

# Your source for turnkey quality, compliance, and management solutions.

Real value from a partner you can trust.



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Tracking Trends & Challenges

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Navigating Challenges & Risk

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China: One Belt Initiative

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Factory Audits

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**CHINA OPERATIONS**



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## Tracking quality and compliance trends & challenges

The general process of importing from China and other countries comes with inherent challenges of completing the proper audits, inspections, and documentation to stay compliant.

Today, we see challenges around pandemic outbreaks which leads to uncertainty around tariffs and trade policies that are forcing unprecedented challenges for our industry. Sustainability and its anticipated transformation of the future of trade is another factor. Travel and access to facilities has been more challenging in the COVID-19 era, complicating on-the-ground quality control and compliance processes. All these elements point to the importance of having full time, well trained and certified inspectors – something QAI has managed since 1975.

The risk importers are exposed to has increased exponentially, and it's imperative to choose an experienced partner you can trust. At QAI, we monitor cycles and trends in the marketplace to ensure a smooth experience for you. We know what to prioritize when the market takes a turn, as your first step will define your whole outcome.



# Navigating quality and compliance challenges & risk in China

With over 30 years' experience in every aspect of supply chain and product compliance, QA International is uniquely positioned to meet ever-shifting market challenges with proactive, creative solutions. We design each client's import plan with built-in flexibility to accommodate their needs within the dynamic trade environment. We guide you through the process if you're importing for the first time, or work with you to refine and improve what's already in place, whether we can improve time, price, or data capture.

Our customers trust us to deliver the information they want with diligence and speed at an affordable, below-market rate. By offering a suite of services, we can tailor a plan to your specifications. Our operations are Legally registered and accredited in China. They are supported by the convenient Web based management system. We provide Statistical management reports, Supplier report cards and provide Buying services including sourcing, certifying and monitoring quality and shipments.

When you hire QA International, you reap the benefits of our experience, vast knowledge of standards, services, and solutions, provided by our facilities throughout China.

- Cotton
- Textile
- Garments
- Woven
- Non-woven
- General merchandise

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# Supporting the trade growth from The One Belt Initiative

