

YKK RSL Compliance Guidelines

Ver. 5.0

March 21, 2025

YKK Corporation
Quality Management & Assurance Dept.
Procurement and Logistics Department

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Introduction.

In recent years, in response to growing public and consumer concern about the safety and security of chemical substances, laws and industry regulations have been tightened for chemical substances contained in consumer products and those used and discharged in manufacturing processes at factories.

YKK Corporation and its group companies (hereinafter referred to as "YKK") have established the YKK Regulated Substances List (hereinafter referred to as "YKK RSL") in consideration of the laws and regulations of each country and the apparel industry for chemical substances applicable to YKK fastening products.

YKK aims to supply consumers with fastening products that meet the demands of society and consumers by procuring materials that conform to the YKK RSL.

In order to ensure that the materials procured by YKK comply with the YKK RSL and to properly manage the materials procured, YKK requests that its suppliers comply with the following.

- (1) Ensure that all products delivered to YKK comply with the YKK RSL
- (2) If any product delivered to YKK contains substances that do not conform to the YKK RSL (nonconforming substances) or cannot be guaranteed to conform to the YKK RSL, identify those substances and notify YKK.
- (3) Appropriately manage and ensure that all products delivered to YKK, excluding nonconforming substances identified in (2) above and notified to YKK, conform to the YKK RSL.

Trading companies and sales agents that do not manufacture products supplied to YKK themselves should ask the manufacturers of those products to comply with (1) through (3) above.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

1. Purpose

The purpose of these guidelines is to present YKK's chemical substance management standards to suppliers of raw materials, chemical products and fastener product parts procured by YKK, and to ensure that these suppliers comply with these standards.

2. Scope of application

These Guidelines apply to suppliers of raw materials, chemical products and fastening product components to YKK (including trading companies and sales agents who deliver products procured from manufacturers to YKK).

3. Definition of Terms

YKK RSL

YKK Restricted Substances List (YKK Restricted Substances List)
List of chemical substances regulated to be contained in products delivered to YKK. Oeko-Tex® Standard 100 (Annex 6 & 7) and AFIRM RSL and other regulations as reference standards.

Compatibility with YKK RSL

The standard values of chemical substances listed in the YKK RSL and regulatory requirements shall be met.

Oeko-Tex® Standard 100

A certification standard set by the Oeko-Tex® International Community that certifies that textile and related products contain less than the standard values for harmful substances.

<https://oeko-tex-japan.com/about/standard100/>

AFIRM RSL

List of chemicals restricted in textile and related products as defined by Apparel and Footwear International RSL Management (an association of apparel and footwear brands dedicated to promoting chemical management in the global supply chain).

<https://afirm-group.com/afirm-rsl/>

4. Requirements

4.1 Guarantee of conformity to YKK RSL

Suppliers must ensure that the products they deliver to YKK conform to the YKK RSL. However, substances excluded from conformity with the YKK RSL in accordance with section 4.3 may be excluded from the scope of the warranty.

4.2 Submission of YKK RSL Response Document

Suppliers are required to submit the following documents to YKK

Form 1 YKK RSL Compliance Agreement - Must be submitted¹

Form 2: YKK RSL Conformity Check Sheet - Must be submitted²

Form 3 List of Delivered goods to YKK³

Note1 YKK RSL nonconforming substances listed on the YKK RSL compliance survey form are excluded from the YKK RSL compliance agreement. (see section 4.3)

Note2 Please submit your answers in Excel format.

If you are responding in PDF or other formats, please submit your answers in Excel format as well.

Note3 List all deliveries made to YKK. However, if a YKK RSL conformity survey sheet has been submitted for all products delivered to YKK, this may be omitted.

4.3 Application for Exemption

If a product delivered to YKK does not conform to the YKK RSL or contains substances that cannot be guaranteed to conform to the YKK RSL, the supplier shall indicate the non-conforming substances in the YKK RSL Conformity Check Sheet and submit it to YKK. By submitting a YKK RSL Conformity Check Sheet, the substance in question can be excluded from the YKK RSL compliance agreement.

4.4 Submission of Conformity Information

Suppliers are requested to cooperate with YKK to the extent possible when YKK requests samples for conformity assessment or information (table of ingredients or test reports) to confirm that the products delivered to YKK conform to the YKK RSL.

4.5 Supplier Management

In order to ensure that the products delivered to YKK remain in conformity with the YKK RSL, suppliers are required to properly manage their suppliers of raw materials for such products and chemicals used in the manufacture of such products.

4.6 Change Management

Suppliers are requested to confirm in advance the impact of any change in raw materials or chemicals used in the manufacture of products to be delivered to YKK on the conformity to the YKK RSL. If the change will no longer conform to the YKK RSL, please notify YKK in advance. (see section 4.7)

4.7 Notification

If any of the following events occurs in the products delivered to YKK, the supplier shall immediately notify YKK and discuss how to handle the situation.

(1) Changes in raw materials, chemicals used, etc. may result in non-compliance with the YKK RSL.

(2) Contamination with regulated substances exceeding the standards of YKK RSL during manufacturing

(3) Substances found to be incompatible with the YKK RSL

(4) Other deviations from conformity with the YKK RSL

4.8 Manufacturing Process Audits

YKK may require an audit of the manufacturing process of the product in question for the purpose of confirming that the product to be procured complies with the YKK RSL.

Suppliers are requested to cooperate with YKK to the extent possible when YKK requests an audit.

4.9 Damages

If a supplier causes damage to YKK in violation of its agreement to the requirements of these Guidelines, the supplier shall compensate YKK for the damage suffered by YKK to the extent that it is attributable to its own responsibility and has a reasonable causal relationship to the cause.

4.10 Consultation

The supplier shall discuss with YKK how to respond to any doubts about the requirements of these guidelines or any other matters not stipulated in these guidelines, whenever they arise.

5. Revision of these Guidelines and the YKK RSL

YKK will revise these Guidelines and the YKK RSL in accordance with the enactment or revision of relevant laws, regulations, and industry standards, and will notify suppliers of such revisions.

6. Validity of the YKK RSL Compliance Agreement and related documents

The agreement to comply with the YKK RSL shall have effect on these Guidelines and the YKK RSL, which are revised by YKK and notified to suppliers in accordance with Chapter 5.

However, if the supplier reviews the revised Guidelines and the YKK RSL and determines that the YKK RSL Compliance Agreement needs to be changed, the supplier will resubmit the YKK RSL Compliance Agreement and related documentation to YKK to update it.

•Revision History

<p>March 6, 2023</p>	<p>Revisions in Ver. 3.3</p> <p>Definition of Terms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Definitions of terms were added in reference to the AFIRM RSL in the revision of the YKK RSL.
<p>April 30, 2024</p>	<p>Revisions in Ver. 4.0</p> <p>4.3 Application for Exemption</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Added action for cases where a supplier has not submitted a Form 2 YKK RSL Conformity Check Sheet.
<p>March 21, 2025</p>	<p>Revisions in Ver. 5.0</p> <p>4.2 Change to submission of YKK RSL response document</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changed from submitting YKK RSL Compliance Agreement to submitting YKK RSL Response Document - Note 2 added