

OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100 AND FRENCH PFAS REQUIREMENT

Total Fluorine and PFAS Compliance for U.S. & EU Markets

French PFAS limits have been included in OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100 since October 2025 and Total fluorine (TF) since January 2025. Limits for individual PFAS and the total PFAS sum apply to certifications issued since January 2026, ensuring compliance with French legal requirements. Due to legislation in California, the limit is scheduled to halve, from 100 ppm to 50 ppm in June 2026.

For products certified in 2025, compliance with the French PFAS limits should not be assumed because the stricter limits were not yet in effect. In newsletters, OEKO-TEX® and Hohenstein communicated recommended additional testing when needed or contacting your testing institute. In this case, the French timeline was short and did not allow for the typical OEKO-TEX® transition period and proactive compliance measures. Draft limit values were published in September. The decree was adopted on December 30, 2025 and took effect on January 1, 2026. Until adoption, it was unclear whether the decree would be passed before year-end.

Testing is now more demanding because the 25 ppb limit per PFAS requires a lower limit of quantification (LOQ). Hohenstein and other OEKO-TEX® Association laboratories can achieve this low LOQ. The exception is 4:2 FTOH, where only an LOQ of 100 ppb be achieved. This is not considered critical, as this substance has shown virtually no relevance in findings to date.

RECOMMENDED TESTING APPROACH BY MARKET

EU (France-specific Requirements)

Both TF screening and targeted PFAS testing are required. Due to the low regulatory limits, TF alone is not a sufficient compliance indicator.

U.S. Market Only

Screen with total fluorine (TF). If TF fails (exceeds the limit), proceed to targeted PFAS testing.

OEKO-TEX® Certification (Including Spot Checks or Pretesting)

Follow the EU/France approach — perform both TF and PFAS testing to support certification validity.

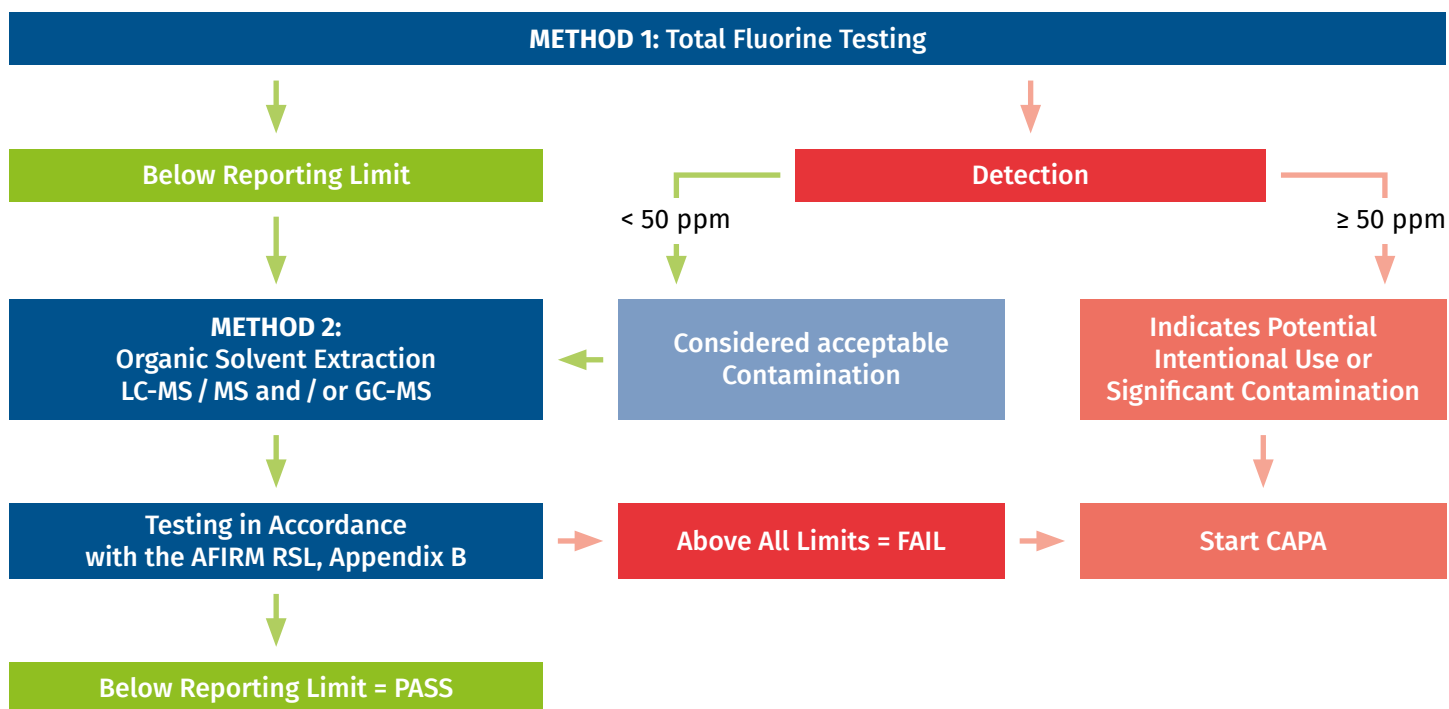
AFIRM

Screen with total fluorine (TF).
If TF TF fails, proceed to targeted PFAS testing. 10:2 FTI and 12:2 FTI are supply-chain control substances and are not directly detectable using EN 17681-1:2025. Additional testing under EN 17681-2: 2022 is only needed if specifically requested.

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TO VERIFY SUCCESSFUL PHASEOUT OF PFAS



ANALYTES & METHODS

For OEKO-TEX® Customers Only

PFAS includes several thousand substances. It is not possible to identify and quantify each individual substance. OEKO-TEX® covers PFAS relevant to textiles that are also listed in EN 17681-1:2025. The French Ministry has confirmed to OEKO-TEX® that EN 17681-1:2025 is used for product testing.

For Customers Using the AFIRM RSL and / or Spot-Checking OEKO-TEX® Certificates

For TF, AFIRM recommends ASTM D7359 as a detection proxy. For PFAS, AFIRM includes 10:2 FTI and 12:2 FTI, which are not covered by OEKOTEX®. These analytes are not detectable using the EN 17681:2025 alkaline hydrolysis method, so verification relies on supply chain controls. If further analytical confirmation is requested, EN 176812:2022 may be used.