

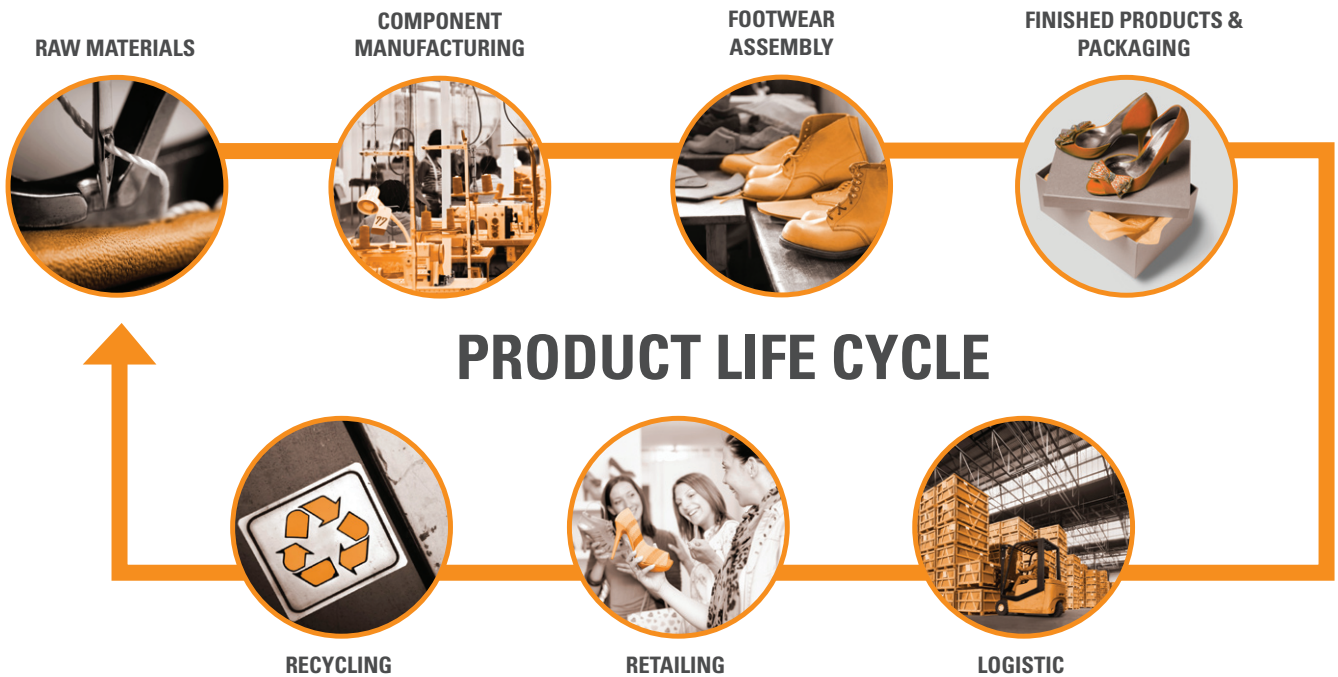


SUPPLY CHAIN AND SUSTAINABILITY SOLUTIONS FOR THE FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY



SGS

WALKING TOWARDS A **SUSTAINABLE** FUTURE



CURRENT CLIMATE

Sustainability is a top agenda in both the business and public sector. In light of recent sweeping changes in the world's economy and the heightened attention of consumers' awareness on sustainable production, the footwear industry and their supply chains are now facing an increasing number of different challenges.

Challenges include product safety, quality, functionality and value for money as well as environmentally and socially sustainable production of footwear products. From a product safety and quality point of view, that includes VOCs issues with adhesives, excessive chromium VI in leather and risk of phthalates in plastic accessories in children footwear. Aspects of concerns during the productions include environmental management of the production facilities and worker's occupational health & safety.

As the results of these stakeholders' demands, brands, retailers and their supply chains are required to become more transparent, secure and efficient.

SUSTAINABILITY DRIVES BUSINESS INNOVATION & VALUE

The adoption of sustainability approaches may reduce the ecological impacts of the business operation across the supply chain as well as leading to benefits such as making the supply chain more streamlined and efficient.

Taking steps toward sustainability would create brand value and loyalty among the consumers and other stakeholders. These competitive advantages are important assets for a brand to build resilience against economic cycles and shifting consumers' expectations.

Sustainability approaches include taking into account the environmental and social impact of their operations as well as adopting product life cycle thinking by considering the selection of raw material, use of technologically innovative production methods, and applying this thinking all the way to retailing and disposal of the end products.

SGS has the expertise and the industrial knowledge to assist you to make the first step towards your corporate sustainability commitments.

DELIVERING A **COMPETITIVE** EDGE

FOOTWEAR PRODUCT TESTING

Coupling the extensive footwear testing capability and our expertise together with our global coverage, SGS is able to offer a full range of physical, chemical & safety testing services for finished footwear and components. Testing, based on defined standards, regulations and client's requirements, gives you confidence about the conditions and performance of your footwear products.

FOOTWEAR PRODUCT MARK

With the dual assurance system of product testing & monitoring the production system to ensure products safety, consumers can be confident that products carrying the ECOSECURE footwear mark conform to the highest standards of green market requirements and consumer expectations. The use of this mark on your products will definitely provide competitive advantages and product differentiation from your competitors.

