



## ■ Testing and certification in change - modifications and perspective in the trade association - testing centre of the technical committee for management

### Background

The testing centre of the Fachausschuss Verwaltung has tested and certified work equipment in the office sector for many years. As a result of increasing globalisation, more and more foreign manufacturers from the Far East have been putting pressure on the German market for some years with their own products of this kind, which also show a good standard of safety technology, and are often tested on the production premises. Therefore without a local representation in the near of the manufacturer the aim of influencing products is no longer feasible. This difficulty is shown in the figure below.

### Reaction of the testing centre

The testing centre of the Fachausschuss Verwaltung was adjusted to fit requirements owing to the stagnating and/or sinking market penetration and has concentrate the activities on the market controlling testing fields. These testing fields are safeguarding and working furniture. Extensive GS-Tests of work equipment will be abandoned and substituted by comparative product testing without issuing certificates. The testing criteria are still the standards, which will be added by aspects like operator convenience, manageability and ergonomic. Finally the results will be evaluated in a scale with school grades.

### Target

With comparing product tests the consulting competence for the secure and ergonomic production of work equipment in the office area will be kept. Because healthfulness will achieve a top ranking subject in the future the testing centre would like to ensure the quality in advising companies by a well trained and certified personnel.

Turnover growth testing centre FAWW

