

# Weaving the world of Cotton Together

Kai Hughes, ICA Managing Director



**international  
cotton  
association**

# Partnerships

**The pooling of money  
kills and other  
resources”**

# **Affiliated associations**

**ABRAPA**

**ACSA (Australia)**

**BCA**

**BCI**

**IPUD**

**Japan Cotton Traders'**

**Supima**

**SWAK**

**\*CAA (Argentina)**

**\*CAN (Spain)**

# Recognition of ICA Rules

Bremer Baumwollboerse  
Gdynia Cotton Association



# MOUs



# MOUs

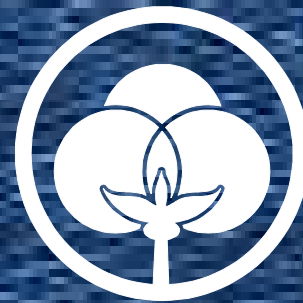
**Foster greater cooperation**

**Work together on shared goals i.e.**

- promoting sanctity of contract
- training and visit programmes
- information exchange and dissemination
- diplomatic initiatives
- testing and quality issues



# Joint ventures



ICA Bremer





# ICA Bremen

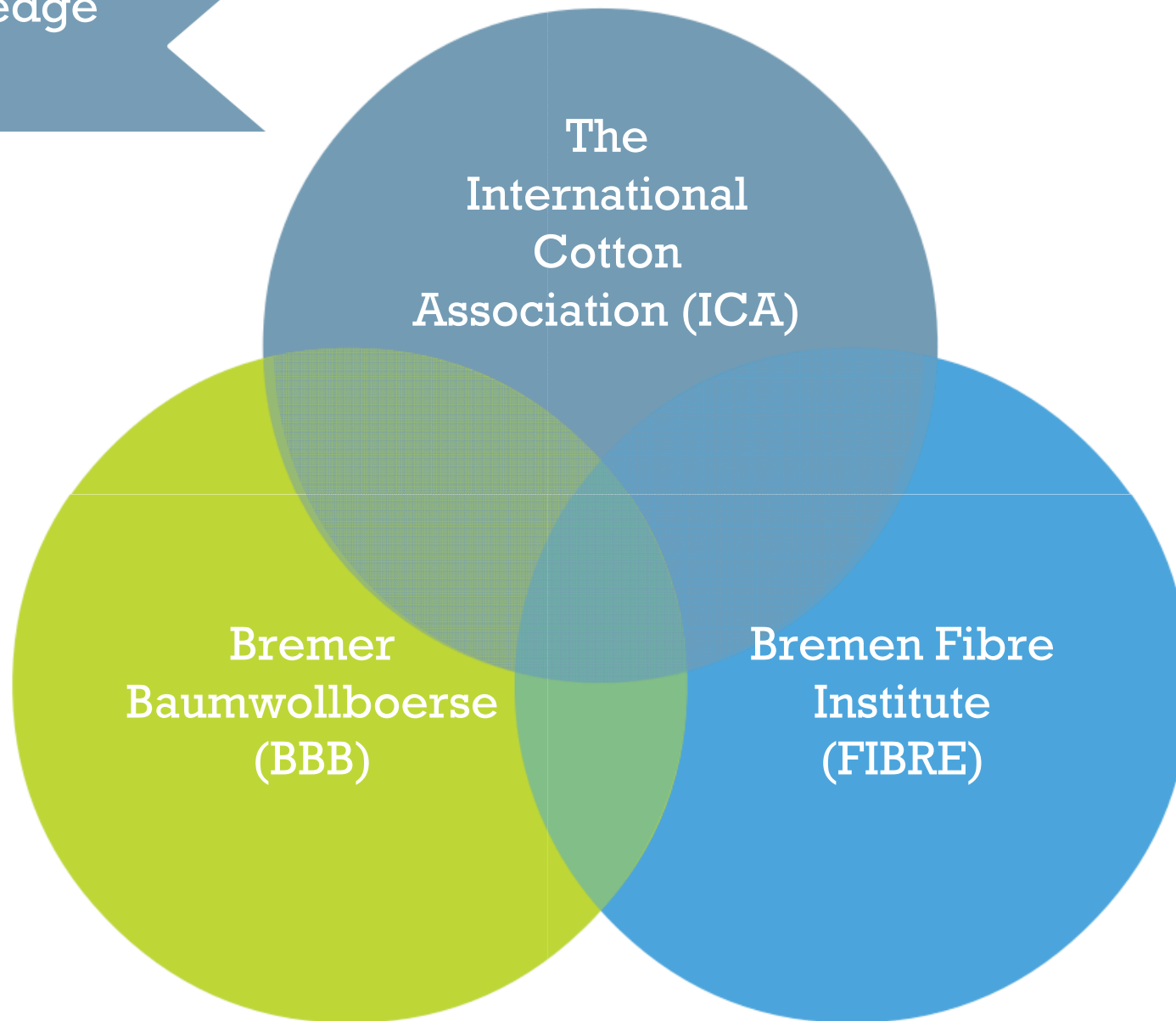
The Global Centre for Cotton Testing and Research



# An 'international centre of excellence' for cotton quality testing & research



Combining the knowledge  
expertise of...



