The Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC) Programme takes a holistic approach to tackling the issue of hazardous chemicals in the global textile, leather and footwear supply chain.

One way of working towards the goal of eliminating the use of priority chemicals is by focusing on a Manufacturing Restricted Substances List (MRSL). The ZDHC MRSL provides a clear list of priority chemicals and specifies the maximum concentration limit of each substance within commercial chemical formulations.

Companies can earn Level 1 conformance by having chemical formulations screened against the ZDHC MRSL through the toxicological review of a product’s chemical formulation by an approved third-party, such as NSF International.

**BENEFITS**

> By using chemical formulations that are in conformance to ZDHC MRSL limits, material suppliers and their customers can be assured that banned chemical substances are not intentionally used during production.

> The ZDHC MRSL provides brands and suppliers with a harmonized approach to managing chemicals during the processing of raw materials within the apparel and footwear supply chain.

> Third party verification of conformance to the ZDHC MRSL allows manufacturers to demonstrate they have evaluated for, reduced or removed priority hazardous substances from their manufacturing process to meet the ZDHC MSRL criteria.

> There are seven ZDHC Accepted Certification Standards, including ToxFMD®, that allow companies to indicate Level 1 conformance.
WHY WORK WITH NSF?

Contact NSF for an application

Provide completed application - includes full disclosure of all intentionally added ingredients (no cutoff threshold level), disclosure of any residuals present at or above 0.01% of the formulation, and SDSs.

Formulation assessed against the ZDHC Manufacturing Restricted Substances List (MRSL) (Group B) (v. 2.0)

NSF obtains full disclosure from suppliers of chemical level info, and any other required information

Receive quote from NSF, sign quote and contract and return

If determined “Acceptable”

Client may receive:
   i. Statement of Conformance
   ii. Confirmation that no chemical is present at or above limits specified on the ZDHC MRSL (Group B) based on disclosed formulation

If determined “Not Acceptable”

i. NSF lists all chemicals that do not meet the criteria of the ZDHC MRSL conformance process.
   ii. The client can address chemicals of concern and resubmit

1As a prerequisite to Level 1, the chemical company must register its company information with the ZDHC Gateway – Chemical Module and upload a copy of the chemical formulation SDS. (Level 0 Conformance is a prerequisite).

2Supplier(s) are required to complete the supplier information addendum form, documenting the composition of each homogeneous material including the disclosure of all intentionally added ingredients, disclosure of any residuals/impurities present at ≥ 0.01% (100 ppm), and disclosure of ZDHC MRSL Group B chemicals that have reportable limits <0.01% (100 ppm).

NSF INTERNATIONAL
789 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105 USA  |  E sustainability@nsf.org  |  www.nsf.org

Use of NSF consulting services or attending NSF training sessions does not provide an advantage, nor is it linked in any way to the granting of certification.