

The Traceability Challenge

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INTERNATIONAL COTTON
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Challenge? Or Opportunity?



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- Do these methods give Traceability?
- What is Traceability?



Dictionary Definition:

Traceability is the ability to verify the **history**, **location**, or **application** of an item by means of documented recorded identification.



What Brands and Retailers want;

- Identification
- Authentication
- Quantification
- Full Supply Chain Knowledge



Signature T



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Pros:

- Gives Identification
- Gives Authentication



Cons:

- Doesn't cover field to gin
- Doesn't give quantification
- Doesn't give full supply chain knowledge
- Requires a number of laboratory tests on selective items
- Laboratory tests are destructive and take time
- Most costly at approx. 10 cents/lb



Oritain



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Pros:

- Gives Origin
- Gives Quantification?
Possibly – relies on a statistical computation
- Cheaper than Signature T



Cons:

- Doesn't give accurate quantification?
- Doesn't give full supply chain knowledge
- Requires a laboratory test
- Laboratory tests are destructive and take time



FibreTrace



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Pros:

- Gives Origin
- Gives Identification
- Gives Authentication
- Gives Quantification
- Gives Full Supply Chain Knowledge
- Immediate results
- Cannot copy signature



Cons:

- Doesn't cover field to gin
- Is what is added contamination?
- Cost – between 3-8 cents/lb

1.



But wait – There is more!



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- Track the product through the supply chain
- Verify a product in real time

And most excitingly of all:

- Combine with Blockchain technology to add electronic documentation



So what do we want from traceability?
Something simple? or



Something all singing and all dancing?



COST



YOU, THE CUSTOMER, WILL DECIDE



Thank you.

