

## Apple's reply to Swedwatch's questions

Dear Swedwatch:

Thank you for reaching out. We put people first in everything we do and require our suppliers to adhere to the strictest standards in the industry. Ensuring the responsible use of chemicals and advancing the adoption of safer and greener alternatives is essential to protecting the people in our supply chain and the environment.

In 2016, we prohibited the use of toluene and chlorinated organic solvents including DCM in cleaning agents in our supply chain. We have eliminated lead in solder in compliance with the EU's REACH regulations. For more detail, Apple's Regulated Substances Specification (RSS) is a publicly available, comprehensive listing of chemicals that are not permitted to be used in our products or in manufacturing them. [https://www.apple.com/environment/pdf/Apple\\_Regulated\\_Substances\\_Specification\\_Sept2018.pdf](https://www.apple.com/environment/pdf/Apple_Regulated_Substances_Specification_Sept2018.pdf)

We also went a step further by creating an inventory of chemicals that are used at supplier facilities including those process chemicals that don't reside in our products.

Our standards apply globally to all suppliers, including in the Philippines. **S**

Suppliers must provide test reports from a certified laboratory to prove compliance with the RSS. In addition, safe chemical management is a part of every supplier Code of Conduct assessment we conduct.

<https://www.apple.com/supplier-responsibility/pdf/Apple-Supplier-Code-of-Conduct-January.pdf>

Last year we verified compliance with our standards for hundreds of sites around the world, including in the Philippines.

Advancing the adoption of safer and greener alternatives is essential to protecting the people in our supply chain. To scale progress beyond our supply chain and our industry, we collaborate with organizations like the Responsible Business Alliance (RBA), Clean Production Action, and the Clean Electronics Production Network (CEPN).

Our work on chemical safety has been recognized by leading industry groups, including being awarded an A+ rating for eliminating toxic chemicals by Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families as part of their Mind the Store ranking.

You may find out more about our work on smart chemistry and worker protections in our annual Apple Supplier Responsibility and Apple Environment Reports:

<https://www.apple.com/supplier-responsibility/>  
<https://www.apple.com/environment/>

Thank you again for writing in.

Yours sincerely,

Apple Supplier Responsibility