DXL Group

QUALITY ASSURANCE TEST MANUAL

July 2023 Version 8

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY ---------- ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.

DXL GROUP POLICY STATEMENT ---------- **3**

TESTING PROCEDURES---------- **3**

SAMPLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINE ---------- **9**

VENDOR CONFIRMATION FORM ---------- ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.

PROTOCOL INDEX ---------- ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.

- DXL testing protocols are in the BV ECOMMERCE, find the updated requirements and protocols by accessing BV BOOKINGS module through BV OneSource.

SUMMARY OF THE DXL GROUP TESTING PROGRAM

This DXL Group Quality Assurance Test Manual provides the administrative procedures and quality assurance requirements under the testing program.

The Consumer Products Services Division of Bureau Veritas (BVCPS) is the approved laboratory under this program and will perform testing on all items as requested by DXL Group and its suppliers as outlined in this manual.

DXL Group performance standards are based on past experience. The Performance Standards are used as a guideline for the evaluation of DXL Group acceptability.

All DXL testing protocols are moved to the BV ECOMMERCE, find the updated requirements and protocols by accessing BV BOOKINGS module through BV OneSource.

Most test methods and test procedures are originated from:

- ASTM (American Society of Testing and Materials)
- AATCC (American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists)
- CPSC (Consumer Product Safety Commission)
- FTC (Federal Trade Commission)

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE NOTICE

In addition, all products or product components sold to DXL Group, must meet the provisions of all U.S. Federal, State and Local Regulations as well as International restricted substance regulations. These include, but are not limited to:

- Code of Federal Regulations - Standard for the Flammability of Clothing Textiles
- FTC Trade Regulation Rule for Care Labeling of Textile Wearing Apparel
- FTC Rules and Regulations under the Textile Fiber, Wool and Fur Products Identification Act
- State Regulations for the Feather and Down Products Industry
- CPSC Rules and Regulations

- U.S. State & Federal, and International Regulations for Restricted Substances
- California Proposition 65

Fabric Mills, Garment Factories and Trim Suppliers must provide a continuing guarantee of compliance “free of harmful substances” with the inclusion of a valid OEKO-TEX certificate or provide test results assuring to meet U.S. and International regulations.

DXL Group POLICY STATEMENT

1. DXL Group is committed to delivering quality merchandise to the DXL Group customer.

2. This program is based on the mandate that all merchandise purchased by DXL Group must be tested to meet all applicable laws and regulatory requirements, in addition to ensuring compliance with DXL Group customer satisfaction and acceptability.

3. DXL Group accepts test reports from BVCPS or a BVCPS affiliate. Any exceptions must be agreed to in advance with DXL Group.

4. This testing or any subsequent result does not limit DXL Group rights or diminish or remove vendor or manufacturer's responsibilities and obligations under the Purchase Order Terms and Conditions.

TESTING PROCEDURES

I. DXL GROUP RESPONSIBILITY

- Provide the vendor access to the DXL Group Quality Assurance Test Manual/Test Protocols/TRF/FRI forms/Fabric Inspection forms, etc. and all other Vendor Compliance Requirements. All DXL testing protocols are in the BV ECOMMERCE, find the updated requirements and protocols by accessing BV BOOKINGS module through BV OneSource.

  http://www.destinationxl.com/media/content/vendors/ REmove

- When a product fails testing, DXL Group will determine the disposition as to retest or cancellation of the order, etc.

II. VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY

IMPORTANT NOTICES FOR VENDORS

THE SUBMITTER OF FABRIC, TRIM/COMPONENT, ETC. TESTING MUST INCLUDE THE ASSOCIATED MILL/SUPPLIER OEKO-TEX CERTIFICATE WITH EACH BV SUBMISSION, OTHERWISE, THE VENDOR IS RESPONSIBLE TO PAY THE COST FOR THE CHEMICAL TESTS CONDUCTED DUE TO THE LACK OF THE CERTIFICATE.

THE TRF MUST BE ACCURATELY COMPLETED AND A COPY INCLUDED WITH EACH SUBMISSION. IF THE INCORRECT TESTS ARE REQUESTED ON THE TRF, THE VENDOR WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO PAY THE COST FOR THE TESTS.