## Our services

International  
laboratory  
certification  
scheme



Laboratory  
testing &  
quality  
arbitration



WCC  
classing  
authority



Round  
trials



Cotton  
grade  
standards



Research &  
development



Cotton classing  
& testing  
training



Quality  
expert  
certification



Consultancy



Cotton  
quality  
information





# International laboratory certification scheme



## Benefits of certification the global trade

A credible  
stamp of  
approval



Provides  
confidence  
to users



Provides  
more  
laboratory  
choice

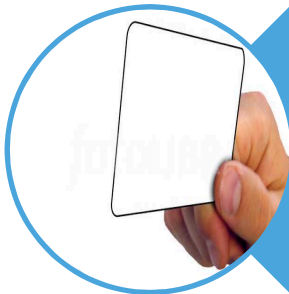


ICA Bremen  
becomes the  
Appeal  
Laboratory

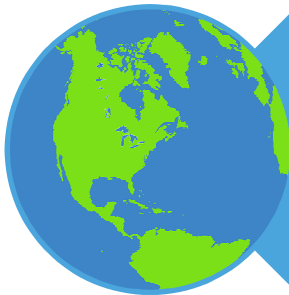
## Green card system



Prevalence of quality disputes and claims over last few years



With a network of classing laboratories for the WCC, possible to reproduce a US style 'Green Card' system in some parts of the world



Trial in one country and assess demand and popularity:

- Tanzania
- Uganda
- South Africa
- India?

**ICA Bremen joined USDA  
as one of two classing  
authorities on the WCC -  
a move that required a  
change in US law and  
approval from the US  
Senate.**



**NEW!**

# Quality expert certification



## Why certify quality experts?

Provide an improved professional service to the cotton industry

Enhance the profile and recognition of certified individuals

Provide a pool of quality arbitrators for cotton trade associations

Act as a forum to raise the standard and consistency of classing and testing

## Quality expert certification criteria



# Training





Training

Annual:  
Cotton  
Classing &  
Testing



Training

Coming soon >

Learning  
about  
Machinery

Understanding  
Cotton (Retailers)

Bespoke training  
available on request

# Traceability



## Traceability – Where is the market now?

DNA analysis  
methods not  
sufficient to  
distinguish  
between  
origins for the  
same species

Artificial DNA  
added to cotton  
cannot be 100%  
certain as the  
DNA marker  
may be  
destroyed in the  
process

DNA analysis  
methods  
requires  
laboratory  
testing –  
costing time  
and money



Traceability –  
our offering

**A method which would  
not only identify but also  
quantify the amount of  
marked cotton in a  
garment.**

## Traceability – Our offering

- Partnership with FibreMark Solutions to use Advanced Particle Technology (APT) to trace cotton.

- Initial test results demonstrated that APT applied to cotton can be detected successfully **and can be quantified**.

- The project aim is to produce Cellulosic Marker Fibres (CMF) that include the marker APT particles.

- CMF can be produced with properties that are close to cotton fibre so the spinning process is not negatively affected – the CMF material is similar to cotton so the dyeing and finishing processes should not effect it either.

Traceability –  
our offering

**This would provide a simple  
one stage application with  
no need for complex IT,  
paper based verification  
systems or laboratory  
testing.**

## Traceability – Stages

### STAGE 1:

Development  
programme

### STAGE 2:

Proto-type &  
field tests

### STAGE 3:

Fully operational  
field installation  
and handheld  
detector

**We already attracted  
major interest from  
one major retailer and  
one major grower for  
this project.**





# **Weaving the world of Cotton Together**

**So what  
about CAI?**

# **CAI's objectives**

**set up cotton testing labs**

**establish a cotton school**

**undertake cotton promotion programmes**

**establish a cotton museum**



**Remember – We are  
stronger together**



# international cotton association

[www.ica-ltd.org](http://www.ica-ltd.org)

