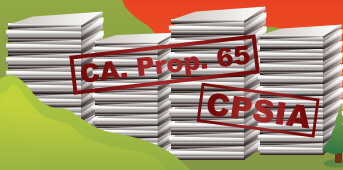


THE QCA COMPLIANCE Journey

Product safety and compliance programs are about the journey rather than the destination. These proactive, comprehensive programs require not only an ongoing daily commitment but also continuous improvement in order for promotional products providers to stay current with the rapidly changing state and federal compliance regulations.

Quality Certification Alliance (QCA) is the promotional products industry's only proactive, comprehensive product safety and compliance solution designed to meet the needs of the entire supply chain, including promotional products suppliers and distributors as well as their corporate clients.

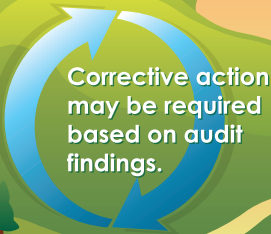
The QCA Compliance Journey begins with an initial self-certification phase. This is a QCA Applicant's commitment to making compliance part of its standard operating procedures.



This is followed by a rigorous self-assessment that begins with a gap analysis to identify process and procedure voids. It continues with an intensive development of a comprehensive compliance manual that ensures the QCA Applicant has an effective program for detecting and deterring unsafe or non-compliant product before it enters into the supply chain. This process can take up to 15 months to successfully complete.



The QCA Executive Director of Compliance and the QCA Compliance Committee review the QCA Applicant's scorecard. Those receiving an A+ are referred to the QCA Board of Directors, who then grant QCA Accreditation for the initial two-year term.



Next, an independent third party audits the QCA Applicant's headquarters and supply chain.



 Product Safety	 Supply Chain Security	 Quality Assurance	 Environmental Stewardship	 Social Compliance
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Throughout the continual process, five critical areas are evaluated to ensure comprehensive compliance.

Fortune 1000 company product recalls and the resulting headlines continue to place even more importance on requiring your supplier partners to not only understand the regulatory environment but also rise to the challenge of maintaining transparency and control of their supply chains.

Don't risk your reputation and brand equity by purchasing non-compliant promotional products. Buy with confidence through QCA Certified Suppliers.

Learn more at <http://qcalliance.org>

