

PRESHIPMENT TESTING STRATEGIES for GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION

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ABSTRACT

Preshipment tests of packaged products can generally be categorized into three types: integrity testing, general simulation, and focused simulation. While the simplest approach, integrity testing, has served reasonably well for many years in the U.S., today's realities of global distribution and competition, varying transport conditions worldwide, and increasingly stringent environmental requirements often call for a more thorough approach. This paper will discuss the three test categories, their strengths and shortcomings, and the effectiveness of each vis-à-vis the demands of global distribution.