



Press release

**By achieving GOTS certification, Virgocoop establishes itself as a pioneer of organic hemp in Europe**

In its commitment to transforming the textile world, Virgocoop, the cooperative engaged in rebuilding local industries, announces it has obtained the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) certification for its hemp fibers. This certification represents a major milestone for Virgocoop in reviving organic hemp in France and also positions the cooperative company as one of the pioneers of organic hemp in Europe and globally.

"Being recognized by GOTS is not just a success for Virgocoop, but a victory for the future of the sustainable textile industry in France and worldwide," says Johann Vacandare, CEO of Virgocoop. "Today, only two hemp producers in Europe have achieved GOTS certification. Thanks to this certification, Virgocoop will develop, in collaboration with French and European spinning mills, its production of 100% organic hemp yarns and explore innovative blends with other GOTS-certified fibers, such as cotton. This step forward confirms the role of the citizen cooperative as a forerunner in enhancing eco-responsible and ethical practices in the textile sector."

**Together, for a new ecological, ethical, and citizen-driven textile world.**

This progress is all the more significant as it is the result of a collective citizen initiative. Virgocoop is organized as a cooperative society of collective interest. Any citizen, company, or community wishing to engage in changing the textile world and invest their savings in a meaningful project can become a shareholder of Virgocoop. Tax benefits and information can be found on [www.virgocoop.fr](http://www.virgocoop.fr)

**About Virgocoop**

Virgocoop is a Cooperative Society of Collective Interest. Founded in 2018, the cooperative advocates a societal model in which citizens engage to help change the textile world. The headquarters of the cooperative is located in Cahors, with a defibering plant in Caylus and a weaving workshop in Saint Affrique les Montagnes, near Castres. Anyone who wishes to act for a sustainable and citizen-driven textile world can join the cooperative by becoming a shareholder at [virgocoop.fr](http://virgocoop.fr).

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