



SUSTAINABLE FIBRE ALLIANCE

China Claims Guidelines for Manufacturers



SFA CASHMERE STANDARD

China Claims Guidelines for Manufacturers

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INTRODUCTION

The Sustainable Fibre Alliance promotes best practice in animal welfare, land management, fibre processing and supply chain transparency in cashmere production. The SFA Cashmere Standard assures businesses and consumers that that cashmere contained in their products has been produced responsibly and in accordance with high-welfare practices. The work of the SFA also supports the protection of biodiversity as well as herder livelihoods.

Our chain of custody system ensures that SFA Certified cashmere can be traced back to producers that have been accredited against the SFA’s Codes of Practice.

Our Standard is based on extensive research and consultation with livestock herders, national government, industry experts, conservationists and supply chain actors. Following ISEAL best practice guidelines, the Standard is refined and improved through a process of ongoing development, monitoring and evaluation.

The purpose of this document

The purpose of the SFA Claims Guidance for Manufacturers is to provide companies with clear guidelines for making claims regarding SFA x ICCAW Certified fibre in their marketing and communications.

This document will be updated on an annual basis and will be accessible in the Resources Section of the SFA website (sustainablefibre.org).

Definition of an SFA Certified claim

An SFA Certified claim is any statement that mentions or references the SFA Cashmere Standard. These claims may include any combination of logo use and text claims, whether a general marketing claim or a product-specific claim.

Adherence to claims

Adherence to these guidelines protects the value and integrity of the SFA Cashmere Standard, thereby enabling us to meet our goals of improving animal welfare, protecting biodiversity and ensuring an equitable supply chain.

All manufacturers making product-specific claims regarding SFA x ICCAW Certified cashmere must abide by the correct logo use and claims outlined in this document.

Misuse of claims

The SFA will pursue all legal means to stop and remedy any unauthorised or misleading use of SFA x ICCAW Certified claims or logo. The SFA will make public any misuse of the SFA x ICCAW Certified claims or logo in order to maintain trust in the standard.

Manufacturers using Supplied General Claims and/or Supplied Product Claims do not need to request approval from the SFA.

GENERAL CLAIMS

What is a general claim for sourcing Certified fibre?

A general marketing standard claim (general claim) refers to any business-to-business claim about our standard that does not reference a specific product, such as catalogues, websites or point-of-sale marketing. These claims may infer that an organisation or company purchases SFA Certified fibre or is itself accredited against the SFA's Cashmere Standard.

EXAMPLES OF USE

- Corporate commitments
- Sustainability strategies
- Info on website*
- Banners at a trade show
- Use in advertisement
- Catalogue marketing**

* When it represents sustainability efforts and the work of the SFA. When displayed on websites, the logo must be tied to the product that it represents and/or the work of the SFA.

** Only when NOT specific to a certified product

Who can make these general claims?

*Accredited Company or Organisation**

Companies Sourcing SFA Certified Fibre

Through sharing that they meet the minimum requirements of our codes of practice.

Through sharing their commitment to purchasing products that been certified by the SFA.

**Refers to a company or organisation which has been accredited against the SFA Cashmere Standard (currently limited to Producer Organisations and Primary Processors).*

***A company within the supply chain can make a general claim about selling certified cashmere if they have proof of SFA Certified inputs.*

GENERAL CLAIMS Cont.

SUPPLIED GENERAL CLAIMS FOR MANUFACTURERS SOURCING SFA CERTIFIED FIBRE

“We source SFA x ICCAW Certified cashmere that is traced through the supply chain from certified herders to product.”

“Our product range includes cashmere products which have been made with cashmere that has been SFA x ICCAW Certified.”

“[Company / brand] buys SFA x ICCAW Certified cashmere as part of our commitment to responsible sourcing.”

The SFA x ICCAW Certified logos can only be used to accompany a general claim when the manufacturer is in possession of a scope certificate against the SFA Cashmere Standard.



PRODUCT CLAIMS

What is a product claim?

Product claims refer to any claim that references a product, for example catalogues, hang-tags and showrooms. These claims suggest that a product meets the requirements of the SFA Cashmere Standard and can be marketed as Certified.

EXAMPLES OF USE

- Hang-tags
- Clothing labels
- Online product descriptions
- Point of sale marketing

Who can make a product claim?

To be able to make product claims referring to SFA x ICCAW Certified fibre, a company must be in possession of a valid Transaction Certificate for the product the claim refers to.

We encourage manufacturers making product claims to use the SFA x ICCAW Certified logos where appropriate. Visual brand guidelines will be supplied by the SFA.



PRODUCT CLAIMS Cont.

What product claims can be made?

A claim made about the product must refer to the content of the certified fibre and must be verifiable through our system of Transaction Certificates.

Transaction Certificates will provide us with accurate, verified records of inputs and outputs of certified cashmere. This means that each company within the supply chain can make a valid claim to sell SFA x ICCAW Certified cashmere if they have proof of certified inputs.

Manufacturers using supplied General Claims and/or supplied Product Claims do not need to request approval from the SFA.

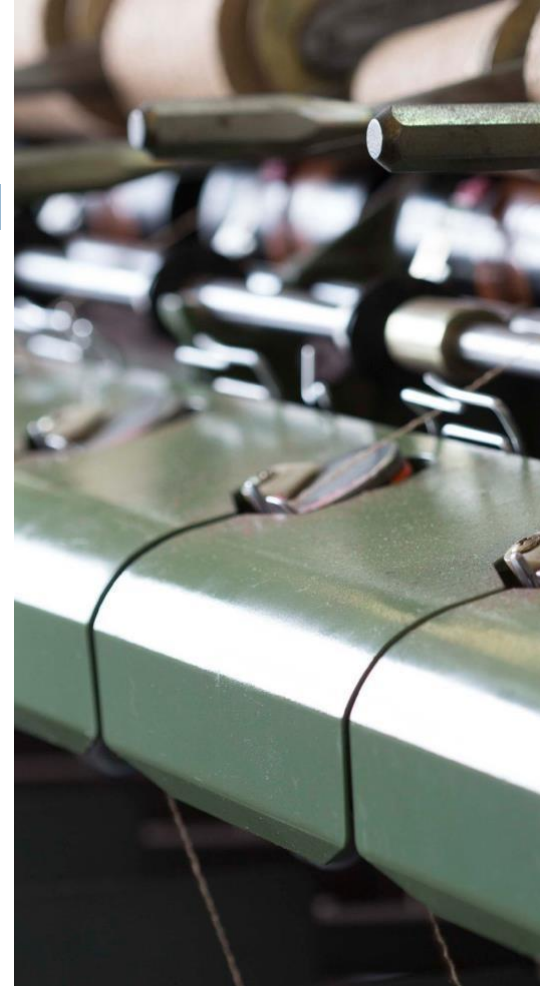
For further information on claims visit our Resources page at sustainablefibre.org or contact claims@sustainablefibre.org

SUPPLIED PRODUCT CLAIM

“This yarn/ fabric/product contains at least/ X% SFA x ICCAW Certified cashmere”*

** The content of Certified cashmere can be anywhere between 33% and 100% of the total cashmere content of the final product, with a minimum of 5% Certified cashmere.*

Brands, including those that retail their own products, must be a member of the SFA. However, SFA membership is not required from retailers that are selling Certified products on behalf of an SFA brand member.





SUSTAINABLE FIBRE ALLIANCE

Creating a sustainable cashmere supply chain

sustainablefibre.org
info@sustainablefibre.org