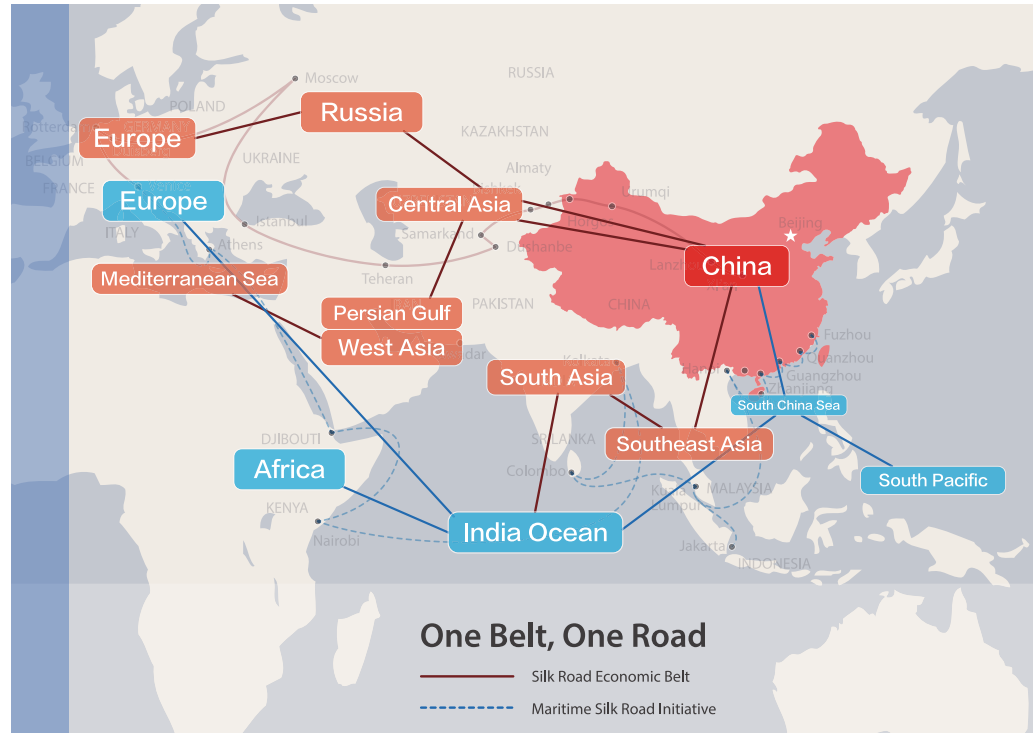


Whether overland or maritime, we recognize the growth potentials afforded by the 'One Belt, One Road' (OBOR) initiative from the Chinese economic and strategic agenda.

With the aim at promoting win-win cooperation by strengthening policy coordination, infrastructure connectivity, unimpeded trade, financial integration, and people-to-people bonds. The BRI covers Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, West Asia, North Africa, and Central and Eastern Europe.

We also recognize that risks do come with the initiatives that can include foreign investment restrictions, antitrust regulations, tax, local employment and environmental laws. That said, I think all parties recognize that the successful execution of major infrastructure and commercial projects is a prize worthy of the challenges.

QAI recognizes all the incentives between all the import connected countries to China. Because of our extensive China operations, we have complete control of our labs and services working together to help with reciprocal country compliances. This provides many levels of benefits for our customers relying on this critical region for manufacturing.



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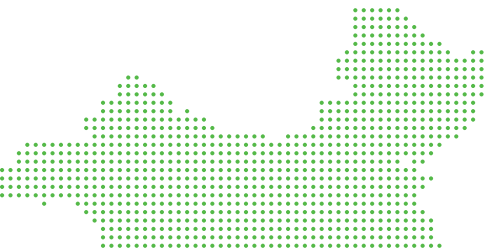
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# Services & Solutions



With deep experience in a wide range of services, we can recommend the right approach based on your organization's inspection and compliance needs. We execute a wide array of auditing, inspection, and reporting and be your eyes and ears on the ground, delivered in a pay-as-you-go pricing model. And because our teams are located full time in China, you are assured complete accuracy.



Factory Audits



Inspection & Sampling Services



Compliance & Performance Testing



Fabric Monitoring Program



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# Factory Audits



It's important to understand your supplier as well as you understand your product. An audit enables you to confidently choose a supplier that meets your standards for manufacturing and compliance. An audit can also ensure that a supplier would be a good partner long term. It's a pivotal upfront investment that's guaranteed pay for itself in savings many times over time.

To get the facts about the factories you work with, we evaluate capabilities, reliability, and compliances, and make sure they meet your standards for manufacturing in every way.

## Our key audits include:

- Business & Corporate License Check
- Production Capacities & Performance
- Quality Systems
- Social Responsibility (Code of Conduct)
- Supply Chain Security (C-TPAT)
- Subcontractor Verification
- Reasonable Testing Program Verification

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# Inspection & Sampling Services

In international trade, inspection services ensure a successful quality control system. An inspection is a practical measuring device that can be used in simple verification processes as well as elaborate quality control systems. Sampling confirms true samples are being pulled from the production line and allows a second look before they leave the factory.

For over 20 years, QA International has been offering inspection and sampling services in the major export countries of consumer products through a network of trusted partners and qualified inspectors.

## Our key services include:

- Pre-Production Inspections
  - Subcontracting Factories
  - Raw Material & Components
  - First Run Pre-Production

- In-Process Inspections
  - At any stage of production process
  - Random Sampling for Safety Compliance Testing
- Final Random Inspections (Pre-Shipment Inspections)
  - Quantity
  - Workmanship Defects
  - Performance or Safety Tests
  - UPC Functionality
  - Product Labels
  - Weights & Measurements
  - Product Packing Scheme
  - Shipping Packaging Conditions
  - Master Carton Markings
- Random Sampling
  - Collect samples
  - Randomly select from a traceable production lot or inventory
  - Package & seal
  - Send to the location of your choice
  - Provide complete reporting & documentation
- Container Loading Supervision
  - Open cartons and check markings & labels to verify the correct product is being loaded
  - Perform full inspection to confirm compliance with the U.S.
  - Customs, C-TPAT, 7 – Point Container Inspection Checklist
  - Witness the stuffing process & apply our container seal
  - Send a full report with pictures to you in 24 hours




