

Walsh - Blyth & Turton



Quality & Product Assurance

2023/2024





**Quality you
can trust**

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**We focus on
sustainability,
from product
alternatives to
reducing carbon
emissions and
assured ethical
sourcing.**



Mission Statement from our Managing Director

We provide sustainable and compliant solutions that improve the wellbeing and safety of our customers enabling them to focus on what they do best.

We are committed to ensuring that our business is conducted in all respects according to rigorous ethical, professional and legal standards. Our extensive and flexible supply chain offers our customers the opportunity to choose from a wide range of goods to meet commercial needs. Our supply chain management processes ensure those goods are responsibly sourced, manufactured and tested.

Chris Wakeman
Managing Director





Supply Chain Governance

Ethical Sourcing Policy

We are committed to working with our product and service suppliers to ensure that the welfare of workers and labour conditions within our supply chain meet or exceed recognised standards, as well as encouraging environmentally friendly practices.

Modern Slavery Statement

Modern slavery is a global issue and requires global action. Being part of Bunzl, an international business, we are wholly committed to eliminating modern slavery practices and respecting human rights across both our own operations and our supply chain.

We take appropriate action to ensure that all our employees understand our policy of eliminating forced labour, child labour and human trafficking.

We expect our suppliers to meet or exceed local legislative requirements and applicable international requirements for workers' welfare and conditions of employment, such

as those set by the International Labour Organization ('ILO') and the Ethical Trading Initiative ('ETI').

We audit suppliers on many topics including child, forced or bonded labour, disciplinary practices, management of homeworkers and foreign migrant workers, freedom of association, wages, working hours and health & safety. For full details, please visit:


[bunzl.com UK Modern Slavery Statement](https://www.bunzl.com/UK/Modern-Slavery-Statement) ►

Our approach to Sustainability

Our approach is to constantly drive towards a more sustainable way of doing business through:

- Socially & ethically responsible purchasing
- Minimising our environmental impacts throughout the supply chain
- Delivering economically sound solutions
- Implementing good business practice

We are working closely with our supply chain partners to review all aspects of product manufacturing and packaging so we can reduce the environmental impacts of our products.

A person wearing a white lab coat is shown from the chest down, holding a silver pen and writing on a clipboard. The background is a blurred laboratory setting with a microscope visible on the right. A red circular callout contains white text.

**We follow a strict
set of criteria
which ensures the
products we sell
are compliant and
fit for purpose**



BSIF Registered Safety Supplier Scheme

The BSIF has created the Registered Safety Supplier Scheme (RSSS) to support the UK safety market.

The BSIF Registered Safety Supplier Scheme is a quality assurance scheme that helps buyers of PPE and safety equipment find suppliers they can trust. The scheme's mission is to assure users that only compliant and correctly performing products are supplied through a capable, educated, competent supply chain. All BSIF members who market PPE and safety equipment are Registered Safety Suppliers and are audited annually.



We are active members of the Registered Safety Supplier Scheme (RSSS).

Further information about the scheme can be found at www.bsif.co.uk ►

BSIF Working Group on Counterfeit & Illegal Goods

We are also active members of the BSIF Working Group that investigates the prolific incidences of counterfeit & illegal PPE products that are imported into the UK.

This working group attempts to eradicate this heinous and dangerous practice by unscrupulous traders and are strongly supported in this activity by the HSE & Trading Standards.

Check-Select-Protect

BSIF launched their Check-Select-Protect campaign in October 2022, which urges buyers and end users of PPE and safety equipment to follow a simple process to ensure that the products they are buying are fit for purpose. As a BSIF registered safety supplier, we follow the three steps to ensure compliant safety equipment:

- **CHECK** your supplier is BSIF Registered. BSIF audited suppliers are compliant, competent and trustworthy.
- **SELECT** appropriate, certified and approved products. Registered Safety Suppliers can support the product selection process through their competence, capability and knowledge.
- **PROTECT** your people, your most precious asset, and help your business to thrive.

