

TEXTILES/LEATHER/FOOTWEAR



Introduction

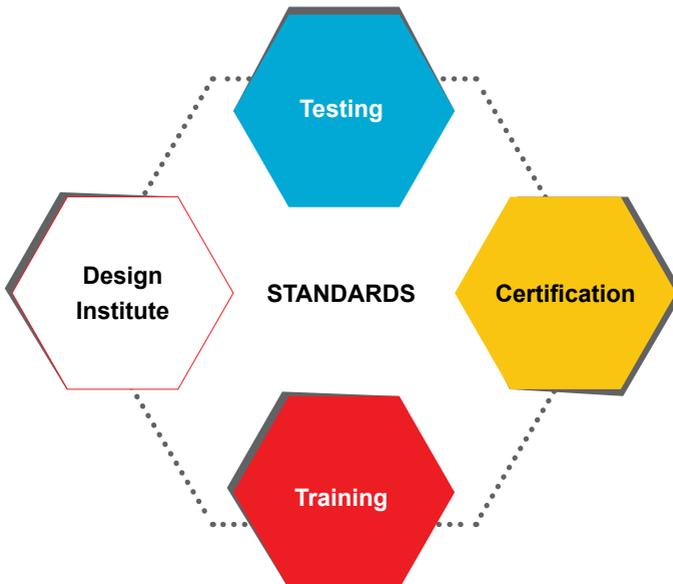


The South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) helps companies respond to a number of industry wide issues, including voluntary technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment processes. SABS testing services provide an extensive array of testing, inspection and evaluation capabilities across a diverse range of technologies and industries. We provide independent third party conformity assessment services. Services include system certification, product certification and consignment inspection. We provide valuable assurance to users that SABS certified products and services consistently comply with relevant specifications determined by national standards.

SABS has a proven track record, having worked with over 5 000 companies, from small and medium sized businesses to big companies and has been in business for more than 70 years. Our diverse portfolio of highly skilled and technically competent auditors (SAATCA registered) include a high standards of ethical conduct. This provides the basis of impartial and value added assessments.

SABS is accredited by the South African National Accreditation Scheme (SANAS) and Raad Voor Accreditatie (RVA). SABS is recognised as a leader in certification quality assurance services.

During our 70 years of our existence, we have grown an enviable reputation for integrity and excellence.



1. TESTING

SABS Testing is performed in accredited laboratories in line with the strictest scientific protocols by the best technical experts in the country.

We test in accordance accepted industry standards such as South African National Standards (SANS) and internationally recognised test methods.

Our testing laboratories play an important role in supporting South African manufacturing by providing objective evidence that a product or service conforms to certain customer requirements or specifications.

Our laboratory has extensive experience in testing leather, footwear and textiles. We test for compliance in accordance to SANS.

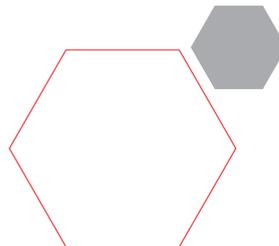
Leather and footwear

Related testing on products include:

- Safety footwear
- School footwear
- Fashion footwear
- Bags
- Leather used for automotive, apparel and furniture upholstery

Leather and footwear tests:

- Tensile strength
- Crease content
- Flexing
- Heat resistance
- Abrasion resistance
- Shrinkage temperature
- Colourfastness to rubbing
- Adhesion to finishing
- Density
- Moisture content
- Water vapour coefficient
- Stitch tear strength
- pH value
- Thickness

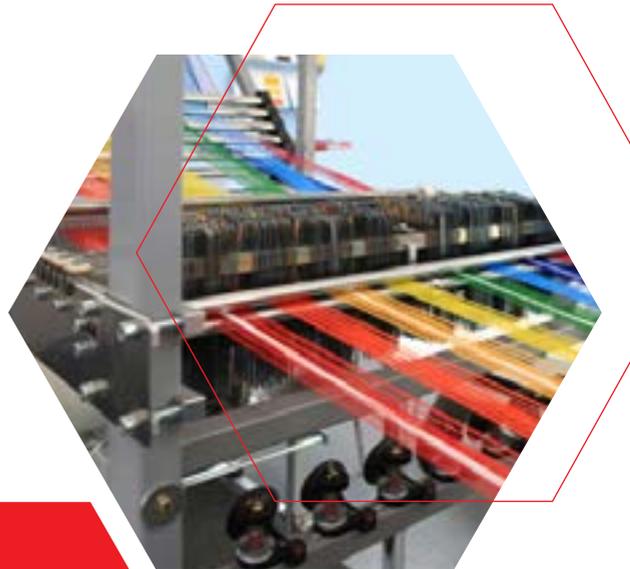


Textiles and clothing

Our laboratory tests textiles and textile related products which are used in the household, apparel, industrial, medical, automotive and accessory fields to international and national standards.

Related testing on products include:

- Fashion fabrics
- Households fabrics
- Uniform fabrics
- Swimming aids
- Shade nets
- Protective clothing
- Diapers
- Carpets
- Seatbelts tests performed:
- Colourfastness
- Washing, water, perspiration, light and rubbing.
- Abrasion resistance
- Tensile strength
- Weight
- Fibre identification
- Flammability testing
- Water repellence
- Computer colour matching
- Piling test
- Snagging test
- Thread count
- Carpet testing
- Seam slippage



2. CERTIFICATION

SABS offers several quality system certification schemes such as the SABS QMS Certification Scheme (Quality Management System) and SABS EMS Certification Scheme (Environmental Management), SABS OHSAS (Occupational Health and Safety Management System) and SABS EnMS Certification Scheme (Energy Management System).

