Why Choose BST Detectable Products?



Who are BST?

BST are the original pioneers of metal detectable plastics for the food industry. We were first established in 1985 by Brian S Teasdale, a former senior engineer at British Bakeries. Brian was the first engineer to address plastic contamination in food in this way, it is with great pride that his initials are still represented by the 'BST' brand that is well known and respected in the food industry.

Now the company is led by John S Teasdale, who has relentlessly driven the growth of the company since taking over from his father in 2002. Today, BST stock over 800 different food safe detectable products and export to an overseas distribution network covering over 45 countries. We hand assemble over 1.8 million BST DetectaPens® a year at our HQ in Doncaster, South Yorkshire.

BST's core strengths are our commitment to high quality products and materials, as well as our bespoke manufacturing capabilities. Our primary material, BST xdetect®, has benefited from years of refinement making it one of the most durable, colourful, and shatter resistant food safe detectable plastics available on the market.

How do detectable products work and why use them?

Detectable products can take two main forms, the first being a product entirely made from a specially developed detectable material (e.g. BST xdetect®) and the second being a standard food processing item that's modified to give it detectable properties (e.g. hairnets with metal grips).

In the case of BST xdetect®, this is a polypropylene copolymer infused with ferrous and high density additives. The choice of additives is essential, these have to be food grade, non-hazardous, and offer the best detectability results. The correct ratio of additives and their consistent dispersion in the base resin is also essential to ensure that the resulting compound does not lose its mechanical properties. The ferrous additive is designed to disrupt the magnetic field of a metal detector, whilst the high density additive is designed to show clearly on an x-ray image. The plastic is compounded to a precise formulation, with exactly the right ratios of each additive resulting in a plastic that's metal detectable and x-ray visible whilst retaining the mechanical performance (durability) of the polypropylene copolymer. This mechanical performance is an essential but often overlooked element, as if the finished detectable product doesn't break in the first place, it's far less likely to end up contaminating the food in production.

This precisely compounded plastic is moulded by BST into a wide range of detectable products, including pens, scrapers, clipboards, boxes, jugs, and numerous bespoke parts as required by our food processing clientele.

Food processors have peace of mind that their plastic food processing items are safe, display due diligence in preventing contamination, and are in compliance with HACCP and BRC procedures. Should an xdetect[®] item break or be dropped into food production, fragments as small as 5mm³ can be detected by metal detection or x-ray inspection systems and automatically be rejected from the production line.

Other examples of the second form of detectable products, a standard food processing item that's modified to give it detectable properties, include mob caps with foil strips, and paper traceability tags with a metal foil core.

What are the most popular detectable products?

BST are well-known for the BST DetectaPen[®]. This metal detectable, x-ray visible and antibacterial pen can be found in most food processing environments, preventing foreign body contamination without fuss every day of the year.

BST pens are BRC 8 compliant, FDA food contact approved, EU migration tested, and are the only detectable plastic pens in the World to be Japanese migration tested. It is worth mentioning that BST migration test the finished plastic product, not just the ingredients of the plastic.

They are also shatter proof, and, in write out length tests conducted by two independent bodies, their refills wrote for over twice as long as other comparable products on the market.

BST continue to buy high quality German made refills which are lead free, REACH compliant, and ISO 12757-2 DOC compliant, and are fully detectable with the end cap made from the unique xdetect® compound.

What makes BST special?

Supplying a durable, fit for purpose, food safe, detectable product is no longer enough. This is why BST offer detailed product technical specifications, compliance documentation, on site visits (where safe to do so), online consultation and a level of support that gives customers the reassurance they need.

5 Reasons To Choose BST



Save Time, Money, And Reputation

Foreign body contamination in the food production industry represents a major risk to consumer health and can be very costly in terms of damaged brand integrity, product recall and possibly fines and punitive action against manufacturers. Food manufacturers are under regulatory and moral obligation to display due diligence and take clear measures to minimise foreign body contamination risks. Detectable products are designed to address these types of risks.



Customer Service

BST provide a support centre where you are able to download technical product specifications documents and certifications as well as seeking other information

and guidance. We also have an online chat available through our website so we are able to quickly respond to any customer needs and requirements.



Technical Downloads And Certification



and on each product listing on our website. BST products have extensive food contact approvals including FDA, EU and Japanese compliance, with full documentation including migration test data. The majority of BST branded products made from xdetect[®] are also Kosher approved and Halal certified.



User Minded

BST products are designed to suit every purpose and environment, whether that be extreme temperatures, greasy or

damp conditions, bright colours to aid in visual detection or colour coordination, or ergonomically designed making them easy to handle and therefore less likely to be dropped.



Bespoke items

BST Bespoke products are products that customers cannot find anywhere else or variations of existing products that are not currently available in a detectable material.

We aim to work with our customers to provide the right solution, specific to their needs. Once a hazard is identified as a physical contamination risk, BST can work with the customer to help find a suitable solution. This may be the supply of our existing detectable product(s) or the potential development of a new product or service to meet the customer's needs.

We are constantly striving to push boundaries and develop solutions to new and existing problems BST products are always cutting edge and the best choice for detectable products.



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