Code of Conduct of the Registered Association DOWNPASS e.V. as regard the trademark DOWNPASS

Amended by the meeting of members on June 7th, 2016 in Frankfurt,
amended and adopted by the extraordinary meeting of members on January 9th, 2017 in Frankfurt,
editorially revised on 08.07.2024

Preamble

The purpose of the Association consists in promoting consumer-friendly and correct declarations with respect to fillings consisting of down and feathers, all kinds of down-filled and/or feather-filled sleeping bags, garments, headwear, and/or footwear and their functionality in the Federal Republic of Germany and abroad. This takes place by granting and distributing the Association Trademark (trademark “DOWNPASS”, hereinafter referred to as “trademark”) and controlling the declarations, qualities and conditions applicable to the use of the Association Trademark by taking random samples

The welfare of animals and their species-appropriate husbandry are of vital importance for the association and its members. This does not only apply to the actual well-being of the birds, but also to a high degree to public health, the economy and global competitiveness.

The companies that have joined forces in the Registered Association DOWNPASS produce and/or market finished products that should be marked with the trademark. The members of the Association advocate transparent and correct declaration of the composition of their products carrying the trademark and the monitoring of this by a neutral organization. As a prerequisite for the marking of the products with this label the Association members must have possess a valid certificate or that they must have been audited successfully according to the DOWNPASS audit.

The Members of the Downpass e.V. therefore pursue the objective to use only fillings for finished products labeled with trademark which have not been obtained from living animals in conformity with the Animal Protection Regulations effective in the EU and which adhere to the requirements of the DOWNPASS Standard.

The traceability of these down and these feathers is made transparent for example through the application of the DOWNPASS Standard.

Members and / or Licensee agrees to comply with the following standards of conduct:

1. The Association members condemn live plucking prohibited under European law.

2. Each member of the Association is obliged to

a) use not recovered down and feathers by animal tormenting

b) for down- and feather-filled finished products which are marked with the "DOWNPASS" to process down and feathers, which have been only obtained from dead animals

c) Only utilize eiderdown, with due be won regarding to legal requirement

d) traceability of down and feathers for the "DOWNPASS" are marked to document in accordance with the relevant provisions of the DOWNPASS standards and be regularly audited by independent qualified institutions.

The norms of behavior are at the beginning of a chain of documentary evidence from properly obtained filler consisting of down and feathers which, marked for filling of finished products can be used with the "DOWN PASS". Violations of this Code may be punished by the Association of exclusion and / or withdrawal of the license

Mainz, July 8th, 2024