



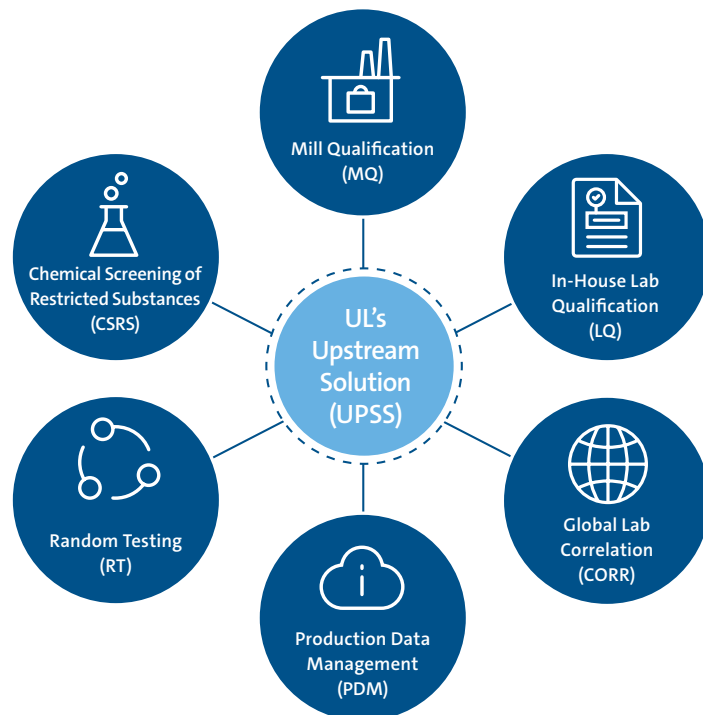
Quality you can trust with UL's Upstream Solution

For apparel, textile and footwear



Consumers of today demand quality, particularly in the highly competitive retail market where substitutable options are endless. While the pressure to deliver products with very short Time to Market (TTM) continues to grow, product quality could become compromised when critical steps in the development process are skipped. Moreover, despite spending a considerable amount of time and investment in quality assurance (QA), product returns and consumer complaints are increasingly on the rise without an in-depth understanding of the root cause.

UL's Upstream Solution (UPSS) is designed to help you address pain points in the early stages of the supply chain that impact product quality in the apparel, textile, and footwear industry. Our program leverages rigorous methods to improve supply chain transparency in the upstream portion of the production process to identify potential risks at the mill. By mitigating issues early on, you are better positioned to achieve On Time in Full (OTIF) delivery and realize a higher return on the value of your QA spending. As a result, you can provide consumers with a greater sense of trust in the quality of your products.



Chemicals are everywhere in textile and leather production:

- Dyes
- Softeners
- Resins
- Antistats
- Adhesives
- Tanning
- Anticrease
- Lubricants
- Water repellents
- Flame retardants
- Biocides
- Printing/coating
- Detergents

UL's Upstream Solution (UPSS) is a holistic and integrated approach to evaluating mill performance. UPSS uses root-cause analysis followed by a combination of services designed to mitigate potential quality assurance (QA) issues before a product ends up in the hands of a consumer. Our program offers a powerful, score-based evaluation backed by a reliable and robust database to help you reduce uncertainty and increase trust in your mill. Services include:



Mill Qualification (MQ)

Deliver a one-stop-shop platform to assess the mill's production, technical, capabilities, capacity, and management system compliance.



In-House Lab Qualification (LQ)

Provide on-site assessment of in-house labs to help ensure necessary elements are in place to perform tests correctly.



Global Lab Correlation (CORR)

Provide visualization of global testing partners including third-party labs and in-house mill labs on their testing capabilities, result consistency and accuracy; identify labs that need improvement for lab approval purposes; assist the customer in selecting good testing partners.



Production Data Management (PDM)

Develop correlation and trend analysis of production QC data in combination with third-party and in-house lab test data to help assure the quality of shipped fabrics.



Random Testing (RT)

Undertake a risk-based sampling approach to reveal the quality and regulatory compliance of fabrics shipped from particular mill/batch; validate the proactive quality control system implemented at upstream (CORR, LQ, PDM, and MQ).



Chemical Screening of Restricted Substances (CSRS)

Provide a qualitative overview of chemicals in finished products or raw materials through screening of more than 500 chemicals commonly used in textile production; CSRS promotes supply chain transparency and reduces environmental impact while helping businesses comply with industry regulations for restricted substances.

For more information on UL's Upstream Solution, contact UL at crs.ul.com/en/contact



Empowering Trust™

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