# Extensive Certification

## Your PLUS in terms of quality, hygiene, and safety

**nora®** production methods and all raw materials they process must fulfil high ecological standards. The products are internationally certified and are regularly tested by neutral institutes. Also with regard to the environment and sustainability, nora systems GmbH is one of the leading companies in its field. For their commitment in research and development, nora systems has been awarded recently with the seal for 'innovation through research' by the 'Donors' Association for the Promotion of Humanities and Sciences' in Germany.

Certifications according to international standards like ISO 9001 (quality management) and ISO 14001 (environmental management system) are a matter of course at **nora®.**

All **nora®** products are free of toxic heavy metals and carcinogenic aromatic amines derived from colourants. Moreover, nora® products are also free of pentachlorophenol (PCP), CFCs, and carcinogenic nitrosamines.

## SG mark

SCHADSTOFFGEPRÜFT

Acknowledged throughout the sector, this **pollutant test mark** is awarded by approved test institutes following regular and thorough material analyses.
The catalogue of test criteria for materials that get into contact with the skin has gotten much bigger since 2015. Materials do have to meet many new requirements to receive the SG certificate.

**Since 1998, numerous nora® products have been tested and *certified* in compliance with *the latest version* of the SG test criteria catalogue.**

## SG plus mark

Qualität · Hygiene
Zertifizierte und überwachte Produktionsstätte

The **SG plus** mark supplements the requirements for the **SG** seal with microbial and physical tests as well as permanent monitoring of the production facilities.

**Your plus in terms of quality**: Certified load bearing properties & stability based on the findings of dynamic, sustained loading tests.
**Your plus in terms of hygiene**: Proven disinfectability of contaminated footbeds and inserts.
**Your plus in terms of safety**: Not only the materials, also the production facilities and production processes in Weinheim are tested and certified at regular intervals.

## Dermatest for dermatologically proven skin compatibility

Since 1988, **nora®** materials have been regularly tested for **skin compatibility**, previously from Institute Fresenius and now from **Dermatest**. The dermatological tests are performed on human skin. Through the patch test the material is tested by applying small patches of the material to the skin and after 24, 48 and 72 hours the skin is dermatologically examined.

**Those products marked with the Dermatest seal '*excellent*' guarantee, that there are *no primary irritations or incompatibility reactions* caused by the material.**

## The certificate
## The crucial difference

The **SG pollutant test mark** is awarded by approved test institutes following thorough material analyses. This test mark confirms that, according to current knowledge, there are no risks to the health of dealers, processors, or patients. It entitles the test institute to take samples ***at any time*** from ongoing production and does not constitute a once only test. **nora®** products are never only tested, but certified.

**A simple test report does *not* confirm compliance with the SG mark.**

# SG plus Certification

## Your PLUS in terms of quality, hygiene, and safety

## Your plus in terms of quality: Tested resilience and stability

Dynamic, sustained loading tests serve to analyse the load bearing properties of **nora®**materials. This involves applying a 60 kg load to the material about 100,000 times and then comparing its thickness before and after loading.

Pressure tests verified a wide range of deformation patterns depending on material properties, Shore A hardness, and design purpose (bedding, permanently resilient, stabilising). These findings provide processors with invaluable data they can use for the optimal combination of different materials for specific applications.

**All nora® products are characterised by *excellent restoration capabilities*.**

## Your plus in terms of hygiene: Disinfectability

The disinfectability of contaminated footbeds and inserts with a commercially available disinfectant has been verified regularly by the PFI laboratory conducting extensive microbiological tests with precisely defined quantities of bacteria and fungi.

Disinfection is successful only on materials with closed cellular structures. Unlike foams with open cellular structures, closed cell surfaces are impenetrable to wound secretions, bacteria, and fungi, which can then be removed with ease.

**"Tested disinfectability" may be claimed only when *germs are reduced by 100%.***

## Your plus in terms of safety: Certified production

***Permanent safety*** means not only tests on a single **nora®** material, but also permanent monitoring of the production facilities and production process.

This involves testing and documenting each stage of ***ongoing production*** with regular spot checks. These process tests are applied, for example, to the selection of raw materials, incoming inspections, mixtures, production, final inspections, packaging, documented material traceability, etc.

**The Weinheim production site and *regular quality control* produce quality on a consistently high level.**

## SG plus Certification: The sum of your advantages

**SG plus Certification** verifies safety as defined under the MPG – no ifs, no ands, no buts. A plus in terms of quality, hygiene, and safety – This means not only the absence of materials that cause allergic reactions or exhibit carcinogenic effects, but tested disinfectability with a commercially available disinfectant, outstanding quality with respect to static and dynamic sustained loading, and certified production.

**Once *every* factor has been tested and passed, the SG plus mark is issued.**

## Additional quality control


Finally, the internal quality assurance measures are augmented by tests at the research service provider **Freudenberg Technology Innovation SE & Co. KG**. They regularly conduct chemical and physical tests on production, **raw materials** and **finished products**, to guarantee a consistent quality.

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