WE HAVE CREATED STANDARDIZED CARE INSTRUCTIONS. PELASE FOLLOW THE BELOW LINK WHEN SUBMITTING FOR TESTING AND PRODUCING LABELS FOR APPROVAL:

HOW TO SUBMIT SAMPLES TO BV FOR TESTING

- Retrieve and complete the most current DXL Group trf located through the following link

  Complete the BV ECOMMERCE DXL Group trf (online test request form) by accessing BV BOOKINGS module through BVOneSource.

  Include the trf, the supplier's OEKO-TEX certificate and the test items with all BV test submissions. How to complete the trf, see page 11. Contact qualityassurance@dxlg.com for all testing questions.

- **Fabric/Accessories Testing Submission:**

If the same fabric quality (same weight, construction and finish) is used in multiple styles and is ordered in multiple colors, only one color requires a full test package while all remaining additional colors require the additional color test package. Do not request a full test for multiple colors of the same quality. If additional colors are submitted to BV at a later date, list the full fabric test report # on the trf, and check the Additional Color Only box so that BV only conducts the additional color test. The listed full fabric test report must be within the fabric tests validity period of 12 months.

See pages 5-10 for additional details.

- **Trim/Components Testing Submission:**

If the same component/trim quality (same material, construction, weight, etc.) is used in multiple styles and is ordered in multiple colors, only one color requires a full test package while all remaining additional colors require the additional color test package. Do not request a full test for multiple colors of the same quality. If additional colors are submitted to BV at a later date, reference the full test report # on the trf, and check the Additional Color Only box so that BV only conducts the additional color test. The listed full test report must be within the trim/component validity period of 12 months.

See pages 5-10 for additional details.

Garment Testing Submission:

Garment testing is required on one color only for each style, and must be conducted on the production garments. The production garments should also include all required sewn-on and heat transfer labels when submitting to BV for testing. The garment

test trf should include all fabric, trim, label, etc. previous test report #'s that are associated with the finished garment style. Ensure the listed previous test reports are within the item's validity period.

See pages 5-10 for additional details.

TESTING AND TESTING TIMELINES

- Click on the below link to access the DXL Group Quality Assurance Test Manual, TRF, FRI and Fabric Inspection process requirements/forms, and all other Vendor Compliance Requirements.

  http://www.destinationxl.com/media/content/vendors/

- Global Sourcing Vendors - All initial fabric, garment and component tests will be paid by the DXL Group. All retest invoices are the responsibility of the Vendor. All testing that is conducted due to the lack of a valid OEKO-TEX or incorrect request is the responsibility of the Vendor.
- Domestic Private Label Vendors – Are responsible for maintaining all testing and timelines in the manual. They are also responsible for paying for all testing conducted

- As a vendor to DXL Group, you are fully responsible for all fabric, garment, trim/component, labels and special claims testing of production merchandise. All must pass or be approved by the DXL Group QA team before production and shipment can occur. The best timing for fabric and trim/component testing is after the bulk submissions have been approved by the DXL Group and within at least 45-60 days of the X-factory date. The best timing for garment testing is after the PP/TOP samples have been approved by the DXL Group and within at least 30-45 days of the X-factory date.
- Fabric testing timeline is required **every 12 months** for each style/color/fabrication, and/or when changes have been made in production or the supplier has changed.
- Trim/Component/Elastic/Label/Packaging testing timeline is required **every 12 months** for each garment trim/component/label and/or when changes have been made in production or the supplier has changed. **Size Strip Sticker** testing timeline is required **every 6 months**.
- Garment testing timeline is required **every 6 months** for each style/fabrication in one color only**.**
- Sweaters/Belts/Suspenders/Metal Accessories/Neck Ties/Hosiery testing timeline is required **every 12 months.**

The timelines are applicable to all DXL Group brands/styles including Core and E3 Replenishment Programs.

Analytical Testing - OEKO-TEX certificate:

Analytical (chemical) testing determines if harmful chemicals are present in DXL Group products; and ensures compliance with U.S. and International regulations. An OEKO-TEX certificate verifies **an** item is certified free of harmful chemicals and is safe for human use. Regarding testing, an **OEKO-TEX certificate** will exempt most chemical tests, therefore, all vendors/suppliers of DXL Group fabrics, trim/components, logos, labels, etc. must provide DXL Group a copy of each associated OEKO-TEX certificate and must also include a copy with each test submission to BV. If the certificate is not provided to BV, the Vendor will be responsible for the cost of the chemical tests. Please note that an order or application for an OEKO-TEX does not exempt testing.

