing opportunities and requirements in textile sustainability
- Ensure that actions taken toward sustainability result in real and meaningful change

## APPROACH

Textile Exchange engages and catalyzes the textile industry across the supply chain through partnerships and collaborations, building knowledge and capacity to inform and educate. We further leverage our influence to create action, change and collective impact.

## VISION

We envision a global textile industry that protects and restores the environment and enhances lives.

# Today's Webinar

---

- Textile Exchange Standards
- The Role of the RDS
- A walk through the new standard
- What changes for you?
- What's next?

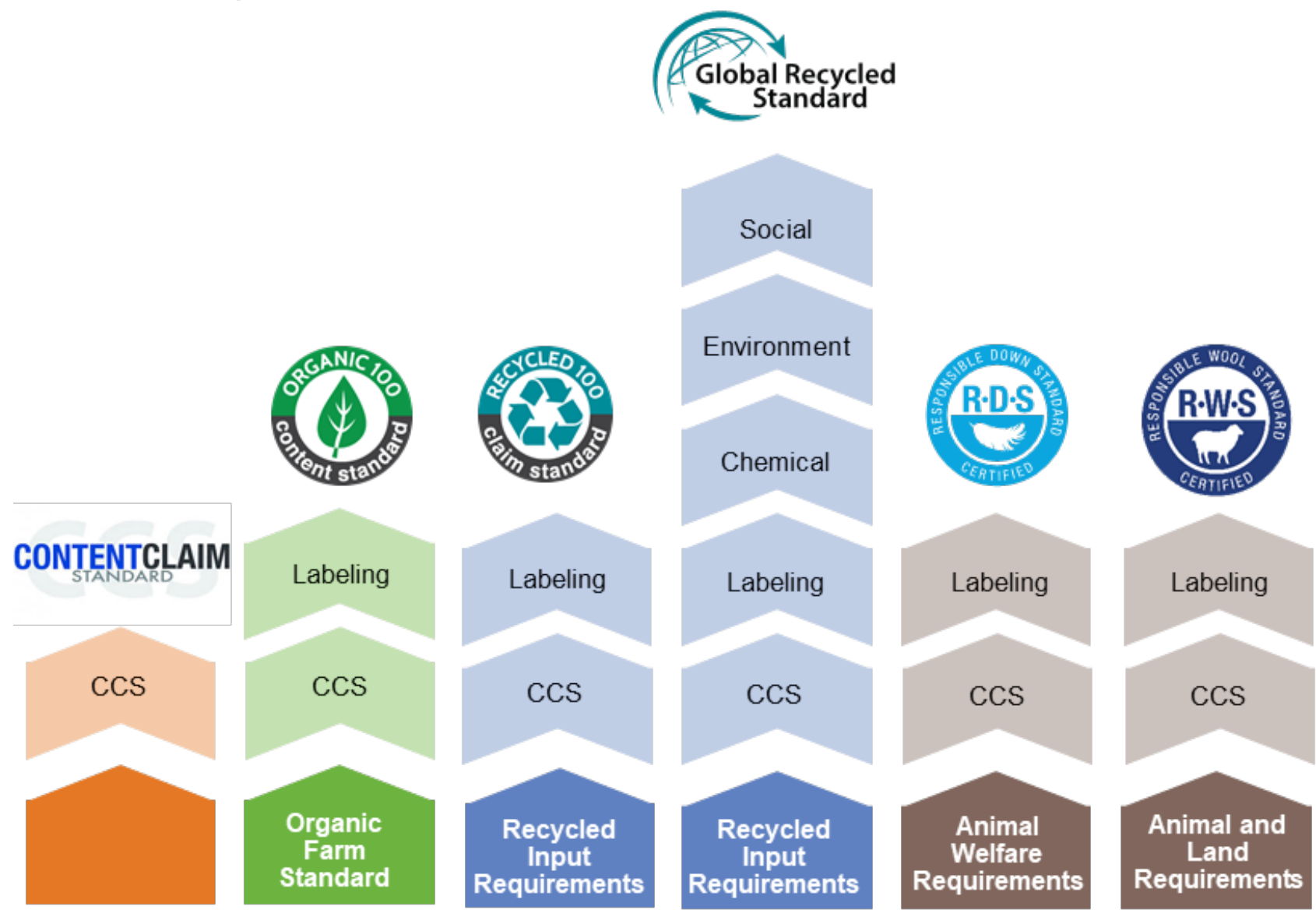
