

General Merchandise - Technical, Quality & Sustainability - Technical Bulletin

Apparel/Accessories/Footwear/Soft Home/Hard Home

Walmart Sustainability – Higg ID Requirement Update

ATTENTION: Walmart US Suppliers, Walmart 3rd Party Test Labs

Note: this bulletin is relevant for suppliers of Apparel, Accessories, Footwear and Home textile products only. If you are a Hard Home supplier of products that do not contain a textile component, this bulletin can be disregarded.

July 19, 2023

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2023

SUBJECT: TRF Higg ID Requirement for Textile Mills

As stated in a previous bulletin dated April 26, 2023, in an effort to provide transparency and drive supply chain sustainability, beginning July 1, 2023, all fabric mills and wet processing facilities should have both a Walmart Mill ID and a Higg ID. The Higg ID field has been added to TRFs and should be rated as Data. However, **beginning October 1, 2023, reports will fail if the Higg ID is not provided.**

Facilities can easily register to instantly obtain a Higg ID on the Worldly* website. Note that after obtaining their Higg ID, they will need to purchase the Higg FEM and follow these reporting deadlines:

- October 31, 2023: final deadline to *purchase* the Higg FEM and vFEM 2022 in order to report
 - **Facilities can use Walmart’s discount code “WMFEM150” to get \$150 off**
- December 31, 2023: final deadline to *post and share* both the Higg FEM and vFEM 2022

**The Higg Index has rebranded to Worldly (visit www.worldly.io). The Higg FEM tool still remains the same.*

Please note that:

- Facilities need to **share** their completed module with Walmart’s Higg ID: 17405.
- Facilities are expected to complete the self-assessment **annually** and obtain verification **every other year**.
- Visit <https://howtohiqq.org/walmart-facility-guidelines-2022/> to learn more about Walmart’s Higg FEM reporting requirements.

As a reminder, if you need to obtain a Mill ID for a new facility, the registration forms are located on Retail Link: *Product Quality and Compliance Library > Sustainability > Mill ID Program*

- Please reach out to either Bureau Veritas (walmarttesting@bureauveritas.com) or UL (BEN.SoftlinesCustomerService@ul.com) to submit the forms and obtain a Mill ID. **The Higg ID field will now be required in order to obtain a Mill ID.**

The updated requirements will be evaluated during *Map, Pre-Production, Production testing*.

Failure to meet the requirements after **October 1, 2023** will result in the issuance of a failing test report **(4-6 digit numeric Higg ID missing (WM0182))**.

Note for National Brands: if you obtained a nondisclosure Mill ID for your mill, you will **not** be required to provide the facility’s Higg ID.

This notice applies to: **Apparel:** 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34
Home: 14, 17, 20, 22, 71, 74

ACTION NEEDED:

Vendors: Please update your records to reflect these changes.

Labs: Please update any applicable internal documents to reflect these changes.

Labs: Please distribute this notice to the appropriate vendor distribution list.

Walmart has authorized our approved test laboratories to solicit required information on Walmart’s behalf in an effort to assure compliance and minimize any disruption to our supply chain.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

Please contact your approved third-party test lab or submit questions or comments to Julia.nehring@walmart.com or:

Domestic	Direct Import
Apparel - Alan.Biggerstaff@walmart.com	Apparel - Neao.Dong@walmart.com
Soft Home - Scott.Wedge@walmart.com	Soft Home - Ariz.Hashmi@walmart.com
Hard Home - Tim.Socha@walmart.com	Hard Home - Jessica.Zhu@walmart.com

Quality Manual and Documents:

Retail Link > Apps > Product Quality and Compliance Library (Abbrev. PQ)

Supplier Communications:

Product Quality and Compliance Library > a2 Supplier Communications > Sustainability Supplier Communications