

# For seamless safety.

Our product testing and certification programs for Personal Protective Equipment.



# Your product merits our tests and certifications.

You can be proud of your product. Still, the requirements for safety and performance are strict. For your product to be successful and for the performance claims to be verified, the product needs to be in compliance with regard to safety, quality and suitability. We understand this. And we take care of it.



The experts of TÜV Rheinland use their extensive technical knowledge to perform tests and certifications. As the leading provider of testing and certification services in the world, we have been assisting our clients with their products for over 140 years. We stand for safety, quality and efficiency at the intersection of man, technology and environment.



We are always impartial and independent and take regulatory requirements, performance characteristics and consumer needs into account. All this greatly benefits you and your product because you reduce development costs and returns, acquire new target groups, improve customer retention, increase sales and get a faster access to international markets.



Our worldwide network of experts works together with international certification bodies and performs tests according to the applicable regulations. Product safety and product quality thus are validated. Comprehensive service, complete industry solutions with individual teams and regular contact persons assist you with the development of your product from prototype to market launch. We will help you analyze demands and goals.

With tests at an early stage, you will be able to have decisive influence on success factors.

**Our test mark helps you to market your products convincingly and credibly. Wherever in the world – TÜV Rheinland is your one-stop solution for safety and quality.**

#### THE TÜV RHEINLAND TEST MARK AND CERTIPEDIA

Consumers want the guaranteed trustworthiness of an independent third party. The combination of the TÜV Rheinland test mark and the online certificate database Certipedia offers your customers an easy, fast and transparent way to review product characteristics. Certipedia is a unique platform. It shows your products and services as well as their competitive advantages at a glance. Descriptive test mark keywords convey clear messages to your customers. Thanks to the individual test mark ID and QR code, your customers can immediately see the product test specifications online. In addition, you can incorporate your test mark very effectively into your product communication strategies.

## On your mark! For safety, quality and sustainability.

Especially where consumers expect it from you – in international markets and sensitive environments.



#### SAFETY

Products are marketable only when they are safe and when the end users know that they are reliable. Insurers insist on measures that ensure product safety as well. To increase your competitiveness, always opt for safety testing by an independent third party institution. Provide your customers with a clear guidance, for example in the form of the TÜV Rheinland GS mark, which is recognized worldwide. It signals safety. For this reason, we are the right institution to test and certify your product.

#### QUALITY

The motto is "safety first", because safety is the basis for further tests that carefully examine quality attributes such as ergonomic correctness, ease of use, durability, ease of care or low-noise design. These requirements are based on relevant consumer demands and longtime experience in quality testing.

#### SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability means for example to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, to conserve resources and to responsibly use finite raw materials. We are committed to sustainable solutions. Our experts specialize in testing and certifying environmental friendliness and process safety. We assist companies of all kinds on their way to a resource-conserving and cost-effective

orientation of their business. Whether testing for harmful substances, recyclability, energy efficiency, life cycle analysis or Green Product certification – our services will increase the trust in your products.

#### MARKET ACCESS SERVICES

With our expertise in market access services, TÜV Rheinland helps you to enter new markets for your products. Our experts know all market-specific requirements for approval and offer a one-stop service – for fast access to international markets and for a quick launch of your products.



**MORE THAN ONLY A STANDARD:  
GS MARK PPE**

After the successful testing of your PPE products in Category I and II, you will receive our nationally and internationally recognized test mark "Tested Safety". With the GS Mark, you document the high standards for quality and safety of your products and strengthen the trust and confidence of your customers and business partners.

# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

**Personal Protective Equipment must meet high standards. With our tests according to the applicable standards, directives and quality requirements, you as manufacturer demonstrate to your customers that your products meet the legal requirements.**

Personal Protective Equipment offers its user the necessary safety and protection from hazards and risks. We test your products with respect to their concrete use and their compliance with the applicable requirements. As your partner, TÜV Rheinland will be at your side from the very beginning.

**AS A NOTIFIED BODY (0197), OUR TESTS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

- EC type examination
- EC quality assurance for the final product
- EC quality management system with control
- Pre-shipment inspection

In order to market Personal Protective Equipment within the EU, the products must comply with the strict require-

ments of the European Directive 89/686/EEC. The PPE Regulation (EU) 2016/425, which took effect on April 20, 2016, is replacing the Directive and will apply starting April 21, 2018.

**RISK CATEGORIES FOR PPE PRODUCTS:**

Because of the different protective functions of PPE products, the manufacturer/distributor must conduct a risk assessment. According to the regulation, PPE products are classified into the following risk categories:

- Category I (low risk)
- Category II (moderate risk)
- Category III (high risk)

Regardless of which category your PPE product falls into, our experts will conduct all the required tests for you.

**GLOVES**

Fitting gloves are essential for many daily tasks and must fulfill specific protective functions. Protective gloves must protect their wearer from mechanical, thermal and chemical hazards.

Our tests include testing for mechanical properties such as abrasion resistance, cut resistance, tear propagation resistance, puncture resistance, cold and heat protection as well as compliance with the requirements for protective gloves for welders and firefighters. Protective gloves against chemicals for use with dangerous chemicals and microorganisms are tested for permeation, penetration, degradation and infiltration of microorganisms and viruses.

**CLOTHING**

In many professions, safe and quality-conform protective clothing ensures the health of its wearer on a daily basis. Therefore, the requirements for Personal Protective Equipment are particularly strict.

Products we test for compliance with the relevant applicable standards include:

- High-visibility clothing
- Protective clothing for firefighters
- Protective clothing for welders
- Clothing that protects against heat and flame
- Clothing that protects against rain
- High-visibility clothing for non-professional use
- Visibility accessories
- Protective clothing against cold (clothing that protects against cool environments)

This way you can be sure that your clothing maintains its protective function even after repeated use.

**Would you like to learn more about our "Tested Safety"? Please contact us now!**

**FOOTWEAR**

To ensure the maximum safety and health of the end user and to also guarantee wearability and quality comfort in the everyday work, footwear in the regulated PPE area must meet strict requirements.

We will help you meet these strict requirements and will test for you a spectrum of products, for example:

- Professional, protective and safety footwear
- Safety footwear that protects against chainsaw cuts
- Footwear that protects against thermal risks and splashes of molten metal (footwear for foundrymen and welders)
- Footwear for firefighters
- Protective footwear for motorcycle riders
- Footwear that complies with foreign standards and ESD standards

Furthermore, we will help you with orthopedic changes to your PPE footwear with regard to the harmonized standards, the RfU 10.187 and the DGVU 112-191. The correct fit is also an important quality characteristic. With our 3D-fit testing, we use a laser scan to create an exact map of the

interior of the shoe and that visualizes a virtual fitting for you in real time.

**RECREATION**

For recreational purposes, protective clothing is often essential for many activities and sports. Our tests include testing of diving equipment (such as masks, snorkels, diving suits, buoyancy vests and flotation aids), motorcycle clothing and helmets of any kind – so your customers can pursue their leisure activities safely and with maximum protection. Horseback riding equipment such as riding helmets, riding clothing and protectors are also tested by our experts according to the applicable requirements.



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