



COMMUNITY MASKS

TESTED QUALITY

Community masks | Tested quality

Community masks intended for distribution in a specific market must meet the safety and performance benchmarks outlined in the standards of the country in which the products are sold.

Product and regulatory scenario

Community masks, also called **hygienic mask**, are those used by the general public. These are intended to protect others from the wearer, thereby helping to mitigate the spread of the virus.

In the middle of the coronavirus crisis, many governments have made the use of masks recommended or even mandatory in public places where social distancing can't be guaranteed.

In parallel, international, regional and local authorities are trying to ultimately funnel efforts into a standardised minimum quality benchmarks, such as the recommendations by the World Health Organization, the [EU CEN guideline document CWA 17533](#), or the local initiatives being implemented in numerous countries, as displayed further on the tables in this document.

Community masks are not considered medical devices, nor are they personal protective equipment. They are consumer products which also fall under the General Product Safety Directive (GPSD) and other legislations such as international chemical regulations (e.g. REACH) or country-specific ones, of the country where the products are sold.

Service scope

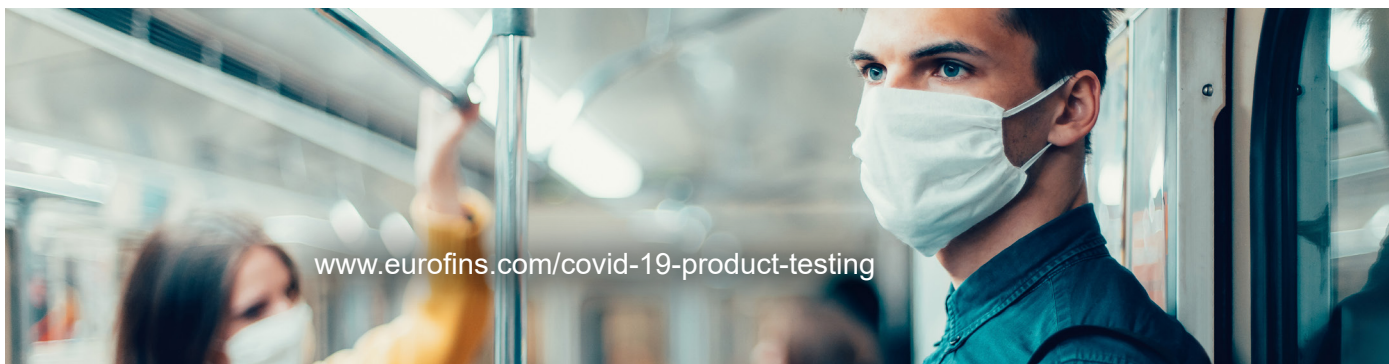
Eurofins provides high-standard quality assurance and control services throughout the supply chain.

Manufacturers are responsible for ensuring that the masks they supply and put on the market comply with safety and effectiveness requirements and the standards required in the country in which they are sold. Our laboratories are ISO/IEC17025:2017 accredited for Particulate Filtration Efficiency testing (PFE), Bacterial Filtration Efficiency testing (BFE) and differential pressure (breathability), delivering precise, reliable and accurate testing results to our customers for EN, ISO and ASTM test methods.

Another important consideration is the information made available to consumers at the point of purchase. Well-designed product specifications and claims helps to ensure that the user can easily and correctly access, understand and use the mask. Eurofins offers check service for marking, labelling and instructions of use, according to the recommendations by the national Authorities.

International regulatory frameworks for community masks

Summarised below are the barrier performance regulations, standards and/or guidelines defined by countries, some of which have implemented them as a mandatory conditions, whereas other have simply set them up as recommendable measures.



Europe

Europe			
Specifications		CWA 17553	
		Test method	Requirements
Performance and protection	Filtration	ISO 13274-7	Level 70%: > 70% Level 90%: >90%
		Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) - EN14683	
	Breathability	Air permeability - ISO 9237	> 96 l/m ² /s, depression at 100 Pa
		Differential pressure - EN14683	< 70 Pa/cm ²
Design	Visual inspection, Fit & sizing	As per the guidelines	
	Ties and ear loop attachment strength		10N
Washability	Washes and air drying		60°C (at least 5)

Belgium			
Specifications		NBN/DTD S65-001:2020	
		Test method	Requirements
Performance and protection	Filtration	EN 13274-7	Particle size 3 µm > 70%
		Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) - EN14683	
	Breathability	Air permeability - ISO 9237	> 100 l/s/m², depression at 100 Pa
		Differential pressure - EN14683	< 70 Pa/cm²
Design (Visual inspection, fit & sizing, ties and ear loop attachment strength)		As per the guidelines	
Washability	Washes and air drying		60°C (at least 25)

