

An established list of chemicals helps brands and retailers communicate to their supply chains about substances that should not be used or used with restrictions in their end products. This list is commonly known as a restricted substance list (RSL), and it names substances that are dangerous for human health and the environment, together with their related limits and test methods.

These limits may be aligned with existing regulations or based on specific safety concerns and developed individually by the brand or the retail company with the support of chemical experts like UL.

## Why is a restricted substances list important?

Setting up an RSL is a fundamental step in a company's chemical management strategy to manage risks related to dangerous chemicals in an end product. A reference document such as an RSL may be critical for any company to monitor the chemical legislation in place in a specific country, to maintain a high level of consumer and brand protection.

In addition, an RSL helps to communicate rules related to chemicals to all parties in the supply chain.



# Restricted substance management

The RSL is the core of restricted substance management that can be summarized in the following key points:



### **Restricted substances list policy**

- Based on regulatory requirements, industry practice and failure history
  - Reviewed by various approaches such as restricted substance group comparison and detailed individual substance requirement comparison
- Program manual and risk-based testing matrix
  - To establish a good communication between vendors, testing lab and the brand
  - To create declarations and collaborate with legal counsel teams responsible for supply chain contracts
  - Product management and testing teams dedicated to frame an RSL matrix
  - To create a manual that will be included in the brand internal and external policies, inclusive of tools such as test request form, and how to submit samples and training tools



#### **Training**

• Educate factories, vendors, sourcing teams, QA teams and others



#### Test data management

- Testing data storage
- Testing data mining and analysis



#### **Control and validation**

- Failure management corrective and preventive actions
- Policy review and update

## Why UL

We are committed to helping you gain greater control and visibility over your supply chain by offering a full range of sustainable chemistry and chemical management services.



We partner with brands, retailers and suppliers, providing them with expertise and knowledge of building a comprehensive chemical management system in their supply chains.



We develop a RSL based on the product list of the company to help brands and retailers provide safe and quality goods to the market.



We offer tailored trainings in order to educate brands, and everyone involved in the manufacturing process to equip brands and suppliers with the skills in chemical management

For more information, please visit **CRS.UL.com** or contact us at **QAInfo@ul.com**.



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