

Submitting a Test-Exempt Application to the USDA BioPreferred® Program

Companies participating in the USDA BioPreferred Program may private label, or sell their products under another company's brand. If, for example, **Company A** manufactures a USDA Certified Biobased Product that is sold under **Company B's** brand, **Company B** can submit a test-exempt label application for this product (with the permission of **Company A**). Test-exempt label applications are certified directly after they are screened, skipping the testing phase of the certification process since the product has already been tested under the manufacturer's (**Company A's**) account.

Continuing the example above, **Company B** can create a company account following the directions in the Company Tools Tutorial (downloadable from [this page](#)).

Once a company account is created for **Company B**, the applicant can add a stand-alone product and apply for certification, as directed by the tutorial. When the applicant reaches this page:

EXEMPT FROM TESTING...

Test Exempt Product. Check this box if this product or product family has the same formulation and biobased content (within 3%) of a USDA Certified Biobased product or product family from another company. You will be prompted to enter the Product ID of the certified product or product family. BioPreferred program staff will review this information to determine if your product is exempt from testing with ASTM D6866.

Enter Label ID against which to exempt testing

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He or she should indicate that the product is test exempt. The Label ID for the already-certified product of the same formulation should be entered. The applicant will need to ask **Company A** for the Label ID. This indicates that **Company B's** product is the same formulation as the product already-certified by **Company A**. The connection between companies and products is not visible to consumers viewing our catalog, and is kept confidential.

USDA BioPreferred Program staff will review the test-exempt application, and will contact the applicant from **Company B** with any questions. After any questions are resolved, the test-exempt application will be approved, and the product will be certified.