# Textile Exchange Standards

---

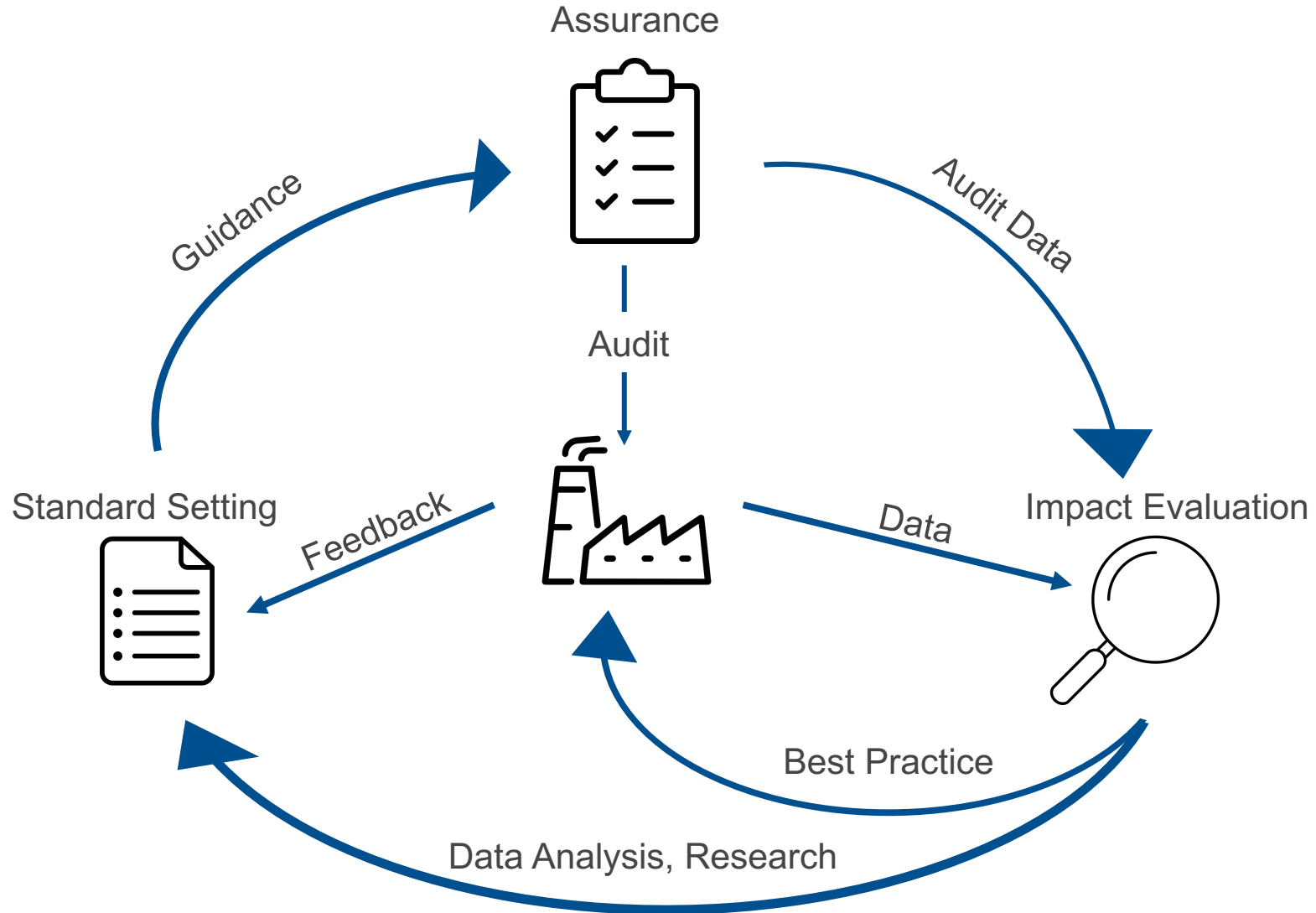
Creating real and meaningful change



# Textile Exchange Standards



# The Role of Standards



# ISEAL Credibility Principles

---



# RDS Revision Process



# IWG Members

---



**Adidas**

**Allied Feather & Down  
Control Union**

**COFRAC**

**Coyuchi**

**Culver Duck Farms, Inc.**

**Downlite**

**European Outdoor Group**

**Four Paws**

**Humane Society International  
ICEA**

**IDFL**

**Multiglory Home Textiles**

**NSF International**

**Patagonia**

**Pyrenex**

**Rohdex**

**Shanghai Donglong Feather  
Manufacture Co. Ltd.**

**SN Interplume SAS**

**Sustainable Down Source**

**The Lollipop Tree**

**The North Face**

**Trendsetter UK**

**Volcom**



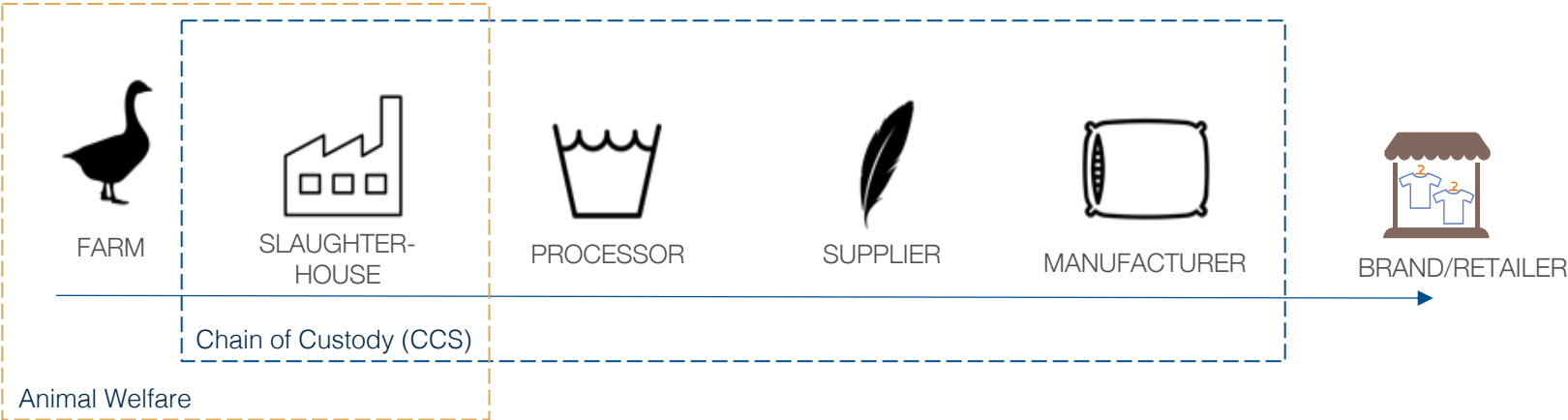