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# Compliance & Performance Testing

As an importer, you are the legal manufacturer of record in the U.S., responsible for proving that your products comply with any and all safety regulations that apply to your products for each point-of-sale country and implement programs to ensure your final product complies with these regulations.

With recent lab expansion, we own consumer product testing laboratories in three locations in China, one of which is the largest long-established ISO 17025 lab in the country. We offer one of the most diverse arrays of testing services and expertise in the industry and have compliance techs at our U.S. office and overseas at our labs to cover your questions 24/7.



## Our key services include:

- Chemical Analysis
- Textiles Apparel & Home Fashions
- Toys & Children Products
- General Housewares
- Flammability
- Package & Transit Testing
- Site Specific Health & Safety Plans
- Expert Witness Support

## Quality Standards:

We provide quality control services based on the following standards and procedures:

- ISO Standards
- BSI Standards
- American MIL-Standard 105E
- ANSI/ASQC Z1.4-1993
- ASTM/BSS/API/DIN Standards
- ICA Rules and Biyelaws
- Llyods Survey Book
- GAFTA and FOSFA Procedures
- PSQCA Standards

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# Our Major China Services



## Inspection

- Pre-shipment inspection at source
- Verify suitability of materials and components
- AQL sampling and testing (as required)
- Initial/in-process production check
- Quality assessment per customer specification and standards
- Quantity verification as per order
- Order fulfillment verification
- Final random inspection
- Digital photographic evidence
- Supervision of packaging
- Loading supervision of cargo in containers
- Post arrival inspection and survey
- Damage assessment and testing as needed

## Lab Testing

- U.S. owned testing lab located in Hangzhou, China
- CNAS and CMA accredited, and CPSC approved testing Lab No. IO4I
- Four major testing departments: Clothing and Textile; Children Products and Premium; Chemical Testing; Package and Safety Transportation
- Comply with International regulations and commitment, to conduct various tests according to international and domestic testing standards, including ASTM, AATCC, ISO, EN, GB, SATRA, ISTA and retailers testing manual (Target, Amazon, Alibaba, Costco, BB&B, CVS, Kroger, Walmart, JC Penny, Macy's and more)
- With 20 years of development, we provide high quality of service, accurate test data, timely report, experienced customer service, and expert advice from qualified technical support; a reliable quality partner for brands in supply chain.

## Textile & Apparel

- Fiber Composition Analysis
- Fabric Construction
- Measurement Stability (Shrinkage)
- Color Fastness (Wash, Rubbing, Perspiration, Light, Dry Cleaning, etc.)
- Fabric Strength (Tear, Seam, Bursting, Tensile, etc.)
- Fabric Performance (Abrasion, Water Resistance, Soil Release, etc.)
- Flammability Safety
- Garment Accessories (Zipper, Button, etc.)
- pH Value/Formaldehyde
- AZO Dyes
- Anti-bacterial Performance
- Allergenic Dyes and Cancerogenic Dyes
- PFOA & PFOS
- Feather and Down

## Children Toys & Premiums

- Accredited by CPSC (CPSC ID No. IO4I)
- Toy Safety Tests (ASTM F963, EN 71, GB 6675)
  - Physical and Mechanical Properties
  - Flammability Tests
  - Heavy Metals and Phthalates
- CPSIA Children Products Safety (Lead, Cadmium and Phthalates)
- Tracking Label and Age Grading
- Total Lead Content in Surface Coating
- Total Lead Content in Substrate
- Phthalates Content (6P, 8P, IOP)