- **Nickel Leaching:** Any metal trim/component in direct contact to the skin which results in a positive nickel spot test will require a full Nickel Leaching test at the expense of the vendor.

- **AZO Dye Colorants:** DXL Group requires that all products are AZO Free or within the AZO Dye Colorant maximum requirement of <30mg/kg. **Test on One Color Only. When submitting in Full Fabric test, ensure to submit a color and not just white.**

- **Formaldehyde Content:** DXL Group requires that all products in direct contact with the skin are within the formaldehyde content maximum requirement of 75 mg/kg.

- **Lead Testing:** Any applicable surface coating or substrate lead test result must not exceed the maximum allowable limits.

- **California Proposition 65:** All products will be reviewed against the requirements of California Proposition 65 to determine testing applicability.

- **Heavy Metals** content in materials per Model Toxics in Packaging Legislation per the Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse (TPCH) requirements. All packaging materials must

  pass the TPCH requirements. Vendors must provide evidence of compliance in the form of a certificate from an accredited testing laboratory for any packaging. **This testing is required initially, then every 12 months, and/or when changes have been made or the supplier has changed. Size strip sticker is required to test every 6 months.**

Fabric Testing:

All fabrics used in DXL Group products must be tested per the appropriate protocol and meet DXL Group standard test requirements. The supplier's **OEKO-TEX certificate** must be provided to DXL Group and included with every BV submission**.** Bulk production cannot proceed without DXL Group review and approval. **Fabric testing is required every 12 months for each style/color/fabrication, and/or when changes have been made in production or the supplier has changed**. Full fabric test is only required on one color of the same fabrication. All other colors of the same fabrication should be tested for "Additional Color" test only.

- **Development Stage**: Newly developed fabrics must go through our specification and quality testing to verify the proper fabric properties, finishes and performance.

- **Production Fabric Stage**: Production fabric testing must be conducted on approved bulk fabric of the correct construction, color, finish, etc. All bulk fabric testing should be completed and approved prior to bulk ex-mill. Bulk fabric testing should be planned accordingly and test results received within at least 45-60 days from x-mill date so not to delay bulk garment cutting and sewing. The final test report will help determine/verify the care instructions and fiber content labeling for the garment. Bulk fabric must not be cut until written approval is issued by DXL Group.

- **Fabric used in Color-Blocked Garments**: Fabrics must be in the form of a color blocked mock-up and tested for colorfastness per the care instructions and colorfastness to water to ensure self-staining does not occur.

- **Fabrics containing *Wicking and/or Anti-fade finishes***: the fabric mill must try to submit every color in one submission to Bureau Veritas for testing. Example: If your order for style KT-1000 includes 20 colors, all 20 colors should be sent together on one trf for testing, if possible. **All Colors must be tested for Wicking and Anti-Fade.**

- **Fabric produced for *Garment Wash programs***: The fabric mill must send the garment factory two (2) square yards of all colors or the entire shipment if produced in a timely fashion, so the factory can perform the garment wash process. Once the garment wash process is complete, the garment factory will be responsible to send the fabric in all colors to Bureau Veritas for fabric testing. The fabric mill should advise the factory as to what testing package is required, such as fabric test, additional color test and/or any special claims.

- Denim Fabrics will have Tensile strength, Tear Strength and Seam Slippage conducted on the Lightest and Darkest colors submitted.

Trim/Component Testing:

ALL trims/components used on DXL Group products must be tested separately per their respective protocol. The supplier's **OEKO-TEX certificate** must be provided to DXL Group and BV**.** Trim testing should be planned accordingly, and test results received within at least 45-60 days from x-factory date so not to delay bulk garment cutting and sewing. Bulk production cannot proceed without DXL Group review and approval. **Trim/Component testing is required every 12 months, and/or when changes have been made in production or the supplier has changed.** Full trim test is only required on one color of the same fabrication. All other colors of the same fabrication should be tested for "Additional Color" test only. **YKK Brand products are EXEMPT from testing.**

