

History of AFIRM



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Who is AFIRM?

- Established in July 2004
- Original Member Companies:
 - adidas
 - C&A
 - Gap
 - Levi
 - Nike
 - Marks and Spencer
 - PUMA



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AFIRM Mission

- To reduce the use and impact of harmful substances in the apparel and footwear supply chain.



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AFIRM Purpose

- To provide a forum to advance the global management of restricted substances in apparel and footwear, communicate information about RSL to the supply chain, discuss concerns, and exchange ideas for improving RSL management, to ultimately elevate consumer satisfaction.



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Public Access Website

- <http://afirm-group.com>
- Now available on the AFIRM public access website:
 - AFIRM Supplier Toolkit
 - RSL Guidance List
 - FAQ's



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Seminars to Date

- 15 November 2012 - HCMC
- 31 March 2010 – Hong Kong
- 6 November 2008 – Delhi
- 23 October 2007 – Shanghai
- 31 March 2006 – Hong Kong



Restricted Substances Guidance



Apparel and Footwear International R&L Management Group

The AFIRM RSL Guidance List

The AFIRM Guidance List - Content, Structure and Meaning

Status November 2014 -
Version 3.0



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The AFIRM RSL Guidance List

History

- **Development time: nearly 6 years**
- **Concepts reviewed: 6**
- **Final Approach: Most condensed, easiest accessible, usable in real bulk production locations**

To get best benefit out of it, the simultaneous study of the **AFIRM Supplier Tool Kit** is highly recommended

<http://www.afirm-group.com/AFIRMSupplierToolkitFinalJune6.pdf>

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The AFIRM RSL Guidance List

The Meaning & What it is

One Harmonized Set of Information along the Supply Chain

Policy Statement

The AFIRM RSL Guidance creates a compilation of commonly defined pairs of "lowest limit" plus corresponding "most suitable test method" established by and prevalent in AFIRM member companies. Individual brand RSLs may differ in specific parameters. This Guidance should leverage AFIRM's mission:

"To reduce the use and impact of harmful substances in the apparel and footwear supply chain"

by providing one single set of information for a maximum and in-depth implementation within the supply chain.

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The AFIRM RSL Guidance List

The Meaning & What it is

One Harmonized Set of Information along the Supply Chain

- the enhancement of the awareness and management levels in regard of critical chemicals in the supply chain far beyond our regular A 01 outreach, to add security and benefits to all communities and the entire industry
- to reduce administrative burden and economic resources spend for testing without decreasing security in regard of material and product compliance



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Restricted Substances Guidance



Apparel and Footwear International RSL Management Group

Legal Statement



The Apparel and Footwear International RSL Management (AFIRM) Group has created the following Restricted Substance Guidance to assist and guide supply-chain participants seeking to increase product quality and safety, or reduce their environmental impact, by limiting the use of certain substances ("AFIRM RSL Guidance"). The AFIRM RSL Guidance constitutes information from AFIRM only, and does not represent any individual AFIRM member.

The AFIRM RSL Guidance is a review of all AFIRM brand RSLs, in place on March 1, 2012, which reflects:

1. The most stringent substance limit.
2. The corresponding test method.

Some examples of uses for the AFIRM RSL Guidance, depending on the objectives of the user, include:

1. Providing a tool for vendors to establish chemical management knowledge and processes.
2. Building base compliance with AFIRM member chemical restrictions.
3. Providing a common base for testing products, which may be accepted by multiple AFIRM brands. AFIRM member companies determine and communicate to their vendors their testing requirements and acceptance of test reports.

Note: This AFIRM RSL Guidance is not intended and does not establish any industry standard of care. The AFIRM RSL Guidance may not always provide the most appropriate approach for any individual company's chemical management program. Many brands have implementation guidelines, and suppliers must follow those guidelines, where required.

The AFIRM RSL Guidance does not constitute legal advice and is not a substitute for legal advice. There is no warranty, express or implied, as to the completeness or utility of the information contained in the AFIRM RSL Guidance, including, without limitation, that the information is current and error-free. AFIRM disclaims liability or any kind whatsoever resulting from any use of or reliance on the AFIRM RSL Guidance.

