BESTSELLER'S ANIMAL WELFARE AND MATERIALS ETHICS POLICY

November 2025

BESTSELLER

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BACKGROUND

This document outlines BESTSELLER's policies on material ethics and animal welfare, reflecting our current commitments and requirements for raw material sourcing and outlines our definition for Certified and Branded materials, also called FFWD Materials. Certified and Branded Materials are materials that are either organic, in-conversion, recycled and/or subject to a third-party licensing agreement or certification. In essence this means that fibres and materials presented as Certified and Branded Materials are both: 1) Proven to have less environmental impact compared to conventional material of same category and/or demonstrate improved animal welfare standards, and 2) Their existence in a BESTSELLER brand's garment can be confirmed through chain of custody.

A list of the approved FFWD materials, also called certified and/or branded materials can be found on our website.

SCOPE

The scope of this document encompasses all raw materials used in BESTSELLER products. Marketing materials and packaging materials are excluded, as they are addressed under separate policies.

This policy applies primarily to Tier 4 suppliers (raw material producers). BESTSELLER expects ethical practices across all supply chain tiers.

COLLABORATION AND DUE DILIGENCE

BESTSELLER recognises that achieving our material ethics and animal welfare goals requires active collaboration with our suppliers, industry partners, NGOs, and other stakeholders. We are committed to:

- Supplier Engagement: Working closely with our suppliers to facilitate their understanding and adherence to our policies, providing them with the necessary training and support to improve their practices.
- Industry Initiatives: Participating in industry-wide initiatives and collaborations, such as Textile Exchange, Fashion For Good and the Microfibre Consortium, to address shared challenges and drive collective progress.
- Stakeholder Dialogue: Engaging in open and transparent dialogue with stakeholders to gather feedback, share information, and identify opportunities for improvement.

To mitigate potential risks related to human rights, animal welfare, and environmental impact in our supply chain we include following actions:

- Risk Assessments: Conducting regular risk assessments to identify and prioritise potential risks in our supply chain.
- Traceability Mapping: Working to improve the traceability of our supply chain to enable us identifying the origin of our materials and assess their impacts and scope preventative mitigation and remediating actions.

MATERIALS ETHICS

At BESTSELLER we recognise the importance of branded and certified materials selection and in our Fashion FWD strategy, we have set goals in transitioning our raw material use to certified and branded materials

From January 2027, in line with our brand certification journey, we will require Tier 1 transaction certificates for all products when making claims about their content or attributes to ensure the integrity of our product claims. We encourage brands to implement this requirement for Tier 1 certificates now to ensure all our claims are compliant by January 2027.

We support efforts to prevent the loss or degradation of biodiversity and ecosystems through careful material selection and sourcing practices that reflect high standards of integrity, transparency, and care for people and animals. BESTSELLER acts in compliance with international legislation and standards.

BESTSELLER will not source any materials derived from species that appear on the CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) or IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) lists of endangered species.
We rely on industry expert groups, local laws, and international standards to guide our specific material requirements.

As a signatory to The Microfibre Consortium, we recognise the collective responsibility to address microfibre fragmentation from textiles and are committed to working with the industry to find effective solutions.

ANIMAL WELFARE

BESTSELLER recognises the ethical responsibility to promote humane treatment of animals. We are working towards safeguarding animal welfare throughout our supply chain. We require that any materials derived from animals used in our products originate from animals treated humanely and in accordance with animal welfare laws, and recognised industry best practices.

We actively support the development and implementation of robust animal welfare standards, particularly those aligned with the Five Freedoms (or Five Domains) Model, which emphasises comprehensive well-being. Our long-term ambition is to source all animal-derived fibres and materials from sources that can document that they are in compliance with our standards, prioritising transparency and full traceability within our supply chains.

BESTSELLER supports the EU ban on animal testing for cosmetics and personal care products. We require our suppliers to fully comply with EU law and not be involved in any animal testing of cosmetic products and ingredients, nor can they purchase ingredients or products from suppliers engaged in such practices. Furthermore, we encourage and support the use of recycled animal fibres and the development of innovative, non-animal alternatives to reduce our reliance on animal-derived materials.

BESTSELLER'S MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS

The following section outlines BESTSELLER's material-specific targets and sourcing requirements.

All branded and certified fibres must comply with the official chain of custody requirements of their respective standards or branded fibre tracer options.

BESTSELLER MATERIAL TARGETS

COTTON

BESTSELLER's preferred cotton portfolio consists of certified organic[1], recycled[2], in-conversion, CmiA organic (Cotton made in Africa), (Traceable) Better Cotton, Direct to Farm Organic and In-conversion.