- Zippers: DXL Group preferred supplier is YKK. Vendor local manufacturing brands will be accepted based on a passing test report from Bureau Veritas and the supplier's OEKO-TEX certificate.
- Shank Buttons: DXL Group preferred supplier is Scovil. However, vendor local manufacturing brands will be accepted based on a passing test report from Bureau Veritas and the supplier's OEKO-TEX certificate.
- Non-Breakable Buttons for the Dress Shirt Program: Dress shirt buttons must pass the non-breakable button test as well as all other applicable button tests. See button protocol for test requirements.
- Knit/Mesh Lining Insert Trim Fabric (Jacket Relaxer) used for Sport Coats and Suit Jackets: conduct colorfastness to crocking and perspiration only. See requirements in the trim/component protocol.
- A new protocol, 808 Rib Cuffs /Collars /Bottom Hems /Bottom Bands, was added to Version 5 of the manual.

Garment Testing: Is carried out to ensure the fabric, components/trims and garment construction are compatible and meet DXL Group quality performance standard requirements. The garment test assesses and verifies the garment performance, labeling and restricted substance conformance. Bulk production cannot proceed without DXL Group review and approval.

- Full garment testing is required on one color of each style using both approved bulk fabric and trims. However, if a garment is **color-blocked**, a full garment test is required on one color combination and colorfastness only for each additional color combination.
- All production styles have to be garment tested as soon as bulk fabric, trims/components and labels become available to factory. Garment Testing should be completed at a minimum of 30-45 days prior to x-factory. At times, we may require garment testing during the sampling stage to verify its performance and functionality.
- Sweater Testing: Full testing for sweaters must be conducted on complete garments. Knit-down panels can be used for additional color testing.
- The vendor is responsible to notify labs regarding appropriate protocol, and all special claims as applicable in the garment stage, to ensure that proper testing is performed according to DXL Group requirements. If the garment contains a belt, Protocol 805 must be conducted.
- Durable Press testing for wrinkle resistant/non-iron/easy care claims is conducted in both the fabric and garment test packages. All other claims testing is required on the fabric only, unless otherwise instructed.
- Denim Garments will have Seam strength conducted on the lightest and darkest colors submitted.
- Repeat styles require testing every 12 months if produced by the same factory unless agreed upon by DXL Group Quality Assurance. Any change of fabric mill, factory, supplier, trim, component, label, etc. before the 12-month period will require immediate full testing.

- The additional performance tests for the Premium Pants are included in the new protocol *809 Premium Pants - Additional Performance Tests, page 68.*

Care/Fiber Content Booklet and Heat Transfer Label (HTL): the layout with the correct wording must be submitted to the QA team qualityassurance@dxlg.com for approval before placing the final order with your supplier.

Packaging Materials Testing (polybags, ink, inserts, stickers, etc.):

All packaging materials must be tested for Heavy Metals content per Model Toxics in Packaging Legislation/ Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse (TPCH) requirements. All packaging materials (polybags, ink, inserts, stickers, etc.) must pass the TPCH requirements. Vendors must provide evidence of compliance in the form of a certificate or test report confirming compliance; from both nominated and locally sourced packaging suppliers. **Packaging testing is required initially, then every 12 months, Size Strip Sticker testing timeline is required every 6 months, and/or when changes have been made or the supplier has changed.**

Labels/Logo Stamp Testing:

Garment Sewn-On Labels/Heat Transfer Labels/Size Labels/Care Booklets/Brand Labels/Logo Prints or Stamps/Etc., must pass DXL Group requirements per protocol 800. **Testing is required every 12 months, and/or when changes have been made in production or the supplier has changed.**

For heat transfer labels or any stamps printed directly onto the garment fabric, the durability wash test (one color only) must be tested on the correct fabric quality.

All label suppliers or vendors must ensure testing per DXL Group label protocol is conducted either internally or at a BV location. The supplier's OEKO-TEX certificate must be provided to DXL Group and BV, if available. Label/Logo Stamp testing is required initially, then every 12 months, and/or when changes have been made or the supplier has changed.

