



BRINGING AUTOMOTIVE PARTS CERTIFICATION TO INSURERS

Insurers continue to get pressure to improve performance and reduce rates. One solution: write NSF certified parts. The NSF Automotive Aftermarket Parts Certification Program covers a wide range of automotive collision parts and ensures they meet rigid quality, safety and performance standards.

The program includes approval of the manufacturing operations through regular audits and extensive testing of each part number that is submitted for certification. Before submitting parts for certification, each manufacturing facility goes through a rigorous approval process that requires an on-site inspection and review of the facilities production and quality systems to verify compliance with ISO 9001 requirements. Testing assures that NSF certified parts are as durable, safe and as high-quality as OE parts. Confidence in these parts enables NSF certified parts to have a limited lifetime warranty.

MANUFACTURING FACILITY REQUIREMENTS

Manufacturing facilities must meet stringent requirements in order to be approved by NSF, including:

- Maintaining an in-process quality assurance program and current ISO or TS certification
- Documenting a process for tracking and responding to complaints and returns
- Having a marking system that includes part number, manufacturer name and/or logo and a product recall procedure

The approved facilities undergo product-based audits on a quarterly basis, random in-market testing of parts from each facility and monitoring of the part complaints.

CERTIFIED PART REQUIREMENTS

A rigorous part testing program is required for a part to become certified:

- All parts are compared to the OE service parts for dimensional conformance. For exterior parts, vehicle test fits are also required
- Parts evaluated for both fit and appearance
- Material tests performed on all parts and compared to OE service parts
- Coating type, appearance, thickness and adhesion analyzed where applicable
- Bumpers and reinforcement bars have an additional requirement for a dynamic functional test: Quasi Static Pole Test, which determines the peak force a part can carry when mounted at the parts mounting points

NSF certified parts bear the NSF mark in addition to the production lot number and manufacturer name and logo, demonstrating all certification requirements have been met. This is necessary to maintain part traceability. If it is an insurance repair, NSF can identify the vehicle owner. The traceability requirements of NSF certification



assures the end user that parts can be readily identified through required markings and traced back to the part manufacturer. All certified parts are maintained on NSF's website www.nsf.org/Certified/autorp/listings.asp.

DISTRIBUTOR CERTIFICATION

NSF also offers automotive collision parts distributor certification, which requires distributors to have quality management systems in place that address traceability, service and quality issues. This includes having an effective records system, inventory systems to track orders and parts through the supply chain and an ISO 9001 registered quality management system. Reducing parts substitution is vital as distributors might otherwise substitute non-certified parts if a certified part is not readily available. A certified distributor must ship an NSF certified part if an NSF certified part is ordered.

COLLISION REPAIR SHOP CERTIFICATION

NSF Automotive Collision Repair Shop Certification enables companies to identify shops that have been evaluated by an independent third party organization and certified that their facility, procedures, training and internal processes are capable of executing high quality repairs.



WHY NSF INTERNATIONAL?

NSF International is a global independent organization that writes standards, and tests and certifies products for the water, food, health sciences and consumer goods industries to minimize adverse health effects and protect the environment. Based in Ann Arbor, Michigan, NSF operates 292,000 square feet of state-of-the-art laboratory space in North America, Latin America, Europe and China.

Founded in 1944, NSF has over 70 years history of certification, testing and inspections experience, proving our commitment to protecting human health and safety worldwide. Through this work, NSF has gained the trust of regulators, industry leaders, government agencies and consumers.

NSF is recognized globally as one of the premiere registrars of automotive manufacturing facilities. NSF is one of the top three ISO / TS registrars in the US with more than 350 automotive focused auditors supporting the program. NSF serves thousands of automotive clients, including both OEMs and major part manufacturers.

CONTACT US

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