France			
Specifications		AFNOR S76-001	
		Test method	Requirements
Performance and protection	Filtration	ISO 13274-7	Particle size 3 µm ≥ 70% (category 2) ≥ 90% (category 1)
	Breathability	Air permeability - ISO 9237	> 96 l/m ² /s, depression at 100 Pa
		Differential pressure - EN14683	< 60 Pa/cm ²
Design	Fit & sizing, Visual inspection	As per the guidelines	
Washability claims substantiation	Washes		60°C

Ireland			
Specifications		SWIFT 19:2020	
		Test method	Requirements
Performance and protection	Filtration	Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) - EN14683	> 70%
	Breathability	Air permeability - ISO 9237	> 96 l/m²/s, depression at 100 Pa
		Differential pressure - EN14683	< 60 Pa/cm²
Design (Visual inspection, fit & sizing, etc.)		As per the guidelines	
Washability	Washes and air drying		60°C

Netherlands			
Specifications		NEN Spec 1-2	
		Test method	Requirements
Performance and protection	Filtration	Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) - EN14683	> 70% (level 1) > 90% (level 2)
		ISO 13274-7	> 70% (level 1) > 90% (level 2)
	Breathability	Air permeability - ISO 9237	> 96 l/m ² /s, depression at 100 Pa
		Differential pressure - EN14683	< 70 Pa/cm ²
	Biocompatibility	Within a risk assessment process	
Design (Visual inspection, fit & sizing, etc.)		As per the guidelines	
Safe Materials	Chemical testing	As per the guidelines	
	Flammability	ASTM D1230 Flame 1 second	Spread over 127 mm should be lower than 4 s
Washability	Washes and air drying	ISO 6330	60°C 5, at least

Portugal			
Mandatory for retailers		Yes	
Specifications		DNP TS C004202007	
		Test method	Requirements
Performance and protection	Filtration	Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) - EN14683	≥ 70% (level 3) ≥ 90% (level 2)
		ISO 13274-7	≥ 70% (level 3) ≥ 80% (level 2)
	Breathability	Differential pressure - EN14683	≤ 40 Pa/cm ²
Design (Visual inspection, fit & sizing, etc.)		As per the guidelines	
Washability	Washes and air drying	EN ISO 6330	60°C

Spain			
Specifications		UNE 0064 – Single use / UNE 0065 – Reuse	
		Test method	Requirements
Performance and protection	Filtration	Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) - EN14683	Reusable for adults and children ≥ 90% Single use for adult and children ≥ 95%
	Breathability	Differential pressure - EN14683	< 60 Pa/cm ²
Design (Visual inspection, fit & sizing, etc.)		As per the guidelines	
Washability	Washes and air drying	EN ISO 6330	60°C

Switzerland			
Specifications		Swiss National COVID-19 Science Task Force	
		Test method	Requirements
Performance and protection	Filtration	Particulate Filtration Efficiency (PFE)	> 70% (for 1 micron)
	Breathability	Differential pressure - EN14683	< 60 Pa/cm ²
	Blood Splash resistance	ISO 22609	No penetration in 10 specimens
	Biocompatibility	ISO 10993	Within a risk assessment process
Design (Fit & sizing)		As per the guidelines	
Washability	Washes and air drying	ISO 6330	60°C (at least 5)

Turkey			
Specifications		TSEK 599	
		Test method	Requirements
Performance and protection	Filtration	Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) - EN14683	≥ 90%
	Breathability	Differential pressure - EN14683	< 60 Pa/cm ²
Microbial Cleanliness		ISO 11737-1	≤ 30 CFU/g
Electrostatic feature (only for Polyester Fabric)		EN 1149-2	A maximum of 5% deviation from the declared value
Electrostatic feature (only for Polyester Fabric)		As per the guidelines	
Washability	Washes and air drying	EN ISO 6330	60°C (at least 5)

US and Canada

US/Canada			
Specifications		AATCC M014	
		Test method	Requirements
Performance and protection	Particulate Filtration Efficiency (PFE)	ASTM F2299	> 70% (3 micron)
	Breathability	ISO 9237, depression at 100 Pa	> 0.91l/min/cm ²
		Differential pressure	< 36.7 Pa/cm ²
Design	Visual inspection, fit & sizing	As per the guidelines	
	Ties and ear loop attachment strength	ASTM D5034	44.5 N
	Elastic recovery	ASTM D4964	90% after 60 s
Safe Materials	Flammability		US 16CFR1610 CA SOR/2016-194
Washability	Washes and air drying	AATCC LP1	Care instructions

Marking checks on labels, packaging and instructions for use

Marking on the product, whether directly or on a label, and/or on its packaging and instruction manual, is mandatory and must be displayed in the applicable official domestic language(s) and observe the wording as defined in the country-specific legislation.