It is so important to follow these three steps to ensure end users of PPE have the correct level of protection when at work. When purchasing PPE the supplier should be able to assist in every aspect as they should be experts in their field.



**We are obsessed
with safety and are
deeply passionate
about the quality
and performance
of our products**



Our Product Control & Quality Assurance Processes

We have consistently been obsessed with safety and passionate about the quality, performance and compliance of products. Over time, our Quality Management and Control system has turned into a highly sophisticated, multi-step process that encapsulates the entire supply chain from concept development, product design, manufacture, factory approval to production inspection and final UK Quality Control vetting upon arrival in our **Quality Assurance Centre**.

We carry out the majority of our **QA/QC inspections** as close to the manufacturing process as possible in order to minimise our environmental impact. Our team across Asia consists of qualified auditors who manage over **1300 suppliers** across the continent. All suppliers are audited on a periodic cycle. Self assessment questionnaires are undertaken and spot checks take place on a regular basis for all suppliers.



Our **Quality Management System** incorporates processes that apply to both our branded suppliers and our own exclusive brands from Patented Brand Pure Manufacturers, through Quasi Manufacturers (factors) to specialist manufacturing facilities commissioned under license to produce our exclusive brands and controlled by our own people within the Bunzl global PPE family.

We have a unique Bunzl owned Quality & Product Assurance facility, complete with internal testing facilities, based in Shanghai, who employ highly experienced **EN ISO 9000** fully accredited auditors who operate under our

instructions to manage, supervise & approve our suppliers through the selection, approval, manufacturing & inspection processes.

Finally, all our inbound products from overseas are managed by highly experienced Import & Logistics specialists. Our National Distribution Centre in South Wales is home to our state of the art **Quality Assurance Centre** that holds original production design samples, detailed specification documents and equipment for verifying that all product is compliant, fit for purpose and of merchantable quality.



Our Quality Standard & Commitments

We adhere to a policy which ensures that our goods & services at all times meet the quality & reliability requirements demanded by our customers as well as any statutory & regulatory requirements.

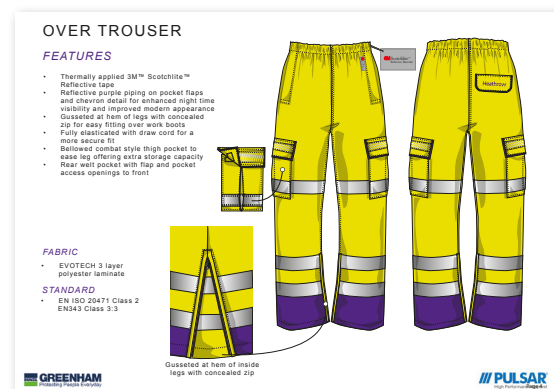
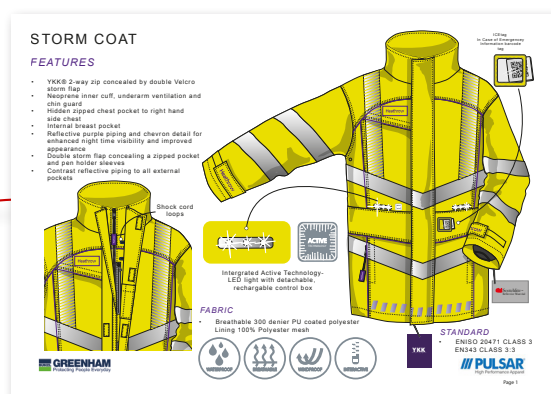
To fulfill this policy, we have established an effective quality management system, structured to the requirements of **EN ISO 9001:2015** which is policed internally by fully qualified audit managers on a continuous basis and externally accredited and certificated by an independent approved body, currently NQA.



Product Design

Each product group is managed by an experienced Category Manager within the Purchasing Department, each of whom have a wealth of industry & product knowledge in their chosen field.