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Limitations & What it is not

Concerns: Anti-competition and Anti-trust Laws

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The AFIRM RSL Guidance List

Chances and Opportunities

Possible Multi-Brand Usage of Test Reports

Some examples of uses for the AFIRM RSL Guidance, depending on the objectives of the user, include:

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Restricted Substances Guidance



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Parameters



Colour Coding
Historically widely used / High Occurrence Level and/or regulated by Law
Historic known usages / Mid Occurrence Level
Unlikely to be found, (and/or) not intentionally used / Low Occurrence Level

Substance / Material	Lowest Limit	Suitable Method Sample Prep.	Suitable Method Measuring	Colour Coding
Antimony (Sb) extractable (CAS.No.: 7440-50-9)				
Textile	2 ppm	EN ISO 105-04 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	n.d.	EN ISO 105-04 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Titan parts, metal parts, jewelry	2 ppm			●●
Antimony (Sb) total (CAS.No.: 7440-50-9)				
Textile	150 ppm for 100 % Polyester, 130 ppm for 50 % PEU 30 mg/kg (natural textile)	Micro-wave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 11035 (2008)	●●
Arsenic (As) extractable (CAS.No.: 7440-39-2)				
Textile	1 mg/kg textile and artificial leather total, inorganic	EN ISO 105-04 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Arsenic (As) total (CAS.No.: 7440-39-2)				
Textile	1 ppm (all)	Micro-wave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	1 ppm (all)	Micro-wave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Asbestos (CAS.No.: multiple)				
TLV/based on	Asbestos	U.S. EPA/800/6-60116	U.S. EPA/800/6-60116	●●
Cadmium (Cd) extractable (CAS.No.: 7440-43-8)				
Textile	0.1 ppm	EN ISO 105-04 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Cadmium (Cd) total (CAS.No.: 7440-43-8)				
Textile	1 ppm (all)	Micro-wave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	1 ppm (all)	Micro-wave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Titan parts	40 ppm	Micro-wave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Barium (Ba) extractable (CAS.No.: 7440-39-3)				
Textile	1000	EN 71-3	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	1000	EN 71-3	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Titan parts	1000	EN 71-3	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Chromium (Cr) extractable (CAS.No.: 7440-47-3)				
Textile	1 mg/kg textile and artificial leather total, inorganic 3x and Cr(VI)	EN ISO 105-04 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	100 mg/kg	EN ISO 105-04 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Chromium (Cr) total (CAS.No.: 7440-47-3)				
Textile	100 mg/kg for Polyesters and washed wool extractable limit infinite	Micro-wave digestion with HNO ₃ /H ₂ O ₂	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Chromium VI (CAS.No.: 1346-50-9)				
Leather	3 ppm	Leather aging: Draft CEN/TC 309 WG 2N 40 2007-10	EN ISO 17294-2	●●

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The AFIRM RSL Guidance List

Structure and Features

Colour Coding indicating Relevance

Colour Coding

Historically widely used / **High Occurrence Level** and/or regulated by Law
Historic known usages / **Mid Occurrence Level**
Unlikely to be found, (and/or) not intentionally used / **Low Occurrence Level**

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Apparel and Footwear International R&L Management Group

Parameters



Substance/Material	Lowest Limit	Suitable Method Sample Prep.	Suitable Method Measuring	Colour Critical
Antimony (Sb) extractable (CAS-No.: 7440-50-9)				
Textile	2 ppm	EN ISO 105-204 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	n.d.	EN ISO 105-204 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Ti/sr parts, metal parts, jewelry	2 ppm			●●
Antimony (Sb) total (CAS-No.: 7440-50-9)				
Textile	150 ppm for 100 % Polyester, 130 ppm for 50 % PEU 30 mg/kg (natural textile)	Micro-wave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 11035 (2006)	●●
Arsenic (As) extractable (CAS-No.: 7440-39-2)				
Textile	Large ban n.d. (ppm) n.d.	EN ISO 105-204 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Arsenic (As) total (CAS-No.: 7440-39-2)				
Textile	1 ppm (n.d.)	Micro-wave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	1 ppm (n.d.)	Micro-wave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Asbestos (CAS-No.: multiple)				
(TLV) based on:	Large ban	U.S. EPA/600/R-60/116	U.S. EPA/600/R-60/116	●●
Cadmium (Cd) extractable (CAS-No.: 7440-43-8)				
Textile	0.1 ppm	EN ISO 105-204 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Cadmium (Cd) total (CAS-No.: 7440-43-8)				
Textile	1 ppm (n.d.)	Micro-wave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	1 ppm (n.d.)	Micro-wave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Ti/sr parts	40 ppm	Micro-wave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Barium (Ba) extractable (CAS-No.: 7440-39-3)				
Textile	1000	EN 71-3	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	1000	EN 71-3	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Ti/sr parts	1000	EN 71-3	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Chromium (Cr) extractable (CAS-No.: 7440-47-3)				
Textile	1 mg/kg textile and artificial leather test, inorganic chromium 3s and Cr(VI)	EN ISO 105-204 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	100 mg/kg	EN ISO 105-204 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Chromium (Cr) total (CAS-No.: 7440-47-3)				
Textile	100 mg/kg for Polyesters and washed wool extractable limit in leather	Micro-wave digestion with HNO ₃ /H ₂ O ₂	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Chromium VI (CAS-No.: 3546-58-4)				
Leather	3 ppm	Leather aging: Draft CEN/TC 309 WG 29 40 2007-10	§ 64 LFGB 82 02-11 (2006)	●●

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Structure and Features

- Substance/Material (+ CAS Nr. if available)
- Lowest Limit
- Suitable Method Sample Preparation
- Suitable Method Measuring

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The AFIRM RSL Guidance List

Structure and Features – Translations

Actual translated into 9 languages covering all main sourcing countries

English version of the RSL table showing columns for CAS, chemical name, and various regulatory limits.

