

**SABS**

**CONSIGNMENT  
INSPECTION**



# 1.Introduction

One of the challenges that many companies face is finding the optimal balance between delivering quality products and managing the supply chain. It is a familiar problem for many companies, you contract a supplier to provide regular batches of product on an on-going basis. The batch submitted for initial evaluation was to specification and showed consistent good quality. Then, in subsequent batches, standards slip and some (or even all) of the products are no longer to specification. You lack the time and resources to thoroughly inspect each batch. If this common problem is hampering your business success, you need the expert and customised consignment inspection services of the SABS.

Our Consignment Inspection services provides inspection of commodities before consignment to the purchaser and comes into operation after tenders have been accepted. Suppliers, instructed by purchasers, notify SABS when commodities are ready for inspection. SABS inspectors then visit the factory, where the commodities are inspected and certified as complying with the relevant requirements. These facilities are not used exclusively by South African buyers, but are also available to African States and overseas countries, many of whom have already availed themselves of this service. SANS/ISO 17020 is the international standard that applies to the operation of inspection bodies. The SABS Consignment Inspection Scheme has implemented and maintains a formal Quality System that complies fully with SANS/ISO 17020.



***“In addition, SABS Consignment Inspection Scheme has been accredited by the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS). This is a National Treasury prerequisite for consignment inspection bodies involved in public tenders, and SABS is currently the only SANAS-accredited inspection body for clothing, textiles and footwear.”***



## 2. Why Consignment Inspection by the SABS

SABS is a leading business services provider to organisations worldwide, offering a range of services for management system certification, product testing and certification, and standardisation.

SABS brand name is established in the global market and has grown an enviable reputation for integrity and excellence as an internationally recognised certification body that provides a wide range of system and product certification schemes.

The SABS is recognised nationally as a trusted and independent third party provider of consignment inspection services. Upon completion of each consignment inspection, the client will be issued with a certificate of approval or rejection. The SABS Consignment Inspection certificate of approval provides the assurance that the product batch can be received with complete confidence.

SABS offers consignment inspection services to purchasing authorities, manufacturers, exporters, importers and other inspection bodies. The aim of consignment inspection is to safeguard the interests of the purchaser by ensuring that the products received are within specification and of acceptable quality.

SABS has a proven track record, having worked with over 5 000 companies globally, from small and medium sized businesses, to big companies and providing long term relations to ensure global competitive standards.

## 3. Third party inspection or evaluation process of products

- Inspection is conducted to an agreed specification, whether it is a South African National Standard or the client's private specification.
- Pre-production samples are evaluated at the start of the contract, to identify faults as soon as possible and avoid possible rejections during the mass production.
- Each batch is inspected to ensure uniformity of colour, size, workmanship and other factors affecting product quality and consistency.
- In-process inspection ensures that defective products are kept to a minimum through timeous corrective action.





## 4. Additional services offered by the SABS Consignment inspection team

- SABS can assist the clients with their tender documentation and adjudication processes.
- SABS can assist clients to evaluate suppliers by conducting a capability evaluation prior to awarding of the contract.

***“Consignment inspection can also be applied to other products where there is a need for batch-to-batch inspection and consistency”.***

## 5. Sectors served by the SABS consignment inspection department

Currently, the most common products for consignment inspection include:

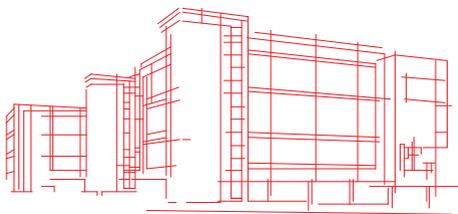
- Textiles
- Clothing
- Footwear
- Metal badges
- Ration packs
- Food items
- Paper and other miscellaneous items

Current clients include SAPS, SANDF and Correctional Services.

In addition to the above, SABS provides the Botswana Bureau of Standards with sampling and verification interventions on dairy products and animal feed for export purposes.

However, consignment inspection can also be applied to other products where there is a need for batch-to-batch inspection and consistency.





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