

EQP Standards

EQP was designed to provide practitioners with reliable, unbiased information on the quality standards of our participating brands. Brands who choose to participate on the gold or silver level are each verified to ensure they have quality practices, consistent with the production of high-quality, safe and reliable dietary supplements.

EQP Silver Partner Standards

- Emerson standards for all distributed brands AND:
- Acceptable supplier and contract brand qualification consisting of: demonstrated cGMP compliance as well as regular on-site audits or established historical relationship. Further, certificate of analyses for Raw Materials and Finished Products are initially validated by conducting full confirmation testing on several subsequent receipts.
- SOP demonstration of controlled manufacturing processes for all Finished Products and cGMP processes
- Specifications for all Raw Material and Finished Products and documented usage of these specifications
- Use of most appropriate testing methodologies when testing for identity, microbiologicals, heavy metals, pesticides/herbicides (for botanicals), aflatoxins (when applicable), melamine (when applicable), and residual solvents
- Raw Material testing on each batch or at a frequency justified with written rationale inclusive of: In addition to supplier Certificate of Analysis, identity is tested on each batch of raw materials or finished product and all other analytical tests (microbiology, heavy metals, pesticides/herbicides (non-organic), solvents (concentrates), and adulterants are completed on at least every 5th batch/lot, or if less than 5 lots, at least once annually. Each ingredient (or product) must be tested according to an established risk-based testing program.
- Re-qualification of Contract Brands by questionnaire and/or site audit at least every 3 years
- Potency testing procedure for finished products in place and in use.
- Evident industry knowledge of common adulterants and contaminants, and sufficient testing to guarantee the absence of these adulterants and contaminants in finished products and disqualification of suppliers of adulterated ingredients.

EQP Gold Partner Standards

- **EQP Silver Partner Standards AND:**
- **Analytical testing on each batch** of Raw Material or Finished Product for: identity, potency (label claim) and microbiological contaminants as well as all other applicable analytical tests on ingredients at risk for certain impurities (e.g. solvents for concentrates, pesticides for non-organics, melamine for animal proteins, aflatoxin for high risk herbs/foods, adulterants).
- **A real time stability program** is in use to ensure that all finished products meet label claim throughout shelf life.
- Products contain **active ingredients in sufficient quantities** to be clinically effective
- **Evidence of Total Quality** (such as: Research & product development, sustainable environmental practices, clinical trial support, good business practices).