



PRESENTATION

Session: **Cotton Quality and Testing**

Title: **Import Cotton Quality Inspection in China**

Speaker: **Lian Sumei**, Technology Center of Shijiazhuang Customs, China

Presentations are available in the conference archive: <https://baumwollboerse.de/en/competencies/international-cotton-conference/speeches/>

Conference Organization

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Cotton Testing Laboratory of Shijiazhuang Customs Technology Center

Opening remarks

- ▶ Dear International Cotton Association and friends attending the meeting, thank you very much for organizing this high-level international cotton conference. The International Cotton Association is the most authoritative and respected industry research institution in the field of cotton planting, trade, testing and arbitration in the world. We have cooperated with the International Cotton Association for many years. Unfortunately, due to multiple factors, it is impossible to send staff to attend the meeting. I would like to thank Mr. Axel for providing you with the opportunity to fully understand our laboratory in this way. Here are three aspects:
 - ▶ Laboratory introduction
 - ▶ China's import and export cotton inspection
 - ▶ Our cotton round test



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1 Laboratory introduction

Shijiazhuang Customs Technical Center Cotton Laboratory was established in 1972. It is a laboratory approved by the General Administration of Customs of China with the qualification of imported cotton inspection, and it is also a national key laboratory of imported cotton (only three laboratories in China). Mainly responsible for the quality inspection of imported and exported cotton in Shijiazhuang customs area.

As the import and export cotton inspection institution of Shijiazhuang Customs of China, provides fair, just, accurate and efficient inspection services for cotton traders. Over the past 45 years, more than 32,000 batches of inspection certificates have been issued fairly and objectively, and none of them have caused doubts and trade disputes.

The laboratory has established three sets of management systems, and obtained three systems' accreditation certificates, including two sets of inspection systems ISO/IEC 17025 and the certified laboratory system of the International Cotton Association, and one set of cotton proficiency test provider system ISO/IEC 17043.



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Laboratory Certification
awarded to

The Cotton Testing Laboratory at the Technical Center of the Hebei Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau
No 318 Heping West Road, Shijiazhuang 050051, China

ICA Bremen GmbH certifies that the above laboratory has been audited and found to be in accordance with the quality assurance standards and scope of the ICA Bremen International Laboratory Certification Scheme.

Original approval date: 01 July 2017

Subject to the continued satisfactory operation of the laboratory's quality performance, this certificate will remain valid until: 01 July 2018.

Certificate no: 018-2017
Issue date: 01 July 2017



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At present, there are 6 professional technicians in the laboratory, all of whom have many years of experience in cotton testing. Among them, there are 4 senior engineers, 2 engineers, and 2 of them have obtained the quality expert certification of International Cotton Association.



The laboratory is equipped with a simulated daylight grading room conforming to ISO standards, a constant temperature and humidity laboratory conforming to ISO standards, and two HVI devices.

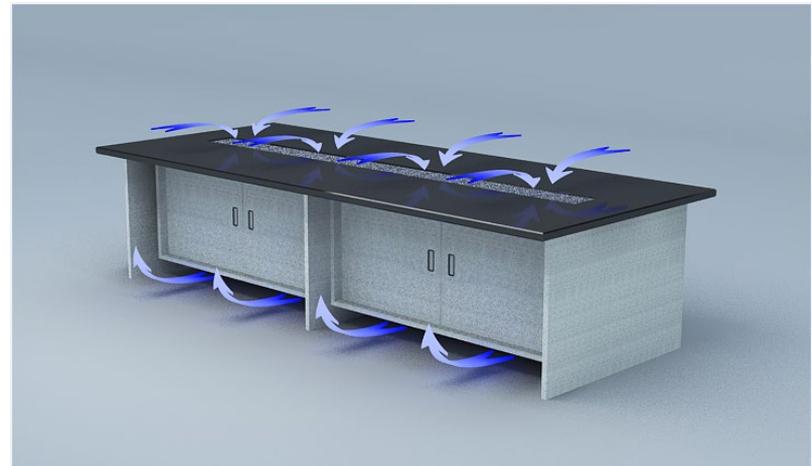


laboratory of constant
temperature-humidity



cotton classing room

The laboratory also attaches great importance to the research and improvement of cotton detection technology, participating in drafting nearly 20 standards, authorizing more than 40 patents for inventions or utility models, publishing more than 30 academic papers and 5 works respectively.



2 China's import and export cotton inspection

China implements a statutory inspection system for imported cotton, and cotton imported into China must pass customs inspection before it can enter the Chinese market for circulation. The customs will carry out on-the-spot weight assessment on the arrival site of cotton and issue a weight certificate. The customs randomly selects laboratory samples of cotton according to 10% of the number of bales, and issues a quality certificate. Both trade parties settle accounts according to the quality certificate and weight certificate issued by the customs. At present, with the approval of the General Administration of Customs of China, there are 14 customs laboratories with quality inspection qualification for imported cotton, including Shijiazhuang, Qingdao, Beijing, Ningbo, Urumqi, Tianjin, Zhangjiagang, Nanjing, Dalian, Shaoxing, Guangzhou, Zhanjiang, Zhengzhou and Xi 'an.

Imported cotton inspection is generally carried out according to the standards agreed by both parties in the contract, and some contracts agree on international general standards, such as cotton from the United States, Australia and Brazil, etc. Some contracts stipulate a small sample transaction, such as Indian cotton.

For the cotton sold in small samples, the color grade and length are tested by sensory examination in the laboratory; For cotton sold in general standard, the laboratory adopts the method of combining sensory inspection with HVI inspection, and decides which inspection method to adopt according to different contracts. Both specific breaking strength and micronaire were tested by HVI.

3 Our cotton round test

In 2016, the laboratory established a proficiency test provider system in line with ISO/IEC 17043 standard, and was recognized by China National Accreditation Committee for Conformity Assessment, becoming a professional comparative test organization in the field of cotton testing in China. Since 2016, the comparative test of cotton testing has been organized, and the number of participating laboratories has increased from a dozen to more than 70 in 2022.

At present, the proficiency test activities organized by us are mainly involving domestic testing institutions. In order to attract more foreign laboratories to participate, in 2017, comparative experiments were included in the European Proficiency Test Database (EPTIS). In 2022, laboratories from China, Brazil, India, Australia, Pakistan, Vietnam, Argentina and other countries participated in our round test. It is worth mentioning that the International Cotton Association has registered the round test in 2023.

Our cotton comparison test is organized once a year. The comparison test consists of high and low level samples and is evaluated separately. Statistical analysis of comparative test results adopts robust statistical method, and Z-value is used to evaluate the results.

Taking part in the cotton round test can well judge whether the laboratory test results are accurate or not, and what level the testing ability is in similar laboratories. The comparison between international laboratories can judge the difference of laboratory test results in different countries, unify the test technology and better serve the international trade.

Time is limited, so I can't introduce it to you better. If you have any questions about us, please contact us by email.

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Welcome comments and suggestions,
Thanks!