# Why RDS?

# Goals of RDS 3.0

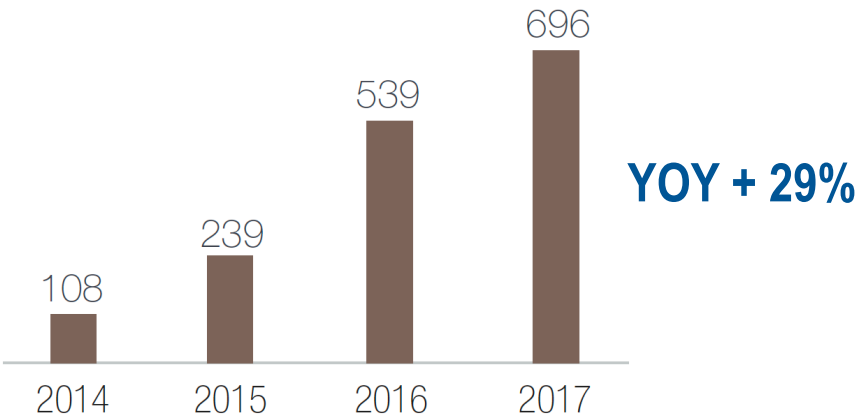
---

- **Ensure** that down and feathers do not come from supply chains where animals have been subjected to any unnecessary harm.
- **Reward and influence the down and feather industry** to incentivize practices that respect the humane treatment of ducks and geese.
- **Education and development of the supply chain** in order to drive continuous improvement of best practices.
- Provide companies with a tool to know what is in their products, and to make **accurate claims**.
- **Ensure strong chain of custody** for certified materials as they move through the supply chain.

# Scope of Certification



# RDS Certified Facilities



# RDS Brand Commitments



This list is not comprehensive.



# Recognition

---



- OutDoor Industry Award in the category of Sustainable Innovations, 2015
- Outdoor Industry Association Together We Are a Force Award, 2018



# The New RDS 3.0

---

Key elements of the new standard

# Key Changes in RDS 3.0

A thin blue circular outline that frames the text.

Structural  
Changes

A thin blue circular outline that frames the text.

Strengthened  
Criteria

# Updated Set of Documents

---



Responsible Down  
Standard 3.0  
RDS-101-V3.0-2019.07.01



Responsible Down Standard 3.0



RDS Certification Procedures



RDS User Manual

# Requirement Levels

## Traffic Light System for Requirement Levels

- C** CRITICAL
- Ma** MAJOR
- Mi** MINOR
- R** RECOMMENDATIONS

<b>AW3.10</b>	There shall be no <i>live-plucking</i> of down and feather of waterfowl.	<b>C</b>
<b>AW3.10.1</b>	There shall be no molt harvesting, forced molting, or assisted molting.	<b>C</b>
<b>AW3.10.2</b>	All down shall come from waterfowl that were raised for food.	<b>Ma</b>
<b>AW3.10.3</b>	The farm shall not source animals that were ever live-plucked and shall not outsource animals for live-plucking.	<b>C</b>



# Animal Welfare Criteria Reorganized

---

1. Nutrition
2. Living Environment
3. Animal Management
4. Handling and Transport
5. Management, Plans, and Procedures
6. Slaughter

# Desired Outcomes

---



**Desired outcome:** Access to sufficient feed and water suited to the animals' age and needs to maintain normal health and to prevent prolonged hunger, thirst, malnutrition or dehydration.

*Example: Nutrition*

# Addressing Risk to the Animals

---

- Required euthanasia for sick and injured birds.
- Required stunning before slaughter.
- Specific ban on intentional mistreatment or poor handling.
- Increased control of parent farms for industrial goose supply chains.

# Providing for Welfare

---

- Access to water for behavioral needs, deep enough to dip their heads.
- Daily wellness checks.
- Maintained ban on infra-red bill trimming.

# Documentation and Training

---

- Documented management plans for each area of Animal Welfare
- Veterinary Health and Welfare Plan
- Training requirements for each area of Animal Welfare



# What changes for you?

## Changes for Certification Bodies

- Download all relevant documents.
- Start scheduling training for auditors.
- Set up necessary auditing materials.
- Let Textile Exchange know now if there are any questions.
- Notify clients of updated version and that all audits conducted after July 1, 2020 shall be to RDS 3.0.



## Changes for Certified Farms and Slaughter Sites

- Download a copy of RDS 3.0.
- Download a copy of RDS User Manual (*once released*).
- Identify actions needed for conformity.
- Get training plans ready for all personnel.
- Ensure conformity by certification renewals after July 1, 2020.





## Changes for Certified Companies

- Download a copy of RDS 3.0.
- Download a copy of RDS User Manual (once released).
- No key changes for supply chain entities.
- Notify farming and slaughter facilities of updates to the standard.
- Support with training if needed.
- RDS 2.0 certified materials are allowed to be used as inputs into RDS 3.0 certified sites. All previous stock will continue to be RDS certified.

## Changes for Brands and Retailers

- No key changes for brands and retailers.
- Notify suppliers updates to the standard.
- Support with training if needed.



# What's Next?

---

Training and Support

# Support Materials

---

- RDS Certification Procedures
- RDS User Manual
- Training tools for auditors
- Training tools for farms and slaughter sites
- Data collection points
- Translations
- Monitoring and Evaluation

# Questions?

---



# Thank you

---



---

[TextileExchange.org](https://TextileExchange.org)

## © Copyright Notice

This presentation is protected by U.S. and International copyright laws.

Textile Exchange welcomes you to use slides from this collection for your presentations on the condition that:

- The slides are not altered from the way it is presented in its original format, this includes changing colors and style.
  - The Textile Exchange logo should not be removed.
  - Adding logos and/or content is not permitted without written permission from Textile Exchange.
- Any presentation using this content or any form of this content should acknowledge Textile Exchange as the author.