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## STeP by OEKO-TEX®: New regulations in 2020

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At the start of the year, the OEKO-TEX® Association as usual updated the applicable test criteria and limit values for its range of certifications. For STeP by OEKO-TEX® the following new regulations come into effect on April 1, 2020 after a three-month transition period:

### **DETOX TO ZERO as mandatory requirement for STeP by OEKO-TEX® companies with wet processes, as of April 1, 2020**

Safe use of chemicals and wastewater testing have always been an important part of the STeP certification. In order to meet the increasingly complex requirements within textile and leather production, as of April 1, 2020 DETOX TO ZERO will be an obligatory element for STeP by OEKO-TEX® companies that use water and chemicals on a large scale. The comprehensive MRSL screening and detailed wastewater and sludge analysis prepares facilities to comply with requirements requested by suppliers or initiatives.

*The new STeP / DTZ Chemical List is the basis indicating the MRSL requirements for chemical use and wastewater and sludge testing requirements.*

A major advantage of the new regulation is the future conformity of STeP with the MRSL of the ZDHC (Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals) Initiative and the criteria of the Greenpeace Detox campaign. There will be a transitional period of 1.5 to 2 years for existing STeP customers (until next certification cycle) with wet processes not applying DETOX TO ZERO yet.

**New substance additions to the STeP / DTZ by OEKO-TEX® Chemical List:**

- **Dibromopropylether** (CAS 21850-44-2): Addition of Dibromopropylether to group 3 of the STeP MRSL
- **Tris-(2-chloro-1-methylethyl)phosphate (TCPP, CAS 13674-84-5)**: Addition of TCCP to group 3 of the STeP MRSL
- **Tetraoctyltin compounds (TeOT)** (Various): Addition of TeOT to group 5 of the STeP MRSL
- **Permethrin** (Various): Addition of Permethrin to group 14 of the STeP MRSL (except for PPE)
- **Silica** (CAS 14464-46-1): Addition of Silica (particles of respirable size) to group 14 of the STeP MRSL
- **Triclosan** (CAS 3380-34-5): Addition of Triclosan to group 14 of the STeP MRSL
- **Thiourea** (CAS 62-56-6): Addition of Thiourea to group 14 of the STeP MRSL

For more information on the new OEKO-TEX® test criteria, please contact OEKO-TEX® ([info@oeko-tex.com](mailto:info@oeko-tex.com)) or your responsible OEKO-TEX® Institute ([www.oeko-tex.com/institutes](http://www.oeko-tex.com/institutes)).

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*After a three-month transition period, the new STeP by OEKO-TEX® regulations will become binding on April 1, 2020.*