



Non Foods Quality Assurance: Costco Smart Screening Guide

The Non Foods Quality Assurance Costco Smart Screening Guide is aimed to provide an overview for the Costco Smart Screening program. As this document is subject to change, please reach out to your NFQA contacts for the latest version.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Costco Smart Screening Overview

Costco Smart Screening (CSS) is a chemical testing program formed by a collection of Restricted Substance Lists (RSLs) that were developed in effort to reduce Chemicals of Concerns (CoCs) in both product and packaging. The RSLs used in this program consist of chemicals regulated by many countries and they also reference industry and Costco chemical compliance standards.

This advanced testing program allows Costco's third party testing laboratories to quickly screen for hundreds of chemicals that are restricted in the various countries it does business in. Compared to traditional chemical testing methods, this screening approach keeps testing costs down for suppliers by testing to Costco's global standards in just a few short tests, reduces sample sizes and improves testing lead times. For additional information, please visit our [Chemical Management Policy](#) and watch this [informational video](#).

Restricted Substance List (RSL)

For the most up to date Costco Smart Screening protocols in all product categories please reach out to a Costco utilized 3rd party lab. We also recommend referencing the [AFIRM Group website](#) as third party labs have adopted the AFIRM Restricted Substance List to test on certain Costco products.

. It is encouraged for suppliers to conduct pre-testing. This will assist with preparation for the production testing process. It is important to note, pre-testing can not be accepted in lieu of Costco Production testing.

The Costco Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs) include substances that may or may not be currently regulated for a specific material or product type. These lists include, but are not limited to, chemicals from EU REACH Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC), California Proposition 65 list, the U.S. Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), and many more standards. The following classes of chemicals are represented in the RSLs:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Alkylphenols (APs) & Alkylphenol Ethoxylates (APEOs)● Allergic, Carcinogenic, Disperse and Other Dyes● Asbestos● AZO Dyes● Bisphenols● Chlorinated Paraffins● Chlorobenzenes and Chlorotoluenes● Chlorophenols● Dimethylfumarate (DMFu)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Flame Retardants● Formaldehyde● Heavy Metals● Nitrosamines● Organotin Compounds● PAHS● PFAS (Polyfluoroalkyl Substances)● Phthalates● Solvents & Residuals● UV Absorbers / Stabilizers● Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
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Textiles Manufacturing Restricted Substance List (MRSL)

Costco encourages its textile suppliers to implement in their supply chains the Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC) Manufacturing Restricted Substance List (MRSL). This manufacturer's RSL assists factories in protecting workers, creating safe products for our members and eliminating harmful chemicals to the planet.

Some helpful links and resources include:

- **SGS ZDHC MRSL Conformance Service:**
 - [SGS Chemical Management Service - Root Cause Analysis](#)
 - [SGS Chemical Management Training Services](#)
- **Other MRSL Links:**
 - [Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals \(ZDHC\) MRSL](#) (Based on the [AFIRM](#) guideline)
 - [Eurofins / MTS - Restricted Substances](#)

Costco Approved 3rd Party Certifications

Product components that have a current and valid 3rd party certification (from this list) are exempt from Costco Smart Screening

Costco recognizes and accepts a number of third-party certifications for its Smart Screening program. The third-party certifiers aim to provide safe, traceable and sustainable products. Products that have achieved these certifications are not subject to CSS. However, Costco reserves the right to test any product it sources and sells.

Certifications must be submitted to the 3rd party lab prior to the start of production testing for Costco's production. Components, and / or complete products must be clearly listed on the provided certificates. Exemptions are only granted if the production test lab can confirm that the components listed on the certification are consistent with the Bill of Materials and final production samples submitted for testing. If certifications are submitted after production testing is complete, the production test results supersede the certification.