In addition to buying approved product from branded suppliers, they are also responsible for the creation & development of Exclusive Brand products, their design, specification testing, approval and certification where necessary through our technical support department.





Supplier Selection, Evaluation & Approval

We maintain a preferred list of suppliers which is constantly updated through a detailed supplier questionnaire, information from regular contact meetings with supplier principals and detailed feed back on supplier performance & response through our Service Centre network.

In addition, we use the facilities of our wholly owned Bunzl Global Sourcing & QA/QC Asia organisation based in Shanghai, to provide a complete and exhaustive supplier selection, evaluation & approval service for all overseas suppliers who we select as candidates for our preferred supplier list. These services include a full & comprehensive factory audit prior to any supply contract being issued and are carried out by fully **EN ISO 9001:2015** qualified & accredited auditors/inspectors.



This supplier evaluation process is carried out annually and the performance of these suppliers is monitored through a scoring system which highlights progress or regression in the required disciplines which are addressed and discussed at Annual Supplier reviews. Each returned supplier questionnaire contains a requirement for suppliers of PPE to complete and sign a declaration that they hold a current & valid EU Type-Examination Certificate or UKCA (United Kingdom Conformity Assessed) Certificate for all products supplied.

Supplier Pre-Inspection Process Checks:

- Pre-inspection requirement for the factory to provide a fully completed Social Accountability Self Assessment Questionnaire which scores all aspects of Ethical Practices within that facility and without which we do not even begin the accreditation process
- Formal Accreditations i.e EN ISO 9001:2015, EN ISO 14001 and SA 8000 as a minimum
- Plant & Maintenance Facilities
- Quality Control Systems including In-Process Quality Control
- Raw Material, Component & Accessories Inspection
- In Process Quality Control
- Final Inspection Procedures
- Packaging
- Non-Conforming Materials
- Communication & Document Control
- Sharp Tools Control (e.g. Needle Policy)
- Measurement Equipment Control & Calibration
- Social Accountability – Child Labour, Forced Labour & Disciplinary Practices, Health & Safety, Accommodation, Discrimination, Wages & Benefits, Working Hours & Hygiene Standards
- Environmental Impact



Note: Any factory whose initial assessment does not achieve a 70% score taking all the above into account would NOT be considered suitable as a supplier for Bunzl Group Companies including WBT.

Bulk Manufacturing & In Production Inspection:

In addition to supplier selection, evaluation & approval, Bunzl Trading Shanghai Ltd., have the ability & expertise to manage our manufacturing suppliers throughout the bulk production process which includes:

- In production inspection & testing
- Pre-shipment inspection
- In-house testing at their fully equipped laboratory
- Where necessary to arrange additional or alternative testing at a fully accredited independent test house

Product Approval, EU Type-Examination & UKCA Certification

All product approvals and certifications are managed by our Technical Support Department who hold all specification sheets, certification, technical files and associated data, Declarations of Conformity and control their issue & validity

as appropriate. All Exclusive Brand products are submitted through and managed by technical support to the relevant notified and approved bodies for EU Type-Examination and UKCA (United Kingdom Conformity Assessed) Certification and are monitored closely throughout this process.





Use of External Specialists:

The majority of our Exclusive Brand PPE is **Certificated at SATRA** of which we are Gold members. This gives us the benefit of full access to their specialist team, most of whom sit on European PPE product committees & working groups and cascade any changes & developments within their chosen discipline.



This enables us to prepare well in advance for specification changes and to inform our customers of impending changes in safety product legislation in the early stages allowing for forward planning. We also have excellent working relationships with other major UK & international notified and approved bodies such as, **Inspecc, Intertek and BSI** to name but a few.

The Final Filter:

As a final filter, we maintain a Quality Assurance Centre in the UK that holds original production design samples, detailed specification documents and test equipment for verifying that all product is compliant, fit-for-purpose and of merchantable quality before being released into our Service Centre network for distribution to our valued customers.





wbtwholesale.co.uk



Walsh-Blyth & Turton



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