DXL Group reserves the right to reject any shipment if the testing program was not followed or test results were not accepted by DXL Group

III. BVCPS RESPONSIBILITY

SAMPLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINE

Sample submission to BVCPS:

Fabric Testing: A minimum of two (2) square yards must be submitted for full testing in one (1) colorway along with a minimum of one (1) square yard fabric in each additional colorway. Fabric must be identical in every aspect to bulk production piece goods. If an OEKO-TEX certificate is received from the mill/supplier with a submission, all applicable chemical tests should be exempted, and a remark added to the report regarding the exemption. **If only sending one color in the first submittal do not send white or the AZO test will get missed.**

Trim/Component Testing: All trims/components used on DXL Group products must be tested separately per their respective protocol. See Trim/Component testing protocols for test requirements. If an OEKO-TEX certificate is received from the mill/supplier with a submission, all applicable chemical tests should be exempted, and a remark added to the report regarding the exemption.

Components/Findings Functional/Decorative Trim	Number of Samples Required	
Zippers	6	Zippers
Buttons, Snaps, etc.	10	Samples (If tested in garment stage)
Elastic	3	Yards/Samples
Applied Trim: Lace, Bows, Ribbon, Patches, Etc.	8	Samples, 1 Yard OR 4 Garments
Screen print, Embroidery / Appliqué	5	Samples OR 4 Garments

Garment Testing: Send four (4) garments in each style in the largest size available for complete garment testing. Include test report #'s on the trf for all garment style associated trims/components, etc. If trims/components, etc. have not been previously tested, send sufficient garments or loose trim/components, etc. to also conduct the component testing. Best case scenario, all garment component testing should be completed before the garment test.

Garments must be made on production machinery and must represent bulk production.

A completed DXL Group Test Request Form (TRF) must be submitted with garments/components/fabric, etc. BVCPS will not accept a sample if the form is incomplete. The Vendor may obtain a Test Request Form (TRF) through BV ECOMMERCE DXL Group trf (online test request form) by accessing BV BOOKINGS module through BVOneSource.

- Garments must include all bulk trim/components, accessories and embellishments.
- If additional garments, fabric and/or trim/components are required, BVCPS will immediately contact the vendor **and copy the DXL Group QA team at** qualityassurance@dxlg.com.

VISUALLY UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES (stains, tears, and missing pieces) WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR TESTING!

Retests: All charges related to retests are the vendor's responsibility.

Note: For product retests, the previous test report number must be referenced on the Test Request Form (trf) along with a list of the tests requiring a retest. If a previous report number is not referenced, the full fabric, component and/or

garment tests may be performed on the submission at the vendor's expense. All retested fees are the vendor's responsibility.

- When the Test Request Form is incomplete, the laboratory will notify the originating vendor **and copy the DXL Group QA team at** qualityassurance@dxlg.com. Until proper information is received, testing will be delayed.

- Complete testing and evaluate the test results (See DXL Group Standard Test Package). Rate the product by:

  - **Pass —The product provides good overall consumer serviceability and requires no improvement.**

  - **Fail** —The product has deficiencies of such severity that the customer dissatisfaction will likely result and / or noncompliance or regulatory requirements. The product cannot be sold until improvements are made.

- **Include pictures of the tested product, TRF and OEKO-TEX certificate in the report.**
- Include pictures of the garment labels and any Visual failures in the report.
- Reports will be emailed to DXL Group and submitter as well as posted on BVOS.

Sample Preparation Guidelines:

- Collect production quality sample
- Each sample must fulfill the minimum sample size requirement
- Fill out the Test Request Form completely
- Send Test Application to Testing Lab **along with appropriate OEKO-TEX certificate when applicable**

Laboratory Test Turnaround Time:

- Regular: 5 working days after receipt of sample
- Express: Within 3 working days after receipt of sample at surcharge of 40%
- Next Business Day: Next working day are available for some tests at surcharge of 100%

Some test standards require a specified testing period, default service turnaround time may not be applicable, no express and emergency services provided.

Testing Working Day Calculation:		
Sample arrived laboratory	Sample log-in	Service level available
From 9:00 am to 11:00 am	Same day morning	Emergency service Express service Regular service
From 11:00 am to 15:00 pm	Same day afternoon	Regular service

Testing Working Day Calculation:		
After 15:00 pm	Next working day	Emergency service Express service Regular service
Report Distribution	To: Applicant (Test Submitter) Cc: Per Test Request From	
	Test report copy will be sent to Client by email when completed.	
Third Party Billing	Official confirmation from Invoice recipient is required	