List of Approved Certification Programs


Company Name	Certification Name
 <p>HOHENSTEIN AMERICAS</p> <p>Hohenstein</p>	Standard 100 by OEKO-TEX®
	STeP by OEKO-TEX®
	Detox To Zero by OEKO-TEX®
	Made In Green by OEKO-TEX®
	ECO PASSPORT by OEKO-TEX®
	MySTeP by OEKO-TEX®
	Hohenstein Institute
	LEATHER STANDARD by OEKO-TEX® YKK Certification
 <p>Bluesign</p>	https://www.bluesign.com/
 <p>Cradle to Cradle Certified®</p>	Cradle to Cradle Certified® C2C Material Health Certification
 <p>EPA Safer Choice</p>	https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice

Costco
Smart
Screening
Compliant
Packaging
Suppliers

The packaging suppliers listed below have systems that meet Costco’s chemical policy through annual Costco Smart Screening testing. Items that use packaging from these suppliers may see reduced testing in the Costco testing program. Examples of potential covered packaging components include: woven labels, screen printed fabric labels, heat transfers, care and content labels, hang tags/swing tickets, packaging, swift tags, hangers, size stickers, etc. Final suppliers are responsible for notifying and sending related reports or certifications to the nominated 3rd party lab. The reports & certifications must be dated within one year to be acceptable. Any packaging for garments and or shipping materials not covered by an approved 3rd party certification and/or Smart Screening reports shall be subject to testing at the time of production per Costco requirements.

 **List of Packaging Suppliers**

Company Name	Contact Information
 <p>NATco</p>	<p>USA: <i>Howard Kurdin</i> 1-937-313-1050 howard.kurdin@natcoglobal.com <i>Jackie Kitzler</i> 1-212-813-2946 (NY) jackie.kitzler@natcoglobal.com</p> <p>China <i>Eriken Wu</i> 86-21-3360-0192 eriken.wu@natcolabel.com.cn</p> <p>Hong Kong <i>Victor To</i> 852-2741-7315 victor.to@natcoglobal.com</p> <p>India <i>Arivu Selvaraj</i> 91-91080-07481 arivu.selvaraj@natcoglobal.com</p> <p>Bangladesh <i>Rashel Mamun</i> 88-02-4895-7186 rashel.mamun@natcoglobal.com</p> <p>Vietnam <i>David Pham</i> 84-946-403148 david.pham@natcoglobal.com</p> <p>Korea <i>Dragon Cho</i> 82-010-7721-5938 dragon.cho@natcoglobal.com</p> <p>Taiwan <i>Yvonne Peng</i> 886-2-8260-2899 yvonne.peng@natcoglobal.com</p>

 <p>r-pac International Corp</p>	<p><i>Megan Wold</i> 916-704-6721 megan.wold@r-pac.com</p>
 <p>Charming Printing Ltd</p>	<p><i>Jeremy Van Houten</i> 1 (415) 660-0201</p> <p><i>Erin Cheung</i> 299 05827</p>
 <p>Intelligent Label Solutions (ITL)</p>	<p><i>Eileen Wen</i> Eileen.Wen@itl-group.com</p> <p><i>Barry Burgess</i> Barry.Burgess@itl-group.com</p> <p><i>Shirley Wang</i> Shirley.Wang@itl-group.com</p>
 <p>Sourcing Solutions International (SSI)</p>	<p>US: <i>Michael Dezelon</i> 480-443-0588 mdezelon@ss-intl.com</p> <p>Asia: <i>Sherry Chu</i> 886-2-77133899- (281) sherrychu@ss-intl.com</p>
 <p>Compass GreenTech</p>	<p><i>Allison Lee</i> / (206) 223-7338 (x15) Allison.Lee@compassgreentech.com</p> <p><i>Macy Mai</i> / 86-757-88881000 (x5700) Macy.Mai@compassgreentech.com</p>


Desiccant Suppliers





Products that use an approved desiccant (not product, or packaging) (from this list) are exempt from Costco Smart Screening.