Eurofins' label and marking check service includes:

- Completion of name, trademark, address and contact details of the responsible actor (producer or importer)
- Product batch ID (whenever applicable)
- If tested against the CWA document: "Community face coverings CWA", followed by the version of the CWA document concerned
- The filtration efficiency level, method used and standard
- Durability i.e. reusable or disposable
- Targeted user age e.g. child or adult
- Restriction warning e.g. "Not suitable for children under 3 years of age"



Tested Quality seal

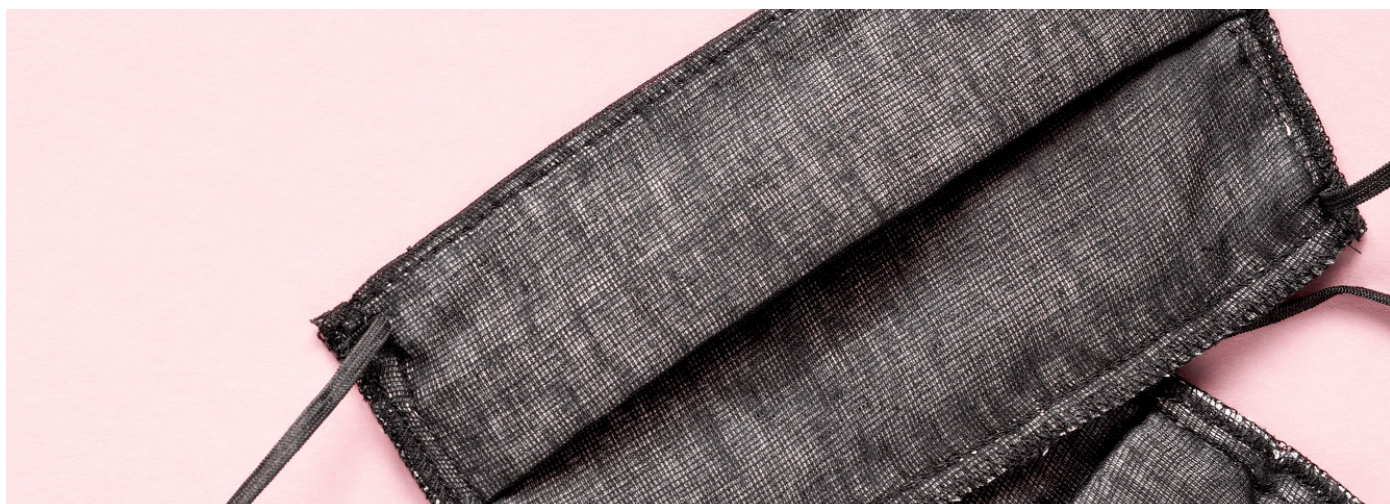
In an effort to provide our clients with proof of compliance for hygienic masks, our experts have developed the Tested Quality seal for Community masks, which will be granted to masks meeting the thoroughly designed testing protocols.

Eurofins Quality Seal			
Specifications		Test method	Requirements
Performance and protection	Filtration	Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) - EN14683	> 80% before and after washing
	Breathability	Differential pressure - EN14683	< 70 Pa/cm ² before and after washing
Design	Visual inspection, fit & sizing	As per the guidelines	
	Ties and ear loop attachment strength	As per the guidelines	
	Elastic recovery	10N	
Safe materials	Colourfastness	In-house method	As per Eurofins requirements
	Chemical testing	ISO 14184-1 (Textile) / ISO 17226-1 and ISO 17226-2 (Leather)	Formaldehyde free -
	Ph -	ISO 3071 (Textile) / ISO 4045 (Leather)	As per Eurofins requirements
Washability	Washes and air drying	EN ISO 6330	60°C (at least 5)

Quality Assurance and Control throughout the Supply Chain

Whatever your role in the supply chain, it's important to safeguard the reputation of your brand and/or that of your client.

From suppliers' assessments and R&D support to regulatory guidance and supply chain mapping, all the way through to compliance and bespoke testing, QC inspections, failure analysis and market surveillance, we cover every stage of your product's quality journey.





www.eurofins.com/covid-19-product-testing