

SCOOP

THE LATEST TRENDS, SERVICES & PROMOTIONS

HARDLINES, SGS HONG KONG

MAY 2021

VIRAL FILTRATION EFFICIENCY (VFE) TESTING SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE

The COVID-19 outbreak has created a shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) throughout the world, which has resulted in an increase in production to meet the demand.

With medical face masks now beginning to see widespread use throughout the world, the standards and test with which they are required to undertake have become points of interest. The filtration efficiency of the masks is a key testing element that examines its ability to filter particles, bacteria, and viruses, which are also the most important consideration points during purchases.

While the Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) test determines the filtration efficiency by comparing the bacterial control counts (by using *Staphylococcus aureus* as the challenge organism) to test article effluent counts, the Viral Filtration Efficiency (VFE) test follows the same procedure as BFE, except the challenge organism used is the bacteriophage phiX174.



Aside from our recent accreditations from [IAS](#) and [HOKLAS](#), SGS Hong Kong has developed testing services for Viral Filtration Efficiency (VFE) and by doing so, becomes the only laboratory in Hong Kong that can conduct such service.

Our wide range of performance testing services for medical face include:

TEST ITEM	APPLICABLE STANDARDS
Bacterial Filtration Efficacy (BFE)	ASTM F2101
	EN 14683
Particle Filtration Efficacy (PFE)	ASTM F2299
	EN 14683
Viral Filtration Efficiency (VFE)	ASTM F2101 (Modified)
	EN14683 (Modified)
Differential Pressure	ASTM F2100
	EN 14683
Blood Penetration	ASTM F1862
	ISO 22609)
Microbial Cleanliness	GB 15979
	EN 14683

Providing a one stop shop, **SGS'** global network of PPE experts and accredited laboratories can ensure the compliance of face masks and PPE products with testing and certification requirements, help with technical files and coordinate with Notified Bodies for EC type examinations.

For enquiries, please contact one of our Sales Associates for details!

FOR ENQUIRIES

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