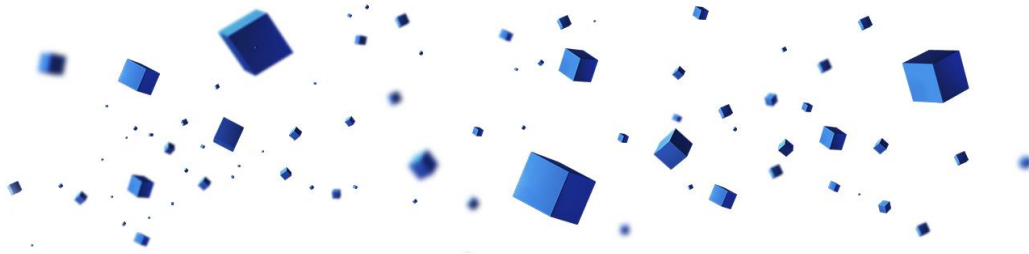


bluesign® CRITERIA for converters

Version 3.0 | 2019-11





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1 Scope

This document defines requirements for converters of textile articles (all processing levels), finished leather articles and accessories for use in textile and leather industry.

For the requirements regarding rebranders of chemical products see the bluesign® *CRITERIA for production sites | ANNEX: Chemical Supplier*.

2 Definitions

A converter, within the scope of the bluesign® SYSTEM, is any company buying and selling textile articles (all processing levels), finished leather articles and accessories for use in textile and leather industry without own production processes involved.

A converter does not have any installed chemical or physical finishing steps, but sources from a sub-supplier or places orders at sub-contractors. The original products are not modified in their properties. Changes to lot sizes or packaging are common.

For the brand the converter often plays the coordinating role in organizing several processing steps (e.g. dyeing and coating) at various production sites.

Products with trade name(s) specified by the converter are placed on the market by the converter. The converter is not obliged to provide information on the original supplier(s) of the products to the buyer.

For a comprehensive list of terms and abbreviations, please refer to the document *bluesign® glossary*.

3 Legal compliance

A converter bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER must maintain compliance and stay up-to-date with any changes in the relevant legislation.

Awareness and understanding of applicable legal requirements is a prerequisite for a system partner to meet all relevant international, national, regional and local requirements concerning environmental aspects, occupational health, corporate social responsibility and product safety.

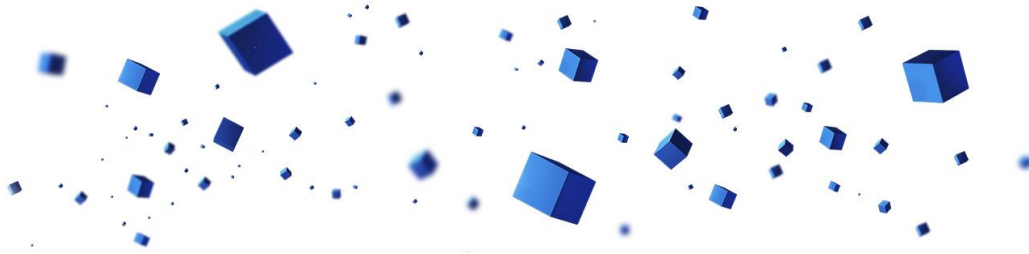
Legally binding requirements that are stronger or more detailed than the bluesign® CRITERIA will supersede these and vice versa.

4 Product stewardship

The bluesign® SYSTEM PARTNER bears full responsibility for the marketed products with regard to:

- Quality
- Consumer safety
- Environmental consciousness
- Occupational Health & Safety
- Resource savings
- Social responsibility
- Recyclability/End of life

A close cooperation between the supplier and the converter shall be established.



5 Industry specific requirements

5.1 Management system

An appropriate management system shall be installed, maintained and continually improved to ensure traceability of bluesign® APPROVED articles from supplier to customer, including potential sub-contractors.

Retained samples of all relevant articles purchased and sold under the bluesign® APPROVED label shall be kept for at least one year.

5.2 Traceability of bluesign® APPROVED articles

The flowchart (Figure 5.1) gives an overview on the traceability process for the bluesign® APPROVED articles. In addition, it references the most important documents.

Common documents for checking traceability are post processing orders (from converter) and delivery note/invoice (from subcontractor). Additionally, delivery dates and color of the articles are important data when ordering numbers, article codes and quantities.

