

AS/NZS 4399:2020 UPF Compliance Checklist

Step-by-step checklist for Australian golf apparel buyers. Covers lab testing, labelling, and retailer documentation for AS/NZS 4399:2020 — the mandatory Australian standard for sun protective clothing.

Why this matters: ACCC treats non-compliant UPF claims as misleading conduct. Penalties: up to AUD 10M. Myer, David Jones, The Iconic and Cancer Council Australia partners all require valid test reports.

1. Pre-Production — Fabric & Lab Preparation

- **1.1** Verify your fabric mill tests to AS/NZS 4399:2020, not ISO 24443 or AATCC 183. The Melbourne solar spectrum (ARPANSA) differs from US/EU spectra.
- **1.2** Get fabric composition breakdown. Dense weaves, darker colours, and polyester-rich blends achieve higher UPF. Lightweight white cotton rarely exceeds UPF 15.
- **1.3** Identify all finishing treatments (wicking agents, softeners, antimicrobial). Each can alter UV transmission by 15–30%. Test fabric AFTER all finishing.
- **1.4** Use an ARPANSA-accredited lab: AWTa, SGS Australia, or BTTG. Testing costs AUD 300–600 per fabric/colour.
- **1.5** Test the lightest colour in your range first — it typically has the lowest UPF rating.
- **1.6** For golf polos: 140–200 GSM polyester or poly-cotton micro-pique with tight knit achieves UPF 50+ before washing.

2. Testing Phase — Lab Requirements

- **2.1** Submit fabric after preparation — wash and dry per care label before testing (Clause 5.2).
- **2.2** Spectrophotometric UVR transmission across 290–400 nm (UVA + UVB). Minimum 4 specimens per fabric sample.
- **2.3** UPF rating scale: UPF 15 (Minimum, blocks 93.3% UVR), UPF 30 (Good, blocks 96.7% UVR), UPF 50+ (Excellent, blocks >97.5% UVR). Target UPF 50+ for AU golf apparel.
- **2.4** Post-laundering: 40 home-launder cycles per ISO 6330 at 40°C. Re-test UPF. Must still meet claimed rating after repeated washing.
- **2.5** Body coverage classification: Category 1 (caps/visors), Category 2 (short-sleeve tops), Category 3 (long-sleeve shirts), Category 4 (full-length trousers + long-sleeve). Golf polos = Category 2.
- **2.6** If fabric drops below claimed UPF after 40 cycles: downgrade the label OR reformulate finishing. Do not ship with original claim.

3. Garment Labelling Requirements

- **3.1** UPF rating prominently displayed: "UPF 50+" on permanent care label or affixed swing tag.
- **3.2** Standard reference: "AS/NZS 4399:2020" must appear on the label. Rating alone is insufficient for ACCC compliance.
- **3.3** Body coverage category must be shown. Example: "UPF 50+ — AS/NZS 4399:2020 — Category 2".
- **3.4** Care instructions that maintain UPF: "Machine wash cold. Do not bleach. Tumble dry low. UPF tested after 40 washes."
- **3.5** AS/NZS 1957:1998 care labelling also mandatory for all Australian textile products.
- **3.6** Never use "SPF" terminology. SPF applies to sunscreens (TGA regulated). UPF applies to fabrics. Using SPF on a garment = TGA enforcement risk.

4. Retailer Documentation (Required Before Purchase Order)

- **4.1** Accredited UPF test report (less than 2 years old): lab name, accreditation number, test method, specimen details, UPF per specimen.
- **4.2** OEKO-TEX Standard 100 certificate — required by Myer, David Jones, The Iconic.
- **4.3** BSCI or SEDEX social compliance audit report — required by major retailers.
- **4.4** Modern Slavery Act supplier declaration (if supplying brands with > AUD 100M annual revenue).
- **4.5** Product recall plan — recommended by ACCC.

5. ACCC & Legal Exposure

- **5.1** UPF claims = product safety representations under Australian Consumer Law (Schedule 2, CCA 2010).
- **5.2** Cancer Council Australia partners: annual re-certification, batch-level traceability, random spot-testing rights.
- **5.3** Maintain a compliance file per fabric/colour/supplier. Update annually. Keep records for minimum 5 years.

6. How LeelineWear Ships Australian Orders

- **6.1** Every AU order includes: accredited UPF 50+ report, OEKO-TEX, BSCI, GRS, AS/NZS 1957 care label, ACCC product safety declaration.
- **6.2** Testing: post-dyeing and post-finishing. Re-test after 40 home-laundry cycles. Full batch-level traceability.
- **6.3** Myer, David Jones and The Iconic supplier compliance forms pre-filled and included with your shipment documentation.

Next Step: Send your design brief to LeelineWear. Receive a complete Australian-market proposal within 24 hours: tiered AUD pricing, AS/NZS 4399 UPF test plan, ChAFTA duty assessment, and compliance documentation schedule. Contact: leelinewear.com/contact