U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol – Supima Cotton
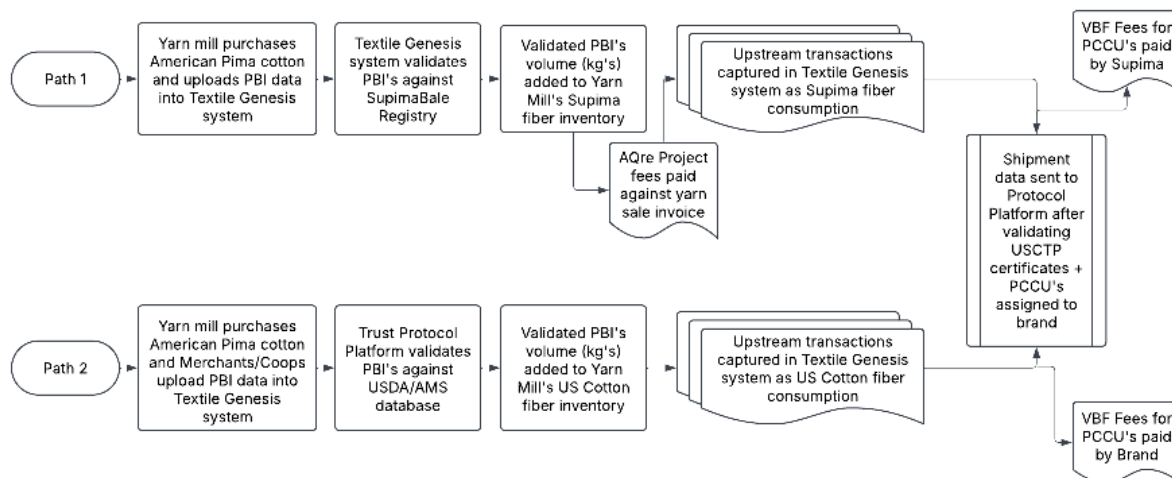## Traceability Program Integration

The U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol and Supima are collaborating to enhance cotton supply chain traceability and provide access to farm-level data that drives continuous improvement on U.S. cotton farms.

Both the Trust Protocol and SUPIMA® have built robust traceability solutions that are harnessing the strong foundation of the USDA's permanent bale identification system as well as the robust traceability technology delivered by TextileGenesis's platform to deliver to brands visibility of all aspects of their products.

Our brand and retailers members will now be able to track Supima's three distinct fibers, SUPIMA®, Protocol Supima and Organic Supima into their finished products under the Supima AQRe™ Project and claim Protocol Consumption Units in the same manner they do under the Trust Protocol® program.

How Does It Work?
Yarn mills purchasing American Pima cotton fiber have two distinct paths available to track the consumption of American Pima cotton fiber in their production supply-chain.

Path 1 – Yarn mill determines that the fiber is to carry the SUPIMA® brand and utilizes the AQRe™ Project to upload American Pima bale PBI's, transact yarn sale, and pay platform fee for the fiber utilized in the production of yarn invoiced. No other fees are assessed in the rest of the supply chain.

- Yarn mill uploads the associated PBI's for American Pima bales in the TextileGenesis system directly.
- PBI's will be validated against the Supima Bale Registry which will generate the Supima cotton fiber inventory (kg's) in the spinning mill's account as available Supima, Supima Protocol, or Supima Organic fiber volume.
- All further transactions in supply chain will be captured in TextileGenesis system up to and including final garment shipment to the brand member.
- Supply chain partners are validated for active Trust Protocol certificates at the time of shipment of finished products to the brand member. Upon validation, Brand is assigned PCCU's, within the Protocol Platform, equivalent to the fiber volume (kg's) consumed of Supima cotton through the AQRe™ Project. Brands tracking consumption of American Pima fiber carrying the SUPIMA® brand through the AQRe™ Project will be assigned a volume of PCCU's equal to the total kilograms of fiber consumed across the full supply chain activities. Volume-based fees for these PCCU's will be paid for by Supima and not invoiced to the Trust Protocol member brand.

Path 2 – Yarn mill determines that the fiber will be tracked as U.S. Cotton fiber and **will not** carry the SUPIMA® trademark.

- Merchant / Coop shipper of fiber will upload PBI's onto the Protocol Platform.
- PBI's will be validated against the USDA database, and once approved, the volume (kg's) will be added to the yarn mill's account as available U.S. Cotton or Protocol Cotton fiber volume.
- All further transactions in supply chain will be captured in TextileGenesis system up to and including final garment shipment to the brand member.
- Supply chain partners are validated for active Trust Protocol certificates at the time of transactions entered in the TextileGenesis system.
- Brands tracking consumption of American Pima fiber NOT carrying the SUPIMA® brand and tracked through the Trust Protocol PCMS will be assigned a volume of PCCU's equal to the total kilograms of fiber consumed across the full supply chain activities. Volume-based fees for these PCCU's will be invoiced to the Trust Protocol member brand.

BOTH PATHS – Brand members will be able to see tracked shipments and will be assigned PCCU's and associated environmental metrics equal to the volume of eligible fiber tracked and consumed in the production of the finished products (including waste factors at each production stage).

We are pleased to jointly bring the benefits of both program to all the Trust Protocol members and encourage all questions related to this to be directed to info@trustuscotton.org or licensing@supima.com