## Chemical Test

- Total Heavy Metals Content
- Soluble Heavy Metals
- Nickel Release
- Leachable Lead and Cadmium Content
- Phthalates Content (6P, 8P, IOP)
- Flame Retardants Content (TCEP, TCPP, TDCP...)
- AZO Dyes
- Bisphenol A (BPA) & PAHs & DMFu
- SCCPs & PCP & PFOA & PFOS
- RoHS (Pb, Cd, Hg, Cr6+, PBB, PBDE) XRF & Chemical Methods
- REACH SVHCs
- FDA Food Contact Materials

## Package and Safety Transportation Testing

- ISTA Membership (ST-I908)
- ISTA 1, 2, 3 Series, ISTA 4AB
- ISTA 6-AMAZON.com
- ISTA 6-FedEx
- ISTA 6-SAMSCLUB
- ASTM D4169 Series Programs
- Random Vibration Test
- Incline Impact Test
- Atmospheric Conditioning Test
- Low Pressure Hazard
- Toxic Elements in Packing Materials



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# Material Management Program



Whether you are a long-time fabric producer or working with a brand-new supplier, it takes just one skipped step at any stage of production to result in a poor-quality product. QAI inspects all the components of your final product, including fabric, paints, and other elements.

We provide documentation before, during, and after production for complete traceability of the components and materials involved in the manufacturing of your product.

## Our 8-step process:

1. Identify the materials being utilized during the specific production run.
2. Inspect to ensure materials are same as ordered and select for testing.
3. Run physical/chemical property tests in our own CPSC-approved lab.
4. Tag, segregate, and quarantine materials until tests results are confirmed.
5. Provide a detailed QAI lab report on findings.
6. Identify and confirm materials in factory storage.
7. Perform optional in-progress and/or final inspections.
8. Supervise shipment container loading with photo documentation.



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# Reporting & Statistical Data

Managing relationships with international suppliers can be difficult, especially when it comes to handling tasks like safety compliance, supply chain audits, and product inspections.

QAI's web-based software system Quality Port™ gives our clients 24/7 access to real-time, important compliance and quality data. Our interactive tools and reports feature monitoring, managing, and compiling real-time data from various inspection report formats and from various providers and their programs, complete with photos, data, and quality compliance activities.

**Real-time data access enables clear, actionable insights that aid our customers in smart decision making.**



Safety & Compliance Validation



Product Inspection Documentation



Statistical Record Keeping



Turn-Key, No Software Required (SaaS)



Customized Dashboard



On Stop Data & Document Storage



Instantly Monitor Schedules & QC Results



Custom Statistical Reports

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# Service coverage



The QA International **main hubs of operation are located U.S., Pakistan, and China.** Our presence in China includes audit, inspection, and laboratory operations. We guarantee accurate, fast testing and reporting services to manufacturers throughout the region. We also offer these services in the greater Far and Middle East regions, and in South America, with careful coordination with the One Belt Initiative.