Our certification schemes relevant for the textile, footwear and leather industries include:

Consignment Inspection

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. So it is a truly world class service. In addition, the SABS Consignment Inspection Scheme has been accredited by SANAS. This is a National Treasury prerequisite for consignment inspection bodies involved in public tenders, and the SABS is currently the only SANAS-accredited inspection body for clothing, textiles and footwear.



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.

SABS Mark

The SABS Mark Scheme is a certification process by which a third party (i.e. SABS Commercial SOC Ltd) gives assurance that a product fulfils specified requirements. The SABS Mark Scheme applies only to products/commodities for which technical SANS exist.

The SABS Mark is a highly recognisable symbol of credibility and a powerful marketing tool, which reinforces your product's intrinsic features. It strengthens your point-of-sale impact, and gives your product greater credibility and prestige in the market place. The ongoing improvement of your quality system is an essential part of the SABS Mark Scheme and is therefore a clear demonstration of your company's dedication to quality management.





SABS QMS Certification Scheme

The SABS QMS certification scheme is a third party system certification scheme, suitable for companies of any size or sector seeking to improve their internal management and operational processes. Organisations all over the world have realised the benefits of implementing and maintaining quality management systems based on the SANS/ISO 9000 series of standards, since it improves the efficiency and effectiveness of an organisation's operation. It provides consistency in the quality of a product and/or service. It also drives an organisation to meet and exceed customer expectations, leading to an increase in market and shareholder value.

SABS EMS Certification Scheme

SABS EMS certification provides an organisation with the elements of an effective environmental management system (EMS) that can assure stakeholders that international industry specific environmental standards have been met. An environmental management system helps organisations identify, manage, monitor and control their environmental issues in a "holistic" manner.

It requires that an organisation considers all environmental issues relevant to its operations, such as air pollution, water and sewage issues, waste management, soil contamination, climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as resource use and efficiency.

SABS OHSAS Certification Scheme

SABS OHSAS certification enables an organisation to control its risks and hazards to comply with legislation, reduce insurance premiums, reassure customers, improve performance and enhance an organisation's public and marketing image.

SANS/ISO 45001:2018 is a system standard against which an organisation's occupational health and safety management can be assessed and certified. It aims to help an organisation to implement an Occupational Health and Safety Management System (OHSMS), which will help to minimize the frequency of accidents in the workplace.

SABS EnMS Certification Scheme

An Energy Management System (EnMS) is a systematic approach of dealing with the energy aspects in an organisation. An EnMS is concerned with what an organisation does to minimise its effects on the environment through its operational activities. It is a 'tool' that enables companies to control the impacts of their activities, products or services on the natural environment in a disciplined and systematic manner.

Seeking certification of a company's energy management system provides additional security for its operations, access to markets and assurance that the system is audited accordingly and is internationally recognised.

4. TRAINING

The SABS Training Academy continues to bring to deliver quality training and development on various system standards. We actively train industry on creating overall organisational awareness and implementation of systems (SANS/ISO 9001:2015, SANS/ISO 14001:2015, SANS/ISO 45001:2018, FSSC 22 000, etc.) Our training sessions are focused on capacitating management, quality practitioners, internal audit teams and staff who underpin the successful implementation and entrenchment of systems.

The Academy is accredited with SAATCA for Lead auditor courses in QMS/EMS/OHS and ISO 22000. The Academy is also accredited with FSSC for all FSSC courses (Introduction, awareness, transition, implementation and auditing levels)



The series of courses offered within this quality faculty will enhance the understanding of the standards and their requirements, thus enabling learners to implement and maintain such systems in their respective organisational environments. The most recent information on our training schedule, applications and pricing is available on our website www.sabs.co.za

5. STANDARDS

SABS provides a range of standards that guide the requirements of the textile, leather and footwear industry from the specifications that describe acceptable levels of performance through standard test methods to assess those parameters to quality management systems standards to assist organisations to deliver products and services of acceptable quality.

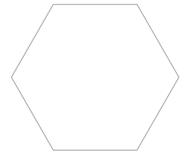
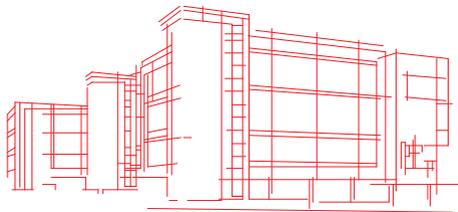
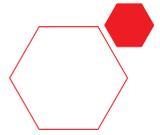
Standardisation plays an increasingly important role in international trade and the opening-up of markets. Representatives of manufacturers, retailers, buyers, customers, trade associations and regulators amongst others are members of our Technical Committees that produce SANS.

SABS ensures that every national standard has a positive net effect in terms of the economy, public health and safety, social and community development and environmental sustainability.

6. SABS Design Institute and SMME

Our Design Institute is able to assist entrepreneurs refine their business ideas to ensure that creation and stimulation of local economy is realised. Our SMME department provides specialised services to assist SMMEs with compliance to standards and by creating linkages that will contribute to the national Industrial Policy Action Plan.





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