Frequently asked questions (FAQs) regarding testing PPEs at SITRA

1) What are the tests that are conducted for PPEs?

2) What is the Turn around time for testing a sample?

3) How many samples do I need to send?

4) What are the charges for the tests?

Details regarding the tests conducted, the samples to be sent for each test, the test procedure adopted, Turn around time (TAT) and the charges thereof are found on our website under the link "Testing charges and sample size"

5) Is there any Express testing (TATKAL) facility available?

Presently, for PPEs testing, there is no express testing facility

6) What is UCC and when will I get it?

UCC is an abbreviation for Unique Certification Code. All our reports for samples (includes for fabrics, tapes and coveralls) that pass the tests will also have an UCC. Failed samples' reports will not have them.

7) Do I need to make the payment before sending my samples and will I get a priority if I do that?

We have introduced a new system for submission of samples related to PPEs, the link for which is available on SITRA’s website. Please follow the following steps:

1) Key in all the details regarding samples particulars as well as the tests that need to be conducted
2) Attach the affidavit that is a mandatory requirement
3) Make the necessary payment
4) Take an printout of the acknowledgement receipt on your Company's letterhead.
5) Pack you samples in a clean polythene cover. Attach the acknowledgement receipt you have taken after the online registration along with your sample
6) Send your parcel to SITRA's address given in the Website.
8) If I am a coverall manufacturer, should I also separately send a fabric for testing also?

No.

When testing a coverall, we also test the fabric portion in the garment and you will get a report regarding the status of your fabric as well as the seam. The coverall will be deemed as passing only when both the fabric as well as seams pass the test.

9) Does SITRA test seam tapes also?

Yes.

We do test the tapes for their qualifying the Synthetic Blood penetration resistance test.

10) Who should send an Affidavit?

All fabric, tape as well as coverall manufacturers sending their samples for testing to SITRA need to send an Affidavit (separate for each) in order to receive their test report.

11) Can all use the same Affidavit format?

No. There are separate formats for coverall manufactures, fabric manufactures and tape manufactures. There are separate links in our website to download each.

12) When do I send the Affidavit?

Under the new system of samples submission, you should attach the affidavit after furnishing all details regarding your company, sample particulars and tests required. Only after you attach your affidavit will you be directed to the payment window.

13) The tests under Coveralls indicate two different tests. Which test should I take?

Some state governments might insist only one test, Synthetic Blood Penetration Resistance Test (SBPRT) while some others might also insist on Dry microbial penetration resistance test also. It is your decision to request the required test.
14) Will I get a UCC for testing my masks?

As of now, we are issuing UCCs only for fabrics, coveralls and tapes.

15) Are all the tests listed by you for the face masks required to be carried out by me?

The tests that you need to do depends on the requirements set forth by your procurement body. What we have given in the list is all the tests that we are presently carrying out for Face masks.

16) If I have different samples, should I test all the samples?

Technically Yes.

The UCC that you receive for your passed sample is specific to each sample. Based on the affidavit given by you, we issue you a Test Certificate which also binds you to use the same quality parameters of the sample, if your are to commercially manufacture it.
So, for different samples, you need to test them separately to receive UCCs for each.

17) Is it necessary for me to submit an Affidavit for each sample that I send?

Technically yes.

Especially if you are a Coverall manufacturer, since each of your coveralls may contain a different fabric (and moreover different manufacturers), it is important that you should submit different affidavits for different samples.

18) What is the validity of the Test Certificate that I receive?

The Ministry of Textiles has defined that manufacturers, whose samples successfully pass the intended test, and have submitted hard copies of their affidavits will receive Certificates with a validity of 6 months.
Those who have received their certificates before the 15th of May, 2020, with a limited validity of one month, will be issued revised certificates with 6 months validity.
Hard copies of Certificates will be sent to all manufacturerers within a month.
19) What is the validity of the Certificate if I send my Affidavit in White paper notarized?

Affidavits submitted on white paper and duly notarized will have a limited validity of only one month. You will have to soon submit your Affidavits on stamp papers to receive certificates with the 6 months validity.

Please note that we shall not issue the final Certificate in physical form unless we receive the original Affidavits on Stamp papers.

20) Do you conduct a Viral penetration test

Though we have the facility for the above, at the present juncture when heavy backlogs to do the other tests, we are not doing it.