SAFETY FOOTWEAR

SGS offers expertise in testing on safety footwear according to national & international standards. We can provide testing on protective and safety footwear which often incorporate safety toecaps and under-foot protection. More specialised testing also can be performed against other physical risks, such as cutting by chainsaws, or environmental hazards associated with chemicals, heat and electricity. SGS is an experienced notified body for the European CE Mark. We are able to assist our clients through the "conformity assessment procedure" by carrying out an EC type examination to evaluate the technical file as required by the European Directive (89/686/EEC) for Personal Protective Equipment.

TECHNICAL CONSULTANCY

United by a global technical platform, our footwear experts worldwide are able to offer technical consultancy services ranging from product specifications support at pre-production stage, technical requirements needed to enter various emerging markets, and store returns.

INSPECTION

Inspections check product compliance at every stage of production and delivery. Our services in this area include Initial Product Check (IPC), through to During Production Check (DUPRO) and Final Random Inspection (FRI). We also assist clients in inspection of claimed goods through our Claim Inspection Services.

GOVERNMENT MANDATED PSI

SGS conducts pre-shipment inspection for exporters as mandated by governments of the destination country. Pre-shipment inspections are mandatory requirements for custom clearance for products entering some destination countries. These mandated procedures differ depending on the destination country, and may include testing and inspecting product conformity, loading supervision, valuation, quantity and document verifications.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY SOLUTION

Acting on behalf of buyers worldwide, SGS helps to reduce sourcing risks for its clients by verifying the capability of manufacturers to meet contract requirements for quality, quantity and delivery terms, and by making sure manufacturers are engaged in lawful, humane and ethical manufacturing.

SYSTEMS & SERVICES CERTIFICATIONS

With over 30 accreditations, SGS provides numerous certifications and training that are suited to your needs, business types and company's locations. Other innovative and value-added services such as tailor-made technical audits, report verifications, scoring auditing etc also are available to assist our clients to build distinctive competitive advantages.

CARBON & ENERGY EFFICIENCY

To help companies position themselves in today's market place and to tackle the challenges of environmental and climate change concerns, our sustainability experts offer full services to evaluate the energy and greenhouse gas performance of a system or a product. The implementation of eco-design management can enhance the eco-profile of the products. Our life cycle analysis and carbon footprint services help identify solutions for improvements related to material choice, energy consumption and reduction, packaging and logistic optimisation.





UNRIVALED SERVICE SCOPE

TEST STANDARDS

- AATCC and ASTM for USA
- BS for United Kingdom
- DIN, LFGB for Germany
- NF for France
- GB, GB/T, HG/T, QB/T for China
- ISO, CEN, EN for Europe/ International
- Plus many more...

ACCREDITATIONS

- Our laboratories are ISO 17025 accredited from various organisations (DAkKS, UKAS, CNAS, HKAS, TAF, NABL, etc)
- Accredited by CPSC for conducting tests in compliance with CPSIA requirements
- EU notified body (0120) under PPE Directive for Article 10 & 11 Certification
- Audit services are ISO 17021 accredited
- Inspection services are ISO 17020 accredited

FINISHED FOOTWEAR & COMPONENTS

- Adhesive strength – toe, middle, heel
- Toe bonding strength
- Flexing endurance
- Tensile strength
- Sole skid/slip resistance
- Water penetration resistance
- Plus many more...

SAFETY FOOTWEAR

- Toe cap impact resistance
- Penetration resistance test
- Electrical resistance
- Heat insulation
- Plus many more...

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

- EU REACH
- US CPSIA
- US Cal Prop 65
- Washington State CHCC
- Canada's CCPSA
- China's Product Standards
- Taiwan's Regulations (CNS)
- Korea's Regulations (KC Mark)
- Directive 89/686/EEC for PPE

CHEMICAL TESTS

- Restricted Substances Testing Services (RSTS)
- REACH SVHC Screening
- And many more...



DELIVERING **EXPERTISE** AROUND THE WORLD



WHY SGS?

SGS is the world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company. SGS is recognized as the global benchmark for quality and integrity. With more than 75,000 employees, SGS operates a network of over 1,500 offices and laboratories around the world.

Global Softlines at SGS has an extensive network of over 40 laboratories worldwide, with a strong team of committed professionals from multi-disciplinary backgrounds. Our internationally accredited state-of-the-art testing laboratories offer a comprehensive range of physical, chemical and functional testing services for components, materials and finished products. We help your company ensure quality, performance and compliance with international, industrial and regulatory standards worldwide. We understand sustainability is an integral part of doing businesses. With our global reach, local market knowledge and harmonised approach, brands, retailers & manufacturers trust us to deliver hassle-free, safe and expedient solutions throughout the textile and footwear supply chain, from raw materials to finished products on the shelf. Discover more at www.sgs.com/softlines

SGS e-publications and e-newsletters are designed to keep you and your business up-to-date with the latest industry news, updates to standards and regulations, information on product recalls, market trends, business developments and invitations to events and webinars. Subscribe for free at www.sgs.com/consumersubscribe

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WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

SGS