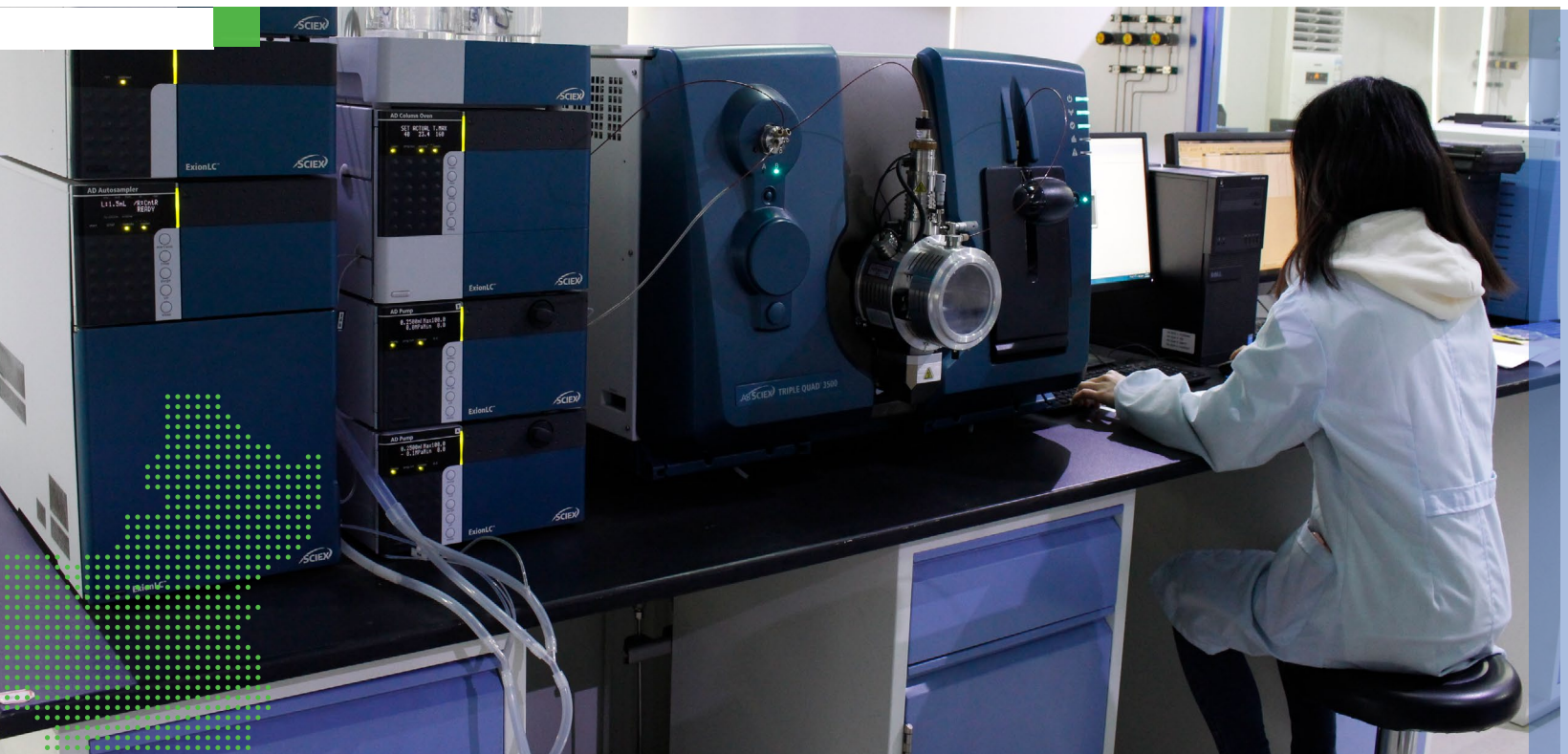
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# The QAI advantage



Compliance is a key up-front investment to make that will pay for itself in savings long-term via benchmarking and prevention – but it doesn't have to cost a fortune. We're committed to giving you an unparalleled level of service at a price far below what the rest of the market charges. We'll provide you with:

- Full access to your real-time data
  - A detailed compliance review, with mandatory and voluntary safety compliance requirements
  - Traceable, reviewed, and verified compliance documents from your suppliers
- A Certificate of Conformity of each product SKU
  - A legitimate documented Reasonable Testing Program
  - Proof that you have measures in place to ensure ongoing compliance to enforced regulations (Due Diligence)



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## Putting our experience and knowledge to work for you.

We've been protecting our clients' interests and minimizing their risks since our inception. Thousands of companies in nearly every industry have counted on us for quality assurance and regulatory compliance of the highest caliber.

In working with our team we'll develop a program that best meets your needs and ensure the best inspection process throughout China.

## It all starts with a conversation.

Call: **(847) 388-6142**

Email: [contact@qainternational.com](mailto:contact@qainternational.com)

Browse: [qainternational.com](http://qainternational.com)

USA:

446 North Seymour Avenue Mundelein, IL 60060

CHINA

HQTS QA International Services Co., Ltd.  
Building B, Taineng Industrial District  
Sandun Science & Technology Zone  
Hangzhou, China 310030  
Tel: +86 571 8890 7043

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