



TRACK YOUR COTTON:

TRUST PROTOCOL STEPS FOR SPINNERS

The U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol is the voluntary sustainability program for U.S. cotton growers and traceability platform for all U.S. Cotton. The Protocol Consumption Management Solution (PCMS) is the program's traceability and transparency solution that allows the tracking of two distinct fibers:



U.S. Cotton tracked to the country level



Protocol Cotton tracked to a group of farms (participating Protocol growers)

One unique feature of the PCMS is to provide brand and retailer members with complete visibility of the identity and locations of each company involved in the process across the complete supply chain. As a spinner your contribution to the PCMS is mainly performed on the TextileGenesis platform where transactions are recorded digitally, matching physical shipments of fiber and yarn.



Preliminary Requirement:

When you receive a request from your customer to track your yarn shipments in the Trust Protocol system, you will need to **understand your customer's needs** regarding:

- **Fiber Type:** Confirm with your customer whether they are looking to track products containing either U.S. Cotton or Protocol Cotton.
- **Order Details:** Get specifics on yarn items, volume, and shipment period to ensure sufficient U.S. Cotton or Protocol cotton fiber is ordered and received as eligible inventory in your account in the system.

Next Steps:

01 Become a member of the Trust Protocol

Click [HERE](#) to register. You will obtain your parent company Protocol ID (e.g., UOP89YY, Issue date and Expiration Date). For more information on the overall registration process click [here](#).

02 Create a TextileGenesis account

Create your TextileGenesis account at www.live.textilegenesis.com. Select the “Spinner” role, create at least one manufacturing site, and add your Protocol ID information in the Certificates section.

03 The TextileGenesis System

Before recording your own yarn shipments in TextileGenesis, you will need to obtain the initial digital inventory of U.S. Cotton and/or Protocol Cotton fiber by requesting your suppliers of U.S. Cotton (merchants, marketing coops, traders) to upload shipment information:

- Provide suppliers your **parent company** Trust Protocol ID (e.g., UOP89YY).
- For future fiber shipments**, request your suppliers to upload the shipment information on the Protocol Platform, specifying whether U.S. Cotton or Protocol Cotton fiber is needed.

iii. If you already have existing U.S. Cotton fiber inventory and wish to make it eligible under the Trust Protocol program, you will need to request that your suppliers upload the corresponding shipment information and that the following conditions are met:

- The physical U.S. Cotton fiber inventory must still be in bale form with Permanent Bale Identification (PBI) attached.
- The inventory must have been received within the last 365 days (*for older inventory, please reach out to your Trust Protocol contact*).
- If requested, you must also agree to a site visit by a Trust Protocol representative to validate the inventory.

iv. If you have yarns in inventory that were produced with U.S. Cotton, it is possible to make them eligible but different conditions must be met.

If you want to pursue these steps, please contact the Trust Protocol at info@trustuscotton.org.

04 Start recording transactions

Once the digital inventory of U.S. Cotton or Protocol Cotton fiber is received in your TextileGenesis account, you can start recording transactions to continue the traceability process.



Additional considerations:

- If the U.S. Cotton fiber is purchased through a U.S. cotton trader (and not a merchant or marketing cooperative), then it is the responsibility of your trader to complete steps 1-4 to receive the initial digital inventory. The Trader will then need to record the shipment of the U.S. Cotton fiber to your company in the TextileGenesis system.
- As part of program requirements, yarn shipments recorded as containing Protocol Cotton must be spun from physical Protocol Cotton bales.
 - For information related to the Permanent Bale Identification numbers of Protocol Cotton bales, please contact info@trustuscotton.org.
 - If the cotton fiber used in producing the yarns was American Pima, please refer to the document available [here](#).

For additional information or training, please contact your local Cotton Council International representative, U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol or TextileGenesis project manager. For any other questions, please contact info@trustuscotton.org.

