EMPOWERING TRUST IN A COMPLEX WORLD

Apparel, Textiles, Footwear and Leather
PROFICIENCY
UL’s state-of-the-art laboratories help ensure regulatory and brand compliance for your products. Along the global supply chain, UL experts offer a wide range of tests, analysis, and services in order to verify the compliance of your products with national and international standards. UL does this to optimize products, to mitigate the risk of costly recalls, and to protect brands.

UL partners with clients throughout the production cycle to assess risks and develop solutions to effectively evaluate the quality and safety of:

- Accessories
- Adult Clothing
- Children’s Clothing
- Footwear
- Home Textiles
- Leather Goods

Starting from the initial design phase, UL performs in-depth and rigorous analysis to help you in manufacturing articles that satisfy thorough safety standards and to launch winning products to the market.

Whether you need testing services or production monitoring, UL can provide customized quality assurance programs to suit all your needs. Our inspections and factory audit solutions use industry and government standards to help you understand your factory’s quality systems and production capabilities, as well as monitor for social compliance.
Children’s Clothing and Footwear
Thanks to extensive experience in the field of children’s products safety, UL is able to provide testing and services on items intended for children, including:

- Buttons, Snaps and all Trims, Attachment Resistance
- Chemical Analysis of Hazardous Substances
- Flammability Tests
- Overall Safety Assessment of Garments
- Safety and Dimension Evaluation of Cords and Drawstrings
- Slide Fasteners (zips) Testing
Chemical Analysis

- Alkylphenol (AP) and Alkylphenol Ethoxylates (APEO)
- Allergenic and Carcinogenic Colorants
- Aromatic Amines
- Azo Dyes
- Cadmium
- Chlorinated Benzene and Toluene
- Chlorophenols
- Chromium (VI)
- Dimethyl Fumarate
- Dimethylformamide
- Extractable Heavy Metals
- Flame Retardants
- Formaldehyde
- Isocyanates
- Lead
- Nickel Release
- Nitrosamines
- Organostannic Compounds
- Other Chemical Substances listed in RSL
- Perfluorinated Compounds (PFC)
- Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS)
- Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)
- Pesticides
- pH
- Phenols
- Phthalates
- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH)
- Short Chain Chlorinated Paraffins (SCCP)
- SVHC identified according to REACH
- Total content of Heavy Metals
- Volatile Organic Compound (VOC)
QUALITY ASSURANCE
UL helps ensure that brand specifications, standards and best practices are fully understood and implemented by every link in your value chain. Our global team brings local presence and increased expertise to your business.

UL QUALITY ASSURANCE SERVICES INCLUDE

**Product Inspections**
- Top of Production (TOP)
- Initial Production Inspections (IPI)
- In-Process Quality Checks (DUPRO)
- Final Random Inspections (FRI)
- Pre-Shipment Inspections (PSI)
- Loading Inspections

**Factory Audits**
- Quality Management Systems
- Production Capability and Capacity

**Manufacturing Audits**
- Factory Capability Audits evaluate a facility’s capabilities to produce a specific range of products in accordance to brand specifications and to a desired timeline
- Social Compliance Audits measure social and environmental compliance with international standards and regulations
- Technical Audits assess management structure, quality control processes, document control and working conditions
- Environmental Assessments provide a comprehensive review of compliance with environmental laws and regulations and relevant international standards such as ISO 14001

**Responsible Sourcing**
- Capacity Building and Continuous Improvement
- C-TPAT
- Extractives and Raw Materials
- Security and Brand Protection
- Social Compliance

**Environmental Responsibility**
- Air Emissions
- Chemical Usage and Storage
- Environmental Health and Safety
- Wastewater
Reducing Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals

Chemical Safety: Restricted Substances List
A Restricted Substances List (RSL) covers chemicals and other substances whose presence in a product is restricted through a government regulation or law, and identifies the most restrictive iteration of that regulation worldwide. To remain competitive in today’s market, companies need to adopt sustainable business practices that focus on the environment and human health factors. UL offers analysis and monitoring of current and increasingly complex guidelines in accordance with the various European Directives and international laws and standards. UL’s state-of-the-art laboratories verify the presence of restricted substances including pesticides, azo dyes, carcinogens, and allergens in fabrics, yarns, garments, leather, and accessories.

Detox
With first-hand knowledge of international chemical standards, UL’s quality assurance and chemical management services teams can help ensure regulatory compliance for every country in which you source or sell. Minimizing possible damage to ecosystems and communities is a growing concern for businesses, particularly those in the textile and footwear industries. To support this drive towards environmental responsibility, UL offers wastewater onsite assessments and testing solutions to help satisfy commitments to eliminate the discharge of hazardous substances.

The Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC) Program analyzes wet processing and provides training to help eliminate priority chemical groups.

UL’s Chemical Services

- Chemical Inventory and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) review
- Environmental Audits
- MRSL implementation planning for entire Supply Chain
- Staff and Supplier training
- Wastewater Testing
- Test Program development for raw materials and finished products
- Sustainability Services
UL Verification Mark

UL Verification offers third-party assessments and verification of marketing claims to help companies differentiate themselves in today’s competitive marketplace. A Verified Mark is issued to eligible products, processes, systems or facilities, and can be used on products, on packaging and in promotions.

Every UL Verified Mark is an indication that a product, process, system or facility met a specific, science-based protocol. A UL Verified Mark can give manufacturers a clear competitive edge and gives confidence to buyers that they’re getting what they paid for.

The UL Verified Mark is a modular piece of artwork composed of three key elements:
- The basic UL Verified Mark
- The claim module that describes the claim Verified by UL
- The unique identifier to find more information about a specific UL Verification at the URL included in the UL Verified Mark

ZDHC CONTRIBUTOR

UL is contributor of the Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC) Program and in doing so, supports the Program’s vision of widespread implementation of sustainable chemistry and best practices in the textile, leather and footwear industries to protect consumers, workers and the environment.

The textile industry is under increasing pressure to minimize its impact upon the environment and improve the sustainability of their supply chains. The Joint Roadmap towards Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals demands that hazardous chemicals are eliminated from textile supply chains by 2020, and replaced by greener alternatives.

UL helps manufacturers and retailers in every aspect of the supply chain and production process, from raw materials to sales transactions, to better manage risks and deliver products that are safe, socially responsible and compliant with industry and brand specifications.

To meet the ambitious requirements of this initiative, UL partners with clients across every aspect of sustainability and supply chain management to help:

- Gain better visibility into supply chain issues and mitigate risk
- Develop a proactive stance and demonstrate ‘green’ and sustainable credentials
- Demonstrate willingness to invest in the long-term future of the business through sustainable supply chain practices
- Gain a competitive advantage through sustainability initiatives and implementation of best practice procedures
- Implement customized and comprehensive Environmental Management Systems

UL is a Contributor of

Ø ZDHC