Arabic translation of the RSL table with the title 'المعايير' (Standards).

Các thông số

Chất/nguyên liệu	Giới hạn thấp nhất	Phương pháp phù hợp Chuẩn bị mẫu	Phương pháp phù hợp Đo lường	Mã màu sắc
Chỉ (Pb) có thể chiết xuất được (Số CAS: 7439-92-1)				
Sợi nguyên liệu	Cấm dùng n.d. (0,2 ppm)	EN ISO 105-E04 (2009)	EN ISO 17294-2	●
Da	Cấm dùng n.d. (0,2 ppm)	EN ISO 105-E04 (2009)	EN ISO 17294-2	●
Chỉ (Pb) tổng số (Số CAS: 7439-92-1)				
Sợi nguyên liệu	40 ppm (tất cả)	phả mẫu bằng vi sóng với H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃ Chỉ trong sơn và chất phủ bề mặt: CPSIA Phần 101 16 CFR 1303	EN ISO 17294-2	●
Da	40 ppm (tất cả)	phả mẫu bằng vi sóng với H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃ Chỉ trong sơn và chất phủ bề mặt: CPSIA Phần 101 16 CFR 1303	EN ISO 17294-2	●
Các phần trang trí	40 ppm (tất cả)	phả mẫu bằng vi sóng với H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃ Chỉ trong sơn và chất phủ bề mặt: CPSIA Phần 101 16 CFR 1303	EN ISO 17294-2	●



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Meaning in the Future – The Pilot

- 62 Reports
- 8 main material codes



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Where to get it

In general, the regular visit of the AFIRM website <http://www.afirm-group.com> is recommended for being a valuable source of additional information, FAQ's etc.

The AFIRM RSL Guidance is available for free download at

<http://www.afirm-group.com/PDF/AFIRMGuidance27June2012.pdf>

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Parameters



Substance/Material	Lowest Limit	Suitable Method Example Prep.	Suitable Method Measuring	Colour Cofixal
Antimony (Sb) extractable (CAS.No.: 7440-50-9)				
Textile	2 ppm	EN ISO 105-204 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	n.d.	EN ISO 105-204 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Titan parts, metal parts, jewelry	2 ppm			●●
Antimony (Sb) total (CAS.No.: 7440-50-9)				
Textile	150 ppm for 100 % Polyester, 130 ppm for 50 % PEU 30 mg/kg (natural textile)	Microwave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 11035 (2006)	●●
Arsenic (As) extractable (CAS.No.: 7440-39-2)				
Textile	1 mg/kg (skin)	EN ISO 105-204 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Arsenic (As) total (CAS.No.: 7440-39-2)				
Textile	1 ppm (sk)	Microwave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	1 ppm (sk)	Microwave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Asbestos (CAS.No.: multiple)				
(TLV) based on	1 mg/kg (skin)	U.S. EPA/800/R-60116	U.S. EPA/800/R-60116	●●
Cadmium (Cd) extractable (CAS.No.: 7440-43-8)				
Textile	0.1 ppm	EN ISO 105-204 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Cadmium (Cd) total (CAS.No.: 7440-43-8)				
Textile	1 ppm (sk)	Microwave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	1 ppm (sk)	Microwave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Titan parts	40 ppm	Microwave digestion with H ₂ O ₂ /HNO ₃	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Barium (Ba) extractable (CAS.No.: 7440-39-3)				
Textile	1000	EN 71-3	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	1000	EN 71-3	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Titan parts	1000	EN 71-3	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Chromium (Cr) extractable (CAS.No.: 7440-47-3)				
Textile	1 mg/kg textile and artificial leather test, inorganic chromium 3s and Cr(VI)	EN ISO 105-204 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Leather	100 mg/kg	EN ISO 105-204 (2006)	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Chromium (Cr) total (CAS.No.: 7440-47-3)				
Textile	100 mg/kg for Polyamide and waxed wool extractable limit in leather	Microwave digestion with HNO ₃ /H ₂ O ₂	EN ISO 17294-2	●●
Chromium VI (CAS.No.: 13440-50-9)				
Leather	3 ppm	Leather aging: Draft CEN/TC 309 WG 29 40 2007-10	64 LFGS 82 02-11 (2006)	●●

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Meaning in the Future ?

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Thank you for your kind Interest



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