

Lighting Global Quality Testing:

Market Check Testing

Version 4

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What is Market Check Testing?

Market Check Testing verifies that the quality and performance of products sold in the market match the levels measured during Lighting Global program entry testing (using the Quality Test Method (QTM) and reported on Standardized Specification Sheets).¹ The goal is to ensure the quality and performance of products in the market is consistent and matches advertised levels.

How frequently does Lighting Global conduct Market Check Testing?

Check testing may be conducted at any time on products that are supported by Lighting Global. Selection of products for Market Check Testing and frequency of testing is at the discretion of Lighting Global.

How are samples selected for Market Check Testing?

When market check testing occurs, samples are randomly and anonymously procured from retail outlets in the market by an agent of Lighting Global. Product samples may also be randomly procured by Lighting Global or an approved third party sampling agent from among products that are stored at warehouses, distributorships, factories or other bulk storage locations. Lighting Global may periodically ask manufacturers or distributors to provide a list of no fewer than 10 outlets to enable sampling. Sampling locations may be chosen from a subset of those outlets or from others that are independently identified.

How does Market Check Testing work?

Market Check Testing involves a two-stage process. The first stage, referred to as **Primary Check Testing**, involves testing using the same approach used in the Initial Screening Method (ISM). At this stage of the process, one to six or more samples of the product may be evaluated in each of the tests. The sample size used at this stage is based on the discretion of Lighting Global. If the results meet or exceed performance from prior QTM testing, no further action is required. However, if the results indicate possible deficiencies relative to the Minimum Quality Standards and/or prior QTM test results, additional testing may be used to confirm the problem. This subsequent testing, which is referred to as **Secondary Check Testing**, will focus only on the aspects of the product that appeared to have deficiencies according to the **Primary Check Testing** results. In all cases, at least six samples will be tested with respect to potential deficiencies to match the rigor of the original testing.

Once testing is complete, regardless of the results, the company will receive a confidential test report and a letter that summarizes the outcome. If the results meet or exceed performance from prior QTM testing, no further action is required. However, if the results indicate deficiencies relative to the Minimum Quality Standards and/or prior QTM test results, the product will lose its quality-assured

¹ The Quality Test Method (QTM) and Initial Screening Method (ISM) were institutionalized as IEC/TS 62257-9-5 ed 2.0.

status with the program and access to services that are contingent on that status. A flow diagram of the Market Check Test is provided at the end of this document.

What happens if a product fails the Market Check Test?

In the case where a product fails according to Primary and Secondary Market Check Testing, the product loses any benefits associated with having met the Minimum Standards.

To attempt to regain quality-assured status and any associated benefits, the company can pay the full, unsubsidized price for QTM product testing. Alternatively, the product can be resubmitted for ISM testing and, upon passing, the product may qualify for QTM testing at a reduced cost. Manufacturers who have multiple products that meet the Minimum Quality Standards and are program Associates may still qualify for reduced-cost QTM testing if one of their products fails the Market Check Test.

Who pays for Market Check Testing?

Lighting Global pays for the sample procurement, delivery and testing for Primary and Secondary Market Check Testing. If a product fails both the Primary and Secondary Market Check Testing, and the manufacturer desires to regain the product's quality-assured status, the manufacturer is responsible for payment of all testing fees required to reinstate the product's quality-assured status.

QA Flowchart: Market Check Testing v.4

