

Eco-Certification Services



Your Challenges

With the increasing ecological demands on textiles, leathers, and chemicals in international markets comes a variety of different legislations on the restriction of harmful substances. How to ensure products manufactured and/or sold fulfill these ecological requirements is one of the biggest challenges you face today. Furthermore, individual regions often have very different environmental production standards and priorities for the evaluation of harmful substances in consumer goods. So how do you master complying with each country's legislation you market to successfully throughout the supply chain?

Our Solutions

Intertek Eco-Certification satisfies the need of retailers and manufacturers selling products in today's global marketplace, while simultaneously demonstrating both concern and diligence for the safety of consumer and environment. This certification scheme applies to textiles, leather products and garments as well as products at all levels of production, including textile and non-textile accessories. The essential consumer goods laws of developed countries, current industrial standards, as well as chemical guidelines of major buyers, form the basis of the chemical requirements and technical criteria for Intertek Eco-Certification. Any products which pass this particular evaluation successfully shall fulfill most of the ecological requirements in the international market.

Traditional end of piping tests are susceptible to risk along the supply chain once the harmful substances are detected in the final products. Suppliers and retailers are faced with huge losses due to product recall. Intertek Eco-Certification advocates risk control and management throughout the supply chain to replace end of piping tests. For every step in the supply chain, an assurance system in safeguarding the contamination of harmful substances is evaluated.

Intertek Eco-Certification emphasizes that manufacturers shall maintain a reliable quality assurance system of ecological products. The quality system implements strict quality assurance on incoming materials and chemical application related processes to remove all the restricted harmful substances from the very beginning without deviating from the original design - avoiding any contamination during the manufacturing process.

By implementing verification testing in the early stages of production, manufacturers can save both time and money. Retailers can now demonstrate due-diligence to the authorities within the target market through the certification of suppliers and successfully obtain both the market confidence and competitive edge they desire.

Intertek Eco-Certification maintains strict supervision of certificate holders and certified products to ensure continuous compliance of products to each requirement. During the validity of certification, Intertek is authorized and required to undertake annual evaluation of certified products. This includes annual on-site evaluation, lab testing of random samples and control tests on samples purchased from various markets or retailers. Intertek will sample about 10% of the certificates it has issued in the current year for control tests and to absorb costs.

The application for Intertek Eco-Certification consists of four standard procedures: application, factory evaluation & sampling, testing, and certification. A pre-evaluation service is introduced to all the potential factories before submitting the application. Through a questionnaire review it can be determined whether or not their process could fulfill the requirements of Intertek Eco-Certification.

Intertek Eco-Certification focuses on upgrading the factories' level of eco production through the certification. Specific questionnaires are designed and provided to factories before certification according to the product type and processing technology. Targeted to every category of products, the questionnaire examines every stage of the process and reviews the chemicals used which may possibly introduce excessive harmful substances to the final product. Based on the questionnaire, Intertek will receive an overview of the factory's current eco-production level and make a preliminary judgment on whether the certification process should commence or be suspended for a while. Intertek will point out which measures or improvements are necessary. This will save the factory from unnecessary costs for an unsuccessful certification and advise them of areas in need of improvement.



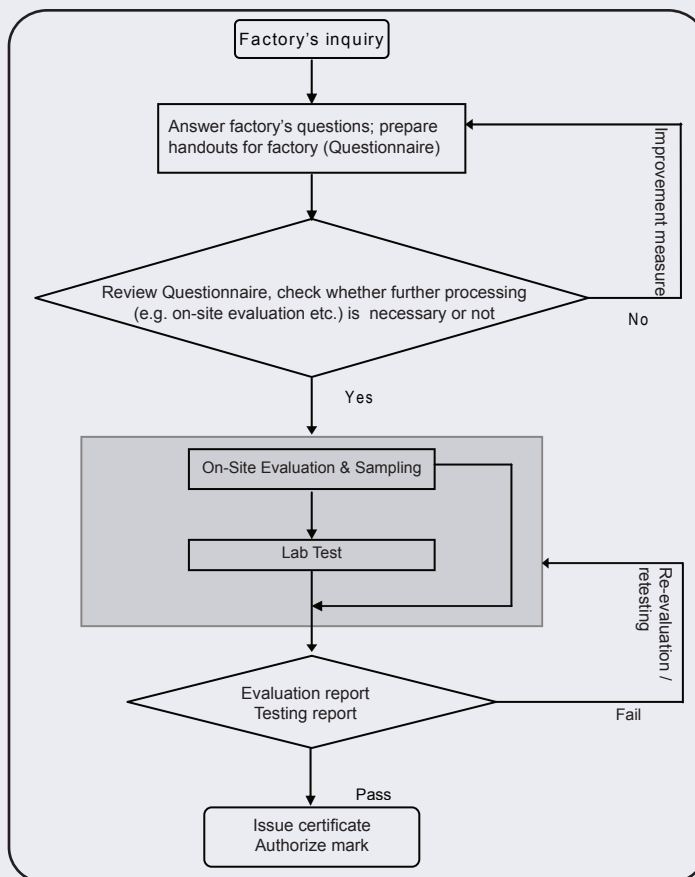
Product Class

The nature of the contact between textiles and human skin as well as the age of the users themselves are considered in stipulating the requirements made for a specific product. Based on the characteristics of the textile product, its intended use, and user of the product, the products seeking certification are classified into one of the following three classes:

Class I: Products for babies

Class II: Products with direct skin contact

Class III: Products with no direct skin contact



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