Cleaning products play an essential role in our daily lives. Their ability to loosen and remove dirt from surfaces helps to improve health and personal hygiene. This action helps to reduce the presence of germs; extend the useful life of clothes, tableware, linens, surfaces and furnishings; and make our homes more pleasant.

SGS’s quality assurance and performance services can help you to ensure the quality, safety, efficacy and regulatory compliance of your products. Our laboratories and field operations offer tailor-made solutions to meet your chemical, physical, microbiological, ecotoxicological and claim support needs.

CURRENT LEGISLATION – PROTECTING PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

There are many international and national laws to ensure that washing and cleaning products are safe for consumers and the environment, including, but not exclusively:

**Europe**
- Regulation (EC) No 648/2004 (and amendments) on detergents
- Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 REACH
- Directive 98/8/EC on biocides
- Regulation (EC) 1272/2008 CLP
- Decisions regulating the European mark for ecological quality Ecolabel
- AISE protocol for laundry detergents

**USA**
- Federal Hazardous Substance Act (FHSA)
- Consumer Product Safety Act (CPSC)
- Poison Prevention Packaging Act (PPPA)

**Asia Pacific**
- People’s Republic of China (PRC): Technical specification for safety of soaps and detergents GB/T 26396-2011; Corresponding GB/T standards for laundry detergent, detergent for kitchen cleaning products etc.
- Taiwan: Consumer Protection Law; Food Sanitation Law for kitchen cleaning products; Commodity Labelling Act for laundry washing and house cleaning; Environmental Protection Law for Nonylphenol and Nonylphenol ethoxylate
- Thailand: Hazardous Substance Control; Measurement and Packaging Control; Consumer Protection Control
- Australia: The Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS); Poison Standard; Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (CCA)

**PRODUCTS COVERED**

**Air Care**
- Air fresheners: sprays, aerosols...
- Car air fresheners

**Dishwashing Products**
- Hand dishwashing
- Automatic dishwashing
- Dishwashing additives

**Laundry Care**
- Laundry detergents: hand wash/automatic detergents
- Fabric softeners
- Carpet cleaners
- Laundry aids: Spot and stain removers, anti-dye transfer sheets, colour safe laundry bleach, curtain care, starch/ironing aids...

**Surface Care**
- Multi-purpose cleaners
- Cleaners for ovens, window/glass, kitchen, floor, bathroom
- Descalers
- Drain openers
- Scouring agents
- Household antiseptics/disinfectants
- Household care wipes and floor cleaning systems

**Toilet Care Products**
- In-cistern devices
- Rim blocks and liquids
- Toilet care: liquids, foams, tablets...

**Bleach, Home insecticides, Etc.**
Detergents provide a variety of benefits to society. Consumers expect that they are safe and that their use will not adversely affect human health or the environment.

At any stage of the development and production process, our detergent and household product experts can devise a programme of activity, including one, some or all of the following:

PRODUCT TESTING

- **Physical testing:** Evaluates the mechanical properties of your product.
- **Chemical testing:** Ensures ingredients (e.g. preservatives, contaminants, solvents, active ingredients/surfactants, insecticides) meet the chemical regulations for restrictions and limits.
- **Microbiological testing:** Identifies degrees of microbial contamination, including bacteria, mould and yeast and pathogens. Evaluates the effectiveness of preservatives as detergents may come into contact with the skin or food and evaluates the effectiveness of biocides.
- **Toxicological testing:** In Vitro and In Vivo testing determines if your product may be toxic or pose a risk to consumers.
- **Ecotoxicological and biodegradability testing:** Ensures that products are safe for the environment and meet the regulatory requirements.

CLAIM SUPPORT/PERFORMANCE TESTING

In a crowded and competitive sector, we can help you to not only verify the safety and quality of your products, but also to confirm your product claims (e.g. cleaning performance, degreasing ability, lasting freshness and dirt release effect).

As an independent third-party, SGS conducts product evaluations either via lab testing or consumer panel testing.

PACKAGING TESTING

Detergents are packaged in cartons, bottles, pouches, bags or cans. The selection of packaging materials and containers involves considerations of product compatibility and stability, cost, package safety, solid waste impact, shelf appeal and ease of use.

We can help you with:

- Performance tests (e.g. drop tests, opening/closing tests, ageing tests)
- Physical/chemical tests (e.g. migration, heavy metals, SVHCs)
- Assessment of environmental impact
- End of life and ecotoxicity

CONSULTANCY SERVICES

- Development of new methods
- Implementation of client’s methods
- Benchmarking
- Technical support for the ecological quality marks e.g. EU Ecolabel
- Documentation review: labelling review, including warnings and ingredients list; validation of documents including claims of a certain product; creation or validation of material safety data sheets (MSDS)

AUDITS & INSPECTIONS

Our audit services look beyond the product, and into your manufacturing facilities to determine whether proper controls and practices are being followed. Ensure the factory you have selected will be able to deliver products on time, to the specified quality, quantity and schedule. Support this commitment and build your brand reputation by checking that factories respect local and international requirements:

- Factory audits
- Social/ethical audits
- Environmental audits

Quality control is an ongoing process. From raw materials, through the production process to delivery and in-store presentation, we can inspect your products at every step:

- Raw materials inspection
- Production inspection
- Loading supervision
- Retail store check/Mystery shopping

THINKING SUSTAINABLY

Our global network of sustainability experts can support your company by offering a range of services: eco-labelling; ecodesign services; restricted substances management; life cycle assessment; product carbon footprint analysis and certification marks; and, packaging eco-assessment rating.

WHY SGS?

SGS is a trusted, independent third party service provider. We provide a single consolidated source for tailored services, consulting solutions and technical assistance to reduce risks, improve efficiency and quality.

We can fulfil all your testing, certification, technical assistance, audit, inspection and verification needs. Our extensive resources and expert knowledge of the industry in Europe, the Americas and Asia allow us to provide reliable performance services to suppliers, manufacturers and retailers, large and small.

CONTACT US

For more information please contact your local SGS representative

Or contact our global team consumer.products@sgs.com

and visit www.sgs.com/householdcare

SGS IS THE WORLD’S LEADING INSPECTION, VERIFICATION, TESTING AND CERTIFICATION COMPANY.

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