Garden & Outdoor products

Product safety & compliance

Eurofins' worldwide network of laboratories offers a complete compliance service for garden and outdoor products to ensure safety, functionality, performance and compliance, through testing, certification, inspection and regulatory services.

Stringent regulations and demanding consumers

In this era of globalised sourcing, brand owners, retailers, importers and manufacturers are facing important challenges due to the ever-changing international regulatory scenario. Non-compliant products pose a serious threat to consumers' health and, once recalled by the authorities, to your business reputation. It is our endeavour to be a one-stop solution provider for all your Quality Assurance and Control needs at every stage of your supply chain.

Our wide and international service offer displayed below covers most kinds of garden and outdoor products including, among other things, garden furniture, garden hand tools and accessories (hoses, irrigation, pots, etc.), garden power tools, garden gloves and apparel, bulbs, plants, flowers and fertilisers, pools (chemicals & accessories), pest control, BBQ equipment, and outdoor lighting.

Service scope

Eurofins' network of laboratories provides high expertise in different fields, making the Eurofins Group uniquely placed to help manufacturers, importers and brand owners to market compliance products through bespoke quality assurance and control programmes. Our comprehensive portfolio includes, among other things, the following:

Expert services, regulatory and compliance

Operational

- Protocol ad-hoc development according to customer's request and expected/intended use of the product
- Test Plans/protocol generation and evaluation of technical specifications of the product to define proper Quality Control plans
- Test plan generation to assess performance and fitness for use
- Benchmarking assessment

Documentary and regulatory

- Product protocol generation and checks
- Assistance on documentary review and set up of technical files (TCF)
- Markings review: Label, artwork, instruction manual review
- REACH assessment, Toxicological Risk Assessment and Safety Data Sheets
- Compliance checks against international regulations and Industry Standards, depending on the product and the destination markets, such as Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 (REACH), Regulation (EC) 1272/2008 (CLP) and other hazardous chemicals regulations, EU General Product Safety Directive (GPSD), Consumer Product Safety Act (CPSA), Flammability, Textile labelling and Fire retardants requirements, Electrical and electronics requirements, etc.

Laboratory testing

Garden furniture

- Standard EN 581-1, 2, 3 for outdoor furniture- seating and tables
- Physical & mechanical safety and performance tests
- Environmental tests
- Chemical tests
- Use tests/fitness for use
- Complete portfolio of textile testing
- Outdoor furniture intended to be used by young children

Garden hand tools and accessories (hoses, irrigation, pots, etc.)

- Global and dimensional characteristics
- Climatic tests
- Physical & mechanical performance
- Thickness of coatings
- Adaptability of garden accessories
- Use tests (ease of use, handling, etc.)
- Chemical tests
- Salt spray aging

Garden power tools

- Notified Body and Certification Body Services (GS, CB, TCB, etc.)
- Material testing: Including flammability tests for various materials
- Physical & mechanical tests
- Chemical tests

- EMC & electrical safety tests
- Acoustics & vibration
- Environmental tests
- Fit-For-Use / Performance tests
- Failure analysis and benchmarking

Garden gloves and apparel

- Personal protective equipment (PPE) testing and Notified Body services (Regulation (EU) 2016/425)
- General requirements for protective gloves according to EN ISO 21420 (design, construction, innocuousness, comfort and efficiency, markings and information)
- Requirements for protective gloves against mechanical risks (EN 388)
- **Apparel**: Textile performance tests, flammability, etc.
- **Chemical tests**: REACH restricted substances and SVHCs, etc.

Bulbs, plants, flowers & fertilizers

- Bulbs, plants and flowers:
  - Growth test
- Fertilisers:
  - Physical-chemical characteristics
  - Oligo-elements
  - Dimethoate
  - Nitrogen-phosphorous-potassium-magnesium
  - Iron
  - Full suite of GLP-compliant testing to assess environmental impact
  - Tensile strength of plastic bag packaging

Pool

- Accessories:
  - Global and dimensional characteristics
  - Physical & mechanical performance
  - Use tests
  - Climatic tests (corrosion, temperature-humidity and UV aging)
- Pool chemicals:
  - Microbiology & biocidal activities
  - Disinfection tests
  - Bactericidal activity
  - Chlorine
  - Bromine
  - Compressive strength (tablets)
  - Active oxygen
  - Hydrogen peroxide content
  - Boric acid
  - Anti-algae

Pest control

- Anti-moth characteristics
- Difenacoum
- Chlorpyriphos ethyl
- Mancozèbe - keppel
- Brookfield viscosity 20°C
- Plant treatment: sample preparation
- Net weight
- Methyl nonyl ketone
- Physical-chemical characterization
- Chemical tests
- REACH/CLP testing
- Full suite of GLP-compliant testing to assess environmental impact
- Field efficacy testing
- Performance tests on insecticides (flying insects) (efficiency, long-lasting tests, surrounding mosquito repellence)
- Performance tests on insecticides (creeping insects) (efficiency, long-lasting tests)

BBQ

- Physical & mechanical testing
- Food contact material testing and other chemical tests (e.g. REACH)
- Electrical tests (for electrical BBQ)
- Use tests
- Climatic tests
- Barbecues burning solid fuels (construction and safety test: Standard EN 1860)
- Solid fuel characterisation

Outdoor lighting and other electrical/electronics

- IoT and smart home device testing and certification
- Electrical safety, EMC, Wireless, Energy Efficiency

- Global market access, certification and international approvals
- Mechanical and environmental testing
- Performance and Fit-for-use testing
- Failure analysis & Benchmarking

Sensory evaluation and consumer tests

On-site inspections and audits

Assessing manufacturing sites before initiating mass production and checking product quality prior to shipment are key parts of the quality control process, and vital to ensure that production is carried out according to the quality standards and expectations of destination markets.

We offer a full suite of factory audit services, covering social, environmental, technical and security compliance.

Quality assurance and control throughout the supply chain

Whatever your role in the supply chain, you need to safeguard the reputation of your brand and/or that of your client.

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