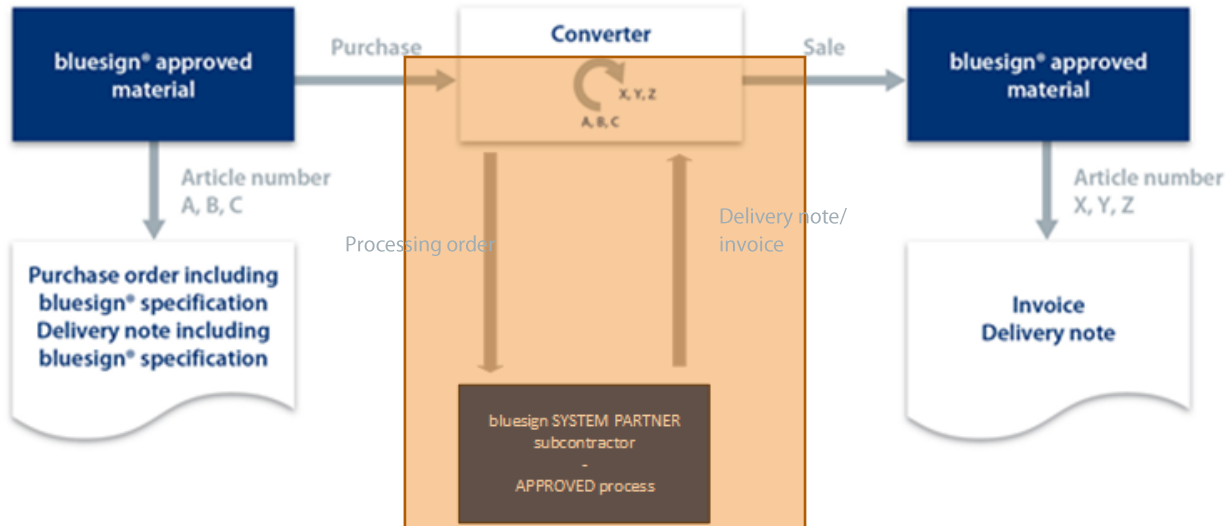
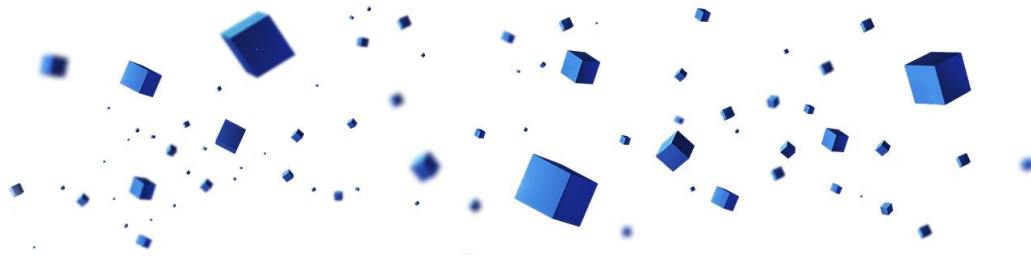


Figure 5.1: Traceability of bluesign® APPROVED articles

5.3 Storage and transport

Finished products shall be packed, stored and transported in an appropriate way

- to avoid any cross-contamination
- to remain undamaged
- that considers resource saving aspects



6 Verification of compliance

BLUESIGN verifies the compliance with the bluesign® CRITERIA by means of bluesign® COMPANY ASSESSMENT. Re-assessments shall be carried out no later than every three years.

The tracking and linking of the converter's bluesign® APPROVED articles to the original manufacturer bluesign® APPROVED articles and, if applicable, bluesign® APPROVED processing constitute the main focus of a company assessment. The aim is to assure that purchased amounts of bluesign® APPROVED articles at the original manufacturer reconcile with the sold volumes of the converter bluesign® APPROVED articles.

A so-called converter table that links the original article numbers (including the supplier name) to the article numbers from the converter represents the basis for cooperation between the converter and bluesign technologies.

7 Validity

This document comes into effect from 2019-11. It replaces the previous version of the same title.

This document is subject to changes. Changes will automatically come into effect one year after release of this version, unless stated otherwise.

8 Other applicable documents

The following bluesign documents complement the document at hand:

- *bluesign® SYSTEM*
- *bluesign® glossary*
- *bluesign® SYSTEM BLACK LIMITS (BSBL)*
- *bluesign® SYSTEM SUBSTANCES LIST (BSSL) - Consumer safety limits*

Effective versions available for download: <https://www.bluesign.com/en/business/downloads>