

Housewares with Food Contact

A Proactive Approach to Brand Protection

BUSINESS CHALLENGE

In today's global marketplace, retailers, manufacturers and distributors of houseware products that come into contact with food face unique challenges in assessing the quality of their goods, complying with federal and international regulations and meeting industry best practices. The implementation of effective product development and quality monitoring programs, plus services such as testing, inspections, and consumer evaluations, can help you improve customer satisfaction, lower costs, reduce customer complaints, and increase competitiveness.

Consumers expect that the products they purchase will be safe. However, there is increasing concern over what is being leached into food. Substances such as phthalates in plastic containers or unsafe levels of heavy metals in cookware, pose a potential risk from which the consumer expects to be protected. In addition to safety concerns, consumers consider a product's physical characteristics, reliability and performance as key factors when deciding on a purchase.

SOLUTION

A Knowledgeable Provider with Comprehensive Capabilities

To comply with domestic and international safety and quality requirements for housewares, you need an experienced service provider that can evaluate your product to FDA, CPSIA, ASTM, Health Canada, ISO, European Directives, BS EN standards, specific state requirements and other guidelines. Bureau Veritas can identify analytical requirements, performance criteria and evaluate physical characteristics, construction and workmanship. It is important that your products stand up to the stresses of everyday use, therefore we validate such characteristics as stain, warp, scratch and corrosion resistance, fit and strength, and effects of cold, heat, microwaving and dishwashing.

What are the key benefits?

- Verify compliance with worldwide regulations and industry standards
- Minimize the risk of recalls, returns and complaints
- Protect your reputation and brand equity in the market
- Maintain consumer confidence and health

WHY CHOOSE BUREAU VERITAS?

Reputation – For over 30 years, we have worked successfully with top manufacturers and retailers around the world to help them better manage risk and achieve regulatory compliance.

Worldwide Locations – With locations close to sourcing areas in over 40 countries, we offer you the convenience of global coverage with local service where you need it.

Technical Knowledge & Leadership – Our staff participate in the development of international, industry, and regulatory standards worldwide, keeping you and us at the forefront of changes in safety requirements and testing methods.

Personalized Service – We are committed to meeting your evolving needs and helping you anticipate new market trends. We offer you customized services to meet your quality assurance needs throughout your supply chain. Providing you with the highest level of service is a priority for us.



RELATED SERVICES

Our services work together to help you minimize the risk of recalls and returns, protecting your brand equity.

- Inspections
- Factory Assessments
- Security Assessments
- Social Audits
- Training
- Consulting

Ask us how these services can benefit you and your company.

OUR APPROACH TO SERVICES

Comprehensive Knowledge and Experience

Bureau Veritas has experience with a wide variety of houseware materials, such as wood, paper and paperboard, plastic, ceramic, porcelain, glass and enamel, metal and metal alloys, and can offer applicable comprehensive test packages to analyze your products. With locations around the world, we are available to provide prompt service, solid technical support and regulatory guidance.

Services are available for:

- Single product analysis and comparative evaluations of consumer merchandise
- Testing to national and international standards
- Defective product analysis to determine the cause of failure at various stages of production and to provide corrective recommendations
- Technical consultations to answer questions, interpret results, and help manage your quality assurance programs
- Product evaluation for design, construction, and safety at various stages of production
- Complete inspection and auditing services including factory evaluations and incoming quality control, initial product, in-process and final shipment/product inspections.
- Performance package and transit testing for vibration and impact to help reduce product damage

FAQ

If I test to FDA regulations, are my products safe to ship internationally?

FDA requirements are just one of many regulations to which your product must comply. Bureau Veritas can evaluate your product and determine the proper regulations and standards for each country in which you plan to sell.

If an item, such as a pan lid, does not come into direct contact with food, does it still need to be tested to food safety standards?

Yes, it must be tested. Items such as a lid are considered food contact components as steam will condense on it and return to the container thereby making food contact. Even the metal screw that attaches the lid handle must be tested.

Does the FDA have a list of substances that are generally regarded as safe (GRAS)?

The FDA has several lists, none of which are all inclusive. The FDA's website contains a list from the GRAS Notification Program, and other partial lists can be found at 21 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) parts 182, 184 and 186.



CONTACT

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