NB RSL Certification Program

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Why RSL certification?

Objective:
Certify suppliers for RSL compliance

Benefits:
• Reduced testing and testing costs
• Increased partnership
• Consolidated supply base of willing and able suppliers
• Reduced risk for RSL failures
• Increased supplier communication
NB Philosophy

- Testing is not answer
- Knowledge systems are
- Build quality into system
- Do not expect to catch issues with testing
- Testing is part of knowledge system
- Sr. Management willing, capable, and involved
- We know it when we see it!!!
Guidelines for certification

Core elements:

ÅScorecard Index
ÅChemical management
ÅRaw material supplier management process
ÅMultiple manufacturing / supply chain sites
ÅCorrective Action/Recall process
ÅBest practices
Scorecard index

• Signed Certificate of Acknowledgement “COA”
• Test pass rate $\geq 95$
• Resolution of all outstanding Corrective Actions
• RSL training seminars
Chemical management

- All chemicals on a Chemical Information List “CIL”
- < 3 suppliers per item is ideal
- Use reputable suppliers
- Batch/lot traceability from warehouse to production
- MSDS /or test reports available
- Share the RSL with suppliers
Raw material supplier management

- Understand your suppliers and source of materials
- Set-up RSL risk control strategy
- Define testing frequency
- Ensure bill of material supports NB purchases
- Lot traceability system
Multiple manufacturing sites

- Identify manufacturing locations
- Describe product consistency protocol
  - How do you ensure finished product consistency from lot to lot?
- Identify sub-contractors if any and processes they handle
- Communicate the RSL
- Describe RSL control process for:
  - Local suppliers
  - Adding new suppliers
Corrective action / recall process

- Root cause analysis process
- Quarantine process for items that fail testing:
  - Who is (are) responsible?
  - Do you stop production?
  - How do you recall products that have shipped to factories
- Supplier communication process for non-compliance issues
Best practices

- Waste water management
- Use of reputable suppliers
- Manufacturing process certification
- Seminars and training classes on RSL/REACH etc.
- AFIRM toolkit implementation
Scoring and certification

• Written management plan
• Onsite visits and audit
• Review of the core elements
• NB test data
• Certification to factory location
• Excellent on total audit score
• Continuous evaluation
Still asking WHY?

- Safer products
- Less risk for all
- Reduced testing cost
- Increased partnership with certified suppliers
- Consolidated supply base of willing and able suppliers
- Protect the brand image