



Food Contact Materials

Product safety and compliance

Many different types of articles for humans and pets fall into the broad product category of food contact materials (FCM), ranging from single-use packaging to reusable kitchenware and electrical appliances, down to childcare and nursery articles, but also extending to industrial products such as fishing nets, conveyors, transport containers and machine parts for food production.

The challenge

Food contact material testing is heavily regulated. Testing protocols depend, on the one hand, on the raw materials (plastics, paper, metal, glass, ceramic, silicone, wood, printing inks, etc.) of which the product is made of.

Additionally, choosing the correct test conditions is paramount to obtaining reliable results.

Finally, economic factors need to be considered as well: Which tests are mandatory and what can be done to minimise the cost while ensuring the product's compliance?

Service scope

We offer a full compliance check with harmonised EU legislation and national European legislation (France, Netherlands, Italy, etc.); but also with the requirements of the US FDA or the different applicable national GB standards in China, and the Japanese Food Sanitation Act, among others.

Expert services

Beyond commoditised compliance testing, Eurofins goes the extra mile with a range of added value services to support our clients' R&D and Quality departments, such as:

- Toxicological risk assessments
- Regulatory expertise, surveillance and advice
- Migration Modeling
- Protocol development according to target markets
- Collection and assessment of raw material documentation from suppliers
- Technical Compliance File generation / checks
- Declaration of Compliance (DoC)
- Marking and Labeling review
- R&D – Method development
- Bespoke training

Testing

Cost-effective, bespoke testing plans can be defined for single articles or for complex combinations of raw materials used across a wide product portfolio, to avoid repetitively testing the same material present in multiple products.

Our testing scope includes:

- Overall and specific migration
- NIAS screening (Non- intentionally added substances)
- US FDA extractive tests
- Sensory analysis (no deterioration of taste and smell) and colourfastness
- Release of metals
- Screening of pesticides
- Microbiological tests and studies
- Metal composition tests
- VOM, Peroxides
- Chemical tests against different hazardous chemicals regulations (REACH, California Prop 65, etc.)
- Ecotoxicity & Biodegradability
- Performance tests: physical and mechanical, environmental
- Stability and shelf-life studies
- Physical and barrier properties
- Fitness for use / usability tests
- And more.

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.

