



WHAT IS FCM AND WHY FCM TESTING IS IMPORTANT?

Food comes into contact with many materials and articles during its production processing, storage, preparation and serving before its eventual consumption such materials and articles are called Food Contact Materials (FCM). It covers all materials that are intended (and also foreseeable) to come into contact with food during the actual use.

According to the Framework Regulation 1935/2004/EC, the materials and articles, including active and intelligent materials and articles, shall be manufactured in compliance with good manufacturing practice so that, under normal or foreseeable conditions of use, they do not transfer their constituents to food in quantities which could:

- Endanger human health; or
- Bring about an unacceptable change in the composition of the food; or
- Bring about a deterioration in the organoleptic characteristics of the food

Therefore, by carry out the FCM testing with simulate real use condition, it would be a supporting evidence to show that the materials and articles have no harmful substances transfer to food, or some specific substances with only limited amount was transferred to the food which was accepted by regulation/legal requirement.

TESTING SERVICE ON FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS (FCM)



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TYPE OF MATERIALS REQUIRE FOR FCM TESTING

Materials or Articles that intended and foreseeable for food contacting	Plastic (e.g. ABS, PVC, PP, EVA)
	Varnishes and coating
	Ceramic, glass, stone
	Silicone and rubber
	Metal and alloys
	Wood, cork
	Textile



US LEGISLATION ON SPECIFIC MATERIALS:

United States of America	Stainless steel
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GRAS evaluation
	Ceramic
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPG 7117.06 (Sec.545.400) CPG 7117.07 (Sec.545.450)
	Plastic/Silicone/Rubber
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title 21 CFR §177; §180 	
Paper and paperboard	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title 21 CFR §176 	
Polymeric coating	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title 21 CFR §175 	

EU LEGISLATION/COE ON SPECIFIC MATERIALS:

European Union	Plastic
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation (EU) No 10/2011
	Ceramic
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directive 84/500/EEC
	Metal and alloys
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CM/Res (2020) 9
Coating	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ResAP (2004) 1 	
Silicone	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ResAP (2004) 5 	
Rubber	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ResAP (2004) 4 	

NATIONAL LEGISLATION/RECOMMENDATION ON FCM:

Germany	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article of 31 of The German Food and Feed Act (LFGB) BfR Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plastic Temp resistant polymer coating Silicone Natural and synthetic rubber
France	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrees, Arrêté, DGCCFR French Decree N0 2007-766, dated 10 May 2007 MCDA sheet n°1 dated 01 April 2017 – Metal and alloys MCDA sheet n°2 dated 01 May 2016 – inorganic materials (Glass, Ceramic, Enamel) MCDA sheet n°3 dated 09 September 2021 – synthetic materials (plastic; rubber)
Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreto Ministerial (DM) The Decreto Presidente della Repubblica no. 777 of 23/8/32 (DPR 777) Ministerial Decree of 21 March 1973 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plastic Glass Stainless steel
Netherland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warenwetregeling verpakkingen en gebruiksartikelen dated 14 March 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plastic Metal Glass and ceramic Coating wood and cork
Swiss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 817.023.21 dated 16 December <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metal alloys Plastic Ceramic; Glass; enamel Silicone



Our Hardlines laboratory in Kwai Chung, Hong Kong, is fully accredited in compliance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017 by DAKKS and IAS.

Our new Hardlines laboratory in Pujiang, Shanghai, opened in May 2024, will continue to extend our service range for wider Hardlines products.

We maintain locally our level of expertise and we align technical interpretations and test methods with our Headquarters laboratory in Germany.

Our expert team in Shanghai and Hong Kong offers a diverse range of tests and reliable customized services for Greater China companies with end-to-end solutions and competitive prices.

SERVICE

Mechanical safety test

Fit-for-use test

Chemical safety test

Food contact material safety test

Artwork check

Hohenstein Quality Label