BUSINESS CHALLENGE
In a global marketplace where product safety is a critical component to success, the presence of Natural Rubber Latex can be a key risk factor for a wide variety of industries including medical device, health and beauty, pharmaceuticals, textiles, office products, and toys. Products containing Natural Rubber Latex that come into contact with the skin can cause a severe life threatening allergic reaction, presenting potential liability for the manufacturer and retailer.

According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, up to 6% of the general population has a sensitivity or allergy to the proteins in Natural Rubber Latex. There has also been an increase in sensitivity to the accelerators used in Natural Rubber Latex and Synthetic Latex manufacturing. It is not only important to understand the content of your products, but also the manufacturing environment and critical suppliers from raw material to finished product.

Validating label claims can be challenging and confusing. Some global governmental agencies have established guidelines for product labeling to ensure that consumers are not misled by claims regarding latex.

SOLUTION
Bureau Veritas' new latex testing services can verify compliance to standards and substantiate label claims, to ultimately help protect your reputation and brand.

Our technical staff has extensive experience working in the latex testing field and providing research validation. To provide our clients with the most up-to-date and comprehensive services, Bureau Veritas is represented as the co-chair of the ASTM D11 Rubber sub-committee and is A2LA accredited to test to the ASTM standards that quantify extractable Natural Rubber Latex.

What are the key benefits?
• Verify compliance with worldwide regulations and industry standards
• Provide guidance and substantiate label claims
• Evaluate products and packaging from raw material to finished product
• Confirm manufacturing process control and supplier claims
• Reduce the risk of recalls, returns and complaints
• Enhance risk management and brand protection
WHY CHOOSE BUREAU VERITAS?

Reputation – For over 35 years, we have worked successfully with top manufacturers and retailers around the world to help them better manage risk and regulatory compliance.

Technical Knowledge & Leadership – Our staff actively participate in the development of international, industry and regulatory standards worldwide, keeping you and us at the forefront of changes in safety requirements and testing methods.

Certification – Bureau Veritas is A2LA accredited to test to the ASTM standards that quantify extractable Natural Rubber Latex (NRL). These standards confirm the presence of Natural Rubber Latex proteins to address concerns of possible allergic reactions or sensitivity. We are also ISO 9001:2000 accredited.

OUR APPROACH

From raw materials to finished products, Bureau Veritas is ready to meet your latex testing needs through all phases of production. Committed to high quality and standards, our laboratory follows rigorous testing practices, maintains various certifications and tests to numerous standards.

Testing Capabilities

ASTM D5712 Modified Lowry / Total Protein: Determines the amount of total aqueous extractable protein associated with natural rubber, latex, and elastomeric products.*

ASTM D6214 Powder Content: Determines the average powder or filter-retained mass found on a sample of medical gloves.

ASTM D6499 Inhibition ELISA: Determines the amount of antigenic protein in natural rubber and its products using rabbit antisera specific for natural rubber latex (NRL) proteins.*

ASTM D7247 Allergenic ELISA: Determines the amount of four principal allergenic proteins (Hev b 1, 3, 5 and 6.02) in natural rubber and its products derived from latex.

ASTM D7558 Chemical Sensitivity: Determines the amount of total extractable accelerators in natural rubber latex (NRL) and nitrile gloves.

ASTM Guayule ELISA ASTM WG 25943: Measures the levels of extractable Guayule proteins from commercial products. This method is still in validation steps with the ASTM.

SDS-PAGE – SDS Poly Acrylamide Gel Electrophoresis: Used to separate proteins from a sample by mixing with SDS and electrically drawing proteins through a polyacrylamide matrix.

Western Blot – Gel to Membrane Transfer: The proteins from a SDS-PAGE are transferred to a nitrocellulose membrane where the membrane is blocked and proteins are stained with antibodies specific to target protein.

We provide latex testing for an extensive range of consumer products including, but not limited to:

- Gloves
- Flooring
- Condoms
- Adhesives
- Catheters
- Bandages
- Erasers
- Children’s Toys
- Rubber Bands
- Balloons
- Dental Dams
- Tires
- Elastomeric Textiles
- Medical Devices

* Bureau Veritas is A2LA accredited for these two assays.