Company Name	Contact Information
 <p>Super Dry International</p>	<p>Michael Hanrahan / 201 679 4703 Minnie Huang / +86-755- 8946 1449 Fred Birnbaum / + 852 9542 4019</p> <p>N. America michael@superdryers.com China minnie@superdryers.com.cn Hong Kong Fred@superdryers.com</p>
 <p>Micro-Pak</p>	<p>Asia Office Jenny Cheung / Jessica Kwok: 852-2956 2991 US Office Sal Cesario: (503) 684-6400 Victor Ceserani: (503) 799-9909</p> <p>General e-mail: USInfo@micropakltd.com Asia Office Costco@micropakltd.com US Office sal.cesario@micropakltd.com</p>

Resources For Safer Alternatives

See below links for industry information that can assist with finding a safer alternative:

Company Name	Site Information
 <p>EPA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer Alternatives Assessment
<p>Safer choice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources for Manufacturers

 Oeko-Tex Buying Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buying guide of approved component and factory suppliers
 ChemSec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Marketplace • Business Tools • Textile Guide
 GreenScreen®	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote safer chemicals and products with GreenScreen®
 Enhesa - SciveraLENS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The simpler way to make safer chemistry decisions

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What does CSS stand for?

A: Costco Smart Screening

Q: Where can I find additional information about the Costco Smart Screening program?

A: Visit our [Chemical Management Site](#) for additional information. Please also watch the SGS Training video [here](#).

Q: Why does Costco utilize Costco Smart Screening?

A: At Costco, our core philosophy is to *do the right thing* following our code of ethics. By creating the Costco Smart Screening program this helps us to ensure global compliance and procurement while reducing the amount of chemicals of concern in Costco's products.

Q: What does TRF stand for?

A: Test Request Form (TRF) is a summary of what testing is required for each testing program. It is generated by the Costco BPM system that manages our Testing and Inspections with 3rd party labs.

Q: How do I submit samples for Costco Smart Screening?

A: The Test Request Form will provide sample submission instructions. The nominated third party testing laboratory will also be able to guide you through the submission process.

Q: Where can I get the testing protocols?

A: You may request the current protocols from Costco approved 3rd Party lab.

Q: Are there any resources that provide training opportunities for chemical management systems?

A: Yes there are many 3rd party sources that provide opportunities such as our third party labs (Eurofins, SGS, TUV SUD, TUV Rheinland and BV) as well as third party certification programs. The third party lab contact information is located at the end of this guide for reference.






Q: If we have an approved certification, does this exempt testing?

A: Yes, the Oeko-Tex Standard 100 certification or higher, Bluesign, and Cradle to Cradle certification and C2C material health certifications at silver level or higher, and EPA safer choice certification will exempt component(s) or the full item from Costco Smart Screening (CSS) testing. This will be confirmed in final testing with the third party lab. Please send the applicable approved certification(s) to the lab for confirmation when the BOM is sent, or at the time of sample selection. The testing lab will then review the certificate and verify validation and exempt certified components accordingly from CSS testing.

Q: If I need to replace a chemical of concern, what resources are available for safer alternatives?

A: See “Resource Section” above. Please note alternative chemicals and corrected products must always be re-tested to ensure compliance. If an alternative chemical and or the product is being corrected, a sample selection with the 3rd party lab must be conducted to ensure the item is from the Costco production.

Costco Non Foods Quality Assurance partners with Third Party labs to perform product testing. These labs house Costco Smart Screening protocols.

<p>Eurofins</p> 	<p>SGS</p> 	<p>TUV SUD</p> 	<p>TUV Rheinland</p> 	<p>BV</p> 
<p>Leo Lao Leo.Lau@cpt.eurofins.com Jeremiah Slater Jeremiah.Slater@cpt.eurofins.com</p>	<p>Solange Augeraud: USA Solange.Augeraud@sgs.com Sherry Shen - Asia sherry-xl.shen@sgs.com</p>	<p>Jiang, Jiawei jonny.Jiang@tuvsud.com</p>	<p>Jennifer Barbarisi jbarbarisi@us.tuv.com Haley Sprague hsprague@us.tuv.com</p>	<p>Robin Ashier robin.abshier@bureauveritas.com Jessie Ym-Li jessie-ym.li@bureauveritas.com</p>



For additional resources and information regarding the Non Foods QA Department or Global Sustainability and Compliance please reach out to your Non Foods QA Contact.