The in-conversion cotton uptake will count towards the organic cotton target, however, please note that in-conversion is reported separately to maintain transparency.

BESTSELLER will not accept cotton from countries with sourcing limitations mentioned in BESTSELLER"s Sourcing Regions of Particular Human Rights Focus, as part of BESTSELLERs Sourcing policies.

SYNTHETIC FIBRES

Recycled polyester and polyamide options will be sourced in line with official chain of custody requirements, such as the Global Recycled Standard (GRS) or Recycled Claim Standard (RCS), ensuring verified recycled content and traceability throughout the supply chain.

Preference will be given to Textile-to-Textile recycled alternatives.

MAN MADE CELLULOSIC FIBRES

BESTSELLER aims to source its man-made cellulosic fibres in line with industry best practice, from suppliers that have acquired a green shirt rating in the Canopy Hot Button Report.

BESTSELLER does not allow sourcing man-made cellulosic fibres from endangered species habitats and ancient and endangered forests, as outlined in our Forest Protection Policy. Non-branded fibres must be sourced from FSC or PEFC certified forests.

[1] Approved organic standards are GOTs & OCS

[2] Approved recycled standards are GRS and RCS

BESTSELLER encourages brands to use more cellulosic fibres with innovative fibre feedstock (such as recycled cotton or agricultural residues) to reduce the use and dependencies of virgin wood pulp in BESTSELLER's products and reduce our environmental impact.

WOOL

Approved wool options will be sourced in alignment with the requirements of the relevant standards for Alpaca, Mohair, Cashmere, and the Responsible Wool Standard, as well as recycled wool, which are included in BESTSELLER's wool sourcing targets.

BESTSELLER does not accept wool from animals that have been exposed to live lamb cutting (also known as mulesing). National Wool Declaration of 'non-mulesed' or 'ceased-mulesed' documentation from supplier is required for all wool originating from Australia.

From 2030 BESTSELLER will eliminate the sourcing of non-certified wool.

ALPACA

BESTSELLER's alpaca sourcing practices reflect high standards of integrity, transparency, and care for animals and supports the development of the Responsible Alpaca Standard (RAS) by the Textile Exchange. We believe the RAS addresses critical aspects of alpaca husbandry and land management practices.

We are committed to sourcing only certified alpaca, and we continue to support positive industry developments in this area.

MOHAIR

BESTSELLER will only accept mohair from farms certified to the Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS). Any mohair should be sourced in line with the official chain of custody requirements set by the RMS.

CASHMERE

BESTSELLER has partnered with The Good Cashmere Standard® (GCS) by AbTF (Aid by Trade Foundation).

From January 2026 BESTELLER will eliminate the sourcing of non-verified cashmere.

BESTSELLER will only accept GCS-verified cashmere, adhering to the standard's requirements for animal welfare, land management, and the well-being of farmers.

DOWN AND FEATHERS

BESTSELLER only allows virgin down and feathers that are certified to the Responsible Down Standard (RDS), or certified recycled down verified through an approved recycling standard.
All down and feather sourcing must comply fully with the requirements of the relevant certification standards.

Mixing of RDS down with synthetic or alternative fillings is not permitted.

BESTSELLER does not accept down or feathers sourced from exotic bird species, nor from birds that have been live-plucked or force-fed. All down and feathers must originate as a by-product of the food industry, and sourcing from greylag geese is strictly prohibited due to the risk of force-feeding practices linked to foie gras production.

LEATHER

BESTSELLER only allows sourcing of leather, including leather with hair on, as a by-product from animals bred for the food industry — specifically from cow, sheep, goat, pig, and buffalo.

BESTSELLER does not accept leather obtained from live-skinning or live-boiling.

BANNED MATERIALS

BESTSELLER has banned the use of following materials. **Under no conditions will the use of these materials be accepted to produce BESTSELLER products**

1. *Real fur - Fur refers to the pelts (skin with hair intact) of animals that are specifically raised or trapped for their fur common sources include, Mink, fox, rabbit, chinchilla, sable, raccoon, and beaver.*
2. *Exotic skins or skins from rare and wild animals' common sources include reptile and aquatic skins*
3. *Angora wool*
4. *Horn*
5. *Teeth*
6. *Bone*
7. *Coral*
8. *All shell (unless recycled with a full chain of custody)*
9. *Mother of Pearl*
10. *Non certified down*

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