



Chemical Management

Modern shoe manufacturing involves a variety of materials and processes. Chemicals play a significant role in bringing consumers the fit and look they desire and the performance they require. At Caleres, we employ rigorous testing procedures to ensure the chemical content in our shoes is compliant with regulatory requirements around the world.

TESTING FOR RESTRICTED SUBSTANCES

Caleres maintains a Restricted Substances List (RSL) to avoid restricted chemicals in our products. The RSL is reviewed periodically to ensure the consideration of the latest regulations related to restricted substances.

We have identified seven restricted chemicals that can be found in footwear production:

- *Lead*
- *Cadmium*
- *Chrome (VI)*
- *Azo dyes*
- *Nickel*
- *Phthalates*
- *Formaldehyde*

All of our products are subject to stringent testing requirements that check for restricted chemicals. Our chemical testing labs perform two main types of tests. At the production stage, all Caleres' shoe factories and suppliers are required to test per the Caleres Testing Protocol, which includes components - such as the upper and lining materials - and finished shoe testing. Subsequently, we perform monthly random testing on select styles and substances.

For more information about our manufacturing processes, see the reporting section of [Caleres.com](https://www.caleres.com).

We test a sampling of production materials and components we receive, and test reports remain valid for one year. If there is a failure at the finished goods stage, the supplier or owned factory is required to send new product until it passes testing.

PARTNERING ON CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT

Caleres works with industry leaders to inform our chemical management.

Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America (FDRA) promotes a standard RSL for the industry. As a member of FDRA, Caleres aligns with this RSL.

The **Leather Working Group** includes responsible chemical management in their audits of tanneries. Their assessments use the Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemical (ZDHC) Manufacturing Restricted Substances List (MRSL), which member tanneries must conform with as part of their certification.

Global Recycled Standard (GRS) is an internationally recognized set of requirements for third-party certification of recycled input and chain of custody. GRS products do not contain Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) as defined by the European Union's Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) regulation.

The **International Standard Organization (ISO)** sets standards for testing and calibration laboratories. The outside labs that conduct our chemical testing are certified by ISO.

For other factories not covered under these partnerships, Caleres advises on best practices in chemical management - including storing, handling, and disposal - during its factory visits.

MOVING TO ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERRED MATERIALS

By 2025, we will use environmentally preferred materials in every product in our portfolio of owned brands. The move to recycled and natural materials, and materials that meet the standards of groups such as the Leather Working Group and GRS, will help avoid the use of restricted chemicals in our products and reinforce our standards for chemical testing in the supply chain.

OUR UNIVERSAL TESTING PROCESS

All factories and suppliers test shoe components and finished shoes



Random monthly testing of finished shoe styles



Ongoing testing of all materials and components



Following any failure, suppliers must send new products until passing testing