

Elements in Certification Enhancing Safety in the Marketplace



International Federation of
Inspection Agencies

ICPSC Conference Solna, Stockholm, September 10, 2009

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IFIA – Aims and Objectives

- Monitor and improve the worldwide services and image of the testing and inspection sectors
- Single point of contact for stakeholders
- Open forum for members with the aim of improving effectiveness of product safety and conformity assessment activities
- Develop technical testing methods, improve the quality of testing and develop technical training and education tools



IFIA resources around the world

- IFIA includes 35+, internationally operating testing and inspection companies
- IFIA members have 400+ years of expertise
- Members have 125,000+ experts in 100+ countries
- An estimated 25% of world trade is served by IFIA members



Extensive testing expertise

- IFIA members operate laboratories in 100+ countries
- Scope of expertise covers all product sectors
- Testing to national and international standards
- Testing includes national deviations
- Testing includes client specific issues
- Comparative testing between laboratories



Extensive inspection expertise

- Inspection offered at all stages of the supply chain
- Inspection of production locations
 - before production
 - during production
- Shipment inspection
- Loading/unloading supervision
- Product compliance market inspections



Product traceability in certification systems

- Evaluation of location of origin
- Testing + detailed reporting including photos
- Contractual obligations for manufacturers in case of product changes
- Product compliance market inspections
- Documented and traceable evidence about all checked aspects



IFIA Members share governments' concern

- Up to 65% of products submitted for testing do not initially comply with safety requirements
- These represent estimated 25% of world trade
- What about the other 75%?
 - no need for testing due to good quality?
 - no need for testing due to lack of compliance?



IFIA members are ready to support

- Through expertise + testing facilities
- By sharing of information
- Through continuous improvement of effectiveness of 3rd party systems
- Through dialogue at national and international levels regarding how IFIA members can support authorities' activities



IFIA was established in 1982 and is a federation of companies that provide testing, inspection and certification services, internationally.

IFIA and its members work continuously to maintain and enhance their integrity, professionalism and expertise in the areas such as agriculture, petroleum, metals and minerals, consumer and industrial products, food, industrial services and government services.

IFIA monitors the independence, financing and insurance covers of its members, as well as the competitiveness of